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Short Notices.

Tennyson. By STOPFORD A. BROOKE. Pp. 490. Price 7s. 6d. (Isbister and Co.)

NO one is better able to interpret a great poet to his age than a thoughtful and diligent student, of high literary and philosophical culture and sympathetic insight. The time has come when Tennyson's writings can be viewed as a whole, and Mr. Stopford Brooke, the exponent of broad, religious, and philosophical thought, has done this with admirable judgment and power.

In the Introduction, Tennyson is estimated as an artist, in his relation to Christianity, and in his relation to social politics. The first four chapters deal with the poems of 1830, 1833, 1842, and the classical poems of 1842. The various stages of the great poet's art and writings are reviewed in subsequent chapters, and towards the close we have chapters on his speculative theology and nature poetry.

The following passage will be interesting to readers of this review: "Tennyson's language about Christ in 'In Memoriam' is not enough to make him as a poet an orthodox Christian in the doctrinal sense, but it is enough to place him among those who confess Jesus as the Light of the world, as their spiritual Master, their Life, and that with a distinctness which does not belong to any other of the great poets of this century so far as their poetry is concerned. This position becomes a certainty if the introduction to 'In Memoriam,' beginning 'Strong Son of God, Immortal Love,' be an address to Jesus. I think it is, and that this is the most natural explanation; but nevertheless it is left vague. On the whole, there is no clear doctrinal definition of the Person or the work of Christ. What is *not* left vague, what is *quite* clear, is that Tennyson is more Christian than Theist; that no mere Theist would have said the things that he has said in 'In Memoriam.'"

Lord Ebury as a Church Reformer. Pp. 363. Nisbet and Co.

This useful volume consists of Lord Ebury's chief speeches in Parliament and elsewhere. He was throughout his life a deep student of ecclesiastical questions, and the speeches range from 1858 to 1866. His name has been chiefly associated with the idea of a revision of the Prayer Book in a Protestant direction, which in these days is of course absolutely beyond the region of practical politics; but there was no point connected with the well-being of the Church which did not engage his attention, and his courageous and manly views are worthy of the nephew of the great Duke of Wellington.

Holy Wells of England. By R. C. HOPE. Pp. 222. Elliot Stock.

All lovers of legends and traditions should thank the well-known antiquary, Mr. Hope, for his careful collection of the stories of sacred waters in this country. He points out that well-worship, embracing that of rivers, lakes, fountains, and springs generally, is of great antiquity. From all parts of the globe a vast accumulation of legendary lore connected with this cult has from time to time been brought to light, taking us back to ages far anterior to Christianity. The alleged sanctity of wells arises partly from the healing properties of water in itself, as still embodied in the water-cure system at Malvern, in the medicinal springs, and in the stories of the pools of Bethesda and Siloam. The naiads of the Greeks and Romans still live on in the water kelpies of the Highlands and the marvellous qualities of the historic springs of England.

Eminent Christian Workers of the Nineteenth Century. By G. BARNET SMITH. Pp. 416. S.P.C.K.

This is a series of excellent and discriminating sketches of nine of the most prominent Christian leaders of our age. These are Archbishop Tait, Bishop Pattison, Lord Shaftesbury, Bishop Daniel Wilson, Dr. Arnold, Bishop Wilberforce, George Moore, Bishop Hannington, and Bishop Selwyn. We hope for some more volumes of this modern Christian "Plutarch." There is abundance of material, and nothing could be more encouraging to Christian life and effort.

The Tenderness of Christ. By Bishop THOROLD. Pp. 242. Price 3s. 6d. Isbister and Co.

Bishop Thorold is a wide reader, an epigrammatic writer, and a spiritual teacher of keen penetration and power. He takes the tenderness or love of our Lord in its history, purpose, methods, claims, blessedness, results, in death, in judgment, and in the life to come, as a series of revelations of eternal principles, in the divine purpose of the universe. The volume is full of careful treatment and suggestive thought, and will bring light to many to whom mere bare statements of Christian dogma are by themselves unimpressive.

Forty-two Years among the Indians and Eskimo. By BEATRICE BATTY. Pp. 223. R.T.S.

