

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

The Canadian Methodist Magazine.

Toronto: Samuel Rose

The opening article in the "Methodist Magazine" for June is a continuation of Mr. Withrow's review "Rome and the Roman Conflict." It is copiously illustrated. Then comes another illustrated article, the subject of which is "Lake Memphremagog." A number of other papers follow, all readable and instructive.

The Methodist Episcopal Church Pulpit.

Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Co.

This volume contains twenty-one sermons by the members of the Niagara, Ontario, and Bay of Quinte conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada. It is edited by the Rev. B. F. Austin, B.A. No preacher appears twice, and there is sufficient variety in the subjects. We have not yet found time to read the book, and are not in a position to point out either the beauties or the defects of each particular sermon; nor have we space for such an extended notice as that would require. A glance here and there enables us to say that the general tone is evangelical and that there is considerable vigour and ability displayed. We have no doubt that the book will be useful.

Rose-Belford's Canadian Monthly

Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Co.

The June number of the "Canadian Monthly" contains: "The Fallen Leaves," by Wilkie Collins; Sonnet, by Gowan Lea; "Dinners and Diners," by Fred A. Dixon; "The New Ideal of Womanhood," by *Fidelis*; "Reveries," by Walter Small; "The Growth of the Post Office," by T. C. B. Fraser; "Margaret's Sorrow," by Belle Campbell; Sonnet, by Agnes Strickland; "Depreciation of Bank Stocks," by R. N. McFee, B.A.; "The Philosophy of Immigration," by William Brown; "Despondency," by Matthew Arnold; "Under One Roof," by James Payn; "The Home and Grave of Washington Irving," by H. J. Duncan; "Just a Transient Year Ago," by R. Marvin Seaton; "The Alliance of Democracy and Protection," by John McLean; "When Shall Spring Time Cheer Us," "Religious Belief in Court," by W. B. Cook; Round the Table; Book Reviews; Literary Notes.

Hearing and How to Keep it.

By Charles H. Burnett, M.D. Philadelphia: Lindsay and Blakiston. Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

This is one of a series of very useful little books now in course of publication under the general title "American Health Primers." The series is edited by Dr. Keen of Philadelphia, and each volume is written by some physician eminent in the particular department of which it treats. The subjects selected are of vital and practical importance in every-day life; and they are treated in as popular a style as possible, technical terms being avoided so far as practicable. The object aimed at seems not to be so much the cure of disease as its prevention. The following are the titles of some of the volumes: "Long Life and How to Reach it," "Sea-Air and Sea-Bathing," "The Summer and its Diseases," "Eye-Sight and how to Care for it," "The Throat and the Voice," "The Mouth and the Teeth," "Our Homes," "The Skin in Health and Disease," "Brain Work and Overwork." These titles indicate a determination on the part of the editor, publishers and authors, to strike at the roots of disease on this continent. Taking the volume now before us—that on "Hearing and How to Keep It"—as a sample, we do not hesitate to predict that the whole collection, if widely circulated, will effect a reformation in the matter of caring for the health. The anatomy of the organ of hearing is explained in simple language aided by well executed diagrams. The Physics and Physiology of sound and hearing are brought within the comprehension of almost any reader. The diseases of the ear are treated of so as to reveal their causes and lead to their prevention; and although no nostrums are prescribed, very valuable directions are given for the care of the ear in disease as well as in health. The book closes with some pages of most important explanations and instructions as to the education of partially deaf children and deaf mutes.

DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM.

The Roman governors of Judea and Samaria became so oppressive that the Jews broke out in rebel-

lion, and, seventy years after Christ, Jerusalem was finally besieged by Titus, afterwards Emperor of Rome. No tragedy on the stage has the same scenes of terror as are to be found in the history of this siege. The city itself was rent by factions at the deadliest war with each other; all the elements of civil hatred had broken loose; the streets were slippery with the blood of citizens; brothers slew brothers; the granaries were set on fire; famine wasted those whom the sword did not slay. In the midst of these civil massacres the Roman armies appeared before the walls of Jerusalem. Then for a short time the rival factions united against the common foe; they were again the gallant countrymen of David and Joshua; they sallied forth and scattered the eagles of Rome. But triumph was brief; the ferocity of the ill-fated Jews soon wasted itself on each other, and Titus marched on; encamped his armies close by the walls; and from the adjacent heights the Roman general gazed with awe upon the strength and splendour of the city of Jehovah. At a distance the whole temple looked like a mount of snow fretted with golden pinnacles. But, alas! the veil of that temple had years before been rent asunder by an inextinguishable crime, and the Lord of hosts did not fight for Israel. But the enemy is thundering at the walls. All around the city arose immense machines from which Titus poured down mighty fragments of rock and showers of fire. The walls gave way, the city was entered, the temple itself was stormed; false prophets ran through the streets; even nature itself perished, and mothers devoured their infants; every image of despair completes the ghastly picture of the fall of Jerusalem. And now the temple was set on fire, the Jews rushing through the flames to perish in its ruins. It was a calm summer night, the 10th of August. The whole hill on which stood the temple was one gigantic blaze of fire; the roofs of cedar crashed; the golden pinnacles of the dome were like spikes of crimson flame. Through the lurid atmosphere all was carnage and slaughter. The echoes of shrieks and yells rang back from the hill of Zion and the Mount of Olives. Amongst the smoking ruins, and over piles of the dead, Titus planted the standard of Rome.

