

the North-West Rebellion. From this epoch all her poems are dated. Into the cause of the volunteer she threw herself with an enthusiasm rewarded by a most gratifying recognition from persons and places far apart. Letters of warm appreciation were received from all parts of the Dominion—a most satisfactory proof that poetry written from the heart is certain to reach and touch the heart. The sincerity of her feeling (one of the rarest qualities in modern verse) is apparent in every line. Of the poems signed by Annie Rothwell's name, it may be said that they are born of admiration of some heroic deed, sympathy with some pathetic incident, or expression of some patriotic or other aspiration, shaped in verse of a rhythm and rhyme with which no fault can be found.

A. ETHELWYN WETHERALD.

### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A TEACHER OF THE VIOLIN AND OTHER TALES. By J. H. Shorthouse. London: Macmillan and Company.

These tales have (with the exception of "Ellie") appeared in various magazines, and are not quite up to Mr. Shorthouse's usual standard; however, anything he writes is scholarly and refined, and this volume will be found both fanciful and amusing.

LIVING VOICES OF LIVING MEN: Practical Sermons by Bishops and Clergy of the Church. New York: Whittaker, 1887.

If we were asked to characterize the preaching of the present day, we should say that the general level was very high, perhaps higher than in any other age, but that the eminences were fewer. The French pulpit has Monsabré, Hyacinthe, Bersier, and perhaps some others who occupy the front rank among preachers. England has Bishop Magee and Dr. Liddon, and perhaps not another that could be named with them, although a high place must be assigned to Mr. Spurgeon and Dr. Maclaren. On this side of the Atlantic we have Bishop Cleveland Coxe and Dr. Phillips Brooks, each in his own way a remarkable, thoughtful, cultivated preacher. The present volume contains a very good selection of sermons of the second class, all very readable, if very few can lay claim to brilliancy. Among the best we would name the thoughtful sermons of Bishop Potter, Dr. Satterlee, Dr. Snively, Dr. Wildes, and Mr. Arthur Brooks. The volume is excellently adapted for its purpose. It is stated to be "intended for family and lay reading." We sincerely wish it a large circulation.

THE HEART OF THE CREEDS: Historical Religion in the Light of Modern Thought. By Arthur Wentworth Eaton. Putnam: New York and London, 1888.

It is pleasant to take a book like this into the hands; it is a pleasure for the eye to rest upon it. And the contents are not unworthy of the casket. We cannot say that there is anything absolutely new in the book; but there is a depth of thoughtfulness pervading the whole, and there is a lucidity of gracefulness of style which makes the task of perusal light and pleasant. The numerous quotations which are prefixed to each chapter add considerably to the value and attractiveness of the whole. The subjects treated are—1. God. 2. Man. 3. Christ. 4. The Creeds. 5. The Bible. 6. The Church. 7. The Sacraments. 8. The Liturgy. 9. The Future Life. The school of the author is that of liberal orthodox, now and then, perhaps, a little more liberal than orthodox. In his teaching he differs very little from Maurice, in England, and Mulford, in America. As an illustration of his method and a specimen of his conclusions, we may observe that he regards the history of the Fall as merely an allegory. S. T. Coleridge, one of his masters,—the greatest acknowledged by his master, Maurice—said, "Why not both a history and an allegory?" But we don't propose to discuss these questions. We have been much interested in the book.

SOLOMON MAIMON. An Autobiography. Translated from the German, with additions and notes. By J. Clark Murray, LL.D., F.R.S.C., Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, McGill College, Montreal. Paisley and London: Alexander Gardner. Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

Dr. Murray has the honour of being the first translator of this remarkable and rare work; one of the most romantic and curious autobiographies of any time. The general reading public will find the book most entertaining; to the student in philosophy and theology it is invaluable, and the translation is faultless, giving all the quaintness and vigour of the original, with the closest adherence to the text. Solomon Maimon, a Polish Jew of the last century, has been little recognized in English literature; in the new edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica even he is not mentioned. Dr. Clark says:—"One day, however, in Toronto, in order to while away an unoccupied hour, I was glancing, like Daniel Deronda, over the shelves of a second-hand bookseller, when I was attracted by a small volume, in a good state of preservation, with 'S. Maimon's Lebensgeschichte' on the back; and on taking it down I found it to be the veritable autobiography which I had been curious to see." So to this happy accident we are indebted for the excellent translation now before us. The account given of Jewish manners and customs and the inner life of European Jews is most interesting, and an element of comedy is added to the work in the descriptions of Maimon's many encounters with his

mother-in-law, and the amusements and eccentricities of the Polish landlord, Prince Radzivil. Many extracts might be given from the book had we the space to spare. We have to thank Dr. Murray for this valuable addition to our literature.

