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the inserters of it or their antagonists ever regarded it as a fresh enactment determining the vestments of the clergy.

The original reference to the second year of King Edward VI. was a provisional reference to the Prayer-Book of 1549, but it was explicitly governed by its own reference to Elizabeth's Act of Uniformity, which ordered the surplice only. It was explicitly governed by the authority the Act gave the Queen to take further order with the advice of her Commissioners, when they should have had time to consider the question.

It was only the intense conservatism of printers and of authorities in matters of autiquarianism and history that kept this rubric being printed in edition after edition, time after time, long after it had been superseded by the expected Injunctions, Advertisements, and Canons. It is an antiquarianism of the same kind, though not in the same matter, as the obsolete and ridiculous address to King James still printed at the beginning of the Authorized Version.

It is in the highest degree uncritical and unconstitutional to pick out a sentence of the Prayer-Book—especially one that is the most difficult in the whole volume—and interpret it literally, in the face of facts, without regard to history and intention

intention.

WILLIAM SINCLAIR.

Motes and Queries.

→ → → → → → AN INCIDENT, WITH THE MORAL OF IT.

IN the days of Saladin, that renowned Sultan who so well fought against our own Richard Cœur de Lion, Bohadin, a renowned historian and judge, was on the seat of judgment. An old merchant tendered a bill of complaint, and insisted that it should be opened. "Who is your adversary?" inquired the judge. "My adversary is the Sultan," responded the merchant; "but this is the seat of judgment, and it is said that you are not governed by regard for persons." Replied the judge: "The case cannot be decided without the adversary being first apprised." The Sultan was informed, condescended to appear, produced his witnesses, justly defended and gained his cause. The old man's bravery and confidence in the law so pleased the Sultan that he dismissed him with a robe of honour, a rich donation, and an assurance of friendship.

The Moral.—We, with all creation changing moment by moment, we, like a flower of the field to-day, and to-morrow cast into the oven, are all before Thee, our glorious God. We would be wise, not defer our work till to-morrow; to-morrow's sun we are not sure will rise. Israel was invited: "Come now, and let us reason together." She would not. We, Lord, would reason: "Hast Thou made us to be sold for naught? Do we, like Asaph, cleanse our heart in vain, wash our hands in innocency, and chasten ourselves every morning? Hast thou deceived us? and are we

deceived, as said the most sorrowful of the prophets? Nay, Lord, Thou art mightier, truer, more loving and wise than any earthly monarch. Thou wilt not leave us, Lord, to be of all creatures most miserable because of sin in ourselves and weakness in nature. Let our cry come unto Thee. Tell us we are Thine."

A voice as from heaven, speaking by beloved Paul, responds: "The creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but in hope; because the creation shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."

We thank Thee, Lord: now shall our heart be glad, and our spirit rest

in hope.

Short Aotices.

Temptation and Toil. By the Rev. W. HAY-AITKEN. Pp. 304. Price 3s. 6d. Isbister and Co.

THE publishers have brought out another useful volume of sermons. Striking and original in matter and persuasive in treatment, they bear out Mr. Aitken's high reputation as a powerful influence in winning souls to Christ.

The Great Problem of God. By the Rev. George Jamieson, D.D. Pp. 367. Elliot Stock.

No more important subject than the existence of God, and our means of apprehending it, could engage the attention of a philosopher and theologian. This powerful and most interesting work consists of a historical résumé of philosophical speculation from Descartes and Spinoza to Kant and Hegel; an examination of Hume and Huxley on problems of mind; an examination of Mr. Balfour's "Foundations of Belief," with a final examination, in fifteen sections, into our knowledge of the being of God. The work deals with great reverence, clear sight, and notable breadth of view, with the deepest and most difficult problems which the mind of man can face.

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This is a work of immense industry, in which almost every known writer on the subject has been laid under contribution. It is a treasury of well-arranged thought and suggestion, and full of well-devised help for the busy Churchman. These two volumes contain a whole library of valuable matter.

Christ in the Old Testament. By the Rev. HENRY LINTON. Pp. 270. Elliot Stock.

All Christians believe that the Old Testament was a preparation for the coming of the Messiah, and many helps to Bible study have given lists of types, prophecies, and sacrificial prediction; but nowhere has this been done with so much thoroughness as by Canon Linton. The book will be a most useful manual to the Biblical student and teacher.

Present-Day Tracts. Pp. 60. Price 2s. 6d. R.T.S.

The present volume of this excellent series contains six essays—Nos. 73 to 78—i.e., "Life and Immortality brought to Light by Christ," by Dr. William Wright; "Hereditary and Personal Responsibility," by the Rev. M. Kaufmann; "The Unity, Continuity, and Systematic Complete-