

possesses a copy of it which he can examine for himself. These copies, thanks to Divine providence, and human invention, have been multiplied by millions. The curious reader will find it in the Fifteenth Psalm.

The portraits sketched by the inspired artist is neither an impossible nor a fancy picture. Just such a man would be an honour and an ornament to any society in the present day, and the more plentiful such men are, all the better for society. There are plenty of men living who in no way resemble the one David had in view when he so graphically described his more prominent characteristics. Of all portrait painting, the Bible sketches are most true to nature and to fact. There is no artificiality of pose, no concealment of blemishes. Like the mark on Oliver Cromwell's countenance, which he insisted should appear in his portrait, the divinely inspired artists have preserved whatever was necessary to bring out the accuracy of the likeness.

Gazing on the portrait of the citizen of Zion we see the thoughtful, well-poised countenance lit up by calm, clear, penetrating, yet loving, eyes. The glow of health is apparent. There is neither a weak feature nor a weak line in the sketch. The entire appearance of the man is manly, courageous yet gentle. It invites to confidence and friendship, inspiring a trustfulness impossible of disappointment. He loves and practises righteousness because he is true-hearted and a lover of truth. The man who sat to David for his portrait will not listen to the scandalous tale concerning a neighbour, neither will he give ear to idle and mischievous gossip, nor let harsh and censorious words drop from his tongue. There is nothing ill-natured or mean in his speech, because it is generous, hearty and wholesome. Rank and outward condition do not affect his estimates of his fellow-men. A bad man whether clothed in purple and fine linen or only in rags meets, in his judgment, the contempt he deserves. A good man, one who reverences God and His laws, whether lofty or lowly in station is one to whom he looks up with honour and respect. His word is sacred, once uttered it may be relied upon. No one would feel called upon to say that agreements with him must be in black and white to render them binding. David's good man would certainly be prudent and industrious, but he was no grasping miser. He stands out in strong contrast with many of his fellow-countrymen, but the means of money-getting he was careful to avoid is thought both by Jew and Gentile to be eminently praiseworthy and business-like. A man such as the Psalmist describes would repel with scorn the attempt to induce him to do a mean thing. He is not the kind of man that would take a reward against the innocent.

Times have changed immensely since David's days, yet human nature is much the same now as it was then; the nature of human action has not changed. What was lovely, true and of good report then is of the same character still; what was ignoble and base in Israel in the time of that nation's greatest prosperity is equally base and ignoble in Christendom now. There are men in every land who with the aid of God's grace are trying to live by the same standard as David's citizen of Zion. They have now a holier inspiration and a still nobler example. Theirs is a blessed life and is a source of innumerable blessings to others. They might be much more numerous than they are, what hinders their increase?

Books and Magazines.

CONFERENCE HILL STUDIES. (Toronto: A. G. Watson, Willard Tract Depository.)—This is the Report of the proceedings of the Believers' Meeting for Bible Study, held at Niagara-on-the Lake last summer.

MR. A. G. WATSON, of the Willard Tract Society, has forwarded beautiful specimens of tastefully-lithographed booklets suitable for presentation, "These Sayings of Mine," comprising sets of "I am," "I will," "I have."

THE Rev. Thomas Macadam's valuable little works, "The Master's Memorial," and "Duties of Church members," have met with unlooked-for, but not undeserved, success. They are printed in cheap form and fitted for wide circulation and great usefulness.

THE LAMB OF GOD. (Philadelphia: The American School Union.)—An excellent little book narra-

ting in simple and clear style several of the principal incidents in the life of the Saviour with the purpose of interesting readers in His great atoning work and sending them to the Scriptures with greater desire to learn the truth of God.

SCHOLAR'S HAND BOOK ON THE INTERNATIONAL LESSONS. By Edwin Rice, D.D. (Philadelphia: The American Sunday School Union.)—This is the issue for 1889 of a very useful little book known favourably to old and young for years past. It takes up the studies in Mark and in the Old Testament selected as the series of Sunday school lessons for the coming year.

THE PASTOR'S DIARY. Prepared by Louis H. Jordan, M.A., B.D. (Edinburgh: James Gemmell, Montreal: W. Drysdale & Co.)—The new issue of this most useful and portable Diary has been revised with care and greatly improved. The faithful pastor of any Christian Church—for it is undenominational—will find it a most valuable, memory-aiding and time-saving help. It is very neatly got up.

POEMS OF WILD LIFE. Selected and edited by Charles G. D. Roberts, M.A. (Toronto: W. J. Gage & Co.)—Professor Roberts writes an introduction to this neat little volume, one of the "Canterbury Poets" series. The range of selection is wide, and the poems have been culled with excellent taste and appreciation. Canadian, British, Continental and American poets are here well represented.

HYGIENE OF THE NURSERY. By Louis Storr, M.D. (Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co.)—The author of this work is a man of extensive experience and eminently fitted to write on a subject of such practical importance as that to which the volume is devoted. It is a work that reflects the latest thought on the subject, and is written in a style comprehensible by the ordinary reader. Its value as a family guide could not well be overestimated.

FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES: Their State and Prospects. By J. Murray Mitchell, M.A., LL.D. (New York and Chicago: Fleming H. Revell.)—To all interested in Foreign Mission work, this little book by one who bears an honoured name in missionary service, will be found to be of great practical value. It presents much information in condensed form, and gives a clear view of the present conditions and prospects of Foreign Mission work.

