

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

Gothic Architecture.

This style of building having of late become very much in vogue throughout the country, for ecclesiastical structures, it becomes important, to all who desire to keep pace with the taste of the age, to make themselves acquainted, at least, with its general principles and most striking peculiarities. To such of our readers who may be thus minded, we would say, that they will find, in the recent additions to our library, two very excellent little works on the subject, that are well worthy of their perusal and study. One is called "Anglican Church Architecture, by James Barr, Architect," and the other, "A Manual of Gothic Architecture, by F. A. Paley, M. A."

Both of these books are of a particularly readable character, and can scarcely fail to interest even those who are uninitiated into the art of which they treat, while, at the same time, such as are familiar with the principles and peculiarities of medieval architecture will derive pleasure from their perusal.

The Anglican Church Architecture, as its name indicates, is confined exclusively to the consideration of the ecclesiastical edifices of England, and is intended as an introduction to the study of those time-honored memorials of a tasteful and ingenious people. The several periods of Anglican medieval architecture are accurately described, and illustrated by numerous beautiful and spirited engravings, and the whole work is one well calculated to promote the diffusion of a correct taste in the peculiar species of architecture of which it treats.

Mr. Paley's work is intended to conduct the reader through the various eras of gothic architecture, showing the distinctive features of each, and presenting an analysis of details exceedingly useful to the student, and well adapted to interest those who are simply desirous to obtain a *general* knowledge of ecclesiastical antiquities. This work is also embellished with many spirited wood cuts, by which the descriptions are rendered intelligible to all classes of readers.

We have been induced to invite attention to these works by the fact that gothic architecture is very far from being well understood and appreciated by many who attempt to use it, its forms being often employed in the most incongruous connexions, and without any of the spirit and beauty that will be found, on close inspection and study, to belong to them.

T. U. W.