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The English Dioceses. By the Rev. GEOFFREY HILL. Elliot Stock. Pp. 414.

The outlines of ecclesiastical history in the British Islands are strongly illustrated by the changes in diocesan organization. All the chapters are interesting, particularly perhaps, just now, that on suffragan bishoprics. The book is a mine of ecclesiastical information.

The Epistles of the New Testament. By Dr. HAYMAN. A. and C. Black. Pp. 563. Price 3s. 6d.

The learned writer has translated the Epistles of the New Testament into popular and current idiom. On one page he has printed the authorized version, and on the other the modern equivalent. The book will probably be found very serviceable and instructive for family class notices.

The Beautiful Lie of Rome. By R. LE GALLIENNE. Simpkin, Marshall. Price 1s.

[A reprint of the last edition of this valuable work in its unabridged form.]

A very striking indictment of the Roman Catholic Church, by a well-known literary man.



The Month.

THE outlook in China generally is grave indeed. The news from Peking is appalling, for it is not at all improbable, despite rumours to the contrary, that every European there has been cruelly done to death. So much for the schemes of political and terrestrial aggrandizement in which "occidentals" have been indulging during the past half decade! One factor they have consistently left out of their busy calculations—China herself. And they profess themselves surprised and horrified because the "Dragon," after being harried and insulted in innumerable ways, turns round and savagely rends its foes. Yet the result is, after all, but the natural consequence of the gold-lust which seems to infect the white races of to-day. One of the worst signs of all is the universal shriek on the part of the newspapers for a bloody vengeance. The action of the newspapers in stirring up this anti-Christian spirit is most reprehensible. Punishment ought to be meted out, of course, to those who are at the bottom of this bad business; but what is now being asked for is something more than this. We trust, however, that the British Government will, while acting promptly, countenance no such acts of reprisal as have been suggested. Two blacks do not make one white.

The news from South Africa is disappointing. We have now 200,000 men locked up there; the Boer forces cannot exceed 20,000 at the most, yet we seem unable to checkmate them. De Wet, with his little army of irregulars, is here, there, and everywhere, and has completely foiled, so far, every effort to catch him.

A splendid little piece of work has been accomplished in West Africa. Colonel Willcocks has been able to relieve Kumasi, and the Governor, Sir F. Hodgson, and his wife, who broke out of the beleaguered city a short while ago, have reached Cape Coast Castle.

Suffragan-Bishop Earle has been appointed to the Deanery of Exeter in succession to the late Dean Cowie. The Dean-designate is seventy-two years of age. The post was refused by Professor Sanday, to whom Lord Salisbury (so we understand) first offered it.

In the Lords, on July 16, there was an interesting discussion on the Church crisis, introduced by Lord Portsmouth calling attention to the continued lawlessness in the Church of England, and asking the Prime Minister whether he was prepared to give effect to the resolution of the House of Commons passed on May 10, 1899. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Cranbrook, Lord Salisbury, Lord Halifax, and the Bishop of Winchester addressed the House on the subject. The Archbishop pleaded for "more time" for the Bishops, and he was supported by the Prime Minister, who earnestly deprecated any resort to legal procedure to compel the obedience of recalcitrant clergy to the law. This strikes us as a somewhat peculiar line to take; we doubt if it will appeal to the electors in the coming elections.

Mr. Edwin Freshfield, as chairman of the City Churches Preservation Society, has issued a memorandum in regard to the Bill for amending the Union of Benefices Act, 1860, which has now passed the third reading in the House of Lords. He points out what has been the effect of the Act in the City. Of the seventy-four churches left after the fire, three were pulled down under special Acts of Parliament, twenty-one have been pulled down under the Union of Benefices Act, and one has been granted to the Welsh congregation in London. As far as Mr. Freshfield knows, every union of benefices under this Act, with one exception, has been accompanied by the destruction of a church. On the question of extending the Act to England generally, Mr. Freshfield urges that there is no analogy between the City and the country, where, as a rule, the sites of the churches would hardly be worth the cost of demolishing the fabrics. The condition of the country clergy is much in need of consideration, and Mr. Freshfield suggests that what is wanted could be arrived at by an extension of the Pluralities Act.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY. — On Thursday afternoon, July 12, a special meeting of the committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held to welcome the new President, the Marquis of Northampton. The chairman of the committee, Mr. Caleb R. Kemp, presided.

