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performance. The kernel of the Hegelian dialectic—nay, the accurate meaning of that dialectic itself—remained a mysterious intangible entity, until the *Secret of Hegel* appeared. The world was astonished, and, at first, unconvinced; for the book was hard, and the matter wholly remote from the common pabulum of our insular consciousness; but it won its way, little by little, and may fitly be described as the intellectual ancestor of such first-rate performances as Wallace's edition of the *Logic of Hegel* (1874), Caird's *Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion* (1880), and the Introductions contributed by Green to his admirable recensions of the *opera majora* of Hume.

It is no intention of mine in this brief notice of a remarkable, and, indeed (for English-speaking people), epoch-making work, to touch upon any of the thousand and one speculative interests that crowd in upon one as one turns the pages of the revised and improved *Secret of Hegel*. The book is, we are informed, "unabridged," but, without specifying further, pp. 32 to 36 in the *old* edition, and footnotes not a few, appear to have taken to themselves wings, for there is no trace of them in the *new*—at least, in their original position. The one fault in the volume—a fault which it shares with its two-volumed precursor—lies in its lack of index; but perhaps Dr. Stirling may see his way to supply the omission in the copies of the work yet unsold.

To one who has striven to comprehend, in some sort, the meaning of philosophy in its entirety, and to find in its highest fulfilment the reflection of the thought of God in the secular movements of the world-spirit, the value of Hegel is immense, nor is it possible to overrate it. These are days when the fundamentals of human hope and Christian faith—to say nothing of the Christian experience of nineteen centuries—are confidently assumed to have been struck down, demolished by the ruthless hands of the Enlightened Ones, the party of Positive Science, the enemies of Superstition and the Follies of Mankind! A negative attitude, be it noted, eventuating in a Religion of Chaos—derelict of Time, forlorn and ineffectual. Now, by way of contrast, observe the actual position of Hegel, and his forerunner, Immanuel Kant. To quote Dr. Stirling's own emphatic declaration (Preface, new ed., p. xxii): "It is the express mission of Kant and Hegel to replace the *negative* of that party [*i.e.*, the Apostles of the new Aufklärung] by an *affirmative*: or Kant and Hegel—all but wholly directly both, and one of them quite wholly directly—have no object but to restore Faith—Faith in God, Faith in the immortality of the Soul and the freedom of the Will, nay, Faith in Christianity as the revealed Religion—and that, too, in perfect harmony with the Right of Private Judgment, and the Rights, or Lights, or Might of Intelligence in general."

E. H. BLAKENEY.

Short Notices.

Heart Cheer for Home Sorrow. Edited by CHARLES BULLOCK, B.D.
Third edition. *Home Words* Office, 7, Paternoster Square, E.C.
Price 1s.

THE adequacy to its purpose of this small compilation of thoughts in prose and verse is attested by the fact that a third edition has been required. Monsell's "Soon, and for Ever," and Bonar's "Thy way, not mine," and "Tears," are a sufficient indication of the lines upon which the selection has been made. The book is well printed, and deserves commendation.

Elisha, the Man of Abel-Meholah. By Mrs. O. F. WALTON. Religious Tract Society. Pp. 256.

The graphic story of Elisha is worked up by the writer into a very interesting narrative, the supplementary details of which are supplied by commentaries, and by Biblical and other historical literature. The writer shows knowledge of character, reverence for Holy Scripture, and a useful power of spiritual application.

Dies Dominica : being Hymns and Metrical Meditations for each Sunday in the Natural Year. By MARGARET EVANS and ISABEL SOUTHALL.

London: Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C. 1897.

Some of these metrical meditations show that the authors possess a very considerable poetic gift. "To the Crocus," as evidence of things not seen, and "Rhododendrons in Bloom," as recurring reminders of the bush that burned with fire and was not consumed, are good. So, too, are "The Dusk" and "Evening," and, in a different vein, "At the Funeral of an Agricultural Labourer." The book is written in the spirit of the words of a Bishop of the English Church that "the more we read the Scriptures, both of the Old Testament and the New, the more we must see that the animal world is bound up with mankind in the prospect of redemption"; and "the further truth, so dear to Henry Vaughan," to whom the book is dedicated, "has not been forgotten, that the whole of creation is a sharer in the redemption of Christ, and is indwelt by the Spirit of God."

Marriage Customs. By Rev. H. N. HUTCHINSON. Seeley and Co. Pp. 348.

A curious and interesting collection of various rites which have grown up in different countries round this important epoch in the individual human life. Mr. Hutchinson has done his work with care and taste, and the result is an amusing and instructive book.

In London; and other Poems. By C. J. SHEARER. London: Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C. 1897.

Marred by metrical irregularities which seem due to carelessness in revision, rather than to set purpose for whatsoever object, these poems none the less contain a great deal of promise for Mr. Shearer's future as a poet who must be reckoned with. He thinks, and can express his thoughts, and although he is frequently "reminiscent" he has individuality too. If this is a first volume we congratulate its author, and invite him, with all the greater cordiality because it is not an invitation to be given lightly in these days, to give us another taste of his quality.

