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in person the Wesleyan Conference at Bristol. Hitherto such greetings have been by letter only, but this personal visit was a novel and welcome change. The Bishop's words, too, were of the heartiest possible kind. It was he himself that suggested coming to "hold out to them in the very heartiest and most cordial way the right hand of Christian fellowship." An interesting reference was made to the way in which the Bishop's great predecessor dealt with John Wesley, and the subject of Christian unity was naturally touched upon with great point and appropriateness :

"He trusted that in their deliberations, as in their prayers, they would have kindly regard to their external relations with the Church of England. Who were the real heirs? who would enter upon the inheritance if there was such strife amongst their denominations and Christian Churches that real injury and damage was done to one side or the other? There are two heirs, and only two—atheism and superstition. He never forgot those two tremendous dangers for the realm of England when he was considering episcopal duties, privileges, and actions."

Nothing could be truer or better timed. The Bishop's action has, of course, incurred the disapproval of the *Church Times*, but the great majority of Churchmen fully realize that the Bishop did the very best service to that cause of Christian truth and unity for which we daily pray. With no sacrifice of principle, Dr. Browne showed that true spirit of large-hearted love and practical wisdom by means of which alone our religious difficulties should be approached and our problems considered.

Notices of Books.

Village Sermons. Second Series. By the late F. J. A. HORT, D.D.
London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd. Price 6s.

It is difficult for many people to associate village preaching with the great Cambridge scholar to whom the world of theological learning owes so much, and yet we have here a second series of sermons preached in the little village where Dr. Hort was in charge for so many years. We have in them a striking illustration of the simplicity of a profound mind. There are very few words or statements which could not be perfectly understood and clearly followed by any village congregation. The characteristic of all the sermons is patient instruction. The teaching is given with great distinctness and applied with earnest faithfulness. Young preachers could hardly do better than study these sermons in order to know "how to do it." The subjects are, perhaps, too uniformly on the practical side to present a complete view of pastoral preaching, and we

should have liked a more definite distinction between Christians and non-Christians—a difference as certain and as greatly needing emphasis in villages as elsewhere. But these things apart, we welcome this new addition to the volumes of Dr. Hort's works.

The Titles of the Psalms: Their Nature and Meaning Explained. By JAMES WILLIAM THIRTLE. Second Edition. London: Henry Frowde. Price 6s. net.

Everyone knows the difficulties associated with the titles of the Psalms. The words themselves are often obscure in the extreme, and the historical allusions referred to are frequently very difficult of interpretation. These difficulties date back from the time of the LXX. Version, so that the key to the meaning must have been lost very early. Mr. Thirtle claims to have discovered this key, and the present book is the statement of his position, accompanied by elaborate arguments and proofs. He calls attention to the Psalm in Habakkuk iii. in which the phrase, "To the chief musician on my stringed instrument," is at the foot of the Psalm, instead of at the head, as in the Book of Psalms. From this Mr. Thirtle argues that the literary character of the Psalms is stated at the commencement, while the musical references are always to be found at the end. He thereupon applies this theory to the whole Book of the Psalms, with some remarkably interesting, and even astonishing results. For the details of the working out of the theory we must refer our readers to the book. Most assuredly many of the Psalms at once gain in intelligibility and spiritual helpfulness by the application of the author's principle, though whether this alone is a sufficient reason for adopting it remains a matter of discussion. As to the general position, we cannot help hesitating before accepting it, for the simple reason that we have nothing but internal evidence on which to rely. There is not the slightest objective evidence in the form of tradition or palæography, and it is certainly difficult to realize that the positions of the psalm titles could have been changed at so early a date that all traces had been practically lost by the time the LXX. Version was made. The great antiquity and the absolute uniformity of the present titles according to Hebrew and LXX. manuscripts are very strong arguments in their favour. How the changes urged by Mr. Thirtle could have been made so early and, as it would appear, so quickly, in the course of Jewish history, is a very real difficulty, and one that ought to be faced by the author in a subsequent edition of his book. If his view should prove correct, it is easy to see what a powerful argument it affords for the traditional view of the Old Testament. But those who are, like ourselves, strongly opposed to the trend of modern Higher Criticism, should, if possible, be the slowest to accept this theory without further and, as we cannot help feeling, more adequate evidence. We should much like to see the matter dealt with by competent critics, and the theory subjected to severe critical examination. Meanwhile we welcome Mr. Thirtle's book as an able and effective presentation of a fascinating subject, and as a distinctly original contribution

to one of the weightiest problems connected with the Old Testament. Even though we cannot yet see our way to accept the author's position, we are distinctly impressed by his careful scholarship, earnest spirit, modest tone, and suggestive treatment of the entire subject.