APPEALS AND BEQUESTS.

The Dean of York writes to the *Times* in reference to the organ in York Minster: "Some time ago it was found necessary to consult Sir Walter Parratt, organist to the Queen, the choirmaster of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, who made an examination of the instrument. He pronounced it to be in 'a thoroughly unsound condition,' and deprecated any money being laid out in partial repair. The organ has, however, so rapidly deteriorated during the last few weeks that it has been found necessary to expend £50 to render it available for the daily services. But further dilapidations have already occurred, and without entire reconstruction the final collapse of the instrument cannot long be delayed. I venture, therefore, to appeal to all to assist me to raise the necessary sum of £4,000 for the restoration of this fine organ, in order to maintain the beauty of the services in one of the grandest cathedral churches in England. A committee has been formed to assist me to collect sums, both large and small, throughout the three Ridings of Yorkshire, and all contributions will be acknowledged by the hon. secretary, the Chapter Clerk, York."

Under the will of the late Miss Emily Frances Dalton, of Leicester, who died on January 3, leaving property of the value of £80,828, a large number of charities and religious societies benefit. Amongst the latter are the following: Leicester Church Extension Society, £2,000; Leicester Lay Agency and Scripture Readers' Society, £200; Church Missionary Society, £500; Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, £500; British and Foreign Bible Society, £500; Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, £5,000; National Lifeboat Institution, £3,000; Dr. Barnardo's Homes for Destitute Children, £1,000; and the Gordon Boys' Home, West End, Chobham, £10,000. Subject to legacies to executors and others amounting to £1,510, the residue of the property was left to the Gordon Boys' Home.

An appeal is being made on behalf of the work of the London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews, to which we call the kind attention of our readers. The Society supports no fewer than fifty missionary stations and employs upwards of 220 missionary agents. Funds are urgently needed to clear off present liabilities, owing to past progress, and to enable the Society to enter open doors and to send missionaries to preach the Gospel of Christ to Israel, "now numbering eleven millions." Remittances for these objects may be sent to the Society's secretary, the Rev. W. T. Gidney, 16, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.

The *Mission World* publishes a return of the income for the past year of the various missionary societies. The following are some of the totals, exclusive of Bible, tract, school, and similar societies: Church Missionary Society (including £80,619 of centenary fund), £404,905; Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, £136,846; London Missionary Society, £157,910; Wesleyan Missionary Society, £133,787; China Inland Mission, £53,197; Moravian Missions (whole income, £79,940), British contribution, £15,090; Church of Scotland Foreign Mission, including Women's Missions, Jews, Colonial, etc., £58,696; Free Church of Scotland Foreign Mission, including Women's Missions, Jews, Colonial, etc., £129,015; Universities Mission, £37,549; London Society for Missions to the Jews, £40,342; British Society for Missions to the Jews, £6,430; Mildmay Jewish Mission, £8,800; Barbican Jewish Mission (including £3,500 special building fund), £4,846; "Regions Beyond" Missionary Union, £23,640; Church of England Zenana Missionary Society, £67,669; Zenana Bible and Medical Mission, £22,282.

The Joint Committee of Lords and Commons appointed to consider the working of Queen Anne's Bounty Board has now been constituted as follows: Lord Cross, the Bishop of London, Lord Aberdeen, Lord Ashcombe, Lord Barnard, Mr. F. D. Smith, Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Humphreys Owen, Mr. Stevenson, and Sir William Anson.

The Dean of Rochester has again attacked the English Church Union in the columns of the *Times*. He says, and justly: "It does not represent the English Church, and it does not promote union." Obedience to the powers that be is, as the Dean remarks, the first essential of fruitful union.

At the annual meeting of the Anglo-Continental Society, held in the Church House last week, the Rev. H. J. White, the secretary, reported that some statistics relating to the strength of the Old Catholics had at last become available. In Germany there were 90 churches or communities, with 60 clergy and about 60,000 members; and in Switzerland 40 parishes, 58 clergy, and 50,000 members. In Austria there had been at the end of last year 8 churches, besides three in course of erection, with 12 clergy and 15,500 members, of whom 1,600 had joined during the year, and by the middle of May over 1,000 more had joined.

