

so arranged that all the great events and teachings of the Bible shall be presented in due order. If it be objected that the whole Bible is not here given, that objection lies no less against our Sunday-school Lesson System and against the Lectionary of the Church of England. These readings do not prevent a fuller reading of the Bible, but they do secure the reading of at least its most instructive parts. The book is beautifully printed.

A History of Art for Beginners and Students: Sculpture, Painting, Architecture. By CLARA ERSKINE CLEMENT. 8vo, pp. 850. New York: Frederick A. Stokes. Toronto: William Briggs.

Mrs. Clement has for many years enjoyed a distinguished reputation as one of the most accomplished and accurate art critics of America. Her writings on the subject of art have been numerous and valuable. In this portly volume are collected three distinct works, treating the kindred subjects of painting, sculpture, and architecture. Published separately they cost \$7.50. In this handsome volume they cost probably not more than half that sum. The study of art is becoming more fully recognized as an important part of a liberal education. As such it occupies a prominent place in the Chautauqua course of reading and study. Such a book as this would be an admirable one for Chautauquans, and for all others who wish to obtain a somewhat adequate view of the development of the fine arts. The author gives a succinct, but comprehensive, view of the three great departments of art in ancient, mediæval, and modern times. A brief anecdotal biography of the great artists, a description of their chief works, and a characterization of the different schools of painting, sculpture, and architecture are also given. One of the most important features of the book is its copious pictorial illustrations of the *chefs-d'œuvres* of art of every age and country. Many of these engravings are of superior merit; as the fine

portrait of Raphael, his exquisite Sistine Madonna, his Saint Cecilia, and others. All of them will give a much clearer conception of the subjects than pages of description. The book is quite a library, or encyclopædia, on the subjects which it treats.

History of the Christian Church. By GEORGE PARK FISHER, D.D., LL.D. With Maps. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. 8vo. Pp. 701. Price \$3.50.

The previous historical studies of the accomplished Professor of Ecclesiastical History, in Yale University, have admirably qualified him for the task of presenting in one volume a complete history of the Christian Church. The very vastness of the field makes this a task of unusual difficulty. It is only by judicious selection, and judicious rejection, that it can be accomplished. In this two-fold task, it strikes us, that Prof. Fisher has been signally successful. No important event, or movement, or character, will, we think, be found undescribed or uncharacterized. In another important respect this work differs from most other ecclesiastical histories. It exhibits, as fully as limits of space will permit, the relations of the history of the Church to contemporary secular history. The learned author brings out conspicuously the inter-action of events and changes in the political sphere, with the great religious movements of the ages. Another valuable characteristic of this work is the tolerably complete survey of the history of theological doctrine, and theological literature. This is a matter of vital importance, for there can be no adequate apprehension of religious phenomena without a knowledge of the underlying doctrines of which these are the outgrowth. In pronouncing judgment on so great a variety of persons and events, this work is characterized, so far as we have had an opportunity of testing, by judicial fairness. An important chapter is devoted to a history of Christian missions, and one of singular