

Edwards, and even Butler, have been repeatedly gone over by others, and by some ably gone over too, although those veterans have greatly distanced all rivals, and are still higher than any of the people from their shoulders and upward. Bunyan had more genius and individuality than any of his contemporaries, and it is this that makes him so inimitable. Of the "Pilgrim's Progress," it were superfluous, if not presumptuous, to speak in praise. It seizes us in childhood with the strong hand of its power, our manhood surrenders to the spell of its sweet sorcery, and its grasp upon us relaxes not when mingles the brown of life with sober gray, nay, is often strongest amid the weariness of waning years. Dr. Arnold, whose admiration of the "Pilgrim's Progress," was very great, used to say: "I cannot trust myself to read the account of Christian going up to the celestial gate after his passage through the river of Death." And on another occasion, upon reading it through after a long interval, said, "I have always been struck by its piety; I am now struck equally, or even more, by its profound wisdom."

"It were superfluous," says Dr. Symington, "to commend a book which has gone through a greater number of editions than can be counted—which has been translated to almost every language—which such men of genius as Scott, Byron, Wordsworth, Southey, Montgomery, and Macaulay, have thought worthy of the tribute of their admiration and sympathy; and which has perhaps received the highest of all encomiums, in the blundering attempts of heretics to accommodate it to the circulation of their erroneous opinions; Papists, Puseyites, and Antimouians having all tried to use it for such a purpose."

The criticism of Lord Macaulay is worth quoting. His lordship says: "The style of Bunyan is delightful to every reader, and invaluable as a study to every person who wishes to obtain a wide command over the English language. The vocabulary is the vocabulary of the common people. There is not an expression, if we except a few technical terms of theology, which would puzzle the rudest peasant. We have observed several pages which do not contain a single word of more than two syllables. Yet no writer has said more exactly what he meant to say. For magnificence, for pathos, for vehement exhortation, for subtle disquisition, for every purpose of the poet, the orator, and the divine, this homely dialect, the dialect of plain working-men, was perfectly sufficient. There is no book in our literature on which we would so readily stake the fame of the old unpolluted English language, no book which shows so well how rich that language is in its own proper wealth, and how little it has been improved by all that it has borrowed."

Of these illustrated editions of the Works of Bunyan, the one in English and the other in Gaelic, suffice it to say, that the type is the largest we have seen, and the paper is of the best quality. It is far superior to any edition of these works that has ever appeared. A magnificent portrait of Bunyan, life-size, for framing is to be given gratis to subscribers. The publisher says in the prospectus: "Notwithstanding the large size of type, and the number of illustrations and embellishments, the Illustrated Family Edition of Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, and other select works will be completed in thirty parts, price 25cts. each. It is the same price here as in Britain. The Gaelic edition is got up in precisely the same style as the English one. Those who understand the Gaelic should secure a copy of this edition, as it is not likely it will ever appear again in the same style in that language. The agent for the work in this country is prepared to give a liberal remuneration to canvassers.

* *A Family Edition of Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress,' and other select works, with the notes of Cheever, Scott, and Mason, and a memoir by Cheever.* Published (in English and in Gaelic) in monthly parts, at 25 cents each. William McKenzie, London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. Angus McLean, Guelph, agent for Canada.