

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

Foy Bells for the Sunday School.

Edited by W. A. Ogden. Toledo, Ohio: W. W. Whitney.

This collection of Sabbath School hymns contains upwards of 170 pieces, among which we notice a few old favorites, and very many that are quite fresh to us. Such a large collection as this affords to Sabbath School superintendents and others an opportunity of making their own selection. Most of the hymns are suited to the capacity of children; and the music is sufficiently lively to be attractive to them. In glancing over the wording of these hymns we have not observed anything contrary to sound doctrine.

The Fortnightly Review.

Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Co.

The number for the first half of April contains: "The Political Adventures of Lord Beaconsfield," "Public Affairs in Australia," by W. C. Purnell; "Mazzini," by Frederick W. H. Myers; "Modern Japan," by Sir David Wedderburn; "The Resettlement of Turkey," by Sir G. Campbell, M.P.; "Religious Beliefs and Morality," by A. C. Lyall; "Gustave Flaubert," by George Saintsbury; "Memorials of a Man of Letters," by the Editor; "Ceremonial Government," by Herbert Spencer; "University Extension," by William Jack; Home and Foreign Affairs.

Sacred Melodies: A Collection of New Sacred Music, designed for the Sanctuary, Sunday School, and Social Worship.

By J. W. Slauchenhaupt, Taneytown, Md. Published by the Author.

This is a neat little book of twenty-five pages, containing twenty-three hymns with music. The literary merit of these hymns is on the whole rather above the average, and the sentiment is always scriptural. The music is good and well harmonized; but of that lively character which renders it much more suitable for use in the Sabbath School and in the family, than in the regular services of the sanctuary.

Three Sermons on the Endless Duration of Future Punishment.

By Rev. J. R. Battisby, St. Andrew's Church, Chatham.

These three sermons occupy a pamphlet of twenty-seven pages. The author, in an introductory note, states that he publishes them at the earnest request of the members of his congregation, as well as of many who do not belong to it. In the first sermon, from Matt. xxv. 46, "These shall go away into everlasting punishment," the heads are:—I: Why does God punish sin? and, II: How long is this punishment to last? Under the first head the following reasons are given: (1) God punishes sin on account of its inherent ill-deserts; (2) because it is the act of a free and voluntary agent; (3) because from the very constitution of His nature He must punish it; (4) because God's law is unchangeable; (5) because the punishment of sin is in accordance with the nature of God's moral government in the past; (6) because God has said that He will punish sin. Under the second head the following proofs of the eternity of future punishment are adduced: (1) All evangelical Churches have held the doctrine. (2) The future state is not one of probation but of retribution. (3) The day of judgment is to end all probation and the new order of things is to remain immutable. (4) The endless duration of future punishment is clearly revealed in God's word. The second sermon (on the same text) professes to answer the common objections to the doctrine in question, and then raises the following objections to the counter-doctrine—that of limitation: (1) The theory of full and final restoration from the torments of hell plainly declares that there was no need for the death of Christ. (2) It declares that faith and repentance are not necessary to salvation. (3) If men out of Christ are under the curse of the law here, so they must be in a future state. (4) If it be unjust to punish men to all eternity for their sins and wilful rebellion against God, then salvation is not of grace but of justice. (5) As man is a free agent now, so he will be in heaven, and so shall the lost be in hell; and therefore under obligation to obey the law of God. (6) Christ shall leave the mediatorial seat at the day of judgment. (7) The doctrine of limitation has no warrant in God's word. The subject of the third sermon is "Annihilation," and it is founded on Ezekiel xviii. 4: "The soul that sinneth it shall die." There is nothing very remarkable about these sermons, but they are replete with patient argu-

ment and may be useful to some. By the way, the author makes one brilliant hit—more brilliant than logical—when he says: "Perhaps one of the strongest proofs we could have, apart from God's perfections and His word, in favor of the endless duration of the misery of the wicked, is just the very fact that Becher denies it."

Canadian Monthly.

Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Co.