A SOCIAL NUISANCE.

Intelligent opposition to tobacco-using is manifesting itself in some unexpected quarters. In Germany, where smoking has been a national characteristic, the police in several of the cities have been instructed to stop all smoking by boys under sixteen years of age. This action is based on the testimony of the medical faculty, that tobacco-using is so injurious to the health as to impair the fitness of boys and youth for the military service, in which, in Germany, all young men must bear a part. In England, Dr. Drysdale, a distinguished London physician, has—in a letter to "The Times"—denounced tobacco-smoking as "deleterious to health and vitality," and as the cause of various disorders which he points out. Other medical men of London have fully confirmed Dr. Drysdale's view of this habit and its influence. "The Times" itself has been moved to a leading editorial on the subject, commenting particularly on "the selfishness and general want of consideration for others which smoking engenders." The "Christian World," of London, in mentioning these facts, declares: "Whatever value may be attached to the medical opinions we have referred to, all must admit that the smoker is a social nuisance." In this country, the ministerial associations and church conferences of various denominations are beginning to take action on the subject, and some of them now refuse to receive to their membership any young clergyman who uses tobacco. Many of the religious papers, North and South, including some in the more prominent tobacco-growing regions, are speaking out with unmistakable positiveness against the use of tobacco in any form. The "Interior"—an eminently conservative paper—puts the case strongly when it says: "We have no doubt that the number of years of human life lost by the use of tobacco is greater than the number of years of life lost by the drinking of alcoholic liquors;" and again, of the habit of tobacco-using: "It is a great misfortune, every way, for a young man to contract the habit. He stands nine chances out of ten to have his life shortened by it, and ten chances out of ten to have his usefulness impaired." A great many excellent men still use tobacco; but we believe that there is not one among them all whose influence for good is not in some measure lessened by

this indulgence. We believe, moreover, that the best men—the clearest-headed and the purest-hearted—of these tobacco-users are coming to recognize this truth, and are one by one abandoning their vicious habit for the glory of God and the good of their fellows.

CREED AND CRIME.

The "Catholic Review" holds Protestantism responsible for the crime which abounds in our country. It says:

"Crime is more rife here than in any land, for the reason that here Protestantism has had an opportunity to work out its natural and inevitable results, unchecked by the restraining influence of Catholic tradition and principle, which is potent yet even in those countries of the old world which have ceased to be Catholic in name."

Some time ago the "Review" attributed the increase in crime to our public school system. We made inquiry and found that the majority of criminals in our State were classed as Catholics. We gave, but have forgotten the exact proportion. We remember that it was large, though not so large as the proportion among criminals in the city of New York. The "Observer" states that "last year 1,030 boys under fourteen years of age were confined in the Tombs; about 200 of them were Protestants, and 800 Catholics," and that "in Scotland there are more than 37 criminals among every 1,000 of the Roman population, while among the whole of the rest of the population the proportion is only a little over 7 per 1,000."

In Scotland "Protestantism has had an opportunity to work out its natural results," etc., and its proportion of criminals is very small. A fraction of its population have what the "Review" calls the "restraining influence of Catholic tradition and principle," and among them the proportion is large. On the average, Catholicism is credited for six criminals where Protestantism is credited with one. In Ireland the influence of Catholic tradition, has been as completely felt as in any country on earth, and there, if anywhere, Romanism can show its handiwork. The proportion of criminals among the Catholic population is very high, almost three times as high as among Protestants. We are not disposed to charge the crimes of Catholics to the Catholic Church, but to show that the "restraining influence" of which the "Review" boasts, is really less effective in keeping men from crime than the influence exercised through Protestant churches.

WHAT MAKES WEALTH.

The Rev. Dr. R. D. Hitchcock says: "Suppose no muscle is put into the land; no sweat moistens it; it goes back into its original wildness, and that which formerly supported one hundred civilized men affords support for one savage. The value which land possesses has been developed by labour. Have you considered how short-lived that value is? Crops lasts no more than a year. Railways, so soon as you stop work upon them, go to pieces rapidly and cease to be valuable. Houses have to be made over constantly. St. Peter's Church, at Rome, one of the most solid of structures, is repaired annually at a cost of \$30,000. A great part of the wealth of the world is only twelve months old; when men stop working it passes away. Suppose you earn \$1.25 a day and spend the same; at the end of the year you are no better off than at the beginning. You have only lived. Suppose you spend \$1, or, better still, 85 cents; then you have become a capitalist. Capital is wages saved, and every man can become a capitalist. I began to preach at \$550 a year; I've been there, and I know what it is. My rule was then, and has been ever since, to live within my income; so it would have been, no matter what my business. Spend less than you earn; then you will acquire capital, and your capital will be as good as that of Peter Cooper or any other man."

THERE has been but little intelligence from Russia in the foreign news during the week, which indicates either that the Nihilist agitation has somewhat subsided or that the government has been more successful in its efforts to circumvent the newgatherers.

OUR latest English exchanges are full of May meeting reports. The anniversary gatherings this year seem to have been quite up to the standard—the reports were encouraging, the speeches were good and the enthusiasm of the audiences was aroused.