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Short Notices.

St. William of Norwich. By A. JESSOP and M. R. JAMES. Pp. 303. Cambridge University Press.

THE mediæval historian, Thomas of Monmouth, left a MS. of the life of the boy said to have been put to death by Jews in the reign of King Stephen. In A.D. 1700 a library was bequeathed by a Fellow of Trinity, Cambridge, to Brent Eleigh, in Suffolk. In 1889 the University bought seven MSS. from the trustees of this library, and one of them contained this curious biography. It strongly illustrates ecclesiastical life in the reign of Stephen. Certain points are noticeable. Every priest whom Thomas names is a married man. When Thomas wrote, the practice of auricular confession had not been made obligatory, nor had the indicative formula of absolution come into use; but there was much more education of a certain kind among all classes than might have been expected, and there was a good deal of money changing hands. The edition is a delightful specimen of scholarly completeness. Dr. Jessop writes chapters on Thomas à Monmouth, the Benedictine Priory at Norwich, East Anglia in the reign of Stephen, and the Norwich Jews. Dr. James gives chapters on the MS., text, and history of the book, the legend, the worship and pictures of the boy. The canonized boy's life and miracles are contained in seven books carefully and ably translated.

The Birth and Boyhood of Jesus. By DR. PENTECOST. Pp. 399. Price 6s. Hodder and Stoughton.

This volume contains twenty sermons delivered extemporarily, transcribed from shorthand, and corrected. They are rich in original thought, variety of illustration, spiritual insight, and loyalty to the Catholic faith.

Grace abounding in the Forgiveness of Sins. By DR. PENTECOST. Pp. 174. Downey.

This volume contains the teaching for the month of June, 1896, to the congregation of Marylebone Presbyterian Church. The sermons were found very helpful to a large number of persons, and there can be no doubt that this publication will be widely useful. Dr. Pentecost is a Gospel preacher of the most earnest and simple type, with a singular power of arresting the attention and touching the heart. Christianity is with him, as it was in the New Testament, a religion of redemption.

Personal Consecration. By HUBERT BROOKE. Pp. 172. Price 2s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

This is one of Messrs. Nisbet's series on "The Deeper Life," and is full of ripe spiritual experience and fruitful suggestion. Although young clergymen should not imitate too closely, this volume will give them an idea of the subjects and the treatment most effective in building up the Church of Christ amongst the people whom they are appointed to serve.

A Concise Manual of Baptism. By J. HUNT COOKE. Pp. 128. Price 2s. Baptist Union.

This is a very fair and temperate statement of the case for the Baptist communion, who reject infant baptism. The authority for infant baptism is generally based on the difficulty of pointing out when the practice began, on the corresponding rite of circumcision in the Jewish Church, on our Lord's blessing little children, and on the authority of the early

Fathers. St. Irenæus, who was born A.D. 97, and had sat at the feet of Polycarp, the disciple of St. John, speaks of our Lord coming into the world in order that through Himself He might save all men—infants and little ones, and children and youths and elders—even all who through Him are born again unto God; and again, Tertullian, who was of full age before the death of Irenæus, says that the baptism of infants was a common practice of the Church in his own time, towards the close of the second century. With characteristic freedom he expresses his own opinion that the practice might wisely be altered, but never speaks of it as an innovation. Origen clearly believed that it was from the Apostles that the Church had received the tradition to baptize infants. Clement of Alexandria, again, speaks of “children drawn up out of the water.” There is no doubt that in the centuries when the Church was still prosecuting the conversion of the world from paganism and heathenism, many persons deferred baptism till they were fully persuaded, as is now the case in foreign missions; but the evidence quoted is quite sufficient for establishing the practice of baptizing the children of Christian parents. This work may be useful in pointing to the propriety of having a laver for immersion in certain central churches, and also as a protest against promiscuous baptism without faith or godliness amongst either parents or sponsors. There is an immersion laver at Holy Trinity, Marylebone, and one is to be erected in Lambeth Church in memory of Archbishop Benson.