The trustees of Christ Church, Chislehurst, have offered the living, vacant by the death of the Rev. W. Fleming, to the Rev. W. E. Burroughs, central secretary of the Church Missionary Society, who has accepted the same. Mr. Burroughs will resign his present post as soon as adequate arrangements can be made for the transference of his duties.

“The Australian Commonwealth Bill has received the Queen’s assent, and it is announced that the first Governor is to be Lord Hopetoun, who acted as Governor of Victoria some few years ago. Lord Hopetoun’s knowledge of Australia and his tact and personal popularity warrant the hope that a wise selection has been made for the high office of Governor of the newest of the nations of the world. He will have need of tact and wisdom, for, though union has been attained, there still remain delicate susceptibilities, to use no stronger term. A certain jealousy—which unfortunately is not without its counterpart in the ecclesiastical sphere, as we learn from our Australian correspondent to-day—exists between the different colonies, and in particular between New South Wales and Victoria, as to the seat of Government, and a temporary compromise has been arranged by which the Governor is to reside at Sydney, whilst, under the new constitution, the Federal Parliament will sit at Melbourne until the future capital is selected. That capital, it is laid down, is to be situated in New South Wales, but is not to be Sydney, or within a hundred miles of Sydney. Union, we hope, will in time allay susceptibilities, as well ecclesiastical as civil.”—*Guardian*.

LITERARY NOTES.

We understand that the publication of the *Story of Dr. Pusey’s Life* by Messrs. Longman has been postponed until the autumn.

The Religious Tract Society have undertaken, at the request of the Publication Committee of the Ecumenical Conference of Foreign Missions, to publish the official report of the great meetings held in New York from April 21 to May 2, 1900.

“*The Dictionary of National Biography*, now complete, has afforded a remarkable instance of a gigantic literary undertaking carried out with ideal punctuality and uninterrupted success. The task which Mr. Leslie Stephen began and Mr. Sidney Lee continued was no light one, and it was only rendered possible by the liberality of the publisher (Mr. Smith, of the firm of Messrs. Smith and Elder), who well knew that such a work could never be anything but unremunerative, and that on a large scale. To control an army of contributors, to insure scrupulous accuracy, to carry out the rule of ‘no flowers,’ and to bring out a volume quarterly for sixteen years without a hitch—this is a great achievement, and well deserves the recognition which it has obtained. The dictionary will long remain a monument of English scholarship, as it is a thesaurus of the memories of all Englishmen who have any title to fame. We are glad to remember that, though the Dictionary of Biography may be the greatest, it is not the only disinterested literary undertaking which is being conducted on a large scale. The Oxford ‘Dictionary of the English Lan-

guage' is almost equally deserving of the epithet 'prodigious'; and the 'Victoria County History of England,' of which we gave a preliminary notice a few weeks ago, will aim at doing for English archæology and topography what its predecessors have done and are doing for English (or must we say British?) biography and for the English language."—*Guardian.*

NEW BOOKS, ETC.

New Testament Handbooks: (1) *The Synoptic Gospels.* By C. LOVELL CARY. (2) *The Epistles of Paul the Apostle.* By JAMES DRUMMOND, M.A., LL.D., Litt.D. Price 7s. 6d. each. Putnam's Sons.

Church Problems: A View of Modern Anglicanism. By various writers. Edited by the Rev. H. H. HENSON. Price 12s. net. London: J. Murray.

Christianity and Paganism (in the fourth and fifth centuries). By E. N. BENNETT, M.A. Price 2s. 6d. net. London: Rivingtons.

The "Overland" to China. By A. R. COLQUHOUN. Price 16s. Harper Bros.

First Principles. By HERBERT SPENCER. Sixth edition, finally revised. Price 16s. Williams and Norgate.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Translated, with a brief analysis, by the Rev. W. G. RUTHERFORD, LL.D. Price 3s. Macmillan.

The Life of Lives: being further Studies in the Life of Christ. By Dean FARRAR. Price 16s. Cassell and Co.