On Theological, Biblical, and Other Subjects. By ROBERT FLINT, D.D. London: William Blackwood and Sons. Price 7s. 6d. net.

A collection of miscellaneous essays with a long and not too interesting title, and yet, coming from one of the greatest thinkers in Scotland, it is sure of a respectful welcome. Chapter I., which is the longest of the whole book, gives some admirable advice to theological students on various aspects of the life and work of the Christian ministry, though we are unable to accept *in toto* Dr. Flint's position on the authority and inspiration of the Bible. Other subjects discussed in these pages are: "The Book of Amos," "The Theology of St. James and of St. Peter," "The Kingdom of God," "The Life and Character of Socrates," and "The Idea of God in the Bible, in the Religion of Ancient Egypt, and in Chinese Thought." Students and ministers will find not a little virile and suggestive thought in these pages.

The Second Epistle to Timothy: Short Devotional Studies on the Dying Letter of St. Paul. By H. C. G. MOULE, D.D., Bishop of Durham. A Devotional Commentary. London: Religious Tract Society. Price 2s.

The first volume of a new devotional commentary on Holy Scripture, and a very worthy commencement it makes. Critical commentaries abound, and now the Religious Tract Society is trying to supply what is truly "a felt need" in the way of a definitely devotional and personal commentary which, while always based upon scholarship and criticism, should nevertheless touch the earnest reader's conscience and life. This volume is, indeed, truly devotional, and the reader is led along the pathway of meditation as perhaps only Bishop Moule can lead him. The heart and conscience are searched, cheered, instructed, guided, and inspired on almost every page. The text and a fresh and often felicitous translation are given at the head of each chapter; the type is good, and the volume is tastefully produced. Altogether, this new series starts well, and if later volumes are at all of the same quality the success of this venture is assured.

The Bible and Babylon: Their Relationship in the History of Culture. By EDUARD KÖNIG, D.D. Translated from the tenth German Edition, with additional Notes by the Author and by the Translator, the Rev. W. TURNBULL PILTER. With a Preface by the Very Rev. HENRY WACE, D.D. London: Religious Tract Society. Price 2s.

Professor Frederick Delitzsch's well-known lecture delivered in 1902 on "Babylon and the Bible" has given rise to a great and even fierce controversy in Germany, and foremost among the antagonists of Delitzsch is Professor Eduard König, of Bonn, whose little book is here presented in English dress, with a preface by the Dean of Canterbury. Dr. König

very effectively exposes the bias, and even unfairness, of Delitzsch's statements, while at the same time he brings before us the true relation of the Bible to Babylonish life and religion. After an introductory chapter, we are introduced to an inquiry on the relative value and trustworthiness of the cuneiform inscriptions and of the Old Testament, in which the authority of the latter is convincingly proved. The relation of Babylonian religion to that of the Hebrews is then dealt with, and the peculiar characteristics of the religion of Israel are clearly and ably shown. Dr. König vindicates the Old Testament at all the points discussed, and the conclusion is drawn that the Old Testament religion is unique because of its supernatural origin. Some appendices by the translator close this little volume, which should be studied carefully by all who wish to be fully informed as to one of the latest attacks on the uniqueness of the Old Testament as a revelation from God. As the Dean of Canterbury truly says, this short treatise "will supply an opportune warning against the hasty acceptance of a line of thought which has of late been vehemently urged in Germany, and has found too much countenance among some scholars in this country." The entire preface by Dr. Wace is well worth pondering. The translator's work seems to have been well done, and the English reads clearly and well. We warmly recommend this book, and are glad that the Religious Tract Society has made it available for English readers.

