

have gone at the peril of their lives to proclaim the gospel.

There are some sharp, worldly critics, who at this present juncture, blame the missionaries severely, and seek to lay upon them and their meddlesome ways all the responsibility of rousing up the wild passions of ignorant, brutal fanatics. We know that this is unjust. The missionary movement springs from the heart of Christianity; and as it has survived terrible hindrances and fierce persecutions in the past, so it will come out of this great catastrophe and go forth to larger life and greater achievements. There may be sad exceptions, but missionaries, as a rule, are not meddlesome fools; and while some of them may need Lord Salisbury's exhortation to prudence, their trust is in God, and not in gunboats. If, as the consequence of these troubles, there arises a wild cry for revenge, and things are done that disgrace the Christian name, we feel sure that this will not come from missionaries or their nearest friends. At such a time they know that vengeance belongs to God; and that He who rules the world can bring out of the darkest hours still greater opportunities for His church, and still greater triumphs for the Cross.

The Boys' Brigade movement has been rapidly gathering strength during the past year. The military spirit that has been quickened into life by the participation of our troops in the South African war may have had something to do with the popularity of the Brigade idea, but even if it has had, it is creditable that some of our Church leaders did not allow an opportunity for utilizing a passing enthusiasm to pass unimproved. The military discipline, when it is used for purposes of inculcating moral discipline, and to give some glimpse of what it means to be a Christian gentleman, will surely become a mighty agency for good and for the building up of a strong character.

LITERARY NOTES.

We would call attention to "The Briar and the Palm, the Wages of Life," by Annie S. Swan, the copy we have received is published at six pence, and is neatly bound in paper and clearly printed. Annie S. Swan is a well-known authoress of established reputation, and we have much pleasure in commending this strong, wholesome story.

The International Journal of Ethics has the usual variety of articles in its own line. Mary A. M. Mards has a timely essay on the "Treatment of Subject Races." H. E. S. Freemantle, South African College, Cape Town, discusses "Liberty and Government." The editor, however, found it necessary to omit the author's "applications of the foregoing principles to the questions raised by the South African War." This is rather unfortunate as it is in the application of the principles of government to practical life where the difficulty comes in. "The Source of Moral Obligation" is dealt with by J. S. Mackenzie, University College, Cardiff, Wales; while Walter Goodnow Everett,

Brown University, investigates "The Relation of Ethics to Religion." There are the usual discussions and Book Reviews.—*Philadelphia International Journal of Ethics*, 1305 Arch street.

The Bibelet, a reprint of poetry and prose for book lovers, chosen in part from scarce editions and sources not generally known. This interesting little booklet is printed and published by T. B. Mosher, at 45 Exchange street, Portland, Maine. Current numbers, five cents. The contents for July "The Field Play" by Richard Jeffries. The preface tells us, "The canvasses of the greater literary artists have to do with imaginary portraits of certain women—Marion Lescant, Fontine-Emma Bovary—who remain forever in our hearts and memories as types for all time. But there are also shorter and simpler annals like this which Richard Jeffries sets so poignantly before us in the Field Play, a cruel little masterpiece of English peasant life most mournful—full of tears and pity."

Poet Lore (Poet Lore Co., 16 Ashburton Place, Boston; 65c.) is a quarterly magazine of letters, and the last number (May—June 1900) has a varied programme to present to the student of literature. The principal piece in the section devoted to "Poetry and Fiction" is a Romantic Symbolic Drama, by Hermann Ludemann, entitled "The Three Herons' Feathers;" and one of the most interesting of the "appreciations" is a defence of "Browning's Later Work," by Helen A. Clark. This department is specially good, containing "George Meredith on the Source of Destiny," by Emily G. Hooker; "The Tragedy of Ophelia," by David A. McKnight; "Clews to Emerson's Mystic Verse," by Wm. Sloane Kennedy. There are also many reviews and studies which may be commended to the careful reading of those who are giving special attention to English literature, either as teachers or students.

The Nineteenth Century, for July, has a varied and interesting budget of articles. The Boer war is passing into the shade, and the Chinese question begins to press to the front. It is needless to say that since this number was issued, matters have moved still farther in that direction. For the rest, neither war nor preparation for war occupies such a prominent place as before, though of course, there is an article on "The Lessons of the War." A number of the other articles are on important social subjects, such as, "Town Children in the Country," by Mrs. S. A. Barnett; "Hooliganism and Juvenile Crime," by Rev. Andrew A. W. Drew. The veteran Liberal, Rev. Dr. J. Guinness Rogers discusses the condition of the Liberal party under the title, "Wanted a Leader;" and Sir Wemyss Reid gives his monthly Review of "The Newspapers." The only article of an ecclesiastical or theological tone is one on "Mr. Wilfred Ward's Apologetics," by Robert Dell, (late editor of the Weekly Register)

the author of which says "Mr. Ward has been a Catholic all his life; I am a comparatively recent convert." But it seems that they are both agreed that there is something wrong in the church of their birth, or of their choice, though they deal with the matter in a different way. According to his critic Mr. Ward might render great service to the Church "at the present juncture, if only he would discard the role of official apologist and consent to deal with facts from the point of view of a mere layman." Both, however, seem agreed that the extreme Conservatives are having too much of their own way. "Cardinal Vaughan in a recent pastoral marked off the whole field of ecclesiastical policy as 'holy ground,' on which no layman must venture to tread; ecclesiastics, it is claimed, are to be exempt from all criticism, whatever they may say or do in their official capacity. Father Joseph Rickaby, S. J., has disclosed in an article in the *Tablet*, that the discipline of the church must be that "of an army in the field;" and within the last few weeks the Vatican journals of Rome have claimed not merely the obedience but also 'the interior assent' of Catholics to the commands of the Pope on purely political matters. To such demands resistance is a religious duty which we owe to the church and to ecclesiastical authority itself, in the interest of its rightful claims." It will thus be seen that if men turn to the Roman Church for unity and rest they are seeking something there they are not likely to find.

SANDON AND ITS NEED.

LETTER FROM THE WESTERN SUPERINTENDENT.

Sandon is a typical mining town in the Kootenays. It is built in a "corrie" washed out of the mountains by the south branch of Carpenter Creek. It is 5,000 feet above tide, for two and a half months the citizens never see the sun—the mountains are too lofty—and smart snow showers are not uncommon in July. Last year our people there built a comfortable frame church, fitting up the basement for a reading room. Here scores of young men used to spend the evening in social intercourse, or reading, away from drink, gambling and viler associations. There remained a debt of \$1,700 on the building. A disastrous fire wiped out three-fourths of the town, our church and the Methodist church with the rest. Many of our people lost their all in the conflagration. There was an insurance of \$1,000 on the building; this has been paid, but there remains \$700 to be met; and, because of their losses, those to whom the money is due are pressing for payment. A new church is urgently needed, and the people are not able to build it. Will not some of our good people Ontario help these people to build again? Many of their sons are west, and the church is a potent force in helping them to live sober, clean, honest lives. Contributions can be sent to the Agent of the church, the Rev. Dr. Warden, Toronto, and he will forward them to the Rev. J. A. Ferguson, the missionary in charge.

J. ROBERTSON.

Toronto, July 25, 1900.