

## Short Notices.

*In the Footsteps of the Poets.* Pp. 381. Price 3s. 6d. Isbister and Co.

This charming volume gives local information of the various haunts of Milton, Herbert, Cowper, Thomson, Wordsworth, Scott, Mrs. Browning, Robert Browning, and Tennyson. The writers are Professor Masson, Dr. John Brown, Canon Benham, Hugh Haliburton, Henry Ewart, John Dennis, the Bishop of Ripon, R. S. Hutton, and William Canton. It is well worth while to be acquainted with such detailed information, as it throws a great deal of light upon the various poems.

*Christianity in the Home.* T. L. CUYLER, D.D. Pp. 264. Price 3s. 6d. Hodder and Stoughton.

It is sometimes thought that domestic religion in the present day is not so much cultivated as in the generation of our fathers. The present work consists of thirty-six very wholesome chapters which would make admirable reading at family prayers, and which might greatly help in re-establishing the old tone of quiet and genuine Christian piety.

*The Boys' and Girls' Companion.* Volume for 1893. Pp. 192. Church of England Sunday-school Institute.

This illustrated magazine for boys and girls makes a charming gift-book for young folks, its contents being both varied and interesting. There are short, simple, and instructive papers on Bible, biographical, and natural history subjects, and a number of miscellaneous papers and stories well calculated to delight the readers for whom they are intended. The volume is tastefully illustrated and bound.

*Weather Lore.* RICHARD INWARDS, F.R.A.S. Pp. 191. Elliot Stock.

This fascinating book is a collection of proverbs, sayings, and rules concerning the weather, arranged from various handbooks and traditions all over the world. These wise saws refer to weather in general, times and seasons, movable feasts, the months generally, days of the week, sun, moon, and stars, wind, clouds, mists, dew, fog, sky, air, sound, tide, rain, and other natural phenomena. There is also an interesting list of common plants, with the dates at which they ought to be in full flower, and a calendar of birds, and when they ought to be in the South of England, and another for winter birds. Never, probably, has such a flood of light been thrown on the homely, natural philosophy of the country side; and for persons living in the country especially the volume would be an amusing and instructive daily companion.

*The Clergy List for 1894.* Kelly and Co., Limited.

This publication cannot be spoken of too highly. Indeed, we should imagine that a copy of it is in the hands of every clergyman. It certainly ought to be, for it is simply invaluable, containing, as it does, a mass of information respecting the Church and her clergy, well-arranged, comprehensive, and authoritative.

*Nye's Illustrated Church Annual, 1894.* Price 1s. Pp. 128. Griffith, Farran and Co.

This is the second year in which Mr. Nye's "Annual" has appeared; and to say that No. 2 is even better than No. 1 is high praise indeed. There are valuable and interesting papers by Archdeacon Emery, Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., the Earl of Selborne, and a number of other writers, whose names are a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of their contributions.

*Light for Little Footsteps.* Pp. 64. Price 2s. 6d. Partridge and Co.

This is a large volume of simple Bible stories in large print, with engravings by various artists. The selection is well made, and the book is a pleasing variety for the Sunday resources of the nursery.

The January number of the *Revue Internationale de Theologie* is in many ways an interesting one. Bishop Herzog has a learned article on Priscillian, and the latest discoveries in relation to him. The well-known ecclesiastical historian, Professor Langen, concludes his sketch of the "School of Hierotheus." Professor Beyschlag treats of our Lord's words to St. Peter in Matt. xvi. 17-19. Professor Friedrich sends a contribution on the inscription on the statue of Hippolytus at Rome. Canon Meyrick replies to General Kiréeff's explanation of the attitude of the orthodox Church to the old Catholics, accepting the General's disclaimer of any wish on the part of the former to "absorb" the latter. The editor comments on Canon Meyrick's letter, not, as it seems to us, in too friendly a spirit. And yet it is difficult to see altogether what offends him in Canon Meyrick's letter. Bishop Holly, of Haiti, sends an article in French, in which he explains he is not accustomed to write. There are reviews, as usual, by Mr. Allen and Mr. Lias, and these are the only English contributions except that of Canon Meyrick already referred to. The ecclesiastical news contains some most interesting information concerning the Protestant Churches of France and Switzerland, and of the movement in progress for the restoration of the Apostles' Creed as a recognised symbol of belief in these Churches. Professor Kyriakos, of Athens, gives some details of the publications of a union formed in Asia Minor to forward the interests of the Orthodox Church. But the article which will most interest the readers of the *Churchman* is that by the editor on St. Augustine's teaching in regard to the Eucharist. This consists of simple extracts from his works (translated, however, into French) with a brief summary of their purport. These extracts not only show that St. Augustine did not hold the doctrine of transubstantiation, but that he used the expressions "sign" and "figure" of Christ's body and blood, so strongly repudiated as Zwinglian by modern "advanced" High Churchmen.

