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The foregoing are merely samples of the suggestive ideas we meet with in this fascinating book. I had hoped to have said at least something about the last chapter, "St. Paul in the Roman World," and especially about the lucid treatment it contains of that difficult passage in 2 Thess. ii. 7 *et seq.*, but I must forbear. In what I have written I have had only one object in view—to send my readers to the book itself. One thing I can promise them, if they will study it—that they will gain fresh and valuable light, not only upon the conditions amid which St. Paul lived and worked—upon the influences constantly acting upon his rich and varied personality—but they will gain a deeper insight into the meaning of many a familiar passage in his writings.



### Literary Notes.

DR. WASHINGTON GLADDEN, a leading American Congregationalist, has just published a new work entitled "The Church and Modern Life." In this book Dr. Gladden meets the question whether the Christian Church is an effete institution. He points out frankly some of its short-comings and failures, and shows what it must do to be saved, and to save society. He deals specifically with the Church in the United States, and by Church he means "all who call themselves Christians and are organized into religious societies, united in promoting the teachings and principles of the Christian religion." He holds that religion is a fact as all-pervasive in the social realm as gravitation is in the physical realm; that the life of religion is nurtured in social worship and service, and its fruit is gathered in the transformation of society; but that the Church has so neglected its true business that a new Reformation is needed, and a new leadership, which must be found in the young men and women of this generation. There is always a demand in this country for Dr. Gladden's books.



Last month I referred to, among others, the writings of Horatio W. Dresser. He has written a number of books, all of which have the mark of a devout mind in them. They express the thoughts of an earnest student, and the gentleness of a simple soul, while the influence of Emerson is writ large on many a page. Mr. Dresser is now seeing through the press a new volume entitled "The Philosophy of the Spirit." It is a study of the presence of God from the point of view of an interpretation of the higher nature of man. The Divine presence is regarded in the light of human responsiveness, the effect on man's conduct, the powers involved, and the faculties at work. Definite meaning is given to the term Spirit, regarded as God in action. Unlike speculative studies of the subject, this book is concerned with verifiable human experience; it aims to examine religious experience with sympathetic appreciation.



It is of more than ordinary interest to note that the great scheme of the "Victoria County Histories" is progressing rapidly, and, I believe, success-

fully. During the present year some five volumes have appeared, making a total of forty-three since the commencement of the publication of this big series of volumes. The immense labour involved in the production of these histories can hardly, perhaps, be grasped by the ordinary book-buyer. A great amount of care is exercised by the editors in their endeavours to compile a lasting historical memorial worthy of the greatness of the subject. Quite an army of readers are engaged in research work. Material for further volumes has been accumulating, and the publishers believe that the scheme will eventually be completed without any particularly troublesome obstacles. The topographical volumes, which will constitute by far the most interesting section of the histories, are now being published.



“The Naturalization of the Supernatural” is a forthcoming volume which Mr. Frank Podmore has just written. It will be recalled that he has already written a number of other important and impartial books on the subject, which are very helpful in the study of the various matters with which the Society for Psychical Research deals. The present volume is really a review of the work effected during the past twenty-six years by the society. On the one hand, Mr. Podmore shows that the society’s investigations have done much to expose the fraudulent performance of “spirit mediums,” and to shatter the primitive conception of a “ghost.” On the other hand, it furnishes evidence of a new mode of communication—thought-transference or telepathy—and further shows how many dreams, clairvoyant visions, and apparitions of the dying can be explained by this means. The latter part of the book is devoted to a critical examination of the evidence, so far accumulated, for communications with the dead. On this question the author’s verdict is “not proven.”



Professor Henry C. Vedder, who wrote a very good biography of “Balthasar Hubmaier” in the “Heroes of the Reformation Series,” has finished another work entitled, “Christian Epoch-Makers.” In one of the chapters Professor Vedder gives an account, at some length, of the great leaders of the missionary epochs of the Christian Church.



