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## Short Notices.

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*Velvet and Rags.* By G. E. M. VAUGHAN. Sunday-School Union. Pp. 96. Price 9d.

A pretty and natural story of rich and poor, and family reconciliation.

*Marion Harling's Awakening.* By EDITH M. EDWARDS. Sunday-School Union. Pp. 190. Price 2s.

A pleasant and suggestive tale of a careless and undutiful elder sister, who is led back by trouble and the influence of a wise friendship to repentance and amendment.

*The Wheel of Fate.* By Mrs. BAGOT HARTE. Addison, Queen's Head Passage, Paternoster Row. Pp. 320. Price 2s. 6d.

A wholesome and interesting sketch of modern English life, told with vigour and humour.

*Making Allowances.* By EDITH M. EDWARDS. Sunday School Union. Pp. 96. Price 9d.

An autobiography of a girl who, through various experiences and the influence of a wise aunt, corrects her faults. A useful little book for girls.

*The Colston Grange Ghost.* By A. E. D. S.P.C.K. Pp. 92.

An amusing little story of how a haunted house turned out to be merely used by burglars for storing their booty. It has a wholesome moral against betting.

*Juvenile Reciters and Dialogues.* C.E.T.S. Pp. 192. Price 1s.

This lively selection will be found useful for Bands of Hope and Children's Associations.

*Parson Prince.* By FLORENCE MOORE. Bemrose and Sons, London and Derby. Pp. 244.

An excellent picture of parish life, showing the healthy social influence that can be wielded by an unselfish, wise, and sympathetic friend of the people in an English vicarage.

*The Lambeth Conference and the Churches in the East.* Pp. 47. Price 6d. National Protestant Church Union, 30, Charing Cross. 1898.

A very useful and careful compendium of the principal teachings of the Greek Churches as compared with those of the Church of England, with a brief historical sketch of the Churches, and an account of their condition from competent witnesses.

*Voices.* By Mrs. NEWMAN HALL. Pp. 104. Price 2s. 6d. R. H. Allenson. 1898.

Mrs. Newman Hall has a keen observation of Nature, and a pleasant way of expressing thoughts in verse which could not be put into prose. The metres and subjects are varied, and the religious and moral teaching helpful. These poems are suggestive of a thoughtful, elevated, and sympathetic life.

*English Church Teaching.* By Canon GIRDLESTONE, Principal MOULE, and Principal DRURY. Charles Murray, 7, Paternoster Square.

This is the second edition of an excellent manual, which is rapidly becoming a standard work; 5,000 copies of the first edition were sold, and 1,000 of the new have already been taken up. The price—1s. net—does not at all represent the value of the book. The teaching of the Church of England, as settled at the Reformation, will be found clearly given on

every point of modern controversy, in a plain, constructive manner. Two valuable features are, the conspectus of Church history, and brief notes on seventeen disputed texts, and an analytical index, with notes on ambiguous words.

*Chaucer: the Complete Works.* Edited by A. W. POLLARD, H. FRANK HEATH, MARK H. LIDDELL, W. S. MCCORMICK. The "Globe" edition. London: Macmillan and Co. Price 3s. 6d. 1898. Pp. lv, 772.

This admirably edited and carefully printed book is a model of cheapness; and we congratulate all concerned in its production on having completed, after the lapse of over thirty years, the best and usefulest edition of Chaucer to be procured anywhere. This may safely be said, even though we have Professor Skeat's great and monumental edition on our shelves; for while the present one-volume edition can be purchased for three-and-six, the Oxford Chaucer costs nearly a five-pound note. Obviously, therefore, the two books cannot be compared.

The "Globe" edition of Chaucer is furnished with an excellent glossary, brief but sufficient footnotes to elucidate difficult passages; while the various introductions to the poems supply such information as is needful for the proper understanding of the text. In matters of textual criticism the present edition is particularly good, and contrasts very favourably with all previous editions, Dr. Skeat's work alone excepted.

*Religion and Conscience in Ancient Egypt.* By W. M. FLINDERS PETRIE, D.C.L., LL.D. London: Methuen and Co. 1898. Price 2s. 6d.

This brief but noteworthy book is based upon lectures delivered by Dr. Flinders Petrie, the famous Egyptologist, at University College, London. The worth of the volume is in exactly inverse ratio to its bulk. Dr. Petrie is not only an accomplished historian and careful thinker, but as a writer on matters connected with Egyptology his position is almost unique. Hence this book, unlike so many "popular" descriptions of Egypt and the great historical past of that wonderful land, comes with an authority that cannot be disputed. Dr. Petrie writes with absolutely firsthand knowledge. We have read every line of the book with profound interest, and a deep sense of its importance. The lectures are "sketches," the author tells us; but they are valuable as indicating lines of study; they help to show us religious thought in the actual making; and indirectly afford a striking lesson as to the secular development of religion and of conscience, not in Egypt alone, but elsewhere.

