

nobody imagine that such works as Dr. Macmillan's tempt anyone to forsake the good old paths. On the contrary, the volume before us gives renewed emphasis to that injunction contained in one of the oldest and most sacred poems—"Remember that thou magnify His work which men behold."

A LAYMAN.

Short Notices.

The Life and Letters of the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Napier, Bart. New and revised edition. Cassell and Co.

THE first edition of this Life of ex-Lord Chancellor Napier was reviewed in the *CHURCHMAN* by Canon Wynne. By the process of abridgment and omission, the present edition is, for the general reader at all events, much improved. It is now handy as to size, and a very readable book. A good many years ago, at a certain club, we used to meet Sir Joseph Napier, and enjoy conversation with him, the impression left being always of great intellectual power, and most decided attachment to religious principles, with a tolerant and kindly spirit.

Pictured Palestine. By JAMES NEIL, M.A. With eighty illustrations, pp. 320. Nisbet and Co.

Mr. Neil has done much in the way of teaching about Palestine by pictures and illustrations. "Palestine Explored," "Figurative Language of the Bible," and other well-known works of his are valuable; learned, with a remarkable measure of originality. The volume before us is interesting and full of information. It is printed in large type.

Problems of Christianity and Scepticism. By the Rev. Alex. J. HARRISON, B.D., Vicar of Lightcliffe, Evidential Missioner of the Church Parochial Mission Society, Lecturer of the Christian Evidence Society. Pp. 330. Longmans, Green and Co.

Here we have "Lessons from twenty years' experience in the field of Christian Evidence"; an ably-written and useful book.

Prophecy an Evidence of Inspiration. By MAXWELL M. BEN-OLIEL. Griffith, Farran and Co.

An interesting little book. Four extemporary discourses, taken down by a reporter, and revised; earnestly conservative.

The Pulpit Commentary.—Job. Exposition by Rev. G. RAWLINSON, M.A., Canon of Canterbury. Homiletics by Rev. T. WHITELAW, D.D. Homilies by various authors. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Co.

We are pleased receive a Commentary on the Book of Job, at the present moment, which contains the opinions of so learned and judicious a divine as Canon Rawlinson. Upon three points we may quote him.

In his Introduction, after quoting Dr. Stanley Leathes and other commentators, he thus sums up: "If, however, on these grounds

“the *general* historical character of the Book of Job be admitted, it still remains to be considered whether human ingenuity and imagination has any part in it. Nothing was more common in antiquity than to take a set of historical facts, and expand them into a poem. . . . Looking to these precedents, to the general cast of the work, and to the difficulty of supposing that a real historical report of such long speeches as those of Job and his friends could have been made and handed down by tradition even to the earliest time at which anyone supposes that the Book of Job could have been written, critics generally have come to the conclusion that, while the narrative rests on a solid substratum of fact, in its form and general features, in its reasonings and representations of character, the book is a work of creative genius. From this conclusion the present writer is not inclined to dissent, though he would incline to the views of those who regard the author of Job as largely guided by the traditions which he was able to collect, and the traditions themselves as to a large extent trustworthy.”

In a section on the probable date of the Book Canon Rawlinson remarks that indications from the matter of the book, from its tone, and from its general style, strongly favour the theory of its high antiquity. The language is archaic, he writes, more akin to the Arabic than that of any other portion of the Hebrew Scriptures; full of Aramaisms, not of the later type, but such as characterize the antique style of parts of the Pentateuch, of the Song of Deborah, and of the earliest Psalms. The Book “*may* have been written,” adds the Canon, “some considerable time after Job’s death.”

In his comments on the celebrated passage xix. 25-27, Canon Rawlinson is conservative. Replying to Mr. Froude (“Short Studies”) that “a *goël* is the technical expression for the avenger of blood,” he remarks that Job was not expecting a violent death at the hands of a man. He points out Job’s desire for a *thirdsman* between him and God, ix. 32-35; Job’s conviction that his “*Witness* is in heaven,” xvi. 19, and longing—verse 21—for an *advocate* to plead his cause with God; Job’s calling upon God to be *surety* for him, xvii. 3. And after all this, it is not taking a very long step in advance to see in God his Goël, or Redeemer. Instead of “at the latter day upon the earth,” the Canon renders, “*at the last* (at the end of all things) *he shall stand up over my dust.*” Again. “After my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh (literally *from my flesh*) shall I see God.” Job is confident that he will see God “*from his body*” at the resurrection. The traditional exegesis is not even in these days, it will be seen, without maintainers.

We welcome another volume of the late Canon Liddon’s sermons—*Some Words of Christ* (Longmans, Green and Co.). The many friends of the great preacher will certainly add this volume to their store; and not a few of those who did not agree with all his opinions, but who honoured his faithfulness and admired his eloquence, will find the book very helpful in these restless and novelty-seeking days.

We are pleased to invite attention to an excellent little book for children, *The Judges and Kings of Israel*, by Miss Aley Fox (London :

Simplkin, Marshall, and Co ; Leeds : Walker and Laycock). Miss Fox's work is carefully done ; the style is simple and pleasing. This volume, we may add, is a companion to the "Patriarchs and Kings of Israel."