My Brethren and Companions. By H. C. G. MOULE, D.D., Bishop of Durham. London: James Nisbet and Co., Ltd. Price 3s. 6d. net.

This volume worthily opens a new series entitled "The Church Pulpit Library," and we welcome with all possible heartiness another book by the Bishop of Durham. Most of these sermons were preached on special occasions, and it goes without saying that they are full of those qualities which we have long learned to value from Dr. Moule. The first sermon, which gives the title to the book, preached in the Chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge, is especially beautiful in its combination of personal allusions with the spiritual message to the audience. Two able and forceful sermons on "The Ministry of Preaching" are included, and a very striking and powerful sermon preached in connection with the Centenary of the Bible Society, but all the sermons will well repay careful study and personal application. The appearance of the volume, together with the photogravure portrait, is distinctly attractive, though in these days of cheapness the price strikes us as somewhat high for the size of the volume.

Sermons at Southwark. By EDWARD STUART TALBOT, D.D., Bishop of Southwark. London: James Nisbet and Co., Ltd. The Church Pulpit Library. Price 3s. 6d. net.

Another volume in the above series. The sermons were for the most part preached on special occasions, and necessarily partake of the character of the circumstances which called them forth. They are marked by all Bishop Talbot's well-known thoughtfulness and earnestness of spirit and his broad outlook on social and national affairs, but they strike us as cast

too uniformly in abstract and almost philosophical language to be of very general use and helpfulness. They will appeal only to a very limited class of readers. The spiritual and experimental elements of true preaching are largely wanting, and this gives the sermons something of the character of essays. The special occasions may to some extent account for this uniform tone and attitude. One of the best sermons is that preached in connection with the Centenary of the Bible Society and entitled "The Wonder of the Bible."

How Christ Saves Us; or, The Gospel of the Atonement. By Rev. JAMES M. WILSON, D.D. London: Macmillan and Co. Price 6d.

A cheap edition of Canon Wilson's "Hulsean Lectures on the Gospel of the Atonement." While these chapters are marked by all the author's intense moral earnestness, ample scholarship, and clear, forceful statement, we are sorry we cannot accept the book as in any sense an adequate statement of "How Christ saves us." In proof of this we simply call attention to a few extracts. "The Blood of Christ means the Life of Christ, not His Death" (p. 38). "In it" (that is, in the Sacrifice of the Death of Christ) "there is no thought of substitution or expiation, which have so closely attached themselves to the word 'sacrifice'" (p. 46). "Let us say boldly that the Incarnation, that is, the Life and Death of the Christ . . . is the identification of the human and the divine Life. This identification is the Atonement. There is no other" (p. 63). "Without any thought of payment or expiation . . . the Death on the Cross demonstrated that human and divine knew but one and the same law of life and being" (p. 78). It must be obvious to every reader of the New Testament that these statements entirely fail to express some of the deepest as well as some of the plainest elements of New Testament teaching on the Atonement. Dr. Wilson's view is but one aspect, and that not the central one, of the teaching of Holy Scripture, nor is it that view of the Atonement which constitutes it a *gospel*—that is, good news for lost sinners. The author's doctrine of sin must be radically altered before he can give us a true presentation of the New Testament doctrine of salvation.

Bishop Gore and the Catholic Claims. By DOM JOHN CHAPMAN, O.S.B. London: Longmans, Green and Co. Price 6d. net, paper; 1s. net, cloth.

It was hardly to be expected that the cheap edition of Bishop Gore's "Roman Catholic Claims" would be left unanswered by the Roman Catholics, and so, with commendable promptitude, we have the above work by a well-known pervert from the English Church. The great interest to us lies in the fact that it is a searching examination of a book written by a leader of a school of thought in the Church of England which opposes Rome on very different grounds from those urged by the great Anglicans of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. We ourselves felt, in reading Bishop Gore's work, that he had several weak places in his armour, and we are not surprised that Dom Chapman has discovered them. This is especially evident in the discussions on the "Bible in the

