

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

### Baths and Bathing.

New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This book belongs to the excellent series of "Health Primers" now being issued by the Messrs. Appleton, in square 16mo volumes. It is not very bulky, but it contains much; all the light furnished by modern science and medical experience being brought to bear on the subject.

### Canada School Journal.

Toronto: Adam Miller & Co.

The April number of the "School Journal" contains editorials on "The New School Act;" "School Legislation;" "Professional course in Normal Schools;" besides a large number of valuable contributions, and the usual departments, well filled with matter of direct and practical importance to educationists.

### The North American Review.

New York: D. Appleton & Co.

The number of the "North American" for May contains: "Our Election Laws," by Secretary G. W. Carey; "Campaign Notes in Turkey," by Lieut. F. V. Greene; "German Socialism in America;" "Absent Friends," by Rev. O. B. Frothingham; "A Plea for Sport," by Lloyd S. Bryce; "Notes on Recent Progress in Applied Science," by President Morton; "Law and Design in Nature," by Prof. Newcomb, President Porter, Rev. Joseph Cook, Rev. Dr. Clarke and President McCosh.

### The Fortnightly Review.

Toronto: Belfords, Clarke & Co.

The following are the titles of the articles in the current number of the "Fortnightly"—Canadian reprint for March: "The Plain Story of the Zulu War," by the Editor; "First impressions of the New Republic," by Frederick Harrison; "Chapters on Socialism," by John Stuart Mill; "An American View of American Competition," by E. Atkinson; Thomas Paine," by M. D. Conway; "A Fair Day's Wages for a Fair Day's Work," by L. H. Courtney, M. P.; "The Liberal Party and the Farmers," by W. E. Bear; "Black and White in the Southern States," by Sir G. Campbell, M. P.; "The urgency of Bankruptcy Legislation;" Home and Foreign Affairs.

### Natural Resources of the United States.

By J. Harris Patton. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This book is intended chiefly for use in schools. It belongs to a series of primers which the Messrs. Appleton are publishing in a very convenient form. The account which it gives of the natural resources of the United States is concise, and at the same time well nigh exhaustive. Coal and metal, a fertile soil, a copious rainfall, enough heat to produce crops, navigable rivers, an extensive coast-line, and fine harbours—that is the whole list. It is short but it is comprehensive. The country that has these resources certainly ought to call attention to them, in order to secure their proper development by the inhabitants, as well as to attract foreigners. We recommend this book to general readers; but regarded as a class-book, it only serves to bring vividly before us the necessity of having a similar book prepared for use in our schools giving an equally concise and comprehensive account of the natural resources of Canada.

### Canadian Methodist Magazine.

Toronto: Samuel Ross.

The April number of the "Methodist Magazine" contains several articles which are readable, interesting, and of considerable literary merit. The opening paper, on "The Thousand Islands," has reference principally to piscatory amusements; and is profusely and aptly illustrated. It will awaken in the breasts of its readers, bright anticipations of the enjoyments of the coming summer. Happy are those who can indulge in such anticipations without subsequent disappointment. The article entitled "Peeps at the Old Dominion" is also copiously illustrated. It is well written and furnishes some choice bits of information connected with the early history of the British Colony of New England. The hymn "Ecce Homo" by Mrs. Macgillis is good. The writer of it is a Calvinist, whether she is aware of it or not; but this is the case with many of our Methodist friends when they write poetry and when they pray—it is only in their preaching that their Arminian notions come to the front. We have not found time to examine the other articles in

the present number; but they are many and various, and their titles are promising.

### Physiological Therapeutics: A New Theory.

By Thomas W. Poole, M. D. Lindsay, Ont.

In the introduction to the work before us the author enunciates six "general principles" in which he advances a new theory in reference to vaso-motor nerve action, and in the succeeding chapters endeavours to make good these "principles" from the writings of authorities on physiology, deducing his own conclusions from the facts quoted. He rejects the generally accepted theory that there are two sets of nerves, the one for the production of dilatation, the other for the production of contraction; asserting, instead, that the nerves distributed to the coats of the vessels are the agents which produce dilatation, and that contraction is produced by an inherent power in the middle coat, independent of any nerve influence. The author then interprets the physiological and therapeutical action of the most important medicines in accordance with his theory. The author (from the host of authorities referred to) has spared no pains to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the subject on which he writes, and while there will be many to dissent from his conclusions, all who read his book must give the writer credit for candour in statement and earnestness of purpose. The book is written in an easy, readable style, and will well repay the careful reading of the medical profession.

### The Crowning Triumph.

Philadelphia: F. A. North & Co.

This a collection of sacred songs and gospel hymns, with music, intended for use in worship either in the congregation or in the Sabbath school. It is much more suitable for the latter than for the former. The selection is however, on the whole, pretty good. But there is one fault that seems to be getting very common in our modern collections of hymns, and the compilation which we are now noticing is not altogether free from it—that is the altering of old hymns, so as to make it appear as if improvements had been made in them, when really it is quite the other way. For example, in the well-known hymn "One is kind above all others," it is very far from being an improvement, instead of the original line, "Earthly friends may pain and grieve thee; one day kind, the next day leave thee," to substitute "Earthly friends may fail and leave us; this day day kind, the next bereave us." We also think that the line, "Is it sin that pains and grieves thee, unbelief or trials seize thee," in the same hymn, had much better been left alone than have its force diminished without making any addition to its elegance by changing it into "Is it sin that pains and grieves thee? Doubts and trials do they tease thee?" The book is well printed and got up in a style which, considering its low price, is certainly a "triumph."

