

## Book Notices.

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*Monday Chats.* By C. A. SAINTE-BEUVE. Selected and translated from the "Causeries du Lundi" by WILLIAM MATHEWS, LL.D. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co. Price \$2.00.

Sainte-Beuve, the brilliant French Senator and Academician, is described by Matthew Arnold, as "the finest critical spirit of our time." And of these "Causeries," or "Monday Chats" the *Westminster Review* asserts "there is nothing equal to them in their line in any language." Yet his merits are comparatively little known to English readers. Dr. Mathews has therefore rendered an invaluable service to literature by these racy and idiomatic translations of these brilliant French essays. We have here the thoughts of one of the greatest thinkers of France on some of the most important themes of modern criticism. In these essays he fairly exhausts his subject. His style has all the vivacity, the subtle grace, the delicate refinement for which the highest class of French writers are noted. Among the brilliant essays here given are studies of Fenelon, Bossuet, Massillon, Pascal, Rousseau, Guizot, Louis XIV., Frederic the Great, etc. Dr. Mathew's introductory essay is a fine study of the great critic himself.

*The Life and Writings of St. John.* By JAMES M. MACDONALD, D.D. With introduction by DEAN HOWSON. 8vo, pp. 436. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$3.50.

In this book Dr. Macdonald has done for the Life and Writings of St. John what Canon Farrar and Drs. Conybeare and Howson have done for the Life and Writings of St. Paul. This is, so far as we know, decidedly the best popular treatment of the august theme under con-

sideration. It is of special value at this time when the attention of all Christendom is directed, as it never was before, to those writings. For nine months of this year the great majority of the Sunday-school teachers and scholars of the world are studying these writings as they never were studied since they first appeared. Here all the side lights that can be thrown by sacred and secular history are focused on those important writings. Numerous excellent engravings are given of places made memorable forever by incidents in the life of St. John. The Fourth Gospel, the Epistles of St. John and the Revelation form one of the most important portions of the New Testament. Every Sunday-school teacher or superintendent, every Bible student, will find much valuable aid toward their comprehension in this volume.

*One Hundred Years of Temperance.* A Memorial Volume of the Centennial Temperance Conference, held in Philadelphia, Pa., September, 1885. New York: National Temperance Society and Publication House. Toronto: F. S. Spence, *Citizen Publishing Company*. 8vo. Pp. 660. Price \$3.00.

The volume before us is a monument of temperance labour. There are fifty-eight contributed essays or addresses, and all temperance societies in Great Britain and America are well described, and their labours in the good cause faithfully recorded. Canada is not forgotten. Two days were spent in Conference, when brief summaries of the papers contained in the volume were given, and free discussions followed. The persons present were clergymen, senators, professional men and representative women, all of whom took part in the proceedings, which are here stenographically reported.