Be True (Sermons to Boys). By the Rev. NORMAN BENNETT. Pp. 108. Price 2s. Elliot Stock.

Mr. Bennett has been appointed by the Church Parochial Mission Society to be Missioner to the Public Schools of England. This is a most difficult and critical task, but Mr. Bennett himself is so thoroughly in earnest, so manly and simple, that he is evidently just the man for the work. He has received a very kind welcome from most of the public schools in the kingdom. The present volume contains sermons preached at Canterbury, Warwick, Leamington, Dover, Dulwich, and Rugby. There is no attempt at sensationalism, but the teaching is direct and scriptural, and the manner brisk, pointed and brief. The sermons will be useful to others who have to address boys, and Mr. Bennett's Mission should prove a very wholesome adjunct to public school life.

The Voice of the People. By the Rev. FRANCIS BOURDILLION. Pp. 160. R.T.S.

This is a series of twenty charming, homely, and vivid papers on popular and current proverbs. All Mr. Bourdillion's work shows knowledge of human life, sympathy with the people, and a thorough grasp of the teaching of Christ.

Sunday-school and its Relations. Pp. 79. Price 1s. S. S. Union.

This little volume contains practical papers by different writers; amongst them are Professor Marcus Dods, Principal Simon, and the Rev. A. R. Buckland, Chaplain of the Foundling. The subjects are: Relations to the Home, to the Church, to Amusements, to Athletics, to Temperance, to Modern Biblical Criticism, and to the Business of Life. The questions suggested by Modern Biblical Criticism are treated with great frankness by Professor Marcus Dods, who lays down that all teachers would be wrong in suggesting critical doubts, that no teacher must teach what he does not believe to be true, and that if, for instance, the teacher does not believe the intention of the early chapters of Genesis to be verbally and literally taken as scientific fact, he must tell the children, if they ask, that they are allegories with a spiritual meaning.

Charles Vickery Hawkins. By WADDINGTON, INSKIP and MOULE. Pp. 256. Price 5s. Hodder and Stoughton.

In 1893 died at King's College, Cambridge, a very brilliant and promising scholar, who was justly styled one of the most remarkable Cambridge personalities of our own day. His father was a carpenter, and the boy gained an Exhibition at King's from Plymouth Grammar School. He was the founder of the Boys' Christian Union, and had a marvellous influence in the university both amongst his own contemporaries and the younger Dons. He was one of the leaders of the wonderful revival of Evangelical and spiritual religion amongst the undergraduates at Cambridge in recent years, and his biography will be an inspiration to all young men who feel the impulse of spiritual life in difficult surroundings.

Charles Pritchard. By ADA PRITCHARD. Pp. 322. Seeley and Co.

From 1870 to 1893, when he died, the Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford was a well-known and highly-respected figure. He took his degree at St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he was a Fellow. After some years as a schoolmaster, and eight years at Freshwater, Isle of Wight, he was in 1870 elected to the distinguished Professorship which he held with conspicuous ability till his death. An account of his theological works is given in forty-one pages by the Bishop of Worcester, and of his astronomical work in a hundred pages by his successor, Professor Turner. The whole makes an admirable memorial of one who was at once a faithful believer, a great teacher, and a recognised scientific authority.

Diocesan Histories: Chester. By Prebendary MORRIS. Pp. 256. S.P.C.K.

The history of a diocese illustrates the history of the Church at large, and is of general interest beyond the diocese itself. To trace in local districts the result of the central policy of the government of Church and State is a fascinating study. Prebendary Morris, who was chaplain to the Duke of Westminster at Eaton, and is now Vicar of St. Gabriel's, Pimlico, has done his work with a thorough knowledge, excellent judgment, and a vivid pen.

The Art of Extempore Speaking. By the Rev. HAROLD FORD. Pp. 104. Elliot Stock.