A second edition of *The Church Systems of England in the Nineteenth Century* has been issued by the Congregational Union of England and Wales (Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street). The author, Mr. Guinness Rogers, as is well known, is clever and forcible. That he is free from prejudice, and shows due proportion, many of his friends, no doubt would confidently assert. The book, as we said some years ago, is well worth reading.

We have received from Messrs. Macmillan and Co. a new edition of Dr. Farrar's Hulsean Lectures in 1870, *The Witness of History to Christ*. Of this book, of course, there have been several editions ; and most of our readers, probably, are acquainted with it. Many passages in it are of the highest in attractive power, and the book, as a whole, has a special value.

The eighth volume of "Short Biographies for the People" (R.T.S.) is a good specimen of an excellent series. Professor Sedgwick and Mackay, of Uganda, are two of the twelve biographies.

The Religious Tract Society have published a well-printed, cheap edition of Secker's *The Non-such Professor*, which first appeared in 1660. The aim of the pious author was to make "excellent Christians."

Victory at Last (Elliot Stock) is a well-written and wholesome Tale, a good deal better than the average run of religious stories. A cheap and very pleasing gift-book.

The Law and the Prophets, being the Hulsean Lectures for 1882, by the Rev. F. Watson (T. Fisher Unwin), was recommended in the CHURCHMAN when it was published. For the sake of an esteemed correspondent, "An Old-fashioned Conservative," we repeat our praise of Mr. Watson's work ; and many of our readers probably, at the present moment, may be glad to hear of a learned and vigorous reply to Kuenen, which does not require a knowledge of either Greek or Hebrew. Mr. Watson puts the case as it really is. We give a specimen quotation :

"To return to the thought with which we began ; the modern theory of the Old Testament seems to me to overthrow that preparation for Christ which we saw at once was so beautiful and so necessary. When we have been reading our Old Testament, we have seen—or did we only think we saw?—a gradual development in God's dealings with the race. The Patriarchal, the Law-giving, the Prophetic ages seemed to follow one another in due course. There was a period of Infancy, when laws were few and simple. There was a period of Youth, when laws were many and to be obeyed for obedience sake. There was a period of Manhood, when principles gradually took the place of laws, when exterior obedience was as nothing except as the fruit of the interior obedience of the heart. But, if the traditional theory is, as a

“whole, a confusion and a mistake ; if the earliest books are the latest, “and the latest the earliest ; if the basis of the teaching is in reality the “development ; if the spiritual principles came first, and the formal “precepts afterwards ; if first you have the freedom of the man, and then “the bondage of the child ; if the facts which teach Divine truths more “powerfully than words, are only mythical embodiments of those truths: “then it must be confessed that the picture of God’s dealings in the Old “Testament, on which we have so often gazed with admiration and “delight, is a creation of human fancy. However beautiful, it is not “true. The development of the Old Testament is a stage development, “not a development of real life. The record of the life of the human “race is not a history, but a romance.”

We have received from Messrs. Isbister and Co. another volume of Archbishop Magee’s Sermons, *Christ the Light of all Scripture*. Like its companion volume, it is edited by Mr. Charles S. Magee, Barrister-at-Law. We have read the discourses, ten in number, with the greatest pleasure. The Charge delivered in 1872 is added.

The Bishop of St. Andrews has given to the Church a series of discourses, entitled *Primary Witness to the Truth of the Gospel* (Longmans). The sermons are excellent. But the Charge delivered last autumn is especially welcome, for it deals with recent critical teaching on the Old Testament. The Bishop quotes Canon Girdlestone’s book, “Foundations of the Bible,” and refers to “The Law in the Prophets,” by Dr. Stanley Leathes, and also to “The Law and the Prophets,” by Rev. F. Watson.

We are much pleased with *The Choral Service Book for Parish Churches* (Seeley and Co.). It is an excellent selection, in a convenient and inexpensive form ; admirably adapted in every way for musical services in “parish churches.” Mr. J. W. Elliott, by whom the book has been compiled and edited, has done his work with singular skill and judgment.

From Messrs. S. Bagster and Sons we have received a cheap and tasteful edition of *The Christian Year*.

The *Critical Review* (T. and T. Clark) has several good papers ; among them is a favourable notice of Dr. Robertson’s “Early Religion of Israel,” a work strongly recommended in the April CHURCHMAN.

The Rev. Charles Bullock, B.D., has sent us an interesting little book, *Prince Edward* ; one of his timely and useful biographical sketches (“Home Words” office).

In the new *Quarterly Review* the articles to which most Churchmen will first turn are those on Archbishop Thomson and Dean Burgon. Both are valuable. At the head of the former is placed Mr. Bullock’s admirable little biography, “The People’s Archbishop.” The *Quarterly* review of “The Life and Teachings of Mohammed,” by Syed Ameer Ali, a Judge of the High Court of Judicature in Bengal, apparently a curious sign of the times, is exceedingly interesting. Other *Quarterly* articles are “The French Decadence,” “Snakes,” “State Pensions for Old Age,” “Culture and Anarchy,” and “The Queen’s Messenger ;” altogether we have a very readable *Quarterly*, well varied and excellent.