

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

### *One Hundred Choice Selections in Poetry and Prose. No. 16.*

Philadelphia: P. Garrett & Co.

This purports to be a semi-annual publication, and at the rate of one hundred pieces in each issue surely furnishes enough material to keep the most industrious "spouter" going. The selection is not always such as we would admire, but many of the pieces are quite unobjectionable.

### *Rhymes of Science: Wise and Otherwise.*

New York: Industrial Publication Co.

In the preface this book is stated to be "merely a collection of such 'rhymes' has happened to be most accessible to the compiler, who has moreover been guided by no rule in making his selection." In our hurried examination of the book we did not happen to stumble upon any of the "wise" rhymes—they seem to be all "otherwise." Some of them are neither wise nor witty but they are quite harmless.

### *The International Review.*

New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.

The opening article in the "International" for April is on "The relations between the United States and China." It is of a character specially in keeping with the name of the magazine, and supplies a large quantity of information on diplomatic affairs, while at the same time the subject is treated in a lively and entertaining manner. But the general reader will find the paper on the "Basque Legends" more attractive. It treats agreeably of the fairy lore of those people, narrating many of their tales in a pleasant manner, and interspersing sufficient suggestions of a profounder character to give the article a substantial literary value, and to constitute it a valuable contribution to the science of folk-lore. The other articles in the present number are: "The Present condition of the United States Navy;" "The cipher Despatches;" "Prince Bismarck and the Franco-Prussian War;" "Sir Henry Rawlinson's Afghan Crisis" "Taxation of City Bonds;" Contemporary Literature; Recent English and German Books.

### *Rose-Belford's Canadian Monthly.*

Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Co.

The April number of the Canadian Monthly contains: "Lawrence Sterne," by Walter Townsend; "The Fallen Leaves," by Wilkie Collins; "Niagara," by Nicholas Flood Davin; "Addison" by Professor Lyall; Sonnets, by John Reade; "Halifax," by John Whitman, B. A.; "The Charms of Country life," by Douglas Brymner; "The monks of Thelema," by Walter Besant and James Rice; "To Cora," by R. Marvin Seaton; "One more Word about Keats," by Edgar Fawcett; Sonnet, by Mary B. Smith; "A Pressing Problem," by *Fidelis*; Sonnet, by *Gowan Lea*; "The Duration of the Legislative Assembly," by A. H. Dymond; "If," by W. P. Dole; "Under One Roof," by James Payn; "It is Well," by H. L. Spencer; Round the table; Current Literature. In the opening article Mr. Townsend gives a good sketch of the times in which Sterne lived, as well as of the man. The literary excellence of such articles as this and the article on "Addison" by Professor Lyall, will add to the name and fame of the "Monthly." The "Pressing Problem" which *Fidelis* tries to solve is that of the sufficient, and at the same time, judicious relief of the poor in these hard times.

### *The Canada Educational Monthly.*

Toronto: Printed for the Proprietors by C. Blackett Robinson.

The March number of the Educational Monthly contains: "The Bible in our schools," by Rev. John Laing, M. A.; "Oxford 'Greats,'" by *Brother Ignotus*; "Spelling Reform," by Commissioners of the State of Wisconsin; "On some Important Principles of Comparative Grammar, as exemplified in the Aboriginal American Languages," by Rev. Professor John Campbell, M. A.; "Catholic Education in Ontario," by Thomas O'Hagan; "The Lungs as they Concern Education," by T. W. Mills, M.A., M.D.; "Defects in our Training system" by J. B. Somerset; "The Department and the School Bill," by the Editor; Two Sonnets on Science, by F. R.; Contributors' Department; Arts Department; Teachers' Association; Contemporary opinion on Educational Topics; Contemporary Literature; Editorial Notes. In the pages of

this magazine will be found much learning, and much advanced thought on educational matters, with numerous practical suggestions which teachers and others will find useful. Professor Campbell's article on Comparative Grammar is the result of very extended research among languages, ancient and modern, barbarous and civilized. In the able paper on "The Bible in our schools," which we noticed editorially last week, the "Educational Monthly" takes the proper attitude towards Christianity and the Bible—a feature to be found in but few periodicals of its class in the present day.

### KINGSTON WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual public meeting of the Kingston Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was held in Chalmers' Church, Kingston, on Wednesday evening, March 26th, and was numerously attended. The Rev. F. McCuaig occupied the chair, and in opening the meeting expressed the regret felt at the absence of the Rev. T. G. Smith, then absent at the meeting of the Home Mission Board in Toronto. Several members of the Kingston Presbytery, then in session, occupied the platform. After the opening hymn and prayer by the Rev. H. Gracey of Gananoque, the Rev. Mr. Wishart read the annual report, which represents the Society as in a prosperous condition, the membership having increased during the year to one hundred, and \$250 having been remitted to Rev. Dr. Reid towards the support of Miss Forrester, leaving a balance on hand of \$222, whereof \$170 has been remitted to Dr. Reid since the treasurer's statement was made up. Reports were also read from the Auxiliaries at Portsmouth, Trenton, Mill Point, Stirling, Roslin, Harrow-smith, and from the Olive Branch Mission Band.

