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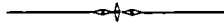
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will be to give missionary work a far greater prominence than it has yet assumed in the minds of many Churchmen.

“Experience has shown the necessity of strong centres of work, the value of community missions, especially in India, the special work of the universities in touching the higher intellectual life of non-Christian nations, the value of the work of women, of medical missionaries, of industrial missions, and the importance of realizing the principle, ‘To him that hath shall be given,’ if a rich harvest is to be reaped. With the accumulated experience of the last century the Church has now a great opportunity to begin a fresh epoch with greater love for the Master and for the souls for whom He shed His blood, and with greater knowledge, than ever before.

“The cause of missions is the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ. May this be our aim, as it will be our highest glory: to be humble instruments in carrying out the loving will of our heavenly Father; in lowliness of mind praying for the Divine blessing, and confident in the Divine promises, ministering the Gospel of the grace of God to the souls that we love; and thus, in promoting the Kingdom of Truth and Righteousness, may we fulfil the sacred mission of the Church of God, by preparing the world for the Second Advent of our Lord.”

WILLIAM SINCLAIR.



THE RUINS OF CARTHAGE.

“Urbs antiqua fuit, Tyrii coluere coloni,
Carthago, Italiam contra Tiberinaque longe
Ostia, dives opum studiisque asperrima belli.”

Virgil: ÆNEID.

ONCE thou didst reign o'er half an hundred States,
Queen-city of these Mediterranean coasts,
And forced ev'n Rome to quail before thy boasts,
'Spite of her power, and wealth, and deathless hates.
Yet, when thy full scale, measured by the Fates,
Had turned the allotted balance, thy proud hosts
Being broken, all thy glories paled like ghosts
That flee at Dawn, when Night his course abates.

O Carthage, stilled thy once triumphant arm,
Thy gorgeous temples ploughed into the sand;
Passed, too, that later splendour sent as balm
To heal an ancient wound, when Rome's red brand

Shook to its fall. Lo, here, by thy loved wave,
I dream again thy past—and watch thy grave.

E. H. BLAKENEY.

CARTHAGE, NORTH AFRICA,
April 23, 1898.

Reviews.

The Gospel according to St. Mark. The Greek Text, with Introduction, Notes, and Indices. By H. B. SWETE, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity, Cambridge. London, 1898: Macmillan and Co. Price 15s.

THIS exhaustive edition of St. Mark's Gospel is worthy of the great traditions of Cambridge. If the school of theology and criticism which numbered among its adherents such giants as Hort, Lightfoot, and Westcott, no longer counts among its active members in the home of its origin any of the original founders, such books as Dr. Swete's "Septuagint," Ryle and James's "Psalms of Solomon," and now the present volume, at least prove that the spirit which stimulated those great leaders of theology is still capable of producing great and lasting works of learning and insight. We have no hesitation in assigning a very high place indeed to Dr. Swete's notable contribution to critical and exegetical theology. It is extremely elaborate; the introduction runs to over 100 pages; the commentary, printed at the foot of the Greek original, occupies nearly 400 more; and the remainder of the book is taken up with valuable indices.

Dr. Swete's critical position, as regards the constitution of the text, is similar to that adopted by Dr. Hort in his famous "Introduction" of 1881, which, after making every allowance for divergence of opinion, still maintains, and is likely for years to maintain, its primary place among the great monuments of critical insight and sagacity of our generation. "The interpreter of St. Mark," says the editor, in his brief and singularly modest preface, "fulfils his office so far as he assists the student to understand and in turn to interpret to others the primitive picture of the incarnate life" of our Lord and Master. The student will rarely consult the ample pages of the commentary without finding there fresh suggestions and helpful stimulus. For a long while to come this volume is sure to hold its own as the best commentary in existence on this extremely interesting Gospel, which, though briefer than any of its companions, "brings us," as Dr. Swete says, "nearest to the feet of the Master."

We notice with interest that Dr. Swete, in the course of his notes, frequently draws upon the hitherto all but untouched treasures of the LXX, both to exemplify and illustrate the words and thoughts of the