It is good news to know there is to be a collected and uniform edition of W. E. Henley’s works. He is hardly appreciated as much as he ought to be, at least by the general public. Of course, the cultured man, and particularly the enthusiastic poet-lover, knows all about his work, and finds much in him to admire. And, really, there are a considerable number of gems in his poetry—gems which, if not fully appreciated in these times of strenuousness, will, at no distant date, when his value as a singer is better understood, become a treasure to the more thoughtful man and woman. The poet’s actual troubles and sorrows, with which his life was rather overburdened, have given the outpourings of his soul a distinction which no space of time can eradicate. The collected edition starts with his “Poems,” continues with his “Views and Reviews,” and ends with the plays which he wrote in collaboration with R. L. S.

Here are a couple of new books, and good ones too, on angling. One is by that veteran angler, Mr. Edward Marston, who is perhaps as widely known as "The Amateur Angler," dealing with the lives of Bishop Ken and Izaak Walton. They are very sympathetic sketches, as, I suppose, they naturally would be, seeing that they are written by an enthusiast. There is included in the book a considerable amount of new matter not heretofore published in book form, while there will be a considerable number of full-page and other illustrations of scenes on the rivers well known to Walton. The other book is entitled "Elements of Angling," and is a book for beginners, by Mr. H. T. Sheringham, who is the angling editor of *The Field*, and the author of several books on angling, notably "Anglers' Hours." There are full descriptions of the principal branches of fresh-water angling, and it is altogether just the kind of happy volume the peaceful fishing novice should have.



Mr. G. L. Gomme, the secretary of the London County Council, who seems to know all that is worth knowing about London, and who writes very pleasantly of anything which he essays to deal with, is keenly interested in all that appertains to folklore. This is, I think, as it should be; for one might say that the history of old—very old—London and folklore may find much in common in each other. Mr. Gomme has based his book pretty largely upon his unrivalled collections. The work is entitled "Folklore as an Historical Science." It deals with the psychological, ethnological, and anthropological problems in folklore, and shows how the special European conditions affect the problem of "survivals" in Western civilization.



The other day two capital volumes were issued on "London Churches, Ancient and Modern," by Mr. T. F. Bumpus, who is quite an authority on the subject. The period dating from the Gothic revival has been given especial attention by the author. I gathered from a hasty glance at the volumes that they are replete with information. Mr. Bumpus gives in an early chapter a very interesting sketch of architecture in London, from the time of the Norman Conquest to the present day. The first volume deals with those churches which were fortunate enough to escape the great fire of 1666, while the second volume treats of those churches built in the times of Anne and George I. It is an exceedingly interesting work, and contains many illustrations.



Bishop Dowden's new volume which has appeared this month, entitled "Further Studies in the Prayer Book," contains a guide to the literature of Prayer Book history and criticism. This is a capital idea, and I feel sure that a good many readers of the *CHURCHMAN*, who, doubtless, make a special study of the Prayer Book, will find this bibliography exceedingly valuable. The studies themselves treat in a very able manner some of the more minute problems in the history and interpretation of the Prayer Book. Not a little fresh light is cast on several of them.



The following three volumes are worth noting: "Flowers of the Field," by the Rev. C. A. Johns; "Types of Floral Mechanism," by Dr. Arthur

H. Church ; and "The Naturalist in the West," by Mr. W. H. Hudson. The first book is called attention to by reason of the fact that it has actually reached its thirty-first edition, which proves its popularity. This volume must be well known to many, while the new edition has been entirely rewritten and revised by Professor G. S. Boulger, who holds the Chair of Botany in the City of London College. The second work is the first volume of a series of floral studies by Dr. Arthur H. Church, illustrating "the hundred best flowers," all selected as being representative of those features which are of special botanical interest. The fact that these hundred types may be reared in the ordinary garden speaks well of the popular attitude of the book. The sub-title reads : "A Selection of Diagrams and Descriptions of Common Flowers arranged as an Introduction to the Systematic Study of Angiosperms." Mr. Hudson's book is entitled "The Naturalist in West Cornwall." The author has a very attractive manner of writing, as was evidenced in that particularly intimate volume, "Green Mansions." While this new book of his is, perhaps, somewhat different to the two preceding volumes, it owns sufficient kinship to justify a neighbourly position. It is always a pleasant occupation to read Mr. Hudson's books, and this new one, which describes the rugged country of the north-west of Cornwall, should be no exception.