In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Wishart explained that he had proposed the formation of an auxiliary in his own congregation, but that this was impracticable at present from the great needs of their Home Mission work. He spoke at some length on the great spiritual destitution of the Presbytery's Home Mission field, especially in his own vicinity, and said that he would like to see this work taken up by Women's Societies in connection with the Foreign Mission work, believing that the increase of spiritual privileges at home would tend greatly to extend the interest in missions generally and the Foreign Mission work. The more widely the Church laid its foundations, the higher it would be able to aspire in its Christian work.

The Rev. Mr. Burton, of Belleville followed, and explained that his congregation had a Woman's Missionary Society, though, owing to old associations, it was connected with Toronto, instead of being an auxiliary to Kingston. He referred pleasantly to the interest in the Society shown by the large attendance, and remarked that he did not consider Home and Foreign Mission work as in any degree antagonistic. Our Home Mission field—especially the great field in the North-west—did demand a large share of earnest work and interest, but if hearts and sympathies were well directed, there was no danger of a conflict between these two branches of the Church's work. The field was the world, and it was often difficult to distinguish between Home and Foreign work. India was hardly a foreign field. Its people were our fellow-subjects, and though he felt that there had been much in Britain's connection with India in the past which we could not think of without a blush of shame, still, God was doubtless over-ruling this for good in giving India to Britain to rule. Her population, too, was of our own flesh and blood, and in taking the gospel thither, we were taking it to the old home of the Anglo-Saxon race. He referred to the opium trade with China, and said that, had the gospel been taken instead, the Chinese question of to-day would have been more easily settled, and we should meet in the West the Christian instead of the "Heathen Chinese." The world was so bound together now that no part could be independent of another. While it is right for each to attend to the nearest duty, our sympathies should be world-wide, and the Foreign Mission work is a part of the Church's work. He quoted the remarks of the distinguished Brahmin, Keshub Chunder Sen, and Lord Metcalfe to the effect that God had given Britain the Bible wherewith to govern India.

It was sometimes asked—Do missions pay? But even in a utilitarian age, our hearts respond to something higher than mere utility, and human sympathy

is stronger than all logic. Could Christians forego the generous privilege of taking gospel light to the heathen lands? It was no small thing to carry the light of life to those sitting in darkness, and though the success might be small individually, it was great collectively. Though the mission work was almost entirely the work of the present century, India was being regenerated, and we might look forward with confidence to the result of steady work and silent influence. The silent forces are often the most powerful, and the under currents of life are often the strongest. Seeds of life are now being sown in many a Zenana, and words of love that are being spoken by the banks of the Ganges will yet show abundant fruits. Our Missionary Associations should therefore thank God and take courage to persevere in His own work.

After the singing of a hymn, the Rev. Principal Grant addressed the meeting, remarking good-humouredly that Mr. Wishart and Mr. Burton would now feel bound to put their shoulder to the work of promoting the interests of the Society. Mr. Wishart could secure eight auxiliaries in Madoc alone, which consisted of at least as many charges. Mr. Burton might step off at Napanee on his way home, to organize an auxiliary there, and he could convey to the Belleville Association the greetings of the Kingston Society, and report that the latter was glad to hear of their being engaged in the same good work. He felt strongly that Home Missions were always forwarded by Foreign Missions, on the principle that the more our hearts were drawn out in love for the heathen abroad, the more we should be likely to do for the heathen at home. It was hardly fair, however, to speak of a part of our own Empire as foreign, peopled as it was, by a kindred race of our own flesh and blood. He would undertake to say that the amount given through this association at Kingston had not lessened the amount otherwise given, either to the Foreign Mission, or the other Schemes of our Church. He would undertake to say, also, though he had not examined the statistics, that in each place in which an auxiliary was formed to this Society, the amount given to other objects had not diminished but increased. He said this because he found this to be the case over and over again. But why did he speak of giving? Because it was the outward test of feeling—of prayer and deep interest and sympathy—the representative of mighty moral and spiritual forces, not measurable in any degree by dollars and cents. He hoped there would soon be an auxiliary to this Society in every congregation in the Presbytery. He did not see the same necessity for similar organizations for the Home Mission work, though the women of the Church did much for this work also, being generally the collectors. But there was not a special work for women in this as in the Foreign field. Access to the women of India could be had only through female missionaries. They only, could penetrate into the Zenanas and fight the battle of female education there. The Church has to adapt itself to the differing needs of times and countries, and it must not forget the prominence given to the work of women throughout Scripture. He referred eloquently to the grand figure of Deborah and the meek, gentle one of Ruth—to the many allusions to prophetesses as well as prophets—to the woman of whom Christ said, "She hath done more than they all," and to the other woman to whose deed of love He gave the highest possible commendation, "she hath done what she could—" to the women who stood by the cross when all others had forsaken Him, and to the women prominent in the early Church. He alluded to a noble band of Roman Catholic sisters from the Province of Quebec, whom he had found under the shadow of the Rocky Mountains, their very names unknown, ministering to the little orphan Indians out of the faith and love that filled their hearts; and remarked that the Roman Catholic Church had been wiser than the Protestant one in using and organizing efforts of the Christian women. But it was the same spirit of faith and love which should animate our female organizations for missions, which deserved the utmost encouragement at our hands for what they were and what they might do. He hoped that the Kingston Society might send forth a female missionary from its own ranks, and then he was sure they would be able to maintain her from Kingston alone. He appealed to those present to aid the Society tonight, this being the only occasion on which they could do so. After the collection and another hymn, the Rev. F. McCuaig pronounced the benediction.