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*The Sacrament in Song.* By E. A. D. Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press Warehouse, Amen Corner, E.C. Price 2s. 6d.

This is a particularly charming collection of extracts from English poets on the Holy Communion, arranged for the Sundays and Holy Days of the Christian Year. The book is exceedingly well produced, and its contents have been selected with admirable discrimination. We recommend it cordially to all.



## The Month.

THE dispute between the United States and Spain over Cuban affairs has gone on steadily, till at last an ultimatum has been sent from the States to Spain, calling on the latter country to withdraw her army and navy from the island, and granting only three days' grace, an answer being required by April 23. The immediate result was that Señor Polo de Bernabe, the Spanish ambassador at Washington, applied for his passports, which were sent him. No instructions had been sent to General Woodford to apply for his passports at Madrid.

Thus has this Paschal and Easter season been made memorable to America and to Spain. To ourselves it has been made so by the victory granted to our forces in Egypt in the great battle fought on Good Friday, in which Mahmud was taken prisoner. Osman Digna, "with his customary alertness," made good his escape. It is pleasing to find that on Easter Sunday a Church parade of our troops was held to give thanks to Almighty God for this success. Egypt seems to be that part of the world in which, for some time past, we have been most prosperous. Does the fact just recorded indicate a reason?

At home the season has not passed without calamities. Besides an accident, which might have been still worse, to a train which was carrying some of our volunteers home, there has been a shocking catastrophe in a mine at Whitwick, near Leicester. A fire, which had long been burning in this, which was commonly thought a very safe mine, burst its bonds on April 19, and it is feared that some thirty-five victims have in consequence perished.

Of another character is another fire. This fire, above ground, broke out in what is known as Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle on April 20, and left only the walls standing. The chapel records seem happily to have been saved.

Turning to Church affairs, we find the season marked by the much-debated action of Mr. John Kensit, who has made public protests by word of mouth against illegal ceremonies in certain churches, and has laid hands on a crucifix which was being "venerated" in St. Cuthbert's, Philbeach Gardens, on Good Friday, and carried it down the chancel, when it was snatched from his hands. This proceeding brought on a prosecution before Mr. Rose, the magistrate at the West London Police Court, on Easter Eve. What further consequences will follow remain to be seen. The attention of the press is turned to these matters. Canon Fleming apologises for the excitement of a strong Protestant, while the Dean of Windsor writes with grave severity. The account of Mr. Kensit's inter-

view with an emissary of the *Daily News* contains some noteworthy reading.

It was observed last month that in losing the Rev. Isaac Hawker, Plymouth was parting from one of the oldest incumbents of the town. It is pleasant to have to record that he is not leaving without public testimony to his worth, as he has been presented, at the Corn Exchange, with a purse of £156, besides other tokens of goodwill to himself, his wife, his daughter, and his son.

Mr. Hawker is succeeded by the Rev. H. B. Bishopp, M.A. of Caius, and Ridley Hall, Cambridge, who has been an honorary worker at St. James's, Bermondsey.

Another church in Plymouth is changing incumbents, too. The Rev. Philip Williams is leaving St. Matthias's, of which he was the first incumbent, for St. James's, Exeter. To succeed him the Rev. W. B. E. Caley has been appointed. But trouble threatens. Mr. Williams is said to have told his vestry meeting on Easter Monday: "We were rudely shocked to find that an appointment had been made which did not give fair promise of a continuity of our teaching and order."

Yet, we are told, Mr. Williams "pleaded with his people for the new Vicar." Not so his curate, the Rev. R. F. Fleming. The Vicar's warden, Mr. W. W. Rickard, said he would do his best to see that fair play was awarded Mr. Caley, "but for the rest his attitude was menacing. It was Mr. Caley who must fall in line with the congregation, and not the congregation who should fall into line with Mr. Caley. They must have no interruption with the ritual of the Church; and if Mr. Caley was not prepared to continue it, Mr. Caley must find another congregation." What is this—Congregationalism?

The Bishop of Bristol has issued a commission to inquire into the need of Church extension at Swindon.

At St. Mark's, Tunbridge Wells, on Easter Sunday, the Vicar announced, says the *Record*, that on the following Tuesday the C.M.S. would enter upon its hundredth year, and invited anyone to send him a birthday gift, which he might forward at once to Salisbury Square as a token of affection. By noon on Monday he had received in his letter-box £116, composed of shillings and half-crowns, from boys, men, and domestic servants, besides large gifts from wealthy parishioners. Some of the scraps of paper contained badly-written and ill-spelled, but very touching, words of love and devotion, as well as prayers on the Society's behalf.

When the Principal of Ridley Hall speaks he commands attention; and since he has thought it needful to speak some very serious language on the danger he finds existing among young men of abandoning the home field for foreign, we may be sure such a danger exists; and it is a grave one. Principal Moule is so ardent a sympathizer with missionary work, and has trained so many labourers for it, that such a caution from him carries peculiar weight.

The C.M.S. may have pecuniary difficulties to face just now; but, at any rate, the state of things in and about Sierra Leone brings its burden to the committee—and not to the committee only. The Rev. W. J. Humphrey, Principal of Fourah Bay College, has, it seems, been made a prisoner by the insurgents. His wife, as well as others, may well have

sad forebodings about him ; and if Mr. Alvarez himself at Falaba is " a long way beyond the other places named in connection with the disturbances," messengers from Falaba have been more than once attacked, and all letters destroyed, so that news of him had for weeks (on March 28) been lacking.

