

Representative Methodists. Biographical Sketches and Portraits of the Members of the Twentieth Delegated General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in the City of New York, May, 1888. By ROBERT R. DOHERTY, Ph.D., Assistant Editor of *The Christian Advocate*. With an Introduction by Bishop THOMAS BOWMAN, LL.D., Senior Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Quarto. pp. 189. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Cincinnati: Cranston & Stowe. Price, \$4.

If the value of a biography may be determined both by the character of the subject and the ability of the biographer, this book is more than representative of its kind, for it excels in those qualities necessary to the permanency of this form of literature. It was no easy task to accumulate and then abbreviate, or reduce to proper biographical order, the materials of the lives of nearly five hundred Methodists, all noted more or less in

the local churches of which they were members, and many of them renowned in the Church for labors abundant, and for special honors and usefulness. Yet the task has been accomplished, and in a style that must commend itself to the delegates themselves, and to all who have any interest in those who were the legislators of our Israel in 1888. While the sketches are models of brevity, the portraits accompanying them give the reader such an idea of the personal appearance of the delegates as cannot be reflected by a sketch, provided he is skilled in physiognomy, or can interpret character from a profile. As a specimen of what a publishing house can do, we commend it to those who, as authors, are seeking for the workmanship that abides and is open only to the minimum of criticism.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The City Temple Pulpit. Sermons with Lectures on Homiletics. By JOSEPH PARKER, D.D. 12mo, pp. 296. New York: Tibbals Book Company.

The key to the mental character and habits and the spiritual tone and beliefs of the famous London Dissenter is in one's hand as one reads this volume. Here is the sermon, sparkling with gems of his creation, or a lecture almost heavy with the under-current of a massive conception, but, taken *tout-ensemble*, a lifting up of truth in the divine light that ever invests it. His homiletical lectures, being based upon his experience as a preacher, are free from speculation and are full of practical and available wisdom. This book is commended, not to raise up a class of imitators, but as suggestive of some of the best methods of attaining usefulness, if not celebrity, in the ministerial vocation.

Names and Portraits of Birds which Interest Gunners, with Descriptions in Language Understood of the People. By GURDON TRUMBULL. 8vo, pp. 221. New York: Harper & Brothers. Price, cloth, \$2 50.

This, in the main, is a non-scientific book, but of practical value to the sportsman. It is written by an experienced gunner, who aims to give just such information as is wanted in the field or forest. Scientific names of birds are rarely given, while common or local names, with their origin, abound in the description. Sixty birds familiar to gunners are accurately described, with the locality where they are found, and such incidents of sport-life are narrated as relieve the volume of a uniformity in treatment. In spite of the avoidance by the author of a scientific cast, the book, as made up, will be an aid to the study of ornithology as a science. Hence to both classes, the scientific and the practical, this octavo will be of consequence. Ninety illustrations illuminate the text.

A War-Time Wooing. A Story. By Captain CHARLES KING, U.S.A. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 195. New York: Harper & Brothers.

A novel of the latest war period in the United States, abounding in familiar incidents, reviving localities and scenes in a well conceived plot, and written in a clever and all but attractive style.

The Tabernacle: Its Furniture, Priesthood, and Ceremonies. Illustrated with Colored Plates prepared Specially for the Purpose. With Maps and other Illustrations of Palestine, for Sunday-school Teachers and Bible Students. Cincinnati: Cranston & Stowe. Price, 25 cents.

For the understanding of the Bible description of the Tabernacle this quarto pamphlet may be of use to every Bible reader, and an instructive companion in every Christian household.

Cash! or, Number Nineteen. A Story of Real Life. By CARLISLE B. HOLDING. 12mo, pp. 238. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Price, 90 cents.

The object of this story, framed as fiction, but veritable life in essence, is to disclose the influence of Providence, through parental control and individual self-purpose, in the life of man from boyhood to age. Its high purpose atones for some literary deficiencies not necessary to mention.

Through the Long Nights. A Novel. By Mrs. E. LYNN LINTON. New York: Harper & Brothers. Price, 25 cents.

Brilliant, with occasional pathetic touches, amorous in sentiment, and successful in the development of its plot.

Paul, The Matchless Man. Baccalaureate Sermon at Napa College. By A. J. NELSON, D.D.

Psychological in structure, elegant in style, and abiding in its impressiveness.

The Eavesdropper. An Unparalleled Experience. By JAMES PAYN. New York: Harper & Brothers. Price, 25 cents.

A hastily written story by a writer who excels in fiction.