Mr. Ford, the rector of a remote country parish, has made a study of this subject, and is already the author of "The Principia of Vocal Delivery." Mr. Ford believes that fluency is attainable. The first essential is clearness or vividness in the mind, and he suggests three modes of exercise—translation, reading aloud, and substitution. There is no doubt that men differ in the widest possible degree in memory as in other mental gifts, and memory is a great help to fluent speech; but at the same time diligent practice will compensate for much original deficiency. Even circumstances will vary greatly; those, for example, who live alone and seldom talk, will experience much more difficulty in expressing themselves than those who live in families where conversation is constantly running. Mr. Ford's book is eminently practical, and we cordially recommend it to the rising generation of the clergy.

Inspiration. By the Rev. SYDNEY FLEMING. Pp. 30. Price 6d. Croydon: Lemon and Son.

We have here four short lectures containing an energetic protest against the theory of verbal inspiration, and considerably widening the scope of the word altogether. There is no doubt that the theory of literal or verbal inspiration has caused many difficulties and weakened the faith of many. St. Paul's view, that inspiration was given for teaching,

for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that is, for the inculcation of moral truths, is now generally accepted as the true theory. In a supreme sense, Scripture is inspired as revealing the will of God for man's salvation; and in a secondary sense, all good thoughts are inspired by God, as the Father of Lights, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift. This is the theory elaborated by Mr. Fleming.

Questions on the Church Catechism. By the Rev. FRASER HANDCOCK. Pp. 206. Home Words Office.

These questions, originally prepared with great carefulness for the use of the Sunday-schools at St. Luke's, Redcliffe Square, are in two parts—one for junior, and the other for senior classes. They are thoughtful and accurate, and should prove a safeguard against many of the mistakes which are made in the present day by going to authorities other than the Prayer-Book.

Missionaries in the Witness-Box. Pp. 168. Price 1s. 6d. C.M.S.

Archbishop Temple in the last year of his London Episcopate urged the clergy and laity of every Rural Deanery in succession to study missionary subjects. Here is an excellent opportunity for beginning the study or for extending its scope. The twelve chapters are by: W. J. Humphrey, from Sierra Leone; G. J. Baskerville, from Central Africa; Dr. Bruce, from Persia; Mr. Monro, from Rural Bengal; G. J. A. Pargenter, from a mission-school; Miss A. M. Smith on Indian Zenana; E. S. Carr, from Southern India; J. D. Simmonds, from Ceylon; Mr. H. S. Phillips, from Chinese villages; C. J. Symons, from China; G. Chapman, from Japan; and Archdeacon Phayre, from the far West. If the history of these missions be followed up in monthly and annual reports, intelligent sympathy will necessarily follow, and will certainly not be evanescent.

Under His Banner. By PREBENDARY TUCKER. Pp. 104. Price 5s. Seventh Edition, tenth thousand. S.P.C.K.

This well-known, popular work, giving an account of missionary work in modern times, and not confined to that of the S.P.G., is an excellent handbook of Evangelistic enterprise abroad, and should be read by everybody who wishes to feel an interest in the subject. No more competent guide could be found than Prebendary Tucker, who has for so many years been the mainspring of the S.P.G.

Cambridge Bible for Schools: Timothy and Titus. By the Rev. A. E. HUMPHREYS. Pp. 271. Price 3s. University Press.

We are glad to call attention to this excellent number of the Cambridge Series. Mr. Humphreys was well known as one of the most brilliant scholars of his time, as Fellow of Trinity, and as President of the Jesus Lane Sunday-school. He has supplied an excellent edition of the Pastoral Epistles.

The Papal Attempt to Reconvert England. Pp. 142. R.T.S.

This interesting handbook is by a layman who was born and bred in the Roman Church, and is fully acquainted with her doctrines, history, principles, and methods. He speaks without bitterness of his former Communion, but with full knowledge, from the inside, of her system. With regard to the Roman view that English Protestantism is entirely due to prejudice and ignorance of the true Church of Rome, he temperately shows, from Rome's own documents and authoritative teaching,

how abundantly the revolt of the English Church was justified. In view of present hallucinations and apologies, the book is most useful.

