

## BOOK NOTICES.

THE EDITOR requests persons sending books for notice to state, for the information of readers, the price of each book, with the amount to be added for postage when sent by mail.

*The Bibliotheca Sacra.* Edited by EDWARDS A. PARK, with the co-operation of GEORGE E. DAY, ARCHIBALD DUFF, JR., and D. W. SIMON. Andover (Mass.). Published by W. F. Draper. Quarterly: in parts of 200 pages each. Terms, \$4.00 per annum.

Generally regarded as the successor or continuation of the *Biblical Repository* (the publication of which was commenced at Andover, Mass., in 1831), this able quarterly may be considered the earliest New England periodical, and with one exception the earliest publication in the country, devoted wholly or mainly to the theological learning in its broader fields and more elaborate methods of treatment—though it is not forgotten that other serial works of a religious character, like the old *Panoplist*, and *Monthly Anthology*, though mainly given up to work of lighter quality, occasionally contained learned and able articles from leading minds. But even in its independent form, the *Bibliotheca Sacra* dates from 1843, and has maintained to the present time a strong, vigorous and manly individuality. Much of its early force was due to the splendid work which was put into it by the late BELA BATES EDWARDS, its editor from 1844 to 1852, the date of the early death of this great scholar; who contributed to it during this period, nearly fifty articles, besides performing a vast amount of routine editorial labor, in the midst of other important duties in connection with Andover Seminary. The scholarly attainments of Prof. Edwards were varied, and of a high character; and it is to his interest in bibliography we are under obligations for the entertaining account of the private libraries of Boston and vicinity, drawn up some years ago by Mr. Luther Farnham, which first appeared in the pages of this Review. After Prof. Edwards's death, the editorship of the *Bibliotheca* passed into the hands of Prof. Edwards A. Park, who had been associated with Prof. Edwards in its management, and who, in 1853, published a memoir of Prof. Edwards, with a selection from his sermons and addresses, in two volumes. Aside from these distinguished biblical scholars, a number of gentlemen hardly less eminent have been connected with the *Bibliotheca* as associate editors; among them Dr. Samuel H. Taylor, Prof. H. B. Hackett, Prof. Austin Phelps, Dr. Barnas Sears, Prof. W. G. T. Shedd, Prof. Calvin E. Stowe and Dr. Joseph P. Thompson. In general, the articles making up the successive numbers

of the *Bibliotheca* have been encyclopedic in character, and of permanent value. The leading subjects have embraced Biblical Literature, Doctrinal Theology and Church History—in the treatment of which the most able writers have been secured, as a reference to the index, or the successive issues of the work, will prove. In its treatment of subjects pertaining to biblical archæology, the investigations of science, comparative philology, metaphysics, and theological criticism, it has steadily kept abreast of the broadest and most advanced culture ; while many of the articles originally appearing in its pages have been of so much importance as to have been reprinted in separate volumes. Among these are treatises by so distinguished writers as Prof. W. S. Tyler, Dr. Samuel Harris, Prof. Austin Phelps, Dr. George B. Cheever, Prof. Ezra Abbott, Dr. Barnas Sears, Dr. J. P. Thompson, and Dr. Thomas Hill. In 1874 an index to the first thirty volumes of the *Bibliotheca*, prepared by Mr. Warren F. Draper, the publisher of the review, was issued. This forms a volume of 280 pages, and is a work of much patient, careful labor. It is not only an index of authors and subjects, but is a sort of topical index, or *dictionary* to the review, frequently giving keys to leading articles, in brief abstracts of the same ; together with an index of all Scripture texts employed in articles, and an index of all Greek words used. By a helpful system of typography, four different styles of types are used in the index catchwords, each representing a different class of topics—an arrangement that is very useful in consultation, and one that is better carried out in this index, we think, than in any similar reference book we have ever examined. Among leading subjects discussed in the *Bibliotheca* during the past year, are Theological Education, The Opinions of Jonathan Edwards on the Trinity, The Fundamental Laws of Belief, The Sabbath, New Testament Revision, Swedenborgianism ; the volume for 1881 comprising 800 pages. “ The Theological Seminary at Andover,” writes the Rev. Dr. Bacon in his *North American Review* article for June, 1882, “ by its illustrious history and its wide influence, ranks with the foremost centres of education in the world.” So does the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, as the organ of that great institution of sacred learning, have just claim to a high rank among the learned reviews of the country, for its elevated character, great ability, and profound scholarship.

*By Samuel L. Boardman, Esq., Augusta, Me.*