

The Life of William Taylor, D.D., with an account of the Congo Country and Mission. By the Rev. E. DAVIES. Pp. 192. Holiness Book Concern, Reading, Mass.

To many thousands of admirers Bishop Taylor is one of the most heroic figures in the annals of missionary toil. A wide-spread desire is therefore felt for a record of his life. To meet this desire the present book is written. It only partially supplies the want felt. It bears the marks of hasty compilation and is rather meagre in its treatment. Very little is said of the striking episodes of "California Taylor's" seven years' preaching in San Francisco. The treatment of his South African and Indian campaigns is also very brief. The account of his recent appointment as missionary bishop of Africa and of the Congo Mission is more full but rather scrappy. On the whole we are disappointed in the book; we expected a more adequate treatment of a noble subject. Till that fuller Life appear this must serve its turn. It is published for the benefit of the Transit and Building Fund of the William Taylor Missions. A good steel portrait accompanies the volume.

The Riverside Aldine Series: Venetian Life. By W. D. HOWELLS. Two volumes, pp. 279, 286. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.

The Riverside Press, Cambridge, issues a series of choice books of American literature in dainty little 12mo. volumes with clear, open type, after the manner of the famous Aldine classics, printed in Venice over three hundred years ago. Among the earlier numbers of this series are very appropriately Howells' charming volumes on Venetian Life. Mr. Howells was for three years United States Consul at Venice. He has caught the very atmosphere of the poetic city of the sea. He is saturated with the romantic spirit, and he paints his word-pictures of its dreamy beauty with a Titianesque glow. An air of light and graceful

badinage suffuses his page, and a thousand felicitous phrases, turns of thought and outflashings of wit and humour make these books charming reading. The chance tourist who stays but a few days in Venice cannot enter into its spirit, indeed he can see very little of it, and that only the merest surface. Mr. Howells gives us finished studies of varied aspects of Venetian life, lofty and lowly, ecclesiastical and secular, in summer and winter, dining and masquerading, love-making and marrying, baptisms and burials, churches and pictures, islands and lagoons, Armenians and Jews, fête days and fast days, commerce and society, and all the varied traits and characteristics of the strange sea-born and sea-nourished city. While there is much to amuse there is also much to instruct. The chapters on the art and architecture and history, and on the commercial greatness and decline of the proud Queen of the Adriatic give a more vivid picture of its present and its past than we know elsewhere.

Fifty Years in the Church of Rome. By FATHER CHINIQUY. 8vo, pp. 832. Chicago: Craig & Barlow.

To Canadian readers this will be a book of surpassing interest. It is a revelation of the mystery of iniquity which it is entrenched in Canada as it is not even in the Seven-hilled City itself. Father Chiniquy is a native Canadian, born in Kamouraska seventy-six years ago. For fifty years he was a devout member, and for the greater part of that time a priest of the Church of Rome. His moral nature revolted against the abounding iniquities which he discovered in that corrupt Church. He won the title of the Father-Matthew of Canada, as an enthusiastic apostle of temperance in his native land. His mental and spiritual emancipation from the bonds of Romanism was followed by an earnest crusade against the errors and corruptions of that Church. Few men living have been the object of such virulent persecution. A score of times has he been stoned and his