Dante's Pilgrim's Progress. Second edition. By EMILIA RUSSELL GURNEY. London: Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C. Pp. 421. Price 7s. 6d.

A thoughtful commentary on salient passages in the "Divina Commedia," written under the inspiration of the Bishop of Ripon's delightful lectures. The selection is intended to illustrate the spiritual development of the heart and mind from the isolation of the selfhood into union with the life of God in man and the universe through the Incarnation of Christ. The explanatory passages are written with great care and spiritual insight, and form a helpful introduction to the study of the great poem.

Success to You. By Rev. E. C. DAWSON. Sunday-School Union. Pp. 126. Price 1s. 6d.

Twelve excellent straight talks with boys, written in a fresh, simple, manly style, and with experience of the nature and difficulties of boys.

To be had in Remembrance. Compiled by A. E. CHANCE. London : Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C. Pp. 195. Price 5s.

This beautiful book is designed for mourners. It is divided into subjects for the twelve months of the year, each month having a number of quotations from well-known writers in prose and verse suitable to the subject. It is illustrated by drawings of flowers and leaves appropriate to the different months. The quotations are exceedingly well chosen, full of consolation, hope, and suggestion, and the whole forms a really choice gift-book.

Raymond's Angel: a Story of Two Lives laid down. By BLANCHE GARVOCK. London : Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C.

This is a perfectly simple story of a form of heroism which we are glad to know is commou—the quiet heroism which not only dares to do, but dares also to resign and be resigned, to give up and to suffer. The story is told straightforwardly and unaffectedly, and is informed with sincere piety.

The Grotto of Pan. By FRANCES HARIOTT WOOD. S.P.C.K. Pp. 79.

An interesting little story of the early days of Christianity, in the locality of Paneas, in Palestine.

Her Silver-Wedding Day. By PHOEBE ALLEN. S.P.C.K. Pp. 80.

This little book narrates how grumbling was cured among humble folk by learning something of the troubles of the rich.

Under Two Sceptres. By "TETTA VOGEL." S.P.C.K. Pp. 92.

This little book gives an account of the influence of an excellent governess ; how she could no longer remain in a certain family ; how foolish the step-mother was ; how the governess was missed ; how she came back, and restored peace and order.

The Polished Jewel. By C. ETHEL FOX. S.P.C.K. Pp. 93.

An account of how a humble and common life became fit to be a stone of price in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Alfedeane Rectory. By LADY DUNBOYNE. S.P.C.K. Pp. 92.

A worldly young clergyman is here changed to better things by various troubles, and the influence of a good girl.

Bob and his Rabbits. By EMMA LESLIE. Sunday-School Union. Pp. 95. Price 9d.

A good story of boy-life in elementary schools, its temptations and possibilities.

A Trip to Fairyland ; or, Happy Wedlock. With other poetical pieces.

By the Rev. JOHN MORGAN. London : Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C.

The title is, to our thinking, perhaps the least happy part of this volume, which, for the rest, contains no small quantity of careful thought, judiciously expressed. The poems are not equal in merit, and occasionally lines are even commonplace, when the thought that lies behind is often scholarly and true. The poem begins with the dissatisfaction of a thinking mind with the isolation of a celibate life ; describes the marriage of the poet to the woman of his choice, and his leisurely honeymoon journey with his bride to his country home. Quiet, narrative poems of this kind demand no little genius from their writers. Some of the best of the class were written by Gerald Massey, and Mr. Morgan will not bear comparison with him. None the less, with the exception of "The Debate," the poems are on a good level, although they would have gained in merit by greater simplicity of expression. The free translations of some popular Welsh hymns are interesting.

The Faith of Centuries. Edited by the Rev. and Hon. W. E. BOWEN. Nisbet and Co. Pp. 350. Price 7s. 6d.

This is a volume of Essays on subjects connected with the Christian religion by various writers. The Rev. A. Chandler, Fellow of Brasenose and Rector of Poplar, deals with "Faith in God"; Mr. Alexander, Reader of the Temple, with "The Knowledge of God"; Mr. Strong, Tutor of Christ Church, with "Faith in Immortality"; Canon Scott Holland (in two papers) on "Faith in Jesus Christ"; the Editor with "The Divinity of Christ"; Professor Ryle with "The Historic Fact of Christ's Resurrection"; Canon Girdlestone with "Sin" and "Atonement"; Canon Newbolt with "Temptation" and "The Punishment of Sin"; the Bishop of Rochester with "The Preparation in History for Christ"; Bishop Barry with "Christ in History"; Professor Bonney on "Nature and Miracle"; the Archdeacon of London on "The Kingdom of Heaven"; and Mr. Welldon, of Harrow, on "Heaven." The book shows how much profound agreement there is between men of different schools of thought. It is intended not so much for scholars as "Lux Mundi," but for the great mass of educated men. It is hoped that it will be found by many thoughtful, suggestive, helpful, and explanatory of difficulties.

