

BOOK REVIEW.

We received a few days ago a revised copy of the "Pastor's Diary and Clerical Record," compiled by Rev. Louis H. Jordan, M.A., B.D., the young and talented pastor of Erskine Church, Montreal. Being the production of a man who aims at a perfect ideal of pastoral life, and who has already proved himself eminently successful in overtaking the multitudinous duties of a difficult and important charge, this Record is, as might be expected, of a purely practical nature; and may truly be said to be a marvel of comprehensiveness, embracing, as it does, every detail of ministerial work. The Book, as indicated in the table of contents, has seven main divisions, each of which is broken up into an adequate number of subdivisions. To quote one instance: under the head of Pastoral Visitation, there is included, Congregation Districts, Congregational Directory, List of the Sick, List of Candidates for Communion, and list of those who should be advised to commune. It will be readily seen that such a handbook is not only serviceable for preserving a synopsis of work, but will, in very many cases perform the additional function of a most efficient teacher, inasmuch as it sets forth, in small compass, a brief and compact system, embodying the result of careful thought and rich experience.

On its first publication some two or three years ago, Mr. Jordan's Diary at once met with cordial acceptance from the Ministerial brotherhood of every denomination, and all who have used it concur in testifying to its invaluable character as a systematizer, as well as a record, of pastoral work. The edition for 1887 is a decided improvement upon preceding editions, having been rendered more portable by various non-essential omissions, while at the same time its usefulness has been considerably enhanced by such additions and alterations as close observation and wise suggestion deemed advisable. To every earnest and active clergyman who is desirous of expending his energies so as to accomplish the greatest possible amount of good, we would most heartily recommend the "Pastor's Diary" as a means to that end; and we further venture to affirm as our belief, that no systematic minister who once uses it will do without it in the future.

Sold by W. DRYSDALE & Co., 232 St. James Street, Montreal. Price \$1.00.

Secret and refined sins are as dangerous as open and gross ones. A man may preach fervent sermons, but if he does so from emulation or love of popularity, he is as much in the flesh as the sinners who tremble in the pews beneath him.—*Rev. Philip Norton*