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decisively, that the "woman that was a sinner" is *not* to be identified with Mary Magdalene. And we think the Dean is quite justified in terming as "inappropriate" the attempt (on the part of artists, from time immemorial) to assign the emblem of the man to Matthew, and the lion to Mark.

We do not at all follow the Dean in his twenty-second chapter (on the sacrificial character of the Eucharist), nor do we think his interpretation of *τοῦτο ποιεῖτε* (in St. Luke) can be sustained.

The Fundamental Ideas of Christianity. By the late JOHN CAIRD, D.D., LL.D. In two volumes. Glasgow: Maclehoose and Sons.

These two volumes have a notable interest for all thoughtful students of the philosophy of religion. First there is the interest derived from the fact that these volumes are by Principal Caird—this alone would secure for them an audience fit, though few; then, secondly, they are in the nature of the late Principal's final words to us on the majestic verities he spent his life in endeavouring to illustrate and expound; lastly, they contain a memoir by his brother, the present Master of Balliol, Edward Caird, a man whom it would be impertinent to praise, and who has probably (next to Dr. J. H. Stirling) done more to vindicate the position of philosophy and theology in Britain than any man living.

We do not propose to criticise these volumes. They contain the Gifford Lectures (or, rather, some portion of those lectures) which Dr. Caird was called upon to deliver shortly before his death. What these lectures would have been, had Dr. Caird lived to complete them, can only be conjectured. They lack, obviously, something of the fine finish of form that we are accustomed to look for in everything Dr. Caird wrote. Yet we may rest confident that, in preparing these lectures for the press, everything that *fraterna pietas* could do has been duly done. Suffice it to say that (even after making the deductions that one is bound to make in the case of a posthumous work), for beauty of style, depth and tenderness of thought, and clearness of spiritual vision, these volumes must rank among the masterpieces of modern scientific theology.

E. H. B.

The Month.

THE 19th of May will, no doubt, rank henceforward among red-letter days in the calendar of Imperialism. The announcement that Mafeking, after a siege of protracted duration, and against besetting (and, indeed, overwhelming) odds, had been relieved, was indeed good news. The relief of the brave little garrison meant also the relief of nearly the entire English-speaking race.

"It never rains but it pours," says an old proverb. Certainly ever since Lord Roberts renewed operations in the Free State, after his enforced halt at Bloemfontein, there has scarcely been a morning without an account of "something attempted, something done"—thanks to the valour and skill of British troops—towards accomplishing the object in view, namely, the clear assertion of the paramountcy of England in South Africa, now and for all time. From every part comes news of small but substantial gains.

MAY MEETINGS.

The May meetings have come and gone. Take it all in all, they were very successful—and this despite of the (apparently) all-absorbing interest of the Transvaal War. We note the following points :

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The substance of the President's speech in Exeter Hall (May 1) was a call for an increase in the Society's income of £50,000.

The annual sermon this year, at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, was by Bishop Johnson, the first native Christian who has had the honour of preaching the annual sermon for the Society. The attendance was not only large, but representative.

The statistics of the Missions for the year 1899-1900 are as follows : Stations, 520. European missionaries : Ordained, 418 ; lay, 140 ; wives, 341 ; ladies, 336—total, 1,235. Native clergy, 358. Native lay teachers, 6,459. Native Christian adherents (including catechumens), 268,240. Native communicants, 71,051. Baptisms during the year, 19,161. Schools, 2,144. Scholars, 104,388. Medical work : Beds, 1,484 ; in-patients, 11,457 ; visits of out-patients, 630,356. The figures are approximate, as no returns have been received from some of the Missions.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting was held under the presidency of Sir J. W. Pease, M.P. (Vice-President), who rightly called attention to the singular catholicity of this great Society. The annual report shows that the issues of the Society for the past year had been as follows : Bibles, 843,990 ; Testaments, 1,265,990 ; portions, 2,937,812—total, 5,047,792. This result had surpassed last year's by no fewer than 568,353 copies. The Society had supported in round figures an average number of 770 colporteurs at work for the whole twelve months—an increase of 45 on the number for 1898—and they sold above 1,650,000 copies of Holy Scripture. Among British troops embarking for South Africa 126,000 Gospels and Testaments have been distributed. The payments for the year have been : For translating, revising, printing and binding Scriptures, £113,076 15s. 11d. ; for grants, home and foreign agencies, colportage, depots, and all other charges, £122,133 17s. 8d.—total payments, £235,210 13s. 7d. The receipts for the year have been as follows : New income, £126,853 10s. 5d. ; receipts from sales, £84,614 17s. 11d.—total receipts, £211,468 8s. 4d. This shows a *deficit* on the year's working of £23,742 5s. 3d.

C.P.A.—The Church Pastoral Aid Society held its 65th anniversary on May 2, under the presidency of Mr. J. H. Buxton. The report shows that the Society at present remains responsible for 925 grants, involving a direct expenditure of £56,450. This is the largest number of grants ever voted in the Society's history. Despite the war, the committee were able to report a total income of £64,633, or £4,449 in advance of last year. "We aspire," said the report, "to be, in an increasing measure, a handmaid of Evangelical truth in our National Church. The fact that nearly six million souls, one-fifth of the population of the country, are to be found in the parishes helped by the Society brings home to all the conviction that a grand field is open for increased exertions." The annual sermon for the C.P.A. was preached by the Bishop of Sodor and Man.