Mrs. Rule's Foundlings. By ANNETTE LYSTER. S.P.C.K. Pp. 154.

The story of a good woman in humble life, to whom various circumstances bring opportunities of being useful; written with knowledge and sympathy.

Lessons from Life, Animal and Human. London: Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C. Pp. 527. Price 7s. 6d.

This is a compendium of moral teachings illustrated by curious and interesting habits, relations, instincts, peculiarities, and ministries of living creatures. Dr. Macmillan writes an introduction; and the compiler, who is evidently a close student of nature, has amassed an enormous number of striking facts to illustrate moral and religious teaching. To those who believe that all creation and all being proceeds from one and the same Eternal Omnipresent Mind, the collection is one of extraordinary interest.

Baptism: What saith the Scripture? By Rev. D. H. D. WILKINSON, M.A., with a Preface by the Rev. H. C. G. Moule, D.D. Seeley and Co. Price 1s.

"I commend the present work," says Dr. Moule, in his brief preface, "cordially to the attention of my readers. It is, in my opinion, a valuable and timely contribution to the literature of Christian Baptism."

The Protestant Faith; or, Salvation by Belief. By DWIGHT HINCKLEY OLMSTEAD. Third edition. G. P. Putnam's Sons. Price 3s. 6d.

Originally written over forty years ago, and first printed in 1874, this brochure seems to have had considerable influence in certain quarters, to judge from the imposing array of "Commendatory Criticisms" which the author has affixed to his essay. Briefly, the purport of Mr. Olmstead's little book is to attack and upset Luther's cardinal doctrine of Justification by Faith.

Sundays Round the World. By the Rev. FREDERICK HASTINGS. Religious Tract Society. Pp. 319.

This is an account of Mr. Hastings' personal experience of Sunday observances in many lands. The first chapter deals with "Sunday on a Liner," and succeeding chapters give most interesting particulars of the way in which Sunday is regarded in North and South America, as well as in most of the countries of Europe, and in the Holy Land. Chapters eight, nine and ten are specially interesting, by reason of the picture

given therein of Sunday in New York. The book is full of capital illustrations, and altogether is one of the most interesting and instructive books of travel, from its special standpoint, that could be desired.

A Fight for Freedom. By GORDON STABLES, M.D., R.N. Nisbet and Co. Pp. 328. Price 5s.

This popular writer of tales for boys never fails to be entertaining and sensible; and he has, in this story of exciting adventures in Russia, that land of political unrest, provided his readers with a book full of interest from the first page to the last. Some of the results of the hateful political police system are realistically shown.



The Month.

THE Bishop of Bath and Wells has appointed the Rev. James Lunt, Rector of Walcot, Bath, to a prebendal stall in Wells Cathedral.

The Very Rev. Principal Caird, D.D., LL.D., of the Glasgow University, is about to resign that important position, which he has filled for many years. Principal Caird, in his early ministerial days, was considered the most eloquent preacher in the Church of Scotland, as the late Dr. Guthrie was in the Free Church. The late Dean Stanley was of opinion that Dr. Caird was the greatest preacher he ever heard. The retiring Principal is the elder brother of the Master of Balliol. His "Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion," published in 1880, is one of the great works of the century.

There is shortly to be a further extension of the Episcopate in Australia. A new diocese is to be formed, which is to embrace the northern part of the continent, including part of the diocese of Adelaide, which at present runs from south to north through the continent, and the northern part of the diocese of North Queensland. When this is carried out the number of the Australian dioceses will be twenty-four.

The *Manchester Guardian* says: "In regard to the proposed South Yorkshire bishopric, we learn that the Home Secretary, having been approached by the Archbishop of York, consulted with the Marquis of Salisbury, and afterwards informed his Grace that the Government would support the formation of a bishopric for South Yorkshire, and would for this purpose consent to the alienation of £1,000 a year from the income of the see of York. The Government, however, are quite firm in insisting that the income of any new bishopric must reach £3,500 per annum, as provided by the Act of 1878, or £3,000 per annum with a suitable residence. This means the raising of a capital sum of £100,000, which, in view of the cold reception given to the scheme at Sheffield, is regarded as an impossible sum to collect. An alternative suggested by the Government, that in default of carrying out the larger scheme a suffragan bishop should be appointed, meets with little favour in Church circles in Sheffield."

The foundations for the nave of Truro Cathedral have been completed. The building committee, under the presidency of the Bishop of Truro, have decided to continue the work, and to appoint Mr. F. L. Pearson to carry out his late father's designs for the completion of the nave. The west front will be the special memorial to the late Archbishop Benson. The Bishop stated that he intended making a tour through the principal