Knots Untied. By the BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL. Pp. 510. Price 4s. Charles Murray.

This is a re-issue of Dr. Ryle's important work on disputed points in religion from the standpoint of an Evangelical Churchman. He speaks of the following subjects: Evangelical Religion; Only One Way of Salvation; Private Judgment; The Thirty-nine Articles; Baptism; Regeneration; The Prayer-Book on Regeneration; The Lord's Supper; The Real Presence; The Church; The Priest; Confession; Worship; The Sabbath; Innovating Doctrines; The Fallibility of Ministers; and Idolatry.

If our Ritualistic friends desire to realize what is understood to be the teaching of the Church of England by that vast body of clergy and laity who hold by the Reformation settlement, they cannot do better than consult this able and temperate book.

The Conversion of Armenia. By R. ST. CLAIR-TISDALL. Pp. 256. Price 3s. 6d. R.T.S.

This is a sketch by one of the most competent Armenian scholars of the present day, of the early Church history of Armenia; the introduction of Christianity into that country and its development and consolidation. At the present time, when the eyes of the whole civilized world have been directed to that unhappy country, this book possesses a remarkable interest. It is, besides, a monograph of permanent value on a very interesting branch of the Christian Church.

In Bonds. An Armenian's Experience. By the Rev. KRIKOR BEHENILIAN. Pp. 63. Morgan and Scott.

A very touching account by an Armenian clergyman, who has studied in England, of the troubles, misfortunes and hopes of his people.

A Primer of Roman Catholicism. By Dr. CHARLES WRIGHT. Pp. 157. Price 1s. R.T.S.

The English Church does not possess a more able controversialist than the learned Grinfield lecturer on the Septuagint in the University of Oxford. No English clergyman is better acquainted with Roman Catholic literature. With admirable clearness and simplicity he has condensed his stores of learning into the compass of a small manual. He gives authorities for his statements, and shows how contrary to the teaching of Holy Scripture are the distinctive tenets of the Roman Church. At a time when Rome is stretching every nerve to recover England for the Roman faith, this manual should be universally circulated and read through the country.

The Church of Rome and Her Barriers against Union and Unity. Pp. 69. London, C. J. Thynne.

A series of thoughtful reflections by "An Aged Servant of Christ," on the difficulties placed in the way of the reunion of Christendom by the results of the Roman doctrine of Development.

The Spirit of the Papacy. By JOHN S. HITTELL. Pp. 314. San Francisco, Hittell.

An interesting survey of the influence of the Papacy on history. Its relation is discussed to Personal Freedom, Constitutional Government, National Independence, Education, Truth, Persecution and Morals. A vast number of authorities are quoted. An unfavourable conclusion is

drawn in all these points, and the author pleads with ability for a purified and reformed Catholicism.

Do You Pray? A word to boys. By C. F. HARFORD-BATTERSBY. Pp. 79. Price 9d. *Home Words* Office.

This little manual, dedicated by an old Reptonian to the present boys of Repton School, contains some very useful hints and advice to boys on the subject of expressing their thoughts and wishes to the Almighty. The last part consists of blank pages, with special subjects for prayer on one side and praise for answered prayer on the other, and also a scheme of subjects for intercessory prayer for a month. It is to be hoped that this little manual, attractively bound in red cloth, may find its way in large numbers to all public and private schools.

The Greek View of Life. By G. L. DICKINSON, M.A. London: Methuen ("University Extension Series").

We can hardly give this book higher praise than to say that it deserves to rank alongside Mr. Mackail's work on Latin Literature, which was published last year. Both books suffer, perhaps, from the fact that they have been published in a series; and this might dispose readers to imagine that they were written on the usual "series" lines—which is very far from being the case. It would be an insult to Mr. Dickinson's book to suppose, for an instant, that it was simply an average specimen of the educational manual which is being manufactured without stint in the present day; the truth being that its excellences entitle it to a permanent place among the best works treating of the literature and the life of ancient Rome and Greece. Dr. Butcher has, we think, touched the very highest level in his luminous and exquisitely wrought essay "Aspects of the Greek Genius"; though Professor Jebb's various introductions to the Sophoclean dramas are hardly less masterly a performance.

