was not blind, either to his faults or his prejudices. He did not scruple either to dissent from him or to express his dissent from many of the opinions which he enunciated. But, indeed, it was not possible always to agree with one who expressed such opposite views at different times. I believe that Johnson may have sometimes done this because his mind was not decidedly made up on many points, or because he occasionally changed his opinions. But, as is well known, he very often talked for victory, or for the sake of opposition, a practice which is not quite honest unless the speaker makes it clearly understood that he is not in earnest, and, moreover, it diminishes the weight of his influence. It is related of him that once a man, whose opinion he had opposed, told him afterwards that his arguments had convinced him, to which Johnson replied, "No, sir, you were perfectly right; I only talked as I did in order to see what could be said on the other side." Now, I think that for this, as well as for other reasons, Dr. Hill was perfectly right in giving us extracts from Johnson's works which are now seldom read, for he says, and probably with truth, that Johnson was too honest to say in print anything which he did not really believe. It would have been, however, still more honest if he had never said such things, even in conversation. But I must leave all further notice of him for my next paper.

E. WHATELY.

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Short Notices.


Ever since Baron Liebig, the great German chemist, died, Dr. Dollinger has been President of the Royal Bavarian Academy of Sciences, which is somewhat analogous to our Royal Society. From time to time he has had to deliver addresses to the Academy, or rather to a large audience consisting mainly of members of the Academy and other persons of culture. These addresses have generally been published at the time, either in pamphlet form, or in the literary supplements of the Allgemeine Zeitung. Those who have had the privilege of hearing them will rejoice that they are now being collected in a more permanent and accessible form. The present volume is only an instalment. Another is to follow, which will contain some of Dr. Dollinger's addresses as Rector of the University of Munich.

With a portion of the contents of the present volume readers of The Churchman are already acquainted; for the last paper in it is the essay on Madame de Maintenon. There are twelve addresses in all, of which the following are likely to prove most generally useful and interesting: "The Significance of Dynasties in History," "Dante as a Prophet," "The Influence of Greek Literature and Culture on the West in the Middle Ages," "The Jews in Europe," "The Policy of Lewis XIV." For the sake of those who cannot read German we hope that this collection of addresses, the fruit of more than half a century of reading and observation, will soon find a translator.


A suggestive work; will be helpful to many. The arrangement shows great pains and good judgment.

The student of history at the present day certainly has great advantages. Excellent handbooks of a trustworthy and interesting kind abound; and Canon Creighton, the author of this one, has, either as writer or editor, had no small share in the production of these helps. If the other volumes in the series of "Twelve English Statesmen" are equal to the one before us, the publishers and the public may be congratulated upon the undertaking and its results.

It would probably be no exaggeration to say that Wolsey is the greatest statesman that England has ever produced; and until the last ten or twenty years he has had very scant justice done him. His own generation did not understand him, and did not wish to do so. He was a too successful and haughty novus homo; and they partly envied, partly feared, and altogether disliked him. Subsequent generations have cared still less about him; for of the great works which he attempted, some passed away without leaving much trace behind, and others were not recognised as his work at all. His magnificent plans in home policy either came to nothing, owing to his fall, or had quite other issues than those which he had intended; but abroad he raised England from a third-rate to a first-rate power. If he could not induce his countrymen to believe in him, he taught them to believe in themselves. He educated the nation into a sense of the nation's greatness. No monarch ever had a minister who slaved for him as Wolsey slaved for Henry VIII. And no minister was ever more infamously treated by his master. It has taken us more than three centuries to find out what Wolsey did for England. This excellent little volume will help to spread this knowledge, and to prevent it being again forgotten.


This book belongs to "The Theological Educator" series, and in some respects it hardly equals the other volumes which we have seen. The author's remark (on p. 228), that the Evangelical party in the Church of England is "text-tied," is, to say the least, quite uncalled for. We quote the passage: "Where the Anglican system has failed as yet to exercise satisfactory influence is in the intellectual province. Questions are as yet untouched, which in Germany, and even in Scotland, are the subject of keen disquisition, and for which Romanism itself is preparing its solution. Text-tied, and narrow in its sympathies, the Evangelical party will doubtless always fail to grapple with such problems." And, to explain his allusion to Romanism, the author says, in a foot-note, "See, e.g., Mr. Mivart's articles in the July and December numbers of the Nineteenth Century, 1887." Surely, in a Manual like this, a recommendation to consult two old magazine articles is absurd; and how many theological students, we wonder, will understand what Mr. Mivart's position is? But the passage is as great a mistake as the foot-note; and in a second edition should be expunged.


This is a full and fair commentary on the Hebrew Book of Esther. Of course Ahasuerus is taken to be Xerxes. Much pains is taken to work out the oriental features of the narrative. In an appendix there is a translation of a fanciful targum on the Book, and notes are added on other illustrative matters.