REINCARNATION: A Study of Forgotten Truths. By E. D. Walker. Houghton, Mifflin and Company. 1888.

Reincarnation is our old friend the doctrine of the metempsychosis, or the transmigration of souls. In speaking of this doctrine as "forgotten" the sub-title is very nearly right, for it is almost forgotten, or at any rate almost universally disbelieved; but whether it is a "truth," is quite another matter. After going through the present volume, which presents many points of interest, our verdict must be "Not proven," and our judgment "Most improbable." Still, there are persons who are very much interested in subjects such as that which is here discussed, and they will find this a very pleasantly written book. Moreover, if they arrive at the same conclusions as the writer we do not imagine that it will make much practical difference to them. With regard to the arguments employed in support of the doctrine, they are very much of the same kind as those brought forward by "Spiritualists," amply sufficient for those who are already convinced utterly ineffectual with the unbelieving. As an example, the author actually gives us, for Old Testament proofs of the pre-existence of souls, Prov. viii. 22, 23 and Jer. i. 5. In the first it is said, "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way," etc. The ME is Wisdom, and some have thought that it represented the Eternal Word, who is the Wisdom of God. We do not here enter into this very interesting theological question. But we may say it passes our powers of comprehension to understand how the writer found here an argument for the pre-existence of souls. With regard to Jeremiah, we have no doubt that Delitzsch is quite right when he says that the reference is to existence in the fore-knowledge, or rather perhaps in the purpose, of the Creator. The writer attempts to answer the objections to the doctrine drawn from the facts of heredity. But here he meets with difficulties which seem insurmountable to those who are not resolved, at all risks, to revive and disseminate this "forgotten" truth, error, or absurdity. The volume is a handsome one.

REPORT OF A PART OF NORTHERN ALBERTA, and portions of adjacent Districts of Assiniboia and Saskatchewan, embracing the country lying south of the North Saskatchewan River, and north of Lat. 57 degrees, between Long. 110 degrees, and 115 degrees west. By J. B. Russell, B.A., F.Q.S.

This interesting report of 176 pages, forming part of the Annual Report of 1886 of the Geological Survey of Canada, is a valuable contribution to the scientific literature of Canada. It deals chiefly with the economic resources of the districts examined. A well arranged resumé of former explorations of this part of the Dominion is also given. The first exploration of which any record remains, is that of M. Bigot, the Intendant and de la Jonquière, the Governor of Canada, in 1750, conducted by M. Legardeur de Saint-Pierre. The object of this expedition appears to have been to find a route to the Western Sea, by the Saskatchewan River, which had been ascended two years before this time as far as the Forks by one of the sons of M. de la Verendrye.

These intrepid voyageurs were the first to reach the Rocky Mountains, in what is now Canadian territory.

The next explorer was Mr. Fidler, in 1792; he was the first to record the discovery of coal in this region. In 1793 he crossed the Rosebud Creek, a tributary of the Saskatchewan, on his return from the Rocky Mountains, and at this point he wrote across his map "Great quantity of coal in this creek." With the exception of the coal-seam mentioned by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, as having been seen by him on Great Bear River in 1789, this is the first record of the discovery of coal on the Canadian North-West Territory.

One of the most indefatigable of the early explorers was Mr. David Thompson, an officer of the North-West Fur Trading Company, who at the close of the last and the beginning of the present century travelled and traded throughout the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast. He was an enthusiastic geographer, and neither the adventures of the journey nor the business of trade hindered him from making a survey of some kind of the region he traversed. When remaining at a post or "House," he determined, as far as possible, its true position by numerous astronomical observations. His field note-books, which are in the Ontario Crown Lands Departments, are valuable historic records, and should be published. Acting under Thompson's instructions, Duncan McGillivray, followed the Saskatchewan to its source in a small lake in the Rocky Mountains.

In 1814, Gabriel Franchère crossed from the mouth of the Columbia River to Lake Winnipeg, occupying two months and twenty-one days in the journey; the chief interest of his travels consists in the graphic description of the country and the native tribes with whom he came in contact.

In 1825 Thomas Drummond, assistant naturalist, of the second expedition of Sir John Franklin, collected a large number of plants and animals along the banks of the Saskatchewan; these were afterwards described by Sir Wm. Hooke and Sir John Richardson.

In the summer of 1841, Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson Bay Company, crossed the northern and western portion of Alberta in his journey across the Continent. His narrative deals chiefly with the incidents of the journey.

Among the more recent explorers are mentioned Rev. Father De Sonet, who crossed over from British Columbia in 1845, and Capt. Palliser (1857-