

Love he comes, and Love he carries,
Just as fate or fancy carries—

And perhaps in the sum of things she, loving his memory faithfully for what he might have been—forgetting what he was—had more happiness in this spiritual marriage than would have been hers otherwise, for it was not as earthly marriages; and it was never broken.

A LAST WISH.

[From the French of Théophile Gautier.]

SEE now, how long I've loved you! Why,
It mounts, I think, to eighteen years!—
For you Spring rears a rosy sky;
For me, alas—pale Winter steers.

The churchyard lilacs, faint and white,
About my withered temples blow;
The tree that soon from too much light,
May shade me where I straight must go.

The pallid sun, which shortly will
From the horizon disappear,
Reveals upon the gloomy hill
The spot where they shall set my bier.

Oh, on my lips before I die,
From thine may one long kiss be pressed;
That then forever may I lie,
Within my tomb, in peace—at rest!

SERANUS.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

IN "Ancient Cities," [HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN, AND COMPANY, Boston; Williamson and Company, Toronto] the Rev. William Burnett Wright gives an account of certain cities connected with sacred history, in such a way as to illustrate in each case some portion of the Bible. The information is, however, drawn largely from secular sources: all that is known of each city from archaeological and historical evidence is used to fill up or illumine the sacred record. In result we have an entertaining and instructive narrative of the history and a view of the several cities treated of. In each sketch the author has indicated the character of the personage for whose influence the city stands; and thus we have Ur, the City of Saints; Nineveh, the City of Soldiers; Babylon, of Sensualists; Memphis, of the Dead; Alexandria, of the Creed Makers; Petra, of Shams, etc.,—titles which sufficiently indicate the plan of the book. This does not assume to be a learned work; but, none the less, it contains much curious lore, of interest especially to students of the Bible.

THE second volume of Dr. Geikie's "Hours with the Bible," just issued by JOHN B. ALDEN, New York, covers the period of Moses and the Judges. We have before drawn attention to the high character of this work, which, indeed, as a commentary on the Bible is, we think, for most respects to be preferred to any commentary extant. The learning and ability brought to bear on it by Dr. Geikie is what one might expect from the author of the best "Life of Christ" yet written; and the present edition, now issuing in an extremely cheap yet elegant form, ought to be assured a place beside every Bible in use.

OF Guizot's History of France it has been said, "There is nothing like it in the whole range of historic writing. The story of French history is one of the most romantic and dramatic, and M. Guizot is one of the most brilliant writers whose pen has ever pictured the events of history. It is more marvellous than any fiction ever written." Mr. JOHN B. ALDEN has just sent us the first volume of a new edition of this history, which he is issuing in eight volumes, illustrated, well printed in a flowing page on superior paper, and bound in morocco,—in a style, indeed, and at a price that has come to be associated in our minds with the Alden series of library books as with no other. The edition is a marvel of cheapness and elegance; and any one desirous to make a seasonable present of a substantial character to another or himself, could hardly do better in the way of literary ware than subscribe for a copy of Mr. Alden's "Guizot," which in the style we have described, may be procured at \$6, with a reduction to early purchasers.

WE have received from the *Canadian Gleaner* office, Huntingdon, P. Q., the first volume of a selection of "Gleaner Tales," by Robert Sellar, the conductor of the newspaper. The stories, with two exceptions, have already appeared in the columns of the *Gleaner*; and the author accounts satisfactorily for the somewhat rough typographical appearance of the book, by the information that it has been printed in the newspaper office,

which was destitute of the appliances for such work. The stories are seven in number, and mostly have a local interest, relating to incidents in the early backwoods life of that part of the English, or rather Scotch, peopled districts of Quebec Province. They are extremely well told, and display quite a fresh phase of Canadian pioneer life in an interesting and entertaining manner.

THE third volume of "Critical Miscellanies," by John Morley [MacMILLAN AND COMPANY, New York; Williamson and Company, Toronto], completes Messrs. Macmillan's new edition, in nine volumes, of Mr. Morley's collected writings. We have already dealt with the contents of the other several volumes as they have appeared; and the whole being now before us, we need only add that this edition is a tastefully printed specimen of the publishers' work, of a convenient size, and of a price to place it within the reach of students and others of moderate means. Although we cannot agree with Mr. Morley's Jacobinism in politics and religion, we must concede that a study of his works, by clearing away some of the mists that still float about both, may conduce to the true interest of both; and when this has been done fully it will be found, we think, that such as he have contributed very powerfully to this desirable result. At any rate, Mr. Morley's writings are worthy of earnest study: dressed in pure English, they are a clear expression, at all events, of a system of thought now much in vogue. The contents of the present volume are rather more varied in topic than were the contents of the previous volumes of miscellanies, and include Mr. Morley's essays on Popular Culture, the Death of Mr. Mill and his Autobiography, the Life of George Eliot, Pattison's Memoirs, the Expansion of England, Comte, Harriet Martineau, W. R. Greg, and France in the Eighteenth Century—a subject which in various relations occupies, it will be remembered, five out of the present nine volumes.

THE holiday number of *Wide Awake* will be an extra Christmas feast to the little folk. It is filled with story in prose, verse, and picture; and being the first number of the new volume, it offers a tempting opportunity to subscribe to what is unquestionably the best magazine published for the behoof of the elder children.

PANSY is of equal excellence for the younger ones: it is a treasure-book of pictures and the simplest sort of stories, by means of which the guardians of young children may while away hours, while administering both entertainment and instruction. Both are published by D. LOTHROP AND COMPANY, Boston.

THE completion of the twenty-fourth volume of the *Canadian Methodist Magazine* with the December number affords us a welcome opportunity to refer once more to the high literary character and tone that continues to be maintained uniformly in its varied contents. Among all our exchanges there is not one, however good and wheresoever from, that we value more highly; and it appears to us that Canada has abundant reason to be proud of the one monthly magazine of general literature it possesses. It is conducted with singular ability, and ought to be read in every Canadian household—whether Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, or what not. For no one, however far distant from Methodism, would find anything in it obnoxious to true religion, or literature and social progress—to which three things, as we believe, the Magazine is, as its title imports, most conscientiously devoted.

SOME ten years ago the Lowell Hebrew Club began to meet weekly in order to read together the Old Testament Scriptures in the original tongue. The study was pursued for a time, the results being for a time published in the form of a weekly exposition of the International Sunday-school Lessons, in a local newspaper, until seven years ago, when the work of the club was concentrated upon the Book of Esther, and this has given us a volume bearing that name, edited by the Rev. John W. Haley, M.A., and published by WARREN F. DRAPER, Andover. The present text of the "Book of Esther" is a rendering *de novo* from the Hebrew, with critical notes and excursuses. An introduction deals satisfactorily with the historical place of the book and its validity; the translation is very well done, the text being copiously illustrated by notes, explanatory and critical; and the whole is fortified and completed by a series of excursuses, which, occupying one-half the volume, leave nothing to be desired on the score of fulness, piety, and scholarship. The work is further illustrated by maps, plans, and illustrations; and we recommend it as an exhaustive and able treatment of one of the most beautiful of the sacred books—one that the Jews held in such high repute as to rank it next the Pentateuch.

IN "Ham-Mishkan, the Wonderful Tent," published by ROBERT CLARK AND COMPANY, Cincinnati, the late Rev. D. A. Randall, D.D., has given a succinct account of the construction of the Tabernacle—as far as we know, the first building on earth dedicated to the worship of Jehovah,—and, interwoven with this account, he has endeavoured to present the spiritual les-