

Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church according to the Use of the Church of England," and speak of the customs or practices of a Catholic Church to which they owe allegiance, they are not only transgressing a principle of Catholic order, but they are talking of what absolutely does not exist, and is impossible. They mean only that there are certain rites and ceremonies which they admire long in vogue in the Roman Communion, or even going back to the time before the division between East and West, and now laid aside by the Church of England, which was forced, in the course of time, to declare its independence and autonomy.

Such, then, are the rights of National Churches: independence of jurisdiction, independence of custom, independence of ritual, independence of definition, so long as there is unity with the principles of the greatest and most important assemblies of the whole of the united Churches, such as the First Four General Councils, in subordination to the supreme authority of the word of God contained in Scripture. And as we are anxious that all Christians living in one nation should belong to the same pure and Apostolical Church, we should take good care, by only insisting strongly on things of primary importance, to make easy to them the way of return.

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### Short Notices.

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*A Key to the Epistles of St. Paul.* By the Ven.<sup>s</sup> J. P. NORRIS, D.D.  
London: S.P.C.K.

THIS is a course of addresses delivered in Bristol Cathedral, which are marked by the author's well-known carefulness and lucidity. He had a great gift of expressing theological truth in clear and persuasive language; it is eminently exemplified in these addresses.

*The King of Sorrow.* By the Rev. W. S. BOURNE. London: S.P.C.K.

A series of Lenten addresses on the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah; clear and perspicuous, if not containing much that is original.

*Northern Lights on the Bible.* By the BISHOP OF SELKIRK, Canada.  
London: J. F. Nisbet and Co.

Dr. Bompas has pressed into the service of this pleasing little book any experience during his twenty-five years' work in Canada which seemed to throw light on the Bible. Such a treatment is decidedly novel, and not without much charm. Many valuable illustrations are to be found. The jaded preacher or teacher will meet with much to refresh and stimulate his mind. An admirable index of texts quoted adds greatly to the value of the book.

*Echoes from a Village Church. More Echoes from a Village Church.*  
By the Rev. F. HARPER, M.A. London : J. F. Shaw and Co.

Two volumes of capital sermons, that are certainly not over the heads of the village congregations for whom they are intended, and at the same time are suggestive and provocative of thought. They are Scriptural, plain and earnest, which is precisely what country people desire.

*The Lenten Opportunity.* By the Rev. W. G. HOPE, M.A. London : S.P.C.K.

A series of meditations, not marked perhaps by much originality, but gracefully and affectionately written.

*The Order and Connection of the Church's Teaching as set forth in the Epistles and Gospels.* By ANDREW JUKES. London : Longmans, Green and Co.

This will be an extremely useful little book to catechists or Sunday-school teachers. The writer's object is not so much to treat the arrangement of the Epistles and Gospels historically or exegetically, but more, apparently, to indicate the reason and meaning of the order of the Church's teaching. This has been done lovingly and carefully both for Sundays and Saints' Days. Ample material for lessons will be found under each head ; material that may be expanded and adapted to meet the requirements of almost any class.

*Arcana in the Ruwenzori.* Pp. 47. Price 1s. Elliot Stock.

This is an ingenious calculation, based on the Great Pyramid, and working up the Mountains of the Moon, lately rediscovered by Stanley. It identifies Enoch with the Idrisi of an ancient Arabic MS. in Egypt ; and also with Hermes.

*Scripture Baptism.* By the Rev. ALEXANDER BROWN, of Aberdeen. Pp. 64. Price 1s. Simpkin and Co.

A very clear and thoughtful manual, containing a defence of the existing practice of baptism, and sound and temperate answers to the objections of Baptists.

*St. George and the Dragon.* By SARAH ANN MATSON. 2nd Edition Pp. 222. Fisher Unwin and Co.

This is a story bringing in everything that can be said about dragons, St. George, and the local legends of Cornwall on the subject. The scene is laid in Cornwall, a county for which the writer evidently has great affection. There is much that is mysterious and interesting about that very ancient district, and the authoress has worked many local traits into her imaginative fiction.