The contents of the May number of the "Canadian Monthly" are: "The Monks of Thelema," by Walter Besant and James Rice; "Home," a poem, by H. M., Toronto; "Sleep and Dreaming," by Edward Fitzgerald, Toronto; "Communism," by T. B. Browning, Dundas, Ont.; "The Minstrel's Curse:" a ballad, from the German of Uhland, by W. F., Toronto; "Little Great Men," by F. R., Barrie, Ont.; "Ancient Society," by Joseph Bawden, Kingston; "A Barbecue in North Mississippi," by R. Cleland, Hamilton; "An April Day," a poem, by *Fidelis*; "The Ethical Value of Convictions," by Professor J. E. Wells, Woodstock, Ont.; "Buddhism and Christianity," by *Fidelis*, Kingston; "Lazy Dick," a story, by *Maple Leaf*, Montreal; "Familiar Sayings," by E. R. B., Hamilton; Round the Table; Current Events; Book Reviews; The Annals of Canada. The article on "The Ethical Value of Convictions," by Professor Wells, is well written and thoughtful. The professor's estimate of the value of strong convictions upon those minor points of faith and practice so much in dispute among religious sects, is rather lower than the average; and he not only tolerates, but even commends, doubt on such points. The paper on "Buddhism and Christianity," by *Fidelis*, is a most able and successful reply to the infidel production of Mr. W. McDonnell, of Lindsay, which appeared in the April number of the "Canadian Monthly." Under cover of criticising a former article on Buddhism by *Fidelis*, Mr. McDonnell made an unprovoked attack on Christianity, attempting to prove from certain coincidences that it is only one of the many forms of superstition developed from time to time in Eastern countries. In our notice of the number containing that article we expressed our expectation that *Fidelis* would reply to it; and we have not been disappointed. If those who have read Mr. McDonnell's attack will also read the reply, as well as the original papers on Buddhism, by *Fidelis*, the discussion will do more good than harm. But another "extended thinker" (that is what he himself calls Herbert Spencer) makes his appearance in the columns of the "Canadian Monthly." He gives his signature as "F. R.," hails from the town of Barrie, and heads his article "Little Great Men." He begins with a sweeping condemnation of all and sundry who dare to think for themselves instead of accepting the conclusions of Spencer, Huxley, etc. He attacks Professor Watson of Kingston, for calling Tyndall a "Philistine" and explaining that this term implies "impenetrability to ideas beyond the more or less limited circle of conceptions within which the mind finds it easy to move." And then he sets himself down to the main object of his paper, which is the demolition of Professor Gregg's lecture on "The Mosaic Authorship of the Book of Deuteronomy." The attempt results in failure. Any one who wishes to be satisfied on this point has only to read F. R.'s criticism along with Professor Gregg's lecture, which will be found in our issue of the 26th ult. But to show what sort of a critic this gentleman is, we will place before our readers the very first fault that he finds with the lecture. In pointing out this fault he says: "In the first place, how touchingly candid is the admission our professor makes, that the last chapter, recording the death of Moses, 'may have been written' by some one else." Of course it must have been written by some one else; and to use the word 'may' in the connection in which it stands in the criticism is not touchingly candid, but exceedingly silly. Not so, however, as it appears in the lecture. Professor Gregg wrote, "may have been written by *Samuel* or some other writer." Criticism which descends to tricks of that sort is scarcely worthy of notice.

ZIMMERMAN (On Solitude) says: Those beings are only fit for solitude who like nobody, are like nobody, and are liked by nobody.

GREGORY calls the Scripture "the heart and soul of God;" for in the Scriptures, as in a glass, we may see how the heart and soul of God stand towards His poor creatures.—*Brooks*.

In reading of God's Word, he most profiteth, not always that is most ready in turning of the book, or in saying of it without the book, but he that is most turned into it; that is, is most inspired with the Holy Ghost.—*Homilies*.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

ABOUT MOTHS.—Moths love darkness; therefore to keep them from clothing, air it repeatedly in the sunshine. To keep them from plush furniture, twice a year, on a sunny day, take the furniture out of doors, remove the buttons from the chair if they can be removed, and give the cushions a good switching with long pliable switches, till the dust is removed; then brush them thoroughly; while the cushions are being sunned, give the frames a coat of varnish.

TO DRIVE AWAY RATS.—A correspondent desires a remedy for ridding his house of rats. Let him take a quantity of green copperas and dissolve it in boiling water, and pour it as hot as possible down their holes, and scatter it in crystals about their haunts. It will cleanse the premises of all disagreeable odors, and it has driven every rat out of the house we occupy. If he will limewash his cellar with the lime made yellow with copperas, it will act as a capital disinfectant, and with us has routed every rat and mouse, although the house was an old one, and the vermin very numerous.