S.P.G.—The anniversary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel was celebrated with the usual service at St. Paul's Cathedral, and meeting at St. James's Hall. The preacher this year was the Bishop of St. Albans. The Report presented at the annual meeting stated that the

gross income was £136,846, an increase of £4,490. The Archbishop of Canterbury, who presided, said that the report seemed to him to be an encouragement for the future. The whole Church was awakening to the great task—they were beginning to put to their consciences the words with which Christ sent forth His Apostles just before He left the earth—the great task for which the Church existed.

The meeting in the Church Room, St. Paul's, Onslow Square, of the Barbican Mission to the Jews was in every way encouraging. The President, Prebendary Webb-Peploe, was in the chair, and was supported by Bishop Barry, Dr. R. N. Cust, and others.

The Rev. Dr. Chavasse, late Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, was consecrated, on May 3, in York Cathedral, Bishop of Liverpool, in succession to Dr. Ryle, the first Bishop of the new see. An early celebration of the Communion preceded the Consecration Service. Soon after ten o'clock the cathedral began to fill. A special train from Liverpool brought a large number of clergymen and laymen to witness the ceremony. The consecration took place in the nave of the cathedral. Members of both Houses of Convocation and the House of Laymen attended officially, and a large procession of clergymen and choristers preceded the Northern Primate and the Bishops of the Northern Province from the west end, singing, "The God of Abraham praise." The Archbishop of York commenced the Communion Office, taking the Eastward position, the Bishops of Oxford and Durham reading the Epistle and Gospel respectively. The Rev. Professor Moule, D.D., preached the sermon, taking his text from Acts xxiii. 11.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, presiding over a meeting of the National Society, held in the Cathedral Library at Canterbury, said the new system of secondary education would require very careful watching to see that the Church did not lose her proper position. They would have to fight hard to secure that there should be real religious instruction. The Dean of Canterbury said that if England did not take up the cause of education in this spirit, she would fall behind the example of almost every great nation. He also pointed to the immense decrease in the prison population since the Education Act of 1870.

On May 1 the Archbishops of Canterbury and York delivered their long-expected opinion on the Reservation question. The following are the main points of the Archbishop of Canterbury's decision:

1. Every national Church has authority to change and abolish "Catholic" ceremonies.
2. Our 28th Article condemns Reservation altogether.
3. External gestures are the very stronghold of superstitious doctrines.
4. Reservation led to gross abuses which our Church felt bound to stop.
5. The alleged necessity of the practice is not made out, for Holy Communion is not a magical charm to be administered to those incapable of following the minimum service of consecration, and therefore incapable of intelligently receiving at all; nor is it required by primitive custom that the clergy must observe a strict fast until late in the day with a view to private consecration.
6. All Reservation is, under the present law, illegal.

The Archbishop of York coincided, but delivered a separate decision on certain disputed points submitted to him.

The Boyle Lectures for 1900 will be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Robertson, Principal of King's College, at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, on Sunday, May 6, and the seven succeeding Sundays, excepting June 3 and June 10 (Whit Sunday and Trinity Sunday), at 4 p.m. The subject is "Christ as a Moral Teacher." The course is intended as a contribution to Christian Ethics.

Appeals for war funds have had a disastrous effect upon the influx of subscriptions for the restoration of Peterborough Cathedral. At a recent meeting of the Restoration Committee, it was reported that since the last meeting only £135 had been received. When this amount had been expended the work would be brought to a standstill—a step the committee hoped might be prevented by the receipt of further funds.

St. Paul's Cathedral has been enriched by two new stained-glass windows—one in the north transept, presented by the late Duke of Westminster (by whom the companion window also in the south transept was given), and one in the east end of the north choir aisle, the gift of Lady Carnarvon, in memory of her husband.

New statues of the Apostles are to be placed in the roof of St. Paul's Cathedral, owing to the disintegrating elements of the City's atmosphere.

BEQUESTS.—Amongst the charitable bequests of Mrs. Leigh, of Halifax, are the following: Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, £5,000; C.M.S., Bible Society, C.P.A.S., C. and C.C.S., L.C.M., P.R.S., and Army Scripture Readers' Society, £2,000 each; Ragged School Union, £1,000; Dr. Barnardo's Homes, I.C.M., Missions to Seamen, Thames Church Mission, £500 each.

The Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, which has just been keeping its anniversary, was originated as long ago as the middle of the seventeenth century, and incorporated in 1678. Last year it awarded 1,689 pensions and grants to clergy and their families.

It is stated by the Bishop of Southwark that out of the £130,000 required for his new South London see, over a fifth, in sums varying from £5,000 to £100, has already been received.



Obituary.

BY the death of Prebendary Stanley Leathes, at the age of seventy, not only does the professorial staff of King's College, London, lose one of its most brilliant ornaments, but Hebrew scholarship at large is left much the poorer. The *Times* devotes considerable space to a record of his great learning and valuable services in the field of Old Testament criticism. The late Professor, who belonged to the conservative school of Bible criticism, was a member of the Old Testament Revision Committee. He was the author of several exegetical and critical works, among them a volume, which appeared a few years ago, entitled "The Law in the Prophets." The Professor was the author also of a Hebrew Grammar. Dr. Leathes was for some time a valued contributor to the pages of the *CHURCHMAN*.