

Literary Notices.

THE February number of *The Pulpit of To-Day* contains sermons by Canon Liddon on "Mysteries in Religion," Canon Farrar on "Spirituality," Henry Ward Beecher on "The Natural and the Spiritual," and "The Use and Abuse of Praise." Dr. Joseph Parker continues his expositions in the book of Genesis, and Prof. E. Johnson contributes one of his characteristic studies. A. E. Rose, publisher, Westfield, N.Y.

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW for March, in point of vigour, freshness, and variety of treatment, is not a whit behind the first two numbers of the year, which were received with marked favour. The opening paper by our own countryman, Principal Sir William Dawson, "The Relations of the Natural to the Spiritual," is sure to secure attention. Prof. George B. Fisher, of Yale College, presents an admirable and instructive paper, "The Modern Sermon." Published by Funk & Wagnalls, 10 and 12 Dey Street, New York. \$3.00 per year; 30 cents per single number.

THERE are no publishers who have more perseveringly held on their way, battling with the liquor interest, Ultramontane pretensions, and public immorality, than the Dougalls, father and son. The *Witness*, both in Montreal and New York, thoroughly justifies the statement. A monthly named *The Pioneer*, at twenty-five cents per annum, has just appeared from the New York press of the *Weekly New York Witness*, to do special work in the temperance campaign. The first number says *The Pioneer* will give a portrait of one of the leaders in temperance work, and possibly other illustrations, in each number, with temperance news and other matter that will be found interesting. The best writers are invited to lay their views on the subject before a quarter of a million readers, and there will frequently be one article in the paper worth many times a year's subscription. We can only say to the veteran elder and to his younger coadjutor, God bless your constant endeavours.

A TRANSCENDENTAL POEM.

Across the moorlands of the Not
We chase the gruesome When,
And hunt the Itness of the What
Through forests of the Then.
Into the inner consciousness
We track the crafty Where;
We spear the Ergo tough, and beard
The Ego in his lair.

With lassoes of the brain we catch
The Isness of the Was,
And in the corpses of the Whence
We hear the Think bees buzz.
We climb the slippery Which bark tree
To watch the Thusness roll,
And pause betimes in gnostic rhymes
To woo the Over-Soul.

DEMOLISHING THE BIBLE.

The Bible is a book which has been refuted, demolished, overthrown, and exploded more times than any other book you ever heard of. Every little while somebody starts up and upsets this book; and it is like upsetting a solid cube of granite. It is just as big one way as the other, and when you have upset it, it is right side up still. Every little while somebody blows up the Bible; but when it comes down it always lights on its feet, and runs faster than ever through the world. They overthrew the Bible a century ago, in Voltaire's time—entirely demolished the whole thing. "In less than a hundred years," said Voltaire, "Christianity will have been swept from existence, and will have passed into history." Infidelity ran riot through France, red-handed and impious. A century has passed away. Voltaire has "passed into history," and not respectable history either; but his old printing press, it is said, has been used to print the Word of God; and the very house where he lived is packed with Bibles, a depot for the Geneva Bible Society. Thomas Paine demolished the Bible, and finished it off finally; but after he had crawled despairingly into a drunkard's grave in 1809, the book took such a leap that since that date more than twenty times as many Bibles have been made and scattered through the world as ever were made before since the creation of man. Up to the year 1800, from four to six million copies of the Scriptures, in some thirty different languages, comprised all that had been produced since the world began. Eighty years later, in 1880, the statistics of eighty different Bible societies which are now in existence with their unnumbered agencies and auxiliaries, report more than 165,000,000 Bibles, Testaments, and portions of Scripture with two hundred and six new translations distributed by Bible societies alone since 1804; to say nothing of the unknown millions of Bibles and Testaments which have been issued and circulated by private publishers throughout the world. For a book that has been exploded so many times it still shows signs of considerable life. I have heard of a man travelling around the country exploding this book, and showing up "the mistakes of Moses," at fifty shillings a-night. It is easy work to abuse Moses at fifty shillings a-night, especially as Moses is dead and cannot talk back. It would be worth something after hearing the infidel on "the mistakes of Moses," to hear Moses on "the mistakes of the infidel." When Moses could talk back, he was rather a difficult man to deal with. Pharaoh tried it, and met with poor success. Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, and, it is said, found a grave in the Red Sea. Korah, Dathan, and Abiram tried it, and went down so deep that they have not yet got back. But now Moses is dead, and it is easy to abuse him. It does not take a very brave beast to kick a dead lion.—*Hastings*.