STRAW PILLOWS.—Dio Lewis says: The proximate, if not the original, cause of a large proportion of deaths among American babies is some malady of the brain. When we suppose the death to result from dysentery or cholera infantum, the immediate cause of the death is an affection of the brain supervening upon the bowel disease. The heads of American babies are, for the most part, little furnaces! What mischief must come from keeping them buried twenty hours out of every twenty-four in feather pillows. It makes me shiver to think of the number of deaths among these precious little ones, which I have myself seen, where I had no doubt that cool straw pillows would have saved them. The hair pillow is inferior to straw, because it cannot, like straw, be made perfectly clean and fresh by a frequent change. Do not fail to keep their little heads cool.

MAGNETISM AND GRAVITATION.—Mallet has made the interesting observation that a wire placed east and west, and traversed by an electric current, suffers an apparent alteration in weight, due to the effect of the earth's magnetism upon it. The experiment, which was unsuccessfully attempted by Faraday, was made by attaching to the arm of a delicate balance a series of ten horizontal wires fastened to a strip of dry poplar three meters long, twenty-five millimeters wide, and five millimeters thick, the ends of the wires being branched and bent downward so as to dip into the mercury cups at each end. When the current of ten Grove cells was passed through the wires placed east and west, from east to west, the side of the balance to which they were attached sensibly preponderated; while, when the current passed from west to east, the other side went down. These results may be observed with a single wire only a meter long.

MIGNONETTE.—That old-fashioned plant, mignonette, is easily grown from seed, but a fine specimen of it is not very often seen on this side of the water; it is generally crowded out by some novelty less deserving. Not so, however, in England, where meritorious age is more respected than with us. We read of one florist, near London, who has now about 15,000 pots of mignonette—resembling the variety known as "Parson's Giant"—in various stages of growth, for the Covent Garden market. The seeds are sown in pots, and after the plants are well established they are thinned to about eight plants to each pot. They should be placed near the glass, but shaded from the sun, and well sprinkled. After the plants have been thinned, however, they must have plenty of light and air. The system of cultivation is intended for autumn propagation in cold frames, so that the plants will produce their delightfully fragrant flowers all winter long.—*Exchange*.

A LAKE of soda water, known as the Lake of Lonar, has hitherto formed one of the most useful as well as picturesque features of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts. The salt collected from it has been widely used for washing and dyeing chintzes; and when, in the dry weather, evaporation reduces the level of the water, vast quantities of soda are gathered on the shore. From an official report, however, which has just been issued, we gather that the supply of soda now greatly exceeds the demand, which, owing to the distance of the lake from the line of railway, has always been a local one. The largest consumers have hitherto been the villagers in the territories of his Highness the Nizam, but the prohibitory duties which have lately been imposed on soda by the Durbar have, it is said, checked the trade in this direction. No fresh supplies were taken from the lake in 1876-77, as large stocks of unsold produce remained on hand from the manufacture of the previous year.—*Times of India*.

A CHAPTER ON STINGS.—The pain caused by the sting of a plant or insect is the result of a certain amount of acid poison injected into the blood. The first thing to be done is to press the tube of a small key firmly on the wound, moving the key from side to side to facilitate the expulsion of the sting and its accompanying poison. The sting, if left in the wound, should be carefully extracted, otherwise it will greatly increase the local irritation. The poison of stings being acid, common sense points to the alkalis as the proper means of cure. Among the most easily procured remedies may be mentioned soft soap, liquor of ammonia (spirits of hartshorn), smelling salts, washing soda, ammoniac made into paste with water, lime-water, the juice of an onion, tobacco juice, chewed tobacco, bruised dock leaves, tomato juice, wood ashes, tobacco ash and carbonate of soda. If the sting be severe, rest and coolness should be added to the other remedies, more especially in the case of nervous subjects. Nothing is so apt to make the poison active as heat, and nothing favors its activity less than cold. Let the body be kept cool and at rest, and the activity of the poison will be reduced to a minimum. Any active exertion whereby the circulation is quickened will increase both pain and swelling. If the swelling be severe the part may be rubbed with sweet oil or a drop or two of laudanum. Stings in the eye, ear, mouth or throat sometimes lead to serious consequences; in such cases medical advice should always be sought as soon as possible.—*Garden*.