The Rev. G. R. Balleine, who until recently was one of the secretaries of the Church Pastoral Aid Society, and is now Vicar of St. James's, Bermondsey, has prepared for publication a work entitled "A History of the Evangelical Party in the Church of England." I hear that it is likely to prove of real value to the Evangelical cause.



Dr. E. M. Gordon, of Bilaspore, has written a new work entitled "Indian Folk Tales: Side-lights on Indian Village Life in the Central Provinces." Dr. Gordon is a missionary who incidently gives interesting information concerning the progress of Christianity among the natives in the district in which he has lived and worked for many years. It will be published immediately by Mr. Elliot Stock.



"The Letters of a Mystic," by the Rev. Roland W. Corbet, is about to be republished by Mr. Elliot Stock. The late Mrs. Russell Gurney, the author of "Dante's Pilgrim's Progress," was the means of the issue of the work originally, and it has been out of print for many years.



The "Latimer Manuals," on Confession and the Holy Communion, by the Rev. James Simpson Thirtle, are now published in London by Mr. Robert Scott. These booklets are suitable to put in the hands of Confirmation candidates and young communicants. They consist of popularly written statements of Evangelical Church teaching, with complete Scriptural proofs, the subjects being devotionally treated.



*The Church of England Endeavourer*—the official organ of the Church of England Union of Christian Endeavour—will henceforth be published by Mr. Robert Scott. Arrangements have been made for an immediate enlargement of the magazine, and it will in future contain, in addition to the ordinary Church of England news and articles on Christian Endeavour work, some notes on current topics, intelligence from the mission-field, and other items of interest to Christian workers generally. M. C.



### Notices of Books.

A DICTIONARY OF CHRIST AND THE GOSPELS. Edited by James Hastings, D.D. Volume II. Labour—Zion. With Appendix and Indexes. Edinburgh: *T. and T. Clark*. Price 21s. net.

Those who have used Volume I., which was reviewed in these columns a year ago, have been eagerly waiting for this volume, and now that it has come they will not be disappointed. It is a worthy companion of the former one, and in spite of the hackneyed phrase we venture to say that it will be indispensable to preachers and teachers. It is, of course, impossible for us to review it; the most we can do is to call attention to some of the noteworthy articles. The work varies in quality and also in standpoint, ranging from the freest criticism to very definite conservatism. Nothing seems to have been overlooked, the smallest and least significant subject being included. There are a great many new names in the list of contributors to this volume, and not a little of the best of the work comes from comparatively unknown men. The editor's breadth of view is seen in the allocation of the subject of the Lord's Supper to two writers, a Presbyterian and a Ritualist. The article by the former is a splendid piece of work, with which we are in cordial agreement. The latter is by Mr. Darwell Stone, of Pusey House, whose book on the Holy Communion has led us to expect what we get here, a view of the Holy Communion scarcely distinguishable from that of Rome. The articles on the Synoptic Gospels are by the Rev. W. C. Allen on Matthew, by Bishop Maclean of Moray on Mark, and by the Rev. A. Wright on Luke. Two of the finest articles in this volume are on "Personality" and "Presence." They are written by one of the younger of the Congregational ministers, Mr. A. Norman Rowland, whose work generally is very fresh and first-rate. One of the most remarkable articles is on "Preaching Christ," by Professor Denney, and his conclusion is that it means preaching to Jesus "in the absolute significance for God and man which He had to His own consciousness and to the faith of the first witnesses, and to preach Him as exalted, and as having this absolute significance now and for ever." The article on "Propitiation" is by an American writer, Dr. Goodspeed, and is an able presentation of the Godward side of the Atonement. He points out that propitiation is something objective for us and not subjective in us. This is a very refreshing and satisfying article in these days of fear and shallowness