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After much perhaps inevitable delay an appointment has been made to the Central Secretaryship of the Church Missionary Society. The Committee offered the position to the Rev. Canon John Stephen Flynn, Rector of St. Mewan, St. Austell, Cornwall, and he has accepted it. Canon Flynn will bring to his duties a varied experience and a keen interest in the Society's affairs. He has a difficult post to fill, and will enjoy the sympathy of all who know how great at present its responsibilities are. The Rev. J. D. Mullins, sometime Assistant Editorial Secretary of the C.M.S., succeeds Canon Hurst as Secretary of the Colonial and Continental Church Society.

The *Record* has published a careful analysis, by Mr. Linden Heitland, of the facts disclosed by an examination of the last issue of the English Church Union *Tourist's Church Guide*. The figures in relation to the use of incense and of the Mass vestments are of a regrettable character. A comparison of the returns in this year's issue of the *Guide* with those in the previous edition (published in 1898) show that, while the use of incense has, within the last three years, been abolished in 44 churches, it has been *introduced* in 24 churches, and that the total number of churches using incense "on certain occasions" is now 269 as against 289 in 1898. The figures in regard to the wearing of the Mass vestments are still more deplorable. In 1898 they were worn in 1,528 churches; now the number has increased to 1,637.

Reviews.

THEOLOGICAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL WORKS.

The International Critical Commentary: The Epistles of St. Peter and St. Jude. By the Rev. C. BIGG, D.D. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

DR. Bigg's volume is one of the most satisfactory and valuable of the series to which it belongs. The freshness of treatment suggested by the Preface is apparent throughout. Dr. Bigg always presents his view in an interesting way. Thus, his Introductory matter, whilst a monument of industry, is as readable as the character of such work will permit. The question of the authorship of 1 and 2 Peter is dealt with in much detail, whilst the doctrine and organization of the Church as shown in 1 Peter, the characters of St. Paul and St. Peter as revealed in the New Testament, and other points suggested by the contents of the Epistles, are carefully treated at length. The notes to the three Epistles are always illuminating and helpful. No difficulties are evaded, and the constant habit of illustrating one passage of Holy Scripture by another is most welcome. The commentary will also be found suggestive on its homiletical side, a quality not always manifest in works marked by accurate scholarship.

Two Studies in the Book of Common Prayer. By the Rev. T. W. DRURY. London: Nisbet and Co.

Mr. Drury has followed up his admirable little manual, *How we Got our Prayer-Book*, by two "Studies," which are exceedingly welcome just now. The first deals with the use of the Lord's Prayer in the Liturgy, and the

reader who follows Mr. Drury's account will gather much information as to the pre-Reformation service-books and the changes made at the Reformation. The second "Study" discusses non-communicating attendance at the Holy Communion in the light of the successive revisions of the Prayer-Book. Mr. Drury examines the evidence with care, and shows that the purpose of the Reformers was to prepare a form of service, from the exhortations onward, for communicants only. Mr. Drury's useful little "Study" was much needed, and we hope that his book will have the wide circulation it deserves.

The Key of Knowledge. By WILLIAM G. RUTHERFORD. London: Macmillan and Co.

These sermons, preached to Westminster boys by their headmaster, have merits as well as some defects. They are not marked by that direct and forcible appeal to the heart which characterizes the best sermons to the young. But they suggest high ideals, and are often characterized by a good deal of kindly wisdom.

The Biblical Illustrator: Proverbs. By the Rev. J. S. EXELL. London: Nisbet and Co.

Proverbs is not a book to which the preacher very often goes; but the wealth of homiletical outlines and illustrations brought together by Mr. Exell shows that the material for pulpit use is there in abundance. He draws upon a wide variety of sources, and the outlines offered are never deficient in value.

A Key to unlock the Bible. By JOSEPH AGAR BEET. London: R.T.S.

This is a brief, well-arranged and lucidly-written manual, well calculated to promote the intelligent study of Holy Scripture. The young reader could hardly fail to gain a clear idea of the character and message of the Bible, whilst he might also be stimulated to further inquiry.

"Life" in St. John's Gospel. By the Rev. J. GURNEY HOARE. London: S.P.C.K.

Canon Gurney Hoare has collected the passages in St. John in which "Life" occurs, and has appended to them some short and pointed chapters on Life as received by the believer and the Life to be lived by him.

Notes of Confirmation Lectures on the Church Catechism. By the Right Rev. E. F. L. BLUNT, D.D., Bishop of Hull. London: S.P.C.K. New edition.

This is a new edition of a well-known and widely-used book for the preparation of candidates for Confirmation.

The Church, the Churches and the Mysteries. By G. H. PEMBER, M.A. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

There is a good deal to deplore in the present state of the English Church, but it is not wisely discussed by Mr. Pember. There is nothing judicial in his consideration of the subject, but much rather wild writing, which in parts will give pain to Churchmen.

The Reformation Settlement examined in the Light of History and Law. By the Rev. MALCOLM MACCOLL. London: Longmans and Co.

Canon MacColl's book still sells, an interesting proof of the urgent necessity which extreme Anglicans feel for some defence of their position. In this edition—the tenth—the author refers in a new preface to some recent critics.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

The Modern Mission Century, viewed as a Cycle of Divine Working. By ARTHUR T. PIERSON. London: J. Nisbet and Co., Ltd.

The striking development of the work of foreign missions which marked the closing decades of the nineteenth century made it natural to look for some review of the century in its relation to foreign missions. We have had the histories of individual agencies, and hitherto we have had no adequate survey of the field as a whole and the workers as one body. The gap is now filled in part by the appearance of Dr. Pierson's book. His, however, is not the aim of the annalist. He has not set himself to write a solid history of mission enterprise; his task is to review the field and its workers in relation to the influence of the Holy Spirit. Thus, in dealing with such subjects as woman's work, or missionary literature, or missionary martyrs, he is never exhaustive. But Dr. Pierson has a wide knowledge of facts, great skill in setting them in picturesque array, and the faculty of rising, as occasion demands, into real eloquence. In effect his book is as much a plea for as an account of Christian missions. It cannot fail to lend