

Book Notices.

Penological and Preventative Principles. By WILLIAM TALLACK, Secretary of the Howard Association. 8vo. Pp. xii.-414. London: Wortheimer, Lea & Co. Price \$2.80.

Mr. Tallack writes with the authority of an expert on this subject. As long ago as 1872 he wrote an important work on the facts of criminal administration. For more than twenty years Mr. Tallack has been Secretary of the Howard Association, whose object is the promotion of the best methods of the treatment and prevention of crime. In this more recent book he discusses the first principles in diminishing crime, pauperism and intemperance. He regards prison systems generally as unsatisfactory. He urges strongly prison separation and classification. He discusses life imprisonment, habitual offenders, "rescdivistes," prison labour, prison officers, aid to discharged prisoners, sentences, and forced labour, corporal punishment, probation system, police administration, neglected youth and juvenile delinquency. On the subject of capital punishment he says that great inevitable difficulties in the application of this punishment have rendered its infliction unreliable, that the more certain but secondary punishment would, in general, be a safer one for the protection of society. Nearly half the persons sentenced to death in Great Britain have received commutation of that sentence, and more than three-fourths of the murderers escape the infliction of death in France, Germany, Austria, Russia and United States. The balance of the evidence seems to us to speak strongly against this extreme penalty. Sir George Denham declares, that "more, on the whole, is done by capital punishment to induce murders than to prevent them." Mr. Tallack states that in many cases the death penalty has been wrongly

inflicted. He gives several cases from 1867 down to 1889. The book is a classic on the subject, and should be studied by every penologist. It is thoroughly evangelical and recognizes Christ as the only hope of the world for virtue and happiness, and the cross as the chief basis for moral restriction and deterrence. The author brings a tremendous indictment against the drink habit.

Dorothea Dix. By FRANCIS TIFFANY. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.50.

This is the story of a very remarkable life, one of which too little is known. The study of this volume will be an intellectual and moral inspiration to those who read it. "Here is a woman," says the preface, "who, as the founder of vast and enduring institutions of mercy in America and in Europe, has simply no peer in the annals of Protestantism. To find her parallel in this respect it is necessary to go back to the lives of such memorable Roman Catholic women as St. Theresa of Spain, or Santa Chiara of Assisi, and to the amazing work they did in founding throughout Christendom great conventual establishments. Not in the winning of laurels, but in the succor of human misery, lay the dominating purpose of her life. A woman of great pride and dignity of character, fully conscious, too, of the immensity of the work she had achieved on two continents, she yet shrank in utter aversion from what seemed to her the degradation of mere public notoriety."

Born in 1802, and living to the advanced age of eighty-five, her life spans nearly the whole of the century.

Her story is worthy of comparison with that of Howard, the great prison reformer. Her special philan-