*Hebrew Idolatry and Superstition.* By ELFORD HIGGENS. Pp. 80. Price 3s. 6d. Elliot Stock.

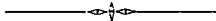
This valuable monogram will be useful to the Biblical student as showing from various sources in ancient folk-lore that an aboriginal race can hand down their religious customs and superstitions to an incoming race ; and that this fact accounts for such customs and superstitions among the Hebrews. Amongst these is a prehistoric ritual for the worship of the reproductive powers of nature, widely spread and of great antiquity ; there are other customs, to be traced to the Amorites, such customs being found in races kindred to the Amorites. The belief in witchcraft is to be ascribed to the presence of the various conquered races. The author concludes that the religion of the Hebrews was one

of great morality, and when they fell into idolatry they were acting contrary to the principles of their religion.

#### MAGAZINES.

We have received the following (September) magazines :

*The Thinker, Newbery House Magazine, The Anglican Church Magazine, The Church Missionary Intelligencer, The Foreign Church Chronicle, The Evangelical Churchman, The Church Sunday School Magazine, Blackwood's, The Cornhill, Cassell's Family Magazine, The Fireside, The Quiver, The Leisure Hour, Sunday at Home, The Girl's Own Paper, The Boy's Own Paper, Light and Truth, The Church Worker, The Church Monthly, The Church Missionary Gleaner, Light in the Home, Awake, India's Women, Parish Magazine, New and Old, The Dawn of Day, The Bible Society's Gleanings for the Young, The Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, The Cottager and Artizan, Friendly Greetings, Little Folks, The Child's Pictorial, The Child's Companion, The Children's World, Our Little Dots and The Boys' and Girls' Companion.* Number 7 of the R.T.S. "Excellent Women" Series is devoted to Mrs. Hemans; and Messrs. Nisbet and Co.'s latest addition to "Brief Sketches of C.M.S. Workers" gives an interesting account of the life and work of the late Bishop Horden.



#### THE MONTH.

WITH Saturday last, August 26 (says the *Times*), the fifty-two weeks of the harvest year were completed, so far as the statistics of home-grown produce are concerned :

In all 2,676,020 quarters have been returned as sold in the 196 statute markets, against 3,267,036 quarters in 1891-92, and 3,493,782 quarters in 1890-91, in each case for the fifty-two weeks after September 1. The average price now returned is 25s. 11d. per quarter, against 29s. 4d. in the corresponding week last year, 40s. 11d. in 1891, and 35s. 9d. in 1890. The quantities returned as sold are the smallest on record, and the same may be said of the average values. So far as can be seen, the coming harvest year will show an even worse result, although there are some who are hopeful in the matter. It may be pointed out that last year a very considerable percentage of the wheat crop, owing to the wheat being sprouted and badly harvested, was unfit for marketing, and had to be fed on the farm; and, again, particularly in the northern and eastern counties, the wet harvest spoilt a very considerable proportion of the malting barley crop. This year everything is being got in in good condition and well harvested, so that every pound will be available. We also hear on all sides that the new English wheat is giving great satisfaction to millers, and for the first time for several years is commanding, in a number of markets, a price equal, or very nearly equal, to the finest American wheat.

The first week in September was on the whole favourable for the completion of the corn harvest, and the reports now to hand (says the *Times*) speak very generally of this as finished. With scarcely an exception, however, the results are described as the worst known, and below what was expected. Over a large extent of country a good second hay crop has been, or is being, secured; but even with this the small number of stacks (of all kinds) is very noticeable in almost every district. . . . The corn markets last week were more promising, and with an increase of nearly 10,000 quarters sold in the 196 statute markets, home-grown wheat showed an increase of 6d. per quarter, though prices were still wretchedly low. Wheat stood at 26s. 5d., barley at 26s. 9d., and oats at 18s. 7d. per quarter, the latter being an increase of 1d. on the week.

In the second week the weather was, on the whole, favourable to the farm; the finish of the corn harvest had been but little interfered with,