

recent and American point of view makes it of greater value to us than the German book.

Our author recognizes three forces common to every phase of architecture—climate, race, and religion. Of the influence of these he gives striking illustration, and points out how the temples of Egypt, Assyria, Greece, and Rome, the mosques of Byzantium, Cairo, and Granada, the gothic cathedrals, and the renaissance palaces—all belong to one huge architectural family, each having its own peculiar charm of line and colour.

A grasp of the principles of architecture will lend a new interest to travel, even to our daily walks in the city where we live, and to the examination of the pictures and photos of foreign lands which everywhere abound. Mr. Mathews describes first the ancient and oriental types of architecture, then the classic styles of Greece and Rome, which have so influenced modern structure. The development of the Saracenic, Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance make up the rest of the book.

Architecture in the United States and Canada has recently experienced a great revival on correct principles. The government buildings in many of the American cities have long been monuments of bad taste and ill-spent money. But the late lamented Henry Richardson, architect of the Trinity church, Boston, and R. M. Hunt, chief architect of the Chicago Exposition, have been the apostles of the new era. The so-called vertical architecture of the sky-scraping buildings of lower New York is a sort of nightmare; but some of the tall buildings, like the Woman's Temple, at Chicago, and an office building in Milwaukee, figured in this book, show how nobly it may be treated. It is gratifying to Canadians to know that we have in our own country three of the masterpieces of architecture on this continent—the Parliament buildings at Ottawa, Toronto University, and Toronto city building.

The present writer spent three of the early years of his life in an architect's office, and has made architecture a special study ever since. The principles of architecture are of such interest and importance that he purposes preparing upon them two or more fully illustrated articles at an early date.

*A Treatise on the Preparation and Delivery of Sermons.* By JOHN A. BROADUS, D.D., LL.D. Twenty-third edition. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son.

Toronto: William Briggs. Crown 8vo, pp. xxi.-553. Cloth, \$1.75.

Notwithstanding the enormous growth of the press, the living voice of the preacher has not lost its power. It is still the chief means of arousing the conscience, persuading the will, and instructing the mind in religious truths. In view of the number of sermons preached every week no preparation for giving them power and efficacy can be too great. One of the best books on this subject that we have ever read is that under review. Its merit is shown by the fact that this is the twenty-third edition. It is used in the mission-schools of Japan, and has been translated also into Chinese and Portuguese. The ability of Dr. Broadus as a preacher, and his experience in instructing successive classes of students, give practical value to this volume. He treats this great subject under the heads of 1. Materials of Preaching, including selection of text, interpretation, special materials, and the like. 2. Arrangement of a Sermon. 3. Its Style. 4. Its Delivery. 5. The General Conduct of Public Worship.

The godly wisdom and spiritual earnestness of this book will commend it to every reader. Its careful study cannot but give greater weight and energy to the truths of the Gospel. Its closing words indicate the essential requisite of successful preaching:

"Nor must we ever forget the power of character and life to reinforce speech. What a preacher is, goes far to determine the effect of what he says. There is a saying of Augustine, '*Cujus vita fulgor, ejus verba tonitrua*,'—'If a man's life be lightning, his words are thunders.'"

*The Standard Bearer.* By S. R. CROCKETT. Methodist Book-Rooms, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Price, cloth, \$1.25.

Crockett is at his best in describing the heroisms and persecutions and martyrdoms of the "killing time" in Scotland. That is the theme of his "Men of the Moss Hags," and of this story. No Church has ever had a grander spiritual ancestry than that of Scotland. The bonnie blue flag of Christ's Crown and Covenant were often stained by the best blood of the martyrs. This tale calls up that grim old past and makes it live again, thrilling and throbbing with the high faith and dauntless courage of the Covenanters.

We know no more striking episode in literature than that describing the de-