THE TEACHING OF EPICTETUS: Being the "Enchiridion of Epictetus," with selections from the "Dissertations and Fragments." Translated from the Greek, with introduction and notes, by T. W. Rolleston. (Toronto: W. J. Gage & Co.)—In compact and attractive form, the reader has placed before him in this volume the philosophical teaching of Epictetus. The translator has done his work well, and has selected a translation that he thinks most suitable to the form of the original.

MISS BAXTER'S BEQUEST. By Annie S. Swan. (Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.)—Those who have read the former works of this gifted Scottish authoress, now visiting Canada, are always pleased to receive with expectation the announcement of a new work from her pen. "Miss Baxter's Bequest" will not only not disappoint them, but will heighten their respect and appreciation of one whose writings are an inspiration to right feeling, right thinking and right living.

LIFE OF HEINRICH HEINE. By William Sharp. (Toronto: W. J. Gage & Co.)—The eccentric German poet, Heinrich Heine, gets in Mr. Sharp an appreciative and competent biographer. The story of that singularly interesting life is told in moderate compass and its pungency is increased by the numerous citation of Heine's sayings and writings. The reader who begins this narrative is bound to finish it, and to desire a still fuller acquaintance with the works of so original an author.

THE LOST FAITH AND DIFFICULTIES OF THE BIBLE AS TESTED BY THE LAWS OF EVIDENCE. By T. S. Childs, D.D. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.)—Two exceedingly valuable articles are bound together in this handsome little volume. There are many in these days who have lost their faith and drifted away from their early teachings. To such as these and to all who have come to believe that our age has passed beyond the Bible, the incidents and arguments of this little book should be of service.

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

DR. McCURE'S ARRIVAL AT CHEFOO.

The Rev. Dr. Reid has received a letter dated Oct. 8, 1888, from Dr. McClure, announcing his arrival at Chefoo, from which the following extracts are taken: I arrived safely in Chefoo last Thursday, after a very pleasant voyage and a stay of ten days in Shanghai. The *Abyssinia* was delayed in San Francisco one week, so we did not get away from Vancouver until August 23, instead of the 21st, as advertised, but the Canadian Pacific Railway company paid our hotel bill during the time the *Abyssinia* was detained. We had a very enjoyable time on board; there were no less than fourteen missionaries on the steamer, ten for Japan and four for China. One, Dr. Farnham, of the American Presbyterian Church, was with me from Montreal to Shanghai. At Yokohama we found the French mail steamer leaving the day after we arrived.

The Japan mail runs from Yokohama to Shanghai. I got acquainted with quite a number of missionaries in Shanghai, and saw something of the work there. I came from Shanghai to Chefoo by the China Merchants' Navigation Company, which gives ten per cent discount to missionaries. There are two other regular lines between Shanghai and Chefoo. When I arrived here I found that Dr. Smith and Mr. Goforth had gone inland to spy out our promised land; they will probably be gone seven or eight weeks yet. Mrs. Goforth and the baby are well. Mrs. Smith has not been quite well for a few days, but I expect she will soon be all right. Miss Sutherland has had the trying duty of nursing Mrs. Dr. Corbett, of the American Presbyterian Mission, during Dr. Corbett's absence in the interior, but last night she was relieved of that duty by Mrs. Corbett's death. It is very sad indeed. Dr. Corbett cannot get back for four or five days yet, and four or five young children are left motherless.

ZENANA MISSION.—MOUKDEN. GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The following interesting account of the examination of the girls' school has been received by the Foreign Mission Secretary, in a letter from Mrs. Webster:

"Yesterday (July 9) the examination of the girls' school took place, and to-day the school was closed for the summer holiday. I am delighted to say that the examination was most satisfactory. The younger children at first were a little frightened, but as their fears wore off they read their hymns and other lessons very nicely. The older girls did extremely well. Mr. Webster had told them before that they must be able to read and answer questions from any portion of the New Testament and Genesis that he might choose to ask. One he made read from Hebrew, another from John's Gospel, one from Revelation, and the other from Genesis; from each of these books they answered questions equal to any girl of their own age at home. I must say I felt more than pleased. The Three Character Classic, as it is called, was recited with few blunders, and the Catechism of Christian doctrine seemed well understood by most of them. The Sabbath school, which we began some months ago, and the children's portion every Sabbath morning at the women's service have, I think, stirred in the elder girls a real interest in the Bible.

"Now that the school is closed, I cannot express my gratitude enough to our Heavenly Father, that they have each and all, to all appearance, gone home in the best of health. Our summers here are very trying, and where there are a number of children lodged together, such as in a school, they are always a source of anxiety, and doubly so when our own children require to mix with them. Since ever having anything to do with the school work, I have always made a point of letting the children come quite freely about our house, with only one condition—that both they and their clothing are clean. I think this plan has done much to cause a spirit of cleanliness among them; they feel they are not being shunned, and seeing so much of our foreign ways has made them more anxious to try and follow in our footsteps.

"I can honestly say, after having lived among the Chinese six years, instead of growing easy, I am more particular than ever that everything should be thoroughly clean. My own servants say now that they would not like to live in a Chinese house. Certainly our foreign ways are very different.