This is a charming account of the patient, cheerful, uncomplaining labours of the admirable Bishop Horden in the far North-West, round the ice-bound shores of Hudson's Bay, amongst the two strange races which inhabit that inhospitable quarter of the world.

Story of Sir Samuel Baker. Price 1s. S.S. Union.

The great achievements of this remarkable man for civilization are summarized in this narrative in a bright and picturesque way. His mistakes are not ignored; but the readers are reminded of the immense debt owed to his memory by Africa and this country for his enterprise, his genius for ruling, his earnest desire to cure the terrible evils of African civilization, and his immense knowledge of its wants and circumstances.

Life on the Congo. By the Rev. W. H. BENTLEY. Pp. 128. R.T.S.

An interesting and well-illustrated account by a Baptist missionary of the discovery of this magnificent region, its physical features, its vegetation, climate, and people; its home life and religious ideas; cannibalism, freemasonry, and charms; the missions of Central Africa; the missions of the Congo, and its recent progress, political and religious. It is a useful monograph on an important and fascinating subject.

Sarah Acland. Edited by ISAMBARD BRUNEL. Pp. 107. Seeley and Co.

The wife of Dr. Acland, the well-known Professor of Medicine at Oxford was the daughter of William Cotton, an earnest promoter of church-building and good work in London in the earliest part of the century. She was from the first a sincere Christian character, and a lifelong example of the abnegation of self, and the consecration of the whole being to the service of God and man. The present volume is a selection from her letters, marked by intelligent observation, high purpose, and strong affection, which will be a pleasant memorial to her large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Among the Matabele. By DAVID CARNEGIE, of Matabeleland. Pp. 128. R.T.S.

High value must be attached to an account of a new and interesting people by one who has lived familiarly amongst them. Mr. Carnegie was for ten years at Hope Fountain, ten miles from Buluwayo. He has much to say on their history, their customs, domestic life, witchcraft, and arts. A very interesting chapter on Khama, the Bechwana chief, ends this acceptable little volume.

A Memoir of Adolph Saphir. By the Rev. GAVIN CARLYLE. Pp. 448. Shaw and Co.

This eminent Christian teacher and missionary is so well known by his religious writings that his life will be specially welcomed. He was a Jew of Pesth, and was converted with his father in 1844 by Dr. Keith, of the Free Church. No reading is more wholesome or edifying than Christian biography, and this is an excellent specimen of the kind, for it is a faithful transcript of Dr. Saphir's rich and original mind. His college career in Scotland, ordination to Jewish work, ministry to Germans in Glasgow, settlement at South Shields, settlement at Greenwich, ministry at Notting Hill and in Belgravia, makes a very varied picture of religious life. There is a valuable chapter of pithy sayings and short extracts, and three admirable sermons at the end.

The Biblical Illustrator: Leviticus and Numbers. By the Rev. JOSEPH EXELL. Pp. 343. Price 7s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

The purpose of this work is homiletical rather than critical. It is a digest of commentaries, with "anecdotes, similes, emblems, illustrations, expository, scientific, geographical, historical, and homiletic." The collection is made with great judgment and care, and will be an invaluable help for the pulpit, the lecture, or the class-room.

The Biblical Illustrator: Acts. By the Rev. JOSEPH EXELL. Vol. i., pp. 722, price 7s. 6d.; vol. ii., pp. 639, price 7s. 6d.; vol. iii., pp. 505, price 7s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

Mr. Exell is compiling a work of vast labour and usefulness. It is interesting to observe how obviously the lines of the wholesome doctrines of the Reformed faith start from the very Scriptures themselves. The careful study of the Acts of the Apostles is an excellent antidote to the strained theories of modern sacerdotalism.

The Biblical Illustrator: Hebrews. By the Rev. JOSEPH EXELL. Vol. i., pp. 653, price 7s. 6d.; vol. ii., pp. 685, price 7s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

It is to be hoped that benevolent persons will put Mr. Exell's admirable series on the bookshelves of hundreds of the younger clergy. They have neither the time nor the opportunity of searching out for themselves such treasures of the best thought and illustration; but with such books as these in their hands they could never again complain of want of material. The non-sacerdotal character of the Epistle to the Hebrews is forcibly brought out.

