

The Hallam Succession. A Tale of Methodist Life in Two Countries. By AMELIA E. BARR. Pp. 310. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.

This is a story written, as the author says in her preface, "for young Methodists in all places and circumstances; first, to assist them in giving a reason of the faith that is in them; second, to show that they have good cause to love and honour a creed which not only elevates the most lowly characters, but also adds to gentle birth, wide culture and noble enthusiasms, beauty, dignity and grace." It admirably fulfils its purpose. It brings into contrast the old world and the new—Yorkshire and the Carolinas, with episodes in Texas and Louisiana. It is unusually well written. The Yorkshire dialect is well managed and the religious teaching is well sustained.

Dearer Than Life. A Tale of the Times of Wiclif. By EMMA LESLIE. Pp. 302. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price \$1.

The writer of this book is well known as the author of a series of volumes illustrating the history of the Christian Church throughout the ages. In the present work she gives a graphic picture of the England of five hundred years ago and of the religious awakening under the preaching of Wiclif and his "poor priests" throughout the kingdom. The book is at once instructive and edifying and we cordially commend it, with the other similar works of the author, to families and Sunday-schools.

Than Many Sparrows. By ANNIE E. COURTNEY. Pp. 238. London: T. Woolmer. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

This is a touching story of London life among the lowly, illustrative of the brooding providence of God over the children of sorrow and want. It is admirable for Sunday-schools. The illustrations and binding are of the characteristic elegance of the issues of the Wesleyan Conference office.

LITERARY NOTES.

The new number of Mr. Chas. M. Kurtz's "Academy Notes," the volume for 1885 is announced by Cassell & Company. It is a complete record of the year's art and gives *fac-similes* from the artist's drawings of the most important pictures of the season.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a number of beautiful Easter poems, by the Rev. Horatio Gilbert Parker, of Trenton, Ont., reprinted from leading journals. We are so charmed with their beauty that we have filed them for use next year, with the author's permission.

From our friend, the Rev. C. S. Eby, we have received a vigorous pamphlet, reprinted from the *Japan Mail*, in which he replies, with his usual scholarly ability, to native Japanese objections to the Christian religion.

Dr. Vincent's latest Chautauqua Text Book (price 10c.) is an ideal account of "Our Superintendent," which all superintendents would do well to study.

Library of the Fathers of the Church—J. Fitzgerald, 20 Lafayette Place, New York, who by means of the Humboldt Library of Popular Science has done much to bring standard works within the reach of all, issues the announcement of similar enterprise in publishing a library of the Christian Fathers. It will be issued twice a month in 8vo., 120 pages in each part, for 25 cents to subscribers, \$5 a year or \$2.50 for six months. The first issue is the immortal Confessions of St. Augustine, edited by Dr. E. B. Pusey. This will be followed by the principal works of Chrysostom, Ephrem Syrus, Athanasius, Cyprian, Tertullian, the two Cyrils, the two Gregories, etc. These works, heretofore locked up in costly editions, are now brought within the reach of all. "I reverence the Fathers," says John Wesley, "because they describe true Christianity and direct us to the strongest evidence of the Christian doctrine." They are among the greatest helps to the understanding of primitive Christianity.