Some correspondence which has lately been begun in the *Record*, moreover, is disclosing some very disquieting facts in connection with the supply of candidates for Holy Orders among us. The pity is that so much writing, in such cases, is anonymous. The want of an attesting signature must carry its own disadvantages with it. But the statements made are, if true, painful enough.

Arrangements are being made for two public meetings in London on behalf of the Queen Victoria Clergy Fund, one in the Great Hall of the Church House on Tuesday, May 10 (Convocation week), at 3.30 p.m., under the chairmanship of Earl Egerton of Tatton ; and the other by kind permission of the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, on Monday, July 4, at 3 p.m., when it is hoped that the Lord Mayor himself will preside.

The Archdeacon of London presided at a meeting of the City clergy, convened for the purpose of considering an order shortly to be issued by the Charity Commissioners for regulating the annual sums paid to incumbents and churchwardens of City churches for maintenance of Divine service and fabric. The order is to empower the Commissioners to reduce such annual payment, or entirely suspend it when circumstances arise which would warrant their doing so. This explanation, however, it is stated, does not satisfy either the clergy or churchwardens. They hold that such power might easily be abused, and many of the churches dispossessed of the funds on which they rely for the payment of officials and repairs to fabrics. A memorial was drawn up, setting forth their objections to the proposed order, which will be duly forwarded to the Commissioners.

The Church Missionary Society is just entering upon its centenary year, and the Bishop of Exeter has written strongly urging the committee to make an effort to raise the sum of one million sterling during the year. As a beginning he offers the sum of £1,000, and intimates his readiness to give at the close of the year a second £1,000 if it should be needed to make up the million suggested.

#### DONATIONS, BEQUESTS, AND APPEALS.

Mrs. Charles Turner has made another munificent contribution to the diocese of Liverpool, having promised £1,000 conditionally for the new Diocesan Church House. Mrs. Turner has already given £2,000 to the same object.

We quote the following from the *Guardian*: " Sir J. W. Maclure, M.P., has received the following from Sir W. Cunliffe Brooks :

"Close Brooks, Antibes, Alpes Maritimes, March 20, 1898.—Dear Sir John William Maclure,—So pleased to receive enclosed from you. Gladly I have added my name, and ordered payment of the amount. The effort of giving is one thing, but the effort of arousing public interest to a practical result is another. This has happily been accomplished by you and by your very reverend brother. The thanks of the community are accorded to you both."

"The enclosure referred to was a list of contributions to the building fund of the west front and Victoria porch of Manchester Cathedral. The sum subscribed up to the present is £6,093 2s., of which Sir William

Cunliffe Brooks has contributed £2,000. This special fund is in addition to the £50,000 which was raised mainly by Sir J. W. Maclure and the Dean of Manchester for the restoration of the cathedral."

#### SELECTED NEW BOOKS.

- Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar* (as edited and enlarged by Kautzsch). Revised by A. E. COWLEY, M.A. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Menander's ΠΡΟΠΤΟΣ*. A Revised Text of the Geneva Fragment, with Translation and Notes. By B. P. GRENFELL, M.A., and A. S. HUNT, M.A. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Price 1s. 6d.
- Aristocracy and Evolution*. By W. H. MALLOCK. A. and C. Black. Price 12s. 6d.
- Divine Immanence*. By J. R. ILLINGWORTH, M.A. (Bampton Lecturer, 1894). Macmillan. Price 7s. 6d.
- Life and Work of Archbishop Benson*. By J. A. CARR, LL.D. (author of "The Life of Archbishop Ussher"). Elliot Stock. Price 6s.
- Introduction to the Study of Sociology*. By J. H. W. STUCKENBERG. Hodder and Stoughton. Price 9s.

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### Obituary.

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THE Rev. R. B. Tritton, M.A., of the well-known banking family, died, at the age of 79, on March 31, within a day or two, says a writer in the *Guardian*, of the death of his wife's sister (known, first as Miss Lindsay and later as Mrs. Bliss, by her pathetic songs), after five years of retirement from public life. One of a group which comprised such men as Cayley, Mours, and Clarke (so the *Guardian* writer, or his printer, spells the names), that sat at the scholars' table at Trinity, Cambridge, years ago, and marked, even then, by the devotional habits which characterized his subsequent life, he was for thirty-two years at Oxford, where Archbishop Warham built so costly a palace, and subsequently for twelve at Bognor. On an excursion to Rome, a few years ago, when Mrs. Bliss above-mentioned was one of the party, he suffered a double calamity in the sickening and dying of his wife and a daughter who were with him, and from the effects of that sorrow he never seems to have recovered. The church and the vicarage of Bognor were largely helped by his liberality.

On Easter Day there died one who had been thirty-eight years connected with Bath—the Rev. Prebendary Buttenshaw. Though he seems to have held no incumbency since 1873, he did a great deal of work, and was, till 1886, the regular afternoon lecturer at St. Andrew's, Walcot.

The day before Good Friday there was laid in the churchyard of Little Wenlock, near Wellington, in Shropshire, the body of its late rector, Canon T. A. Nash, of whom Canon Christopher (whose curate he was for eight years) supplies a feeling notice in the *Record*. Not ordained till he was thirty, he spent thirty-six laborious years in the ministry. His work lay in Oxford; at Heigham, in Norwich; at Ball's Pond, in Islington; and at Lowestoft, before he went to the Shropshire village. And his last days were cheered by the help of a very valuable curate, the Rev. D. H. J. Cranage, so well-known for his architectural skill as well as his spiritual character.