*The Ten Commandments.* By Rev. G. JACKSON. Oliphant, Anderson and Ferrier.

This volume contains a short course of sermons delivered on Sunday evenings to the congregation of the Methodist Mission, Edinburgh. They are tersely and effectively written; and those readers into whose hands the book falls will certainly not be slow to admit that the preacher has delivered his message with fulness of conviction.

*Footsteps of Proserpine, and other Verses and Interludes.* By HENRY NEWMAN HOWARD. London: Elliot Stock. 1897.

It is an easy matter to detect blemishes and find faults in every one of the many volumes of verse which are published in a year. In the case of this book we prefer to adopt a more pleasant course. Mr. Howard is an observer and a lover of Nature. Using the word in not too strict a sense, he is a pantheist. His observation and his love of Nature have made his poems charming. In the "Footsteps of Proserpine" especially his choice of epithets is particularly discriminating, and the chief objection we make to some of the poems is that the pains he has taken are sometimes too apparent. It is not that his work smells of the lamp exactly,

although in the case of the sonnets it does occasionally amount to this, but rather that he seems to place an epithet, or a simile, or perhaps a rhyme, in front of us with the air of one who says, "Is not that very good?" Generally, we admit, it is very good; but we regret the impression left upon our mind that our commendation has been wrung from us legally, when we are only too ready to offer it freely. Nor is this hypocritical upon our part, for, as it seems to us, it is the poet's function to present old truth in new guise spontaneously; and his merit will be best demonstrated if he induces us to believe that the discovery of fresh beauty is due to us and not to himself. For the rest, this same conscientiousness has enabled Mr. Howard to produce some very finished work. "To the Uranian Aphrodite" is throughout polished to the nail, the first sonnet being especially admirable. One appreciative reader, at least, will transfer this slender volume from the well-filled bookcase where he keeps his "review copies" to the emptier shelf which holds those books to which he turns for enjoyment in his quiet moments of leisure.

*The Growth of the Kingdom of God.* By S. R. GULICK, M.A., Missionary of the A.B.C.F.M. in Japan. Religious Tract Society, 1897.

As a book of religious statistics this volume is highly valuable. In general, it may be termed an apologetic for Christianity, based on a view of its varied forms of growth. The substance of the book was originally written for a Japanese audience; accordingly, its aim is strictly practical rather than theoretical. Whether Mr. Gulick is not confounding the *Kingdom of God* with the extension of Christian knowledge throughout the world is a matter we will not discuss here; but he does not appear to contemplate any interpretation of the word other than his own.

*Voices of the Day.* By C. S. WARDLE. London: Elliot Stock. 1897.

This is an unpretentious book by an ardent lover of Nature, who takes as his text Psa. xix., and preaches thereupon a pretty little sermon. It might appropriately be made a prize for school-children.

*The Life of F. R. Wynne, D.D., Bishop of Killaloe.* With selections from his unpublished sermons. By Rev. JAMES HANNAY. Hodder and Stoughton. 1897. Price 5s.

This book we warmly welcome. The late Bishop Wynne's life, though uneventful in the common acceptance of the term, was one of great charm and saintliness. Emphatically, the Bishop was a man who knew and valued no party save the *religious* party in the Church. Of such men we have too scant a store in these days, when party spirit runs high and all but threatens to overwhelm the religious life. This book, most carefully and wisely put together by Mr. Hannay, depicts very effectively the immense worth of a life passed in self-abnegations, and in endeavouring to impress upon others the Christ-Ideal in all its majesty and beauty.

*Fight and Win.* By Rev. G. EVERARD, M.A. Nisbet and Co. Price 1s.

Talks with lads about the battle of life, in Mr. Everard's well-known vein. Always good and interesting.

*The Starless Crown, and other Poems.* By J. L. H. London: Elliot Stock. 1897.

Love of children always inspires verse of a simple kind, and it is from this source that J. L. H. draws her inspiration. Quiet faith is the note of the first half of her modest little volume.

*The Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer.* By Rev. R. R. RESKER. London: Church of England Sunday-School Institute.

A book which is likely to be of permanent service to many parents and teachers. It is clear and simple in its treatment of themes which must inevitably present difficulty to young learners.