Mr. Dickinson has designed his pages as a general introduction to Greek literature and thought, primarily for those who know no Greek; but we can assure him that no one, not even one well versed in ancient culture, could rise from a perusal of this volume without a conviction that his literary taste had been quickened, his interests awakened anew, and his powers of appreciation sensibly increased. The book is short enough—all too short; for it consists of but five chapters, dealing respectively with the Greek view of religion, of the State, of the individual, and of art, the final chapter being an admirably concise summary of the whole. Perhaps the palm for excellence may be given to the opening chapter of all, though doubtless we are disposed so to think because we have found in it the amplest material for thought. Mr. Dickinson's comparison and contrast between the Greek and the Christian view of religion is obviously just when he says, "It was a distinguishing characteristic of the Greek religion that it did not concern itself with the conscience at all; the conscience, in fact, did not yet exist to enact that drama of the soul with God which is the main interest of the Christian faith." Equally pertinent is his commentary on the main motive of the "Eumenides" of Æschylus, that the tragedy there involved is the punishment of the guilty, *not his inward sense of sin*. In short, when we read (p. 28) that "the Greek conception of the relation of man to the gods is external and mechanical, not inward and spiritual," we feel that Mr. Dickinson has expressed the truth in the tersest and truest way. We do not at all agree with the remark on p. 233, that with the Greek civilization beauty perished from the world. The writer has surely forgotten that wonderful epoch, the thirteenth century, the heart of the Middle Ages, an epoch that witnessed the building of those masterpieces of Gothic art and design which are at once the delight and despair of every lover of the beautiful.

E. H. B.

The Bible and the Blackboard. By F. F. BELSEY. Pp. 128. Price 1s. 6d S.-S. Union.

This writer is Chairman of the Sunday-School Union Council, and President of the World's First Sunday-School Convention. The black-board has, of course, been of immense importance in elementary day-schools; and this is a capital application of its principles to Scriptural instruction. The power of drawing correctly is an essential preliminary; the grotesque would be a very considerable danger; but in the hands of skilful draughtsmen the method is excellent. It proved a great power in the hands of Mr. Elsdale, late Vicar of St. Agnes, Kennington. The present work consists of a valuable series of illustrations, suggestions, and hints.

Bible Places. By CANON TRISTRAM. Pp. 433. Price 5s. S.P.C.K.

The S.P.C.K. have a fortunate faculty of getting the best qualified writers to provide them with books on special subjects. Canon Tristram has made a life-study of the Holy Land; and his great energy and the thoroughness of his methods constitute him a first-rate authority. His style is interesting, and the illustrative light on Biblical literature is very great. The book should be the companion of every preacher and teacher in day and Sunday-schools.

The Arch of Titus. By CANON KNIGHT. Pp. 126. Price 2s. 6d. R.T.S.

This is the twenty-second number of that most useful series "Bye-Paths of Bible Knowledge." The Bishop of Durham contributes an introduction on the momentous importance of the destruction of Jerusalem, and the events commemorated by the sculptures on the Arch. "The impressive and scholarly narrative of Canon Knight," he says, "will open many fruitful lines of thought to the student, showing in all the tragic incidents how God fought against Israel and fulfilled His will through Roman armies." The volume would form material for a short series of most useful lectures for senior classes.

The Young Man Master of Himself. By DEAN FARRAR. Pp. 150. Price 1s. 6d. Nisbet and Co.

