

Literary Notices.

THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, for October has come to hand, and contains the following articles:

I. Hosea's Testimony to the Pentateuch, by Prof. Green of Princeton.

II. Home Missions and the Presbyterian Church, by Rev. Joseph K. Wright.

III. Instinct, by Prof. Doolittle.

IV. Samuel Grubbe: A short chapter in the history of Philosophy, by Prof. Butler.

V. The Pecuniary Support of Churches, by Rev. E. N. White.

VI. The Crusade against the Albigenses, by Prof. J. C. Moffatt.

VII. Critical Notes: The Prophecy of Immanuel, by Prof. John Forbes.

VII.—Editorial Notes, on a variety of subjects, by Rev. T. M. Chambers, Principal Cavan, Prof. Charteris, Prof. Blakie, and others.

VIII. Reviews of Recent Theological Literature.

It is needless to say that this issue fully sustains the high reputation which the *Presbyterian Review* has already attained. Published by Charles Scribners, Sons, New York; price \$3.00 per year.

WALTER HARMSSEN, a tale of Reformation times in Holland by E. Gerdes, translated from the Dutch by Rev. Daniel Van Pelt. This is an interesting story of by gone days when in Holland as in many other lands men worshipped God according to their conscience at the risk, and often at the sacrifice, of life. The scene is among the quaint cities, the sand dunes, and the dykes of Holland, the hero a young lad who loved his Bible and his God, whose family was scattered by persecution and some of them killed. Published by the Presbyterian Board of Publication. Sold by MacGregor & Knight, Halifax, pp. 367, price \$1.25.

There are many people who have their ideal circumstances in which, if the ideal could be realized, they fancy they would live very noble and beautiful Christian lives. They forget, however, that their mission in life for the present at least is to live noble and beautiful Christian lives in the actual circumstances in which God has placed them.

A REMARKABLE STORY.

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon relates the following, which was told to him by one of the evangelists:

A woman in Scotland, who was determined, as far as possible, not to have anything to do with religion, threw her Bible and all the tracts she could find in her house into the fire. One of the tracts fell down out of the flames, so she picked it up and thrust it in again. A second time it slipped down, and once more she put it back. Again her evil intention was frustrated, but the next time she was more successful, though even then only half of it was consumed. Taking up the portion that fell out of the fire, she exclaimed, "Surely the devil is in that tract, for it won't burn."

Her curiosity was excited; she began to read it, and it was the means of her conversion. The tract was one of the sermons published in *The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*. Verily, that sermon, and the woman, too, "were saved, yet so as by fire." What wondrous ways the Lord has of bringing home the truth to the hearts and consciences of sinners!

BIBLE READING.

There is a gain in systematic and thorough Bible-study; there is a gain in intelligent Bible-reading, topically or by a single book at a time; there is also a gain in the regular daily reading of the Bible, chapter by chapter, in course, throughout the year. This latter reading may, at times, be perfunctory, but it has its practical value even then. Those men who are most familiar with the Bible in all its parts are commonly those who have been in the habit of reading the Bible through, in course, year after year, and who have thereby become gradually familiar with portions of the Bible which they would not have looked up in ordinary topical reading or study. Nor does this formal reading of the Bible interfere with more earnest and thorough occasional Bible-reading; on the contrary, it makes that kind of reading all the more satisfactory when it is undertaken. It is a good thing to read a chapter in the Bible at the close of the day's work, even though its reading be somewhat irksome, and the temptation to sleep be a strong one for the hour; but that should not be one's only way of Bible-reading, nor is it likely to be.—*S. S. Timee.*