To say much in commending a volume of the "Self-Help" series is altogether needless. "Self-Help," "Duty," "Character," and "Thrift," practical, inspiring, and full of telling illustrations, none can compute the good which these ably-written books have done. "Life and Labour," we are told, has been written on the lines of "Self-Help," and "Character," it will be warmly welcomed, and will richly repay repeated perusal. Not a single page is dry. The pen of the veteran author shows its peculiar skill with unabated force and freshness. That portion of the book which deals with Over Brain-work and the Conditions of Health will have for many readers, perhaps, a somewhat painful interest; and they will note the remark in the Preface: "This part of the work has been, to a certain extent, the result of personal experience." Dr. Smiles reminds his literary readers of the importance of exercise. Occupation at the writing-table keeps them in a constrained position, preventing the free play of the chest. The lungs are not properly inflated; nutrition is imperfect; the action of the heart is languid; hence cold feet and skin. What troubles follow! Dr. Smiles speaks of active recreation, and he says: "That only can be called exercise which occasions free and full expansion of the lungs." He justly lays stress also on regular exercise. Dr. Johnson, if we remember right, defines exercise to be "labour without weariness."

Teaching and Teachers; or, The Sunday-School Teacher's Teaching Work. By Dr. H. CLAY TRUMBULL. Hodder and Stoughton.

There have been many books written on the work of the Sunday-school teacher, but we know of none which goes so fully and so thoroughly into the subject as this. The first part of the book is devoted to the actual teaching work of the teacher, and is divided into short pithy chapters, showing, I. Its nature: what it is not, and what it is; II. Its essentials—that the teacher must know whom he is to teach, what he is to teach, and how he is to teach; III. Its elements—to secure the attention and co-work of the scholars, and to make clear that which is to be taught; IV. Its methods—in preparation, practice, and review (the writer lays great stress upon the value of regular review lessons). This last section is full of suggestive and practical hints. There is no attempt to make light of difficulties, but an earnest teacher will find real and practical help from a study of these methods. The second part of the book is devoted to the Sunday-school teacher's other work than teaching: his influence in and out of school, conscious and unconscious; his management of the scholars when present; his reaching them when absent; his counsel and advice at all times. A teacher, on reading this book, may well say, in the words of St. Paul, "Who is sufficient for these things?" Let him listen for the answer: "My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."


The first portion of this interesting publication consists of the history of the circumstances which led to the formation of the See of Wakefield, and a brief review of the chief features of the work (a reprint, with additions, from the April CHURCHMAN); then follows a list of Donations, Collections, etc. The Comparative Table, we should add, has a peculiar interest. Looking back upon this Movement, one perceives how in a great work, calling for ability, zeal, and judgment, Canon Straton has done much.

In these addresses the writer endeavours to set forth "The Fruit of the Spirit" in its bearing upon the spiritual life, and the development of the Christian character. Upon each of the nine graces enumerated in the 5th chapter of the Epistle to the Galatians there is an extremely beautiful and suggestive chapter. The book is not easy reading, but he who takes a chapter at a time, and reads it thoughtfully and prayerfully, will be helped much in spiritual things. We quote one suggestive anecdote (p. 80): "A letter was once written to an old clergyman whose ministry had been greatly blessed. 'My people,' said the writer, 'are cold and heartless. Tell me how I can effect a revival of religion in my parish.' The answer was very brief. May God the Holy Ghost write it on our hearts! 'My brother,' he said, 'revive thyself!'" This short extract will show the object with which the book is written, and the spirit which pervades it.


This valuable work is "designed to give, as far as practicable, the accuracy, precision, and certainty of the original Hebrew and Greek Scriptures on the page of the Authorized Version." By a number of signs, fully explained and easily understood, the English reader is led to appreciate "the precision, perfections, and beauties" of the original. In connection with (1) Articles, (2) Numbers, (3) Emphatic pronouns, (4) Tenses, (5) Particles or prepositions, (6) Uniform and correct renderings, (7) Divine titles, these simple signs bring out the force of the Greek and Hebrew in a most helpful manner. The student who knows merely his mother English may speedily, without much labour, mark the point and stress and graphic force of many a passage in the inspired writings. Of the accuracy of this great work mention was made in the February CHURCHMAN.


We are by no means surprised to see a fourth edition of this little book. Mr. Boyce has revised and improved his Manual until in its present form it is remarkably full and clear. Here and there, no doubt, one might add or subtract; but, taking it as a whole, Churchmen generally will warmly approve of it.

The second volume of What to Read at Winter Entertainments, Prose, edited and arranged by Rev. F. Langbridge, M.A. (B.T.S.), contains selections in prose. "Three Phases of a Noble Life," e.g., are extracts from Mr. Dawson's "Life of Hannington."—A Hundred Hymns ought to have a large circulation. The hymns were selected by readers of the "Sunday at Home" as the best in the English language, "Rock of Ages" heading the list. A short account of their writers is given.

In the May C.M.S. Intelligencer—an interesting number—appears an admirable "brief and plain statement," by the Editor, in reference to recent criticisms and complaints.

Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton are publishing "The Sermon Bible," a series to be completed in twelve volumes; the purpose is to "give the essence of the best homiletic literature of this generation." The first volume, Genesis to II. Samuel, containing five hundred pages, is printed in clear type, and the editorial work is well done.