The Biblical Illustrator: 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. By the Rev. JOSEPH EXELL. Pp. 617. Price 7s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

This volume is compiled with the same care and attention as the others. The editor maintains the value and interest of his work by availing himself of the best living writers, as well as of those that are classical. When the various illustrations connected with any passage

have been read over, many new trains of thought will suggest themselves, and a great improvement in sermons may be expected.

The Biblical Illustrator: The Epistle of St. James. By the Rev. JOSEPH EXELL. Pp. 514. Price 7s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

This Epistle, from its practical character, lends itself to an abundance of illustrative matter. The value of the work would have been enhanced if the references to the various authors could have been given; but probably this would have increased the price from the very reasonable sum at which it now stands.

The Pilgrim's Progress and its Lessons. By the Rev. SAMUEL WRIGHT. Pp. 560. Elliot Stock.

It is to be hoped that the immortal allegory of Bunyan is not only still read, but increases in circulation with the growth of the people and the spread of the knowledge of reading. The present volume consists of a series of popular expository lectures. It will be useful, not only as an explanation of Bunyan, but as being itself full of suggestion and help.

Diocesan Histories: Sodor and Man. By A. W. MOORE. Pp. 276. S.P.C.K.

The writer has taken great pains in giving a trustworthy sketch of this singularly interesting diocese, the metropolitan see of which was at one time Drontheim, in Norway. Sodor is from a Norse appellation, indicating the southern isles as distinguished from the Orkneys and the Shetlands. Up to the twelfth century there is little authentic information. From the twelfth to the sixteenth century the materials are meagre, and not wholly to be relied on, while for the last three centuries the sources of information have presented difficulties from their copiousness. There are interesting chapters on Bishop Wilkinson, the Manx Bible, and the rise of Methodism.

Jerusalem Illustrated. By G. ROBINSON LEES. Pp. 163. Mawson, Swan, and Morgan.

This book has a special interest as being the first printed and published in English in the Holy City. The writer has resided many years in Jerusalem, and has consulted all the best authorities on the subject. The illustrations are printed from photographs taken by himself. There is probably no work dealing so directly and exclusively and in a popular manner with the history and topography of the Holy City.

Random Recollections. By the Rev. GEORGE HUNTINGDON. Pp. 320. Price 6s. Griffith, Farran and Co.

Among the personal sketches supplied from the memory of the writer are James Prince Lee, first Bishop of Manchester, Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop Connop Thirlwall, Dr. Hook, Archdeacon Allen, John Mason Neale, J. B. Dykes, Dean Bowers, Dr. Parkinson of St. Bees, and Canon Wray of Manchester. While not attempting to be complete biographical studies like Dean Burgon's "Twelve Good Men," these sketches preserve interesting popular traits of characteristic men, and are well worth putting together.

Butler's Analogy and Modern Thought. By the Rev. A. R. EAGER, D.D. Pp. 220. S.P.C.K.

Perhaps it would have been better had the title not put Bishop Butler so prominently forward, as he is generally supposed to be difficult and abstruse. This little work is really an excellent exposition of Christian

evidences in relation to modern science, philosophy, and thought. There are valuable chapters on the available evidence for the Being of God ; on Evolution and Theism, with particular reference to the argument from design ; on Life, Death, and Immortality ; on the evidence for revealed religion ; on the probability of miracles, and on the nature of virtue. This little volume has been adopted as the text-book in the year's curriculum of the London Diocesan Church Reading Union, and ought to take a high place amongst evidential literature.

Holy Scripture : Human, Progressive, and Divine. By the Rev. T. S. BERRY. Pp. 126. S.P.C.K.

In considering the claims and character of the Bible, the recognition of all these three points is necessary to a reasonable faith. Needless difficulties have been multiplied by those who have refused to allow the human share in the composition. Other obstacles have been created by declining to acknowledge that Revelation is progressive, and that to him that hath, more shall be given. The nature of the most transcendently important element is ably stated.

The Mourner in his Chamber. By the Rev. F. BOURDILLON. Pp. 160. S.P.C.K.

Mr. Bourdillon's writings are so well known and so widely beloved that it is only necessary to mention the title and subject of this volume to ensure it a grateful welcome. The tone is throughout that of a wise and understanding devoutness.

Life's Shadows. By the Rev. C. O. BLAKELOCK. Pp. 109. S.P.C.K.