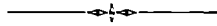
The Dean of Canterbury, as assistant master at Harrow, head master at Marlborough, and the author of "Eric" and other books for boys, has a wide knowledge of boy-nature and deep sympathy with young men in their dangers and possibilities. The present volume contains five striking and eloquent papers on the Young Man in Home, in Business, in Church, in Marriage, and in reference to Self-Control. The tone is lofty and noble, the principles inculcated eminently Christian, and the advice practical.

Messrs. Archibald Constable, of Westminster, have sent us some of their really beautiful little editions of the Books of the Bible—the Book of Psalms and the Gospel of St. Matthew in paragraph form, with scarlet capitals and headings. These become delightful companions of the prayer-desk or table, for private devotion, for the study, or on a journey.

For Confirmation.

We very heartily commend a little book, *Outlines of Confirmation Lectures*, compiled by the Rev. Arthur J. Robinson, Rector of Holy Trinity, Marylebone. Within a small compass it gives a well-arranged and most comprehensive body of instruction. The Archdeacon of London and Principal Moule both write warm words of introduction. At this time, when so many clergy are preparing candidates for confirmation, such a publication will be found of the greatest value. We think it will be used year after year by those holding such classes. It is a book wrought on the anvil of practical experience. It is just issued by Messrs. Elliot Stock, and its price is merely nominal.

We have also received the following (April) magazines : *Blackwood's, Cornhill, Good Words, Quiver, Sunday Magazine, The Leisure Hour, The Critical Review, The Anglican Church Magazine, The Church Missionary Intelligencer, The Evangelical Churchman, The Church Sunday-School Magazine, The Fireside, Sunday at Home, The Girl's Own Paper, The Boy's Own Paper, Sunday Hours, The Church Worker, The Church Monthly, The Church Missionary Gleaner, Light in the Home, Awake, India's Women, The Cottager and Artisan, Friendly Greetings, Little Folks, Our Little Dots, The Child's Companion, Boy's and Girl's Companion, The Children's World, Daybreak, Day of Days, Home Words, Hand and Heart, and Church and People*; and also Part IV. of a particularly admirable magazine for boys and girls called *Sunday Hours*, published by the R.T.S.



The Month.

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND THE PAPAL BULL.

IN September of last year a Papal Bull claiming infallibility, styled from its opening words *Apostolica Cura*, was sent from Rome by Leo XIII. to be printed and circulated in Latin and English in this country. The occasion of this document, quite apart from its contents, gave rise to warrantable annoyance within the Church of England, for it was compiled in consequence of the attitude, if not at the express wish, of some few of her members. In that Bull the Pope declared that Anglican Orders "have been and are absolutely null and utterly void" in matter, form, and intention. In a still more recent Encyclical he assures "the sons of the British Empire, who are not of our faith," that this sentence is a "straightforward and final pronouncement."

The late Archbishop of Canterbury was already preparing some notes for an authoritative reply to the Papal dictum, when he was removed by sudden death. A full, learned, and sufficient answer has now been issued under the joint names of the two Primates. It is composed both in Ecclesiastical Latin and in English, is divided into twenty sections, followed by a note on the case of John Gordon, Bishop of Galloway, and is published by Messrs. Longman, Green and Co. It is addressed not only to "our venerable brother, Pope Leo XIII.," but also to "the whole body of Bishops of the Catholic Church."

The Archbishops point out, that so far as the tradition coming from the Lord and His Apostles is concerned, the matter of holy orders is the laying on of hands, and the form is prayer or blessing appropriate to the ministry to be conferred. Nothing certain or decisive is to be found otherwise in either Provincial or Œcumenical Councils throughout the history of the Christian Church.

As regards the practice of Rome concerning re-ordination, there has been no certain uniformity through the centuries. For instance, the work of reconciliation under Queen Mary (July 6, 1553, to November 17, 1558), was in great measure finished under Royal and Episcopal authority, before the arrival of the Legate Pole. There is no documentary evidence of even Pole's constant procedure; his faculties are not in evidence, and complete uncertainty prevails concerning the scope and nature of his actions in this matter.

Nor can anything be proved from the case of John Gordon, Bishop of