The editor of this most valuable periodical asks for an increase of subscriptions in England, and especially that the *Revue Internationale* may be introduced as soon as possible into our various public libraries. It will be a great advantage to us if this be done, because one feature of the publication is the valuable summary of contents of a large quantity of publications of various nationalities which the editor gives in each number.

*Hazell's Annual* for 1894 contains 676 pages of valuable information, clearly arranged and well indexed. The articles are all-embracing, the subjects treated of being historical, political, social and biographical. It is, indeed, "a cyclopædic record of men and topics of the day," and no busy man of letters can afford to be without it.

#### MAGAZINES.

We have received the following (January) magazines :

*The Thinker, The Critical Review, The Religious Review of Reviews, The Newbery House Magazine, The Anglican Church Magazine, The Church Missionary Intelligencer, The Evangelical Churchman, The Church Sunday-School Magazine, Church Bells, Blackwood, The Cornhill, Sunday Magazine, The Fireside, The Quiver, Cassell's Family Magazine, To-Day, Good Words, 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 Artisan, Friendly Greetings, Little Folks, Our Little, Dots, The Child's Companion, Boy's and Girl's Companion, Daybreak, Day of Days, Home Words, Hand and Heart, Open Doors, The Opening Year, Garden Work, and The Home Visitor.* Number 113 of the R.T.S. "Biographical Series" deals with Blaise Pascal.

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### THE MONTH.

THE Bishop of St. Asaph points out the following facts with regard to the use of the Welsh language in Wales :

"The census returns give the number of those speaking only Welsh as 508,036, and of those who speak English and Welsh as 402,253.

"Last October I said that the 508,036 included all who, although they know English, prefer speaking Welsh, and that in Merionethshire, Cardiganshire, and Anglesea, with a population of 185,328, the monoglot Welshmen were returned as 130,680, although considerably more than half the population of those counties must have passed through the elementary schools, where all their education was in English, and I pointed out that every kind of pressure, political and sectarian, was exercised to make people return themselves as monoglot Welshmen. For these statements I was so widely and severely censured in the Welsh Radical press that I may be permitted to quote the following words from the general report just issued as a Parliamentary paper . . . under the marginal heading 'Untrustworthiness of the Returns'—

So desirous do many householders appear to have been to add to the number of monoglot Welshmen that they not only returned themselves as speaking Welsh—that is, Welsh only—but made similar returns as to infants who were only a few months or even only a few days old. Two parishes, one in Carnarvonshire and one in Merionethshire, were selected by us for detailed examination. In these parishes there were 138 babies under one year of age, and fifty-nine of these were returned as speaking Welsh. There were also 147 infants between one and two years of age, and eighty-seven of these were entered as monoglot Welsh. Thus of 285 infants not yet two years of age, 146, or more than a half, were represented as being able to speak Welsh, and Welsh only. Children under two years of age have been excluded by us from the language tables; and, consequently, these strange statements as to their power of speech are not of much importance excepting that they furnish good grounds for regarding with much suspicion the trustworthiness of the statements as to persons of riper years. Thus, in these same two parishes there were 1,587 children of from five to fifteen years of age, children, therefore, who must have had a more or less lengthy period of school attendance. In the schools of both these parishes English had been taken as a class subject, not without success. Yet of these 1,587 children 1,490, or 94 per cent., were returned as unable to speak English.

After this official statement it cannot be questioned that 508,036 represents not monoglot Welshmen, but those who prefer Welsh to English.

"I ask your readers to compare 1,252,873 who, according to the report of Lord Aberdare's committee, 'habitually speak Welsh' with the 508,036 of the language census returns. I would also ask where the 1,083,000 Nonconformists, who use the Welsh language in worship in Wales and Monmouthshire are to be found."

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Taking the central funds only of the Missions to Seamen, the receipts in 1893 have fallen off £272, as compared with the previous year, the central contributions within the year (less legacies) being £17,842. But