This little book is of the same character as the last, but deals not so directly with sickness and bereavement as with the sorrows of childhood, little worries, disappointment, future fears, misunderstanding, poverty and care, spiritual trials, and the like. It is written with the sympathetic experience of a true pastor.

Twelve Readings for Mothers' Unions. By the Hon. Mrs. BULKELY OWEN. Pp. 120. S.P.C.K.

These short addresses are arranged for twelve different seasons of the year. They are simple, practical, and useful.

Why am I a Member of the Church of England? By the Rev. EDWIN NOYES.

Owing to an increasing demand for this pamphlet, it has been found necessary to republish it in tract form, price one penny, for the purpose of distribution. To be obtained through the author, 22, Amhurst Road, Hackney, N.E.

A Home in the North-West. By A. MERCIER and V. WATT. S.P.C.K.

This account of life and experiences in the New World, though slightly sketched, is both graphic and interesting, the writers being thoroughly acquainted with their subject. The experiences are more encouraging to the middle than to the lower class of emigrants, and Harriet Simons' sad adventures will warn parents not to allow their daughters to cross the Atlantic without someone to look after them, and find them suitable situations.

Indian Pickles. By F. C. Playne. S.P.C.K.

We can cordially recommend this book as a delightfully fresh and amusing study of child life, character, and adventure. Useful hints may be gathered from it as to wet-day amusements, and it will prove a most suitable gift-book for children under twelve.

Uncle Phil. By MAUD CAREW. S.P.C.K.

This sweet, life-like, and perfectly natural and healthy little story carries with it a simple and very useful lesson, and will be read with great interest and delight by children of all ages and classes. It is seldom that we can give such unqualified praise to any child's book.

A Little Socialist. By ALICE M. MITCHELL. S.P.C.K.

We have here a very pretty little story, as far as it goes, simply and brightly written, which will be appreciated both by children and their elders, but the ending is somewhat abrupt and unsatisfactory, and we should like to know how the street child was disposed of eventually. The outline illustrations are charming.

Faith. By the AUTHOR of *Hope*. S.P.C.K.

This pleasant little tale is sufficiently interesting to be read with enjoyment by the girls for whom it is intended, but we cannot say that the plot is at all a natural one. Also, when the village heroine is in distress, the appearance of a rich benevolent lady, who instantly provides her with a luxurious home, is hardly what may be expected in every-day life.

MAGAZINES.

We have received the following (May) magazines :

The Thinker, The Expository Times, The Religious Review of Reviews, The Review of the Churches, The Anglican Church Magazine, The Church Missionary Intelligencer, The Weekly Churchman, The Evangelical Churchman, The Church Sunday-School Magazine, Blackwood, The Cornhill, Sunday Magazine, The Fireside, The Quiver, Cassell's Family Magazine, Good Words, The Leisure Hour, Sunday at Home, The Girl's Own Paper, The Boy's Own Paper, Light and Truth, The Church Worker, The Church Monthly, The Church Missionary Gleaner, Light in the Home, Awake, India's Women, The Parish Helper, Parish Magazine, New and Old, The Bible Society's Gleanings for the Young, The Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, The Zenana, The Cottager and Artisan, Friendly Greetings, Little Folks, Our Little Dots, The Child's Companion, Boy's and Girl's Companion, The Children's World, Daybreak, Day of Days, Home Words, Hand and Heart, The Home Visitor, and The Jewish Herald.

THE MONTH.

THE sum of £5,401,982, which the Church Year Book shows to have been raised by the Church at home in the year 1892 for various purposes, chiefly ecclesiastical (several philanthropic efforts not being here included), is thus roughly divided :

Assistant Clergy and Home Missions	...	...	...	£690,257
Easter offerings	...	...	...	114,050
Foreign Missions	...	...	...	235,905
Church education	...	...	...	751,132
General and Diocesan Societies	...	...	...	121,770
Church building	...	...	...	1,144,686
Endowment of benefices and parsonages	...	...	...	274,360
Burial-grounds	...	...	...	29,436
Support of the poor	...	...	...	517,410
Lay helpers, Church expenses, and other purposes, religious and secular	...	...	...	1,166,958

The following are some of the items of the £517,410 raised for the benefit of the poor :