

## NEW BOOKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

*A Dictionary of the Bible.* Vol. I. Edited by Rev. JAMES HASTINGS, D.D. 4to., pp. xv, 864. Edinburgh, 1898: T. and T. Clark. Price £1 8s. [An important work, which we hope shortly to notice at length.]

*Coptic Version of the New Testament in the Northern Dialect.* In 2 vols., 8vo. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Price £2 2s.

*The Works of Bishop Berkeley.* Edited by GEORGE SAMPSON. Vol. II. London, 1898: Bell. Price 5s.

*Thomas Cranmer (Leaders of Religion).* By Rev. Prof. MASON, D.D. London, 1898: Methuen. Price 3s. 6d.

Messrs. J. Hall and Son, of Cambridge, have just ready a new and enlarged edition of Mr. Foakes-Jackson's "History of the Christian Church from the Earliest Times to the Death of Pope Leo the Great, A.D. 461." The work has been partly rewritten.

The first part of Messrs. A. and C. Black's "Encyclopædia Biblica" will be ready in October. The scheme of the work was drawn up by the late Professor Robertson Smith and Dr. Sutherland Black soon after the completion of the "Encyclopædia Britannica."

Under the title "English Theological Library" Messrs. Macmillan and Co. propose to publish a series of either complete editions or selected portions of the writings of the principal English Church theologians of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with introductions and notes for students, and with especial reference to the needs of those preparing for University or ordination examinations. The volumes will be classified under the headings of dogmatic, historical, homiletical, and exegetical. The general editor of the series is the Rev. Frederic Relton, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Stoke Newington, and among the volumes already in hand are Law's "Serious Call," edited by Canon Overton; Book V. of Hooker's "Ecclesiastical Polity," edited by the Rev. Ronald Bayne, Vicar of St. Jude's, Whitechapel; Butler's "Analogy" and Sermons, edited by the Rev. J. H. Bernard, Trinity College, Dublin; Jewel's "Apology," edited by the Rev. G. Schneider, late Vice-Principal of Ridley Hall; Laud's "Controversy with Fisher," edited by the Rev. C. H. Simpkinson; Winchcote's "Aphorisms," edited by Professor Ryle; and Bishop Wilson's "Maxims," by the general editor. The Bishop of London will contribute a general preface. It is expected that Canon Overton's edition of Law's "Serious Call," and Mr. Bayne's edition of the "Ecclesiastical Polity" (Book V.), will appear in the course of the present year.

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## Obituary.

WE regret to announce the recent death of the Right Rev. Robert Claudius Billing, D.D., Bishop of Bedford, Rector of St. Andrew Undershaft, City, and formerly Bishop Suffragan for East London. Dr. Billing was born at Maidstone on April 15, 1834, and was educated at Worcester College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1857. In the same year he was ordained deacon to the curacy of St. Peter, Colchester, and after taking priest's orders he was for a time curate of Compton Bishop, Somerset. Subsequently he held the vicarage of Holy Trinity, Louth, and Holy Trinity, Islington. From the latter post he was preferred in 1878 to the rectory of Spitalfields, and was also made Rural Dean of that district. On the translation of Bishop Walsham How to the new bishopric of Wakefield, Mr. Billing was selected to succeed him as second

Bishop Suffragan of Bedford, on the nomination of Bishop Temple. His University thereupon conferred on him the degree of D.D. *honoris causa*, and the Bishop of London appointed him Rector of St. Andrew Undershaft with St. Mary Axe, in the City of London. Dr. Billing endeavoured to the utmost of his power to maintain the work which had been initiated by his predecessor in East London, but, unfortunately, his physical powers were not equal to the task. His health gradually gave way, and in March, 1895, he was obliged to resign his commission as Bishop Suffragan. Under the terms of the Act of Parliament, Dr. Billing retained the title of Bishop of Bedford, and no successor could be appointed under that title while he lived. His successor as Bishop Suffragan for East London was therefore consecrated as Bishop of Stepney. Since his resignation Bishop Billing has resided at Englefield Green. Dr. Billing's earnest work and personal piety won for him universal respect and esteem throughout the diocese of London.

The death is announced of the Rev. Abraham Haworth, Rector of St. Catherine's, Manchester, for nearly forty years. He was educated at St. Bees College, was ordained in 1853, and became the first Rector of St. Catherine's in 1859. He was seventy-four years of age. The *Manchester Guardian* says that the congregation which he gathered round him, and which increased year by year with the knowledge of his kindly character and zeal, was drawn very largely from among the poorer people. He was a staunch member of the Low Church party. His church was the centre of several very active agencies, the Sunday-schools and day-schools being very largely attended.

The death of Mr. George Müller, the Christian philanthropist, which took place March 10, attracted an extraordinary amount of attention throughout the country, and the Press, from the *Times* downwards, has contained full and sympathetic notices of this remarkable man. The *St. James's Gazette*, which is not distinguished for religious fervour, remarks: "His was the faith that moves mountains, for his simplicity was his strength, and he never wearied in well-doing." We gather from his last report that "the total amount of money received by prayer and faith for the various objects of the institution since March 5, 1834, is one million four hundred and twenty-four thousand six hundred and forty-six pounds six shillings and ninepence-halfpenny (£1,424,646 6s. 9½)." Mr. Müller was not a Churchman, as is well known; but it may without exaggeration be said that few lives have ever been more truly potent in Christian worth than his.

The *English Churchman* deeply regrets to record the death of Mr. A. J. Arnold, the devoted secretary of the Evangelical Alliance, which took place, after an illness of several weeks, at his residence at West Norwood.

Mr. Arnold's connection with the Alliance extended over some forty years, and his personal influence and energy contributed very largely to promote the International Conferences at Florence, Copenhagen, and other places, and especially the Jubilee meetings in London in 1896. He was highly esteemed by a large circle of Christian friends at home and on the Continent, and enjoyed the confidence of members of more than one European Court. He was in frequent correspondence with the British Foreign Office in behalf of persecuted peoples, and the late Turkish Ambassador in London—Rustem Pasha—once made the commendatory observation: "The Evangelical Alliance never exaggerates." The cause of oppressed and persecuted Christians throughout the world has lost in Mr. Arnold a sympathizing and faithful advocate.