

....We should expect Dr. William M. Taylor's *Scottish Pulpit from the Reformation to the Present Day* to be one of his best publications. He remains enough of a Scotchman for that. The volume is composed of the lectures delivered by the author to the students of Yale Theological Seminary in 1886, when, for the second time, he was appointed to address the young men on the Lyman Beecher Foundation. The series as a whole is a course in Homiletics taught by examples from Scotch history. Whatever these lectures may have been as delivered, the printed volume is an inspiring re-animation of the noble characters who made the noble history of Scotland. There is no country in the world, unless it is our own, whose history counts for so much in the daily life and common motive of the people as Scotland. It counts for so much in both cases for the same reason—that there is a world of character in it. The religious element is strong in both, and in both, the part acted by the ministers of the churches is that which in other countries, in a more worldly way, falls to the princes and nobles; so that Dr. Taylor in taking for his theme the Scottish Protestant pulpit has undertaken to write about the seed royal of that people. After some preliminary survey he begins with John Knox and carries his sketches forward to Melville, Rutherford, Dickson, Livingstone, Leighton, the Field-Preachers, the Moderates and Evangelicals, Thomas Chalmers and the Pulpits of the Dissenting Churches. For a series of addresses to young men in training for the ministry nothing could be happier or healthier than these lectures. The models are large, free and natural. They are neither technical, conventional, courtly, bookish, nor even churchly in any limited sense of the word. The didactic purpose does not appear at all in the lectures, but the didactic impression is unconsciously and most efficiently made in every page. The personal descriptions are graphic and are luminously and powerfully displayed in connection with the religious history of the times. These lectures abound in pithy sayings, Scotch humor, good Scotch anecdote, and altogether make a combination of good qualities and good things. (Harper & Brothers.)