

Circuit and of some of its people—the local preachers, stewards, class-leaders and the like. The portraiture is graphic and some of the incidents are of dramatic interest. The author has done his work well. The various persons who are introduced are graphically delineated. We have read the entire volume and are prepared to recommend it to our readers. If space permitted, we would be glad to make some extracts, but can only give one. It relates to the mother of our beloved Queen, Her Majesty, and a Methodist servant. The Duchess of Kent was much attached to her Methodist maid, so when the latter became sick she was sent to a watering-place to recover. When convalescent, she wrote to the housekeeper that she was ready to return. Not receiving any reply she wrote to a friend, who took the letter to the Duchess, and soon the housekeeper was called in, when it was discovered that she had paid no attention to the letters she had received, and had even supplied the maid's place with a stranger and assigned as her reason, "that as Hannah was a Methodist it was not right to have such persons about the Princess (Victoria), so it was a good opportunity to get rid of her." The Duchess was indignant, and Hannah the Methodist girl became chief housemaid when Princess Victoria became Queen of England, and subsequently she was put in charge of the private rooms occupied by Prince Albert.

The gentleman from whom these facts were obtained said: "I have been several times to Buckingham Palace and have been taken by Hannah through the palace, and I have had from her such satisfactory statements respecting the Queen's manner of life, that I have not the slightest hesitation in speaking of Her Majesty as a truly religious woman. One thing particularly pleased me. I learned that the Queen and Prince Albert had family prayer together regularly, and that they were accustomed, on these occasions, not only to read a portion of God's Holy Word, but also to sing a hymn or psalm of praise."—E. B.

*Butler's Physical Geography.* By JACQUES W. REDWAY. 4to, pp. 128. Philadelphia: E. H. Butler & Co.

The proper way, it seems to us, to begin the study of the earth is to study its physical before its political geography. To young minds it will have a much more attractive interest, and we believe will have a much greater educational value. There is a perfect fascination in the investigation of the phenomena by which our earth has been moulded to its present state, and by which the grand economy of the universe is maintained. For this study the volume before us furnishes an admirable guide. It embraces the latest discoveries in geographical science, and its arrangement of larger and smaller type adapts it for the use of students of all grades. It treats, first, the earth as a planet, then the structure and formation of the earth, its land and water distribution, the atmosphere and its phenomena, and the distribution of life. The engravings are numerous and of high grade, and really illustrate the subject; and the fifteen coloured maps and charts are all that could be desired.

*Scripture Readings for Use in the Public and High Schools of Ontario, Revised ed.* Pp. 438. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Authorized by the Education Department.

Even as a matter of education, apart from its religious teaching, it is of very great importance that our children become familiar with the language of the Holy Scripture—that well of English undefiled—the book containing the oldest history, the noblest poetry, the most touching stories of any book in the world. But when we realize that it teaches the only way of salvation it becomes unspeakably important that every mind should be stored in youth with these noble teachings. It is a grand thing that amid the clashing of creeds all denominations have agreed upon these Bible readings. They omit, we think, no vital doctrine, and are