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A table of contents for *The Churchman* can be found here:

https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_churchman_os.php

are sometimes asked if any of our converts are Mohammedans, and great surprise is exhibited when we say 'Yes.' And the same sort of things occurs with reference to Brahmans—that is the highest and priestly caste among the Hindus—for there is a popular idea that conversions to Christianity are confined to low-caste Hindus. It has even been asserted that only the latter came to the dispensary, so we kept a careful record of the castes of all patients attending for some time, and the result showed that the percentage of Brahmans amongst the patients was actually greater than the percentage of Brahmans to the population."



Literary Notes.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN and CO. are issuing a new book by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb entitled "English Poor Law Policy." This volume consists of a detailed analysis of the policy of Parliament and the Local Government Board from 1834 down to the present day, with four supplementary chapters analyzing the Majority and Minority Reports. There are no greater authorities on the matter than Mr. and Mrs. Webb, and the work should prove of considerable value to the clergy and others engaged in parish work, especially in large towns with a great population. Among Messrs. Longmans' other new books will be found "The Healthful Spirit," by the Rev. H. N. Bate, M.A., Vicar of St. Stephen's, Hampstead, to which the Bishop of London contributes an Introduction; "Church Unity: Studies of its Most Important Problems," by Charles Augustus Briggs, D.D., Professor of Theological Encyclopædia and Symbolics in the Union Theological Seminary, New York; "The Gospel of the Kingdom," by the Very Rev. H. E. Savage, D.D., Dean of Lichfield; "Old Testament History and Literature," by the Rev. B. H. Alford, M.A.; "Social Relationships in the Light of Christianity," by the Rev. W. Edward Chadwick, D.D., being the Hulsean Lectures for 1909-10; "The Garden of God: Some Characteristics of the Spiritual Life, mainly from the Song of Songs," by the Rev. Jesse Brett, Chaplain of All Saints Hospital, Eastbourne; and Volume I., Part II., of the "History of the Society of Jesus in North America, Colonial and Federal," by Thomas Hughes.



Messrs. Longmans have also nearly ready two other important volumes of considerable value in their special spheres—"The History of the Irish Parliamentary Party from 1870 to 1890," in two volumes, very fully illustrated, by Frank Hugh O'Donnell, and "The Rise of South Africa: a History of the Origin of South African Colonization and of its Development towards the East from the Earliest Times to 1857," by G. E. Cory, M.A., Professor in the Rhodes University College, Grahamstown, South Africa. This will be a large and important work, and will, it is expected, eventually be completed in four volumes. Volume I., about to be published, dates "from the beginning of the seventeenth century to 1820."



Mr. Unwin published a day or two since "The American People: a Study in National Psychology," by A. Maurice Low, who has for many years been the Washington correspondent of the *Morning Post*. Then Mr. Unwin also has down for early publication an illustrated work dealing with the Mongols. It is called "On Tramp among the Mongols," by the Rev. John Hedley, who sojourned for a long time among the natives of the eastern portion of Mongolia. On one of his missionary "tramps," Mr. Hedley followed the course of the Lao Ho, which means the Old River, as far as its junction into the Shira-Muren.



This month Mr. Elliot Stock publishes a most interesting book by Mr. David Cuthbertson, of the Library of the Edinburgh University entitled "Thirty-three Years' Adventures in Bookland, including Adventures in the Humorous Avenues of Library Life." Mr. Cuthbertson's title is decidedly attractive, and should prove capital reading.



We understand that the Oxford University Press are issuing a second edition of Dr. Barclay V. Head's "Historia Nummarum." The first edition appeared twenty-two years ago. Dr. Head was at one time Keeper of the Department of Coins and Medals at the British Museum.



We notice that there is to come from the well-known publishing house of Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co. a book upon which Mr. Locker Lampson has for some time been engaged. It is to be called "On Freedom."



What should prove to be one of the most interesting books this year will be the history of his family which Sir Hubert Herkomer has in hand. The information is given by that interesting writer "A Man of Kent," whose identity is fairly well known by this, in his always readable "Rambling Remarks" in the *British Weekly*. In the same column we are reminded that Mr. Frederic Harrison is about to give us his Memoirs.



Throughout the years which have elapsed since Gainsborough's death opinions regarding his genius have gradually converged into a consensus that he is the most individual, the most artistic portrait-painter which England has produced. The large volume which Messrs. Black have in their new list contains some fine reproductions by Mr. Mortimer Menpes of the master's work from private and public galleries, and in the text, by Mr. James Greig, R.B.A., the reader will find a good deal of fresh matter.



A new life of Martin Blake, B.D., has been written by the Rev. J. F. Chanter, who has had a considerable amount of interesting data to draw upon. The Rev. Martin Blake was Vicar of Barnstaple, and also held a Prebendary Stall at Exeter. He lived from 1593 to 1673. The volume should interest a good many folk, as it gives an excellent survey of the life and times of the period.



Four volumes will complete Mr. W. P. Pycraft's big book on "A History of Animals." So far he has only completed one. This should be one of the best modern books concerning the subject, especially in view of the fact that the illustrations, which have been specially prepared for the work by Mr. G. E. Lodge, are really quite excellent, and are in colour. And there are to be a number of other good pictures reproduced from some very interesting photographs.



Messrs. Stanley Paul are expecting to issue an important volume dealing with the letters of the Argyll family, which the Duke of Argyll has himself been preparing. There are to be included in this work a number of poignantly interesting letters both of a political and a social character.



"Administrative Problems of British India," by M. Joseph Chailly, translated by Sir William Meyer; and "The Gates of India," an historical study by Sir Thomas Holdich, are two volumes promised by Messrs. Macmillan and Co., who are also expecting to have ready almost immediately the third volume of that really capable work, "The History of English Prosody." We also may expect shortly another "Highways and Byways" volume. This time it deals with Buckinghamshire, and that very versatile writer, Mr. Clement Shorter, is the author. Another Macmillan book is "The Faith and Modern Thought," being six lectures by the Rev. W. Temple. The idea of the volume is a worthy one, seeing that it is intended for the man known as the ordinary mortal, who, by reason of his engrossment in other affairs, has no knowledge, or very little knowledge, of theological matters. We also learn that from the same house will come a volume entitled "The Law and the Prophets," by Professor Westphal. This has been translated into English by Mr. Clement du Pontet; while Mr. Chesterton's "Life of Thomas Hood" is expected to be published this spring—of course, in the *English Men of Letters* series. It is said that Mr. Chesterton has another book in hand entitled "What is Wrong?"



"British Wild Flowers in their Natural Colours and Form" is a new book the text of which has been written by the Rev. Professor Henslow, M.A., while over two hundred coloured illustrations have been drawn from, and of the size of, the natural plant, by Miss Grace Layton, who obtained the Silver Flora Medal of the Royal Horticultural Society for these drawings.



On January 17 Mr. Unwin published a volume entitled "Forty Years Ago and After," by Dr. J. C. Tetley, the new Archdeacon of Bristol.



"Tennyson as a Student and Poet of Nature" is a forthcoming book by Miss Winifred Lockyer and Sir Norman Lockyer.

