

Books and Periodicals Dept.

William Carey. By John Brown Myers, Toronto, Canada. Willard Tract Depository. Price, 50 cents.

This little book, profusely illustrated by many handsome pictures, is the first of a series of Missionary publications which the Willard Tract Depository intend to bring out. The idea is a good one, for the work which has been done and is now being done in the foreign mission field should be put in attractive form to suit children and the masses, and widely circulated. The book before us is suitable in every way for a Sunday school library, and owing to its attractive form and clear simple narrative will be sure to be widely read, if circulated.

William Carey did not go out to his missionary work as a Churchman, connected as he was with the Baptist Society of England, yet he is generally recognized as "The father and founder of modern missions;" although there had been missionaries before him, such as Eliot, Brainerd and Schwartz. His struggles to obtain knowledge—being but a shoemaker—and become a religious teacher are most interesting. At a "Minister's Meeting" in Northampton, in 1786, Mr. Carey modestly asked "whether the command given to the Apostles to teach all nations was not obligatory on all succeeding ministers to the end of time, seeing that the accompanying promise was of equal extent?" For this he was snubbed and told he was a most miserable enthusiast for asking such a question!

How times have changed since then, thank God! The first prejudices against missions have been overcome. It is now a recognized and highly important branch of Christian work, and has made on the whole, rapid strides since the close of last century when it was regarded as the dream of an enthusiast.

Into the difficulties which this man of gigantic missionary spirit had to encounter before obtaining sufficient support to enable him to take a voyage to India and to undertake work there for his Master, the long and stormy voyage lasting from June 13th to November 9th, 1793, his first experience in India, his mode of life and constant preaching, his extraordinary linguistic ability which caused him to overcome great obstacles in his work and enabled him to give the Gospel to the heathen in their native tongue, and his many adventures in India during his forty-one years of labor there, we cannot enter, but refer our readers to the book itself. May not the possession of such a book in a household inspire the heart of some noble boy to be a missionary for his Master? And what is more sorely needed than hundreds of such in these days of Mammon worship and commercial anxiety?

The second book in this Missionary Series, the life of Robert Moffat, has also reached us, and we hope to give it a more extended notice next month. It is equally well printed and illustrated as its predecessor.

The Society of the Treasury of God.

All communications relating to this Society should be addressed to Rev. C. A. B. Pocock, Commander, R. N., Toronto.

THE LAW AND THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW.

In the exhortation in the office of the Holy Communion, the Church tells us, "First, to examine our lives and conversation by the rule of God's Commandments," and the Decalogue is read for the purpose of self-examination. St. Paul tells us that the law is our pedagogue to bring us to the school of Christ. In the Lesson on the Mount our Lord explained how those who love Him are to keep them; He took examples from four commandments and showed that from henceforth not only the letter was binding, but the spirit of them also. And afterward, he made his meaning clearer still, "A new commandment give I unto you that ye love one another." From the time that voice was heard on the mountain in Judæa, an entirely new conception of sin has been formed; it was removed from the outward act to the inmost depth of the spirit and the heart.

Jesus was "the True Light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world."—John i, 9. And in this teaching of the law he flooded the Old Testament with new light. Some parts being old, viz., what was merely ceremonial, hygienic, or fulfilled in His sacrifice, vanished away; the remainder is to be obeyed in the spirit.

If any friend on earth, who shared his income with us, did us many kind offices, and whom we dearly loved, was to hint that we could do something that would please him, how gladly we should do it! "Our Father," i. e., the Father of Jesus and our Father, is not only our Friend, but also our Creator and Preserver; He so loved us that He sent His Son to take upon Him, not only our human nature, but the form of a servant, and then to die for us. Surely if we find even a vague hint that He would be pleased if we returned a certain fixed proportion of what He has given us for our support and happiness we would gladly return it. If we examine the law we find no vague hints, but positive commands, and great rewards promised to those who obey; the proportions are fixed, viz., one tenth, again a second tenth, First Fruits, and in order to equalise the rich and the poor-offerings, large and small, etc., etc.; in fact we find a perfect scheme of church and national finance. Surely if we love the Lord Jesus and keep His commandments we shall obey the law in its spirit, and adapt it to the present circumstances of the Church of God. Once and only once in the Church on earth, have the faithful attained to full obedience to THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW; immediately after the ascension of our Lord, before love grew cold, the Jewish Christians, besides paying all that was required under the law, "were of one heart and