

Book Notices.

The Burden Lifted. By JOSEPHINE POLLARD.
New York: Phillips & Hunt; Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, 75 cents.

This is a beautiful story, by an accomplished writer, showing how religion lifted the burden of coldness and austerity from human hearts, and how a family were made happy in each other's love.

Quaint Folk of Haverly. By E. E. BOYD.
New York: Phillips & Hunt; Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, 75 cents.

This is a pleasant story of homely life, not without a good deal of humour and a wholesome moral. Both the above will make good Sunday-school books.

Bible Outlines. By DR. VINCENT. Price, 10 cents.

Normal Outlines. By DR. VINCENT. Price, 10 cents.

These are two more of those admirable Chautauqua Text Books by Dr. Vincent—as full of matter as an egg is full of meat. The first describes the Bible and its evidences, the growth of the Canon, ancient and modern versions, Bible history, geography, institutions, prophecy, and doctrines. The second is a book of wise counsels to Sunday-school teachers. We wish that every teacher would read and practice them.

Among the contents of the June number of the *Methodist Magazine* are the following:—"Sea-side Pictures," the Coast of Maine and Mount Desert, illustrated. "The Land of Nile," illustrated. "New Testament Certainties;" or, Something to Believe, by Rev. W. Harrison. "Shakespeare's Religious Faith," by Rev. James Awde. "The Martyr's Grave," by Miss J. C. "Life in a Parsonage," Chaps. XVI. to XVIII. "Jerusalem in the Time of Our Lord," by E. E. Hale. "The Approaching General Conference," by David Allison. L.L.D. "The Need of the World," by Dr. Nelles. "The Progress of Protestant Missions," by Prof. Christlieb. "The Higher Life,"—Full Salvation—Holiness of Character—The Fulness of God. "Current Topics,"—The Lesson of the Census—Growth of American Methodism—The Union Movement, etc. "Religious and Missionary Intelligence," Dr. Nelles' Convocation Address, etc. Book Notices—Kant and his Critics, etc.

The July number will contain "Foot-prints of Bunyan;" "Darwin and Darwinism," by Dr. Canniff; "Emerson," by Mrs. Dr. Castle; "A Visit to Ticonderago," etc.

Price, \$2.00 a year; \$1.00 for six months; 20 cents per number. For sale at all Bookstores.

Report of the Sabbath-School Board of the Methodist Church of Canada,

For the Year ending October, 1881.

[Through circumstances beyond our control we have not been able to submit this report before.—Ed.]

It is with much gratitude to Almighty God that we find, on examination of the reports from the Annual Conferences, that there is a decided advancement in our Church in Canada, in every important item of Sabbath-school information.

1. CONVERSIONS—There are 6,824 cases reported, being an increase of 20 per cent. over last year; and the increase in attendance at Class is 2,396 greater.

2. CATECHISMS—Attention again has been directed to the urgency of this study in all the Conferences. This is being felt in the Schools, and an advance of 10 per cent. is noted. There is now nearly one-fifth of all the Scholars studying the Catechisms, which is decidedly the best return ever presented. In Newfoundland nearly one-half of the Scholars are so employed, which is our highest average, and shows what may be done.

3. CHILDREN'S MEETINGS—As provided for by the Discipline, are strongly recommended by the Toronto and Nova Scotia Conferences. In the latter many children are gathered into Catechumen classes.

4. COLLECTIONS—For the General Sabbath-school Fund are larger than during any previous year (for full financial statement see Treasurer's report below). Still, some Circuits give nothing, which is neither according to Discipline, nor fair to others who do give. From the funds placed in our hands we have been enabled thus far to make grants to every School that has applied. The balance reported has, since the year closed, been all appropriated.

5. OUR PUBLICATIONS—The periodicals from our Book-Room have given increased satisfaction. Owing to the change of name from *Sunday-School Guardian* to *Pleasant Hours*, and having our blank forms for statistics printed beforehand, we cannot give the number of *Pleasant Hours* and *Sunbeams* taken by our Schools; but the total increase in all papers taken is 20 per cent. over last year.

6. WINNOWN BOOKS—Our selected lists have been enlarged, and the descriptive Catalogue now published will enable our Sabbath-school Committees to see something of the nature of the books before ordering them. These books have been selected, read, and reported with great care, by Ministers of our own Church—East and West—not one of whom has any personal interest in their sale. The books recommended by the Board are all under the title of "*Winnown Books*." This is our trade-mark. Other books may be excellent, but must stand on their own merits.