Church" and on "Ministerial Succession." It is perfectly clear that from Bishop Gore's main premisses the Church of England cannot be logically defended, and this his Roman antagonist is quick to see. It is only when we take up the unassailable position assumed by our Reformers that we have any satisfactory and convincing basis of opposition to Rome. A theory which practically co-ordinates the Bible and tradition, and insists upon a ministerial succession as the only guaranteed channel of grace plays at once into the hands of Rome. Such weapons are powerless against her. The attitude of the Thirty-Nine Articles is the only effective position for English Churchmen in opposition to Rome, and as long as we abide there we are impregnable. This book is characterized by no little ability and freshness of statement, but it must also be confessed that there is not a little special pleading. As is usual with Roman controversialists, the readings of history are almost ludicrous in their inaccuracy and avoidance of awkward facts. The author's way of swiftly skating over thin ice is truly diverting to witness. Dom Chapman claims to write with moderation, though his characteristic Roman attitude of superiority is plainly seen in the prefatory letter addressed to Bishop Gore. But when he came to write about the Reformation it was impossible for him to retain even his self-imposed limits of moderation, for he speaks in one sentence of those who fought against the Roman Church in the sixteenth century as "the immoral Luther, the cruel Calvin, the blasphemous Zwingli, the adulterous Beza, the lying and cowardly Cranmer, Henry, model of husbands, the virgin Elizabeth, and such like" (p. 123). On the same page the quiet ignoring of patent facts of history during the last three hundred years would be distinctly amusing, if the subject were not so serious. It only shows too plainly that next to the Bible the greatest weapon Rome has to fear is history.

Aids to Belief in the Miracles and Divinity of Christ. By W. L. PAIGE Cox. With a Prefatory Note by the LORD BISHOP OF CHESTER. London: Elliot Stock. Price 2s. 6d. net.

A singularly clear and helpful little book, which thoroughly deserves the warm praise of the Bishop of Chester in introducing it. In a fresh and profitable way the author discusses the possibility of miracles, the reliability of the Gospels, belief in the deity of our Lord and in the Trinity. Clergymen may here derive hints as to the best mode of presenting these subjects to their people, while its circulation among thoughtful laymen cannot but help to confirm their faith in the impregnable rock of Christ and Christianity.

Gleanings from a Parson's Diary. By Rev. WILLIAM BURNET. With a Preface by the Venerable ARCHDEACON OF LONDON. London: Elliot Stock. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Twelve chatty chapters on various aspects of ministerial life in town and country. The author is well known to our readers, and this record of his varied experiences will be read with interest and profit. A chapter on "Voice Troubles, and how to Overcome Them" is not the least useful in this bright little book.

The Truth of Christianity. Compiled from Various Sources by Lieut.-Colonel W. H. TURTON, D.S.O., Royal Engineers. Fifth Edition. London: Wells Gardner, Darton and Co., Ltd. Price 2s. 6d. net.

We have great pleasure in calling attention to this admirable manual of Christian evidences which now appears deservedly in its fifth edition. The author modestly speaks of it as "compiled from various sources," and though this is doubtless true, the compiler has done his work exceedingly well. It is just the book to put into the hands of inquirers and the young people of our Churches, as well as to lend to thoughtful men and women. It would also make a good text-book for classes in Christian evidences.

Expositions of Holy Scripture: Isaiah, Chapters I.-XLVIII. By ALEXANDER MACLAREN. London: Hodder and Stoughton. Price 7s. 6d.

This is the second volume of the uniform series of Dr. Maclaren's Expositions and Sermons. It covers the first forty-eight chapters of Isaiah. It is far too late in the day, and indeed quite superfluous, to praise Dr. Maclaren's work, and yet there may be some of our readers who have still the joy of making the acquaintance of one of the greatest expository preachers of this or any other age. Dr. Maclaren possesses an almost unique combination of gifts: a well-equipped scholarship, an unerring insight into the meaning of texts and passages, a remarkable felicity of expression, a striking aptness of illustration, a rich spiritual experience, and, above all, a close adherence and personal loyalty to the great fundamental realities of the Gospel. He is essentially a preacher to preachers, and these discourses should be studied closely by all who wish to make themselves thoroughly efficient in the work of expository preaching. To all who love the word of God, and desire to know it still better, this volume will soon become a treasured friend.

