

Protestant centuries with respect to their comparative interest in St. Paul and Justification is startling and instructive. During the former period one commentary on the Romans appeared on an average every two hundred years; during the latter period one commentary on the Romans has appeared every seven or eight years. No better proof could be furnished of the impetus given by the Reformation to the study of the Bible, and no more pungent exposure of the fraudulent absurdity which calls the Middle Ages the Ages of Faith. In the long line of expositors of Holy Scripture no undistinguished place will belong to the learned authors of this Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans.

H. J. R. MARSTON.

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## Short Notices.

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*The Elector King and Priest.* By ANDREW SIMON LAMB. Nisbet. 1898.

THIS is a sequel to "A Briton's Birthright," and is a very forcible vindication of the Protestant character of the Church of England. It would be a valuable little book were it only for the fact that it calls attention to the "Book of Homilies" in the best possible way—viz., by giving large extracts from them in their original wording. The Homilies of our Church are hardly known to the present generation as they should be; yet, amid much questionable matter, there is a vast deal of "wholesome doctrine" to be found in them, extremely "serviceable for these times." Of course, it is to be understood that the authority of these Homilies is not binding upon Churchmen, as, for instance, the Articles are binding (*cf.* Gibson on the Thirty-nine Articles, pp. 723-728).

*Daily Steps Heavenward.* By MRS. AUGUSTUS A. LYNE. London: Elliot Stock.

This little book contains a text for each day in the year, with an original verse of poetry. The spirit of the latter is unexceptionable, but we must confess that the wording is trite.

*Dr. J. L. Phillips.* A Biographical Sketch, by his Wife. Edited by W. J. WINTLE. London: The Sunday-School Union.

Dr. James Phillips was himself the son of a Baptist missionary in India, and followed in his father's footsteps. He was educated in the United States, and we may notice in passing that a vivid account is given of the reign of mob law in New York at one time during the Civil War. He qualified as a medical doctor, and on his return to India worked mainly amongst the Santals. But his labours extended over a wide range, and he eventually became secretary of the India Sunday-School Union, dying in 1895. Many an interesting glimpse into Indian life is given us in this very full memoir of a man who was evidently faithful and earnest in no common degree. From the point of view of the general

reader, a little excision would be profitable; but the volume will prove a useful addition to the libraries of gleaners' unions or missionary associations.

*The Anglican Communion.* Sermons preached in St. James's Church, Piccadilly. London: S.P.C.K.

This series of sermons was delivered during the time of the Lambeth Conference in 1897. The object contemplated was to bring home to English Churchmen the growth of the Church beyond the seas in lands of our own tongue. No preachers could better illustrate this than the Bishop of Kentucky, the Archbishops of Rupert's Land, of Sydney, and of Cape Town, and the Bishop of Calcutta. It is most inspiring to read the words of these fathers in God. At a time when imperialism is in the air, and federation in the future, it is most important that the part played by the Church should be made apparent to all. Nothing could make the elementary history clearer than this little book, full of facts and appeals, delivered by men of such authority.

*The Psalms at Work.* By the Rev. C. L. MARSON. Enlarged edition. London: Elliot Stock.

We gladly welcome a new edition of this bright, and, indeed, charming work, of which we spoke highly when it first appeared. Besides additional notes, there is now an appendix, but the price remains the same. We wish it continued success. Without in the slightest endorsing it, we cannot refrain from quoting a remark of the genial and humorous editor in his preface to the new edition:

"Without doubt the warmest praise of the book has come from its elder readers, and for these the editor is sure that it is still entirely suitable. He may be allowed to say this with less immodesty, because it has generally been found (upon inquiry) that the eyes of such students did not suffer them to read the small print, and that it is to David, therefore, that their thanks, and his, are wholly due."

*A Summary of the Psalms.* By Canon D. D. STEWART, M.A. London: Elliot Stock.

This is another valuable addition to the collection of those who are "lovers of David." The author's intention is to provide within a comparatively short space a commentary on the Psalms for each morning or evening service, which may be studied in about ten minutes before attendance at public worship. This object is eminently fulfilled. A careful synopsis of each psalm is given, with explanations of the chief difficulties, and its general motive is illustrated with apt quotations, verses and allusions. For instance, Ps. cxi. is compared to the saying of Pascal—"Philosophy seeks truth; Theology finds it; but Religion possesses it;" and under Ps. cxxiv. the use of the French *Églises Réformées* is noted, which always begin their services with its last verse. There are useful notes on parallelism and various musical terms. Altogether a deeply interesting book, which evinces wide reading and holy thinking.