### The Presbyterian Hymnal.

Edinburgh: Andrew Elliot. Toronto: James Bain & Son.

This is one of the most recently compiled and perhaps the best of all the collections of hymns in use among the Presbyterian Churches. It is the work of a committee of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland; and gives abundant evidence of the great care and attention which they bestowed upon it. The hymns are admirably arranged under their subjects as follows: (1) God—His being, attributes and works; (2) The Redeemer—His Divine glory, His advent, life, sufferings, death, resurrection, etc.; (3) The Holy Spirit; (4) Holy Scripture; (5) Gospel invitations and promises; (6) The Christian Life; (7) Death and Resurrection; (8) Heaven; (9) The Church—its glory and privileges, its unity, its ordinances, etc.; (10) Missions; (11) Times and Seasons—morning and evening, seed-time and harvest, new year; (12) Hymns for special occasions; (13) Hymns for the young; (14) Ancient hymns; (15) Dismissal hymns; (16) Doxologies; (17) Scripture Sentences. We understand that some of our congregations in Canada are adopting this hymn book, although there is a prospect of our having a collection of our own very shortly; and this does not surprise us very much, for it will be found very difficult to improve upon the collection now before us. In a mechanical and artistic point of view, the copy which has been sent us is the product of exquisite taste and skill. Messrs. James Bain and Son are prepared to furnish the book in various styles and at different prices, so that intending purchasers will not have any difficulty in suiting themselves.

### A CONTRIBUTION TO OUR HOME MISSION FUND.

MR. EDITOR,—Allow me at this crisis to suggest a short and easy method of permanent relief to this grand central institution.

I believe in a Sustentation Fund, but not in a Supplemental Fund. I have been in the predicament several times of requiring aid, but would never apply for it, and therefore can speak on the subject. When I divided my congregation into two halves, I asked for aid from the Home Mission Fund for the half hived off, and refused to ask anything for myself. When I halved my congregation a second time, I told the people of St. Peter's that I would run all the risk of the experiment; and the result has been most satisfactory. We give into the fund more than the average over the whole Church. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." What I have done any other minister similarly situated may do. I believe if he threw himself on the sympathy of his people, they would be equal to the emergency. It grieves me to see so many ministers of my own Presbytery receiving aid from it, when some of their members are making themselves rich. Rise brethren. Be men. Suck not the life's blood out of the Church's heart. Christian members, dare not to accumulate when your minister is a burden on the whole Church. Almost the only objects for which this Fund should be drawn on are the nursing of mission stations and prospecting new fields, that we may possess this large and wide Dominion for the Lord.

MADOC.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MR. EDITOR,—Will you allow me through your columns to acknowledge, with thanks, contributions from the following sources towards the liquidation of the floating debt on our church here. I have delayed doing so longer than I should otherwise, waiting for contributions promised but not yet forwarded: Ayr, (Stanley street), collection, \$21.62, Sabbath school, \$5; Chatham, (St. Andrew's), collection, \$6.75, subscriptions, \$48.39; Glenmorris, collection, \$9.80; Granton, \$14; Metropolitan, Sabbath school, \$4; Paris, (River street) Sabbath school, \$6; Toronto, (St. Andrew's), portion of collection at missionary meeting, \$25; Sundry subscriptions, \$8.

A. FINDLAY.

Bracebridge, April 15th, 1879.

### LADIES' FRENCH EVANGELIZATION SOCIETY.

A special meeting of the Ladies' French Evangelization Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada was held in St. Paul's Church, Montreal, on the 15th inst., for the purpose of considering the propriety of dispensing with the services of one or more of the Bible women owing to the want of sufficient funds to sustain the work. Deeply impressed with a sense of the vast importance of the labours of the Bible women, and conscious of the injurious effects certain to result if their number be reduced, the Society resolved to delay action, and to adjourn the meeting till Tuesday, the 6th May, in the hope that the friends of the work will, prior to that date, provide the funds necessary to enable them to carry it on without reducing the number of their labourers.

With this end in view they urgently appeal to all the friends of French Evangelization for contributions to meet the present indebtedness. The Bible women spend their time, under the supervision of the Society, in visiting the homes of the recent converts from Romanism, in instructing the young by means of classes, etc., obtaining situations and work for the unemployed, and generally in ministering to the bodily and spiritual wants of the French Canadian Protestants. There is abundant reason to believe that their labours have been greatly owned of God and blessed in the past.

The salary of each of the Bible women is \$30 per month. Are there not many who will esteem it a privilege to provide the means necessary to support one of these for a month? Are there not very many who will gladly assist in so doing? The income of the Society has thus far this year been obtained almost entirely in Montreal. Believing that they have a strong claim on the sympathy and liberality of the Christian people of the Dominion, the Society earnestly appeal for help to all who have at heart the best interests of our French-speaking fellow citizens.

All contributions should be forwarded before the 6th May, addressed to the Treasurer, Miss M. H. Gordon, care of Joseph Mackay, Esq., 1059 Sherbrooke street, Montreal, by whom they will be duly acknowledged.

Montreal, 16th April, 1879.