Village Life in Palestine. New Edition, revised and enlarged. By Rev. G. ROBINSON LEES. London: Longmans, Green and Co. Price 8s. 6d. net.

A new edition, revised and enlarged, of a very useful book. The author spent several years in Palestine, and has put his intimate knowledge to good account. Bible students will find quite a number of telling illustrations and explanations in these pages. A large number of photographs add to the value of a distinctly fresh and suggestive little work.

Empire Builders. By Various Writers. London: Church Missionary Society. Price 1s. 6d.

Eighteen chapters of very interesting reading, descriptive of various aspects of missionary work. They are nearly all written by missionaries in the field, who give their own personal experiences. It will make a splendid book for elder boys and youths, and cannot fail to create in them an interest in missionary work. There are a number of illustrations. Missionary speakers should also have an eye to this volume, for they will find plenty in it of telling incidents.

Religion in Japan. By GEORGE A. COBBOLD, B.A. London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. Price 1s. 6d.

The present is a very appropriate time for the publication of this book, which deals with the three great systems of religion now at work in Japan. In telling the story of Christianity, the author naturally gives most attention to Anglican missions, so that his work would need supplementing from other sources if a full and complete idea of missionary work in Japan is to be obtained. The book may be heartily commended to all students of missionary work as a helpful guide to further knowledge.

Root-Principles in Rational and Spiritual Things. By THOMAS CHILD. London: H. R. Allenson. Price 6d.

A very useful book from the negative point of view as a criticism of Hæckel and his English disciple, McCabe. The author's criticism of the current theory of evolution is also very telling and forceful. On positive grounds the work is not so satisfactory, because the author is a Swedenborgian, and necessarily writes from the standpoint of that curious mixture of truth and error. His language about the Church of Christ, by which he means orthodox Christianity, is often unfair and untrue; but within the proper limits of the writer, and especially as a ruthless and convincing criticism of Hæckel and McCabe, it is a very satisfactory piece of work, and deserves the careful attention of all who are called upon to deal with the phases of modern criticism. We have never read anything so crushing as the exposure of Hæckel's ignorance of theology as shown by his dependence for his theological information upon an English atheist of no standing. The book is a wonderful sixpennyworth. There are one hundred and sixty pages of clear type. It will need careful reading, but, with the exceptions above mentioned, the time will be well spent.

The Fall of the Grand Sarrasin. By WILLIAM JOHN FERRAR. London: S.P.C.K.

A wholesomely exciting story of certain happenings in Guernsey Island just before the Norman Conquest. Fact and fancy are skilfully woven together, and the hero, Nigel de Bessin, can teach lessons of loyalty, courage, and nobility.

Some Post-Reformation Saints. By the late Canon OVERTON. London: S.P.C.K.

The salient features in the lives of Andrewes, Herbert Sanderson, Robert Nelson, Herbert, Ken, Bray, Wilson, Keble, Simeon, Venn, Martyn. The appreciations of their lives and characters are brief, pointed, and well written. Ryle's *Christian Leaders* would well supplement this little book.

Bible Character Sketches. By JOHN BRINTON, F.S.A. London: A. Siegle. Price 1s. 6d. net.

A series of three addresses on Balaam, David, and St. Paul. That on Balaam is the best of the three as a character sketch. Explanatory notes at the end of the book on passages in the Acts connected with the life of St. Paul may not be without their use to Sunday-school teachers.

The Sayings of Muhammad. Edited by ABDULLAH AL-MĀMŪN AL-SUHRAWĀRDY. London: Archibald Constable. Price 2s. 6d.

This small collection of the Prophet's utterances often strikes a practical and common-sense note, and at the same time often touches a high level. All that is choicest here the reader will find more powerfully stated in the Old and New Testament, and he will find more. There is a useful index at the end, but we think it would minister to convenience if the quotations had been gathered as far as possible under comprehensive headings.

The Foundation of a Happy Life. By DEAN OVENDEN, D.D. London: S.P.C.K.

