

German thought and literature, an outline of their chief works, a translation of the more striking passages and a judicious criticism of the whole. Among the writers thus treated are Luther, Klopstock, Lessing, Wieland, Herder, Richter, Goethe, Schiller, Heine, and a whole host of lesser poets and Romanticists. Such books as this and Prof. Wilkinson's companion work on French literature are even more important than outlines of English literature, because we are less familiar at first hand with the authors treated.

The Why of Methodism. By DANIEL DORCHESTER, D.D. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Price 70 cents.

Dr. Dorchester is well and widely known by his admirable volume entitled "Problem of Religious Progress." In this small volume he lays the Church of his choice under renewed obligation. He points out the Providential guidance of Methodism in its origin, character, influence, and polity. He says: "The claims I shall put forth for Methodism are very high. No one can be more sensible of this than I am. But I do not see how I can abate them, and face the facts. The view of Methodism which I shall present is not narrow and technical, but a broad survey as it stands forth in the religious history of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It is the setting which Providence has given it upon the canvas of the age, for Methodism has been a great factor of the times and has deeply wrought itself into the life of the world." But his views are not narrow or bigoted. Every Methodist may derive strength and encouragement from the study of this book.

Woman First and Last, and What She Has Done. By MRS. E. J. RICHMOND. 2 vols. Pp. 271-300. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, the two vols, \$2.

Mrs. Richmond has here a charming theme of study and biography, which she treats with much taste

and skill. She sketches with loving hand many of the great and gifted women who have blessed our race; as well as some, like Catharine de Medici, who neither blessed nor adorned it. Among the heroines of history and of private life here treated, are Catharine Von Bora, Olympia Morata, Lady Fanshawe, Madam Guyon, Queen Christina, Madam Roland, Marie Antoinette, Susanna Wesley, Barbara Heck, Mrs. Judson, Mary Lyon, Charlotte Brontë, Queen Victoria and many others. Few subjects are more instructive than the study of the great minds or noble hearts that have accomplished brave work for God or man. These volumes will impart much pleasure and valuable information. While not equal in literary merit to Dr. Hale's book mentioned above, they are more religiously helpful.

History of the United States. By EDWARD E. HALE, D.D. 8vo. Pp. 312. New York: Chautauqua Press, and Methodist Book Rooms Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Price \$1.

This is another of the admirable volumes prepared especially for the C. L. S. C. While this work is not required of Canadian readers, a history of their own country being accepted in its place, yet this volume will be found exceedingly interesting and instructive to Canadian as well as American students. The romantic early history of the thirteen colonies belongs as much to us as to them. The history of the revolutionary war and the war of 1812 is given with fairness and candour, and with a conspicuous absence of that bitterness of spirit by which the narration of these events has sometimes been marked. The history stops with the close of the war of 1812, the tragic events of the late War of Secession being too recent for dispassionate treatment.

The Physiology and Hygiene of the House in which We Live. By MARCUS P. HATFIELD, A.M.,