A series of practical discourses addressed to all seasons of life. Clear, concise, and helpful. We think, as we read the title, that what is implied in so many of the pages should have had a larger and more separate treatment. Personal Allegiance to Christ, the Power of Secret Prayer, the Systematic Study of the Word of God, Meditation, the Fulness of the Spirit, might well have claimed full chapters to themselves.

The Difficulties of Unbelief. By INNES B. WANE, M.A. London: S.P.C.K.

A brief statement, but a suggestive, a sensible, and an easily read one. We think it well answers its purpose, and that it should be read by all who are too busy to examine lengthier volumes or precluded from reading them.

Communion with God. By M. LE M.D. Charles Thynne. Price 1s.

Morning and evening prayers for a month and for special occasions. They ring true to Scripture and the needs of the human heart. They are simple, comprehensive, short, and heartfelt.

The Puritans and the Tithes. By the late Rev. T. HANCOCK. London: S.P.C.K.

A witness to modern Nonconformists that the old Nonconformists defended the maintenance of the ministry by tithes not only as a principle, but as a main principle.

The Freedom of the So-called Free Churches. By A. J. C. ALLEN, M.A. London: S.P.C.K.

A well-written booklet which draws its illustration from the history of the Free Church of Scotland and from certain legal cases. It demurs to the title "Free," and sets out to show that "as long as the property is held under a deed, however wide its terms, the shadow of the civil court hangs over the chapel."

The Life of Christ. By ISAIAH, THE SON OF AMOZ. With Preface and Notes by NEMO. Passmore and Alabaster. Price 1s.

The Gospel in Isaiah. It is an aid to faith to search the Old Testament and to note therein minute particulars relating to the coming Christ. "The Messianic idea pervades the Old Testament as electricity pervades our atmosphere, and in some 300 cases it reaches the flash-point in circumstantial prediction." It is tastefully got up, and is ornamental as well as spiritually useful.

India and its Problems. By SAMUEL SMITH, M.P. Charles J. Thynne. Paper cover, price 2d.

A series of letters written from India to some of our leading journals in England and India, closing with a proposed speech on the Address in the House of Commons. Every word should be read, and the remarks on temperance, missions, the need of industrial development, and the growth of the Congress Movement, well and carefully noted. The proposed speech is a useful summary of the whole. England's responsibility to God for India is strongly emphasized.

The Christ in Shakespeare. Interpreted by CHARLES ELLIS. London: Bethnal Green Free Library.

A new issue of a book published some ten years ago. It contains some interesting comparisons between Holy Scripture and the works of Shakespeare.

PAMPHLETS.

Creed of St. Athanasius. Latin Text and English Translation, together with the Declaration of the Province of Canterbury, 1873. Edited by a LAYMAN, with a Preface by the DEAN OF CHESTER. 32mo. 5s. per 100. S.P.C.K. (Useful for comparison with the Prayer-Book form).

The Duty of Service. An address to the "Lend-a-Hand Club," delivered at Bridgewater House on July 11 by the Right Rev. the LORD BISHOP OF LONDON. (Marked by all Dr. Ingram's intense sympathy and earnestness. A clear and definite note about personal religion as the foundation of service would have been specially appropriate to the audience to which this address was delivered.)

Portfolio of English Cathedrals. With historical and architectural notes by ARNOLD FAIRBAIRNS. No. 6, Exeter. No. 7, Peterborough. 1s. each. S.P.C.K. (Each portfolio contains nine plates in imitation carbon. The illustrations are admirably done and the notes are clear and to the point. A very cheap and useful series.)

RECEIVED.

Blackwood's Magazine, The Leisure Hour, Our Little Dots, The Child's Companion, Church Missionary Intelligencer, Church Missionary Gleaner, Awake, The Round World, India's Witness, Canadian Churchman, India's Women and China's Daughters, The Bible in the World, Bible Society Gleanings, The Cottager and Artisan, Church and People, South American Missionary Magazine, The Sunday at Home, Protestant Observer, The Dawn of Day, Golden Sunbeams, The London City Mission Magazine, Church Standard, Church of England League Gazette, Quarterly Record of the McAll Mission in France, Young Scotland, Grievances from Ireland, Orient and Occident.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—*The current volume of THE CHURCHMAN will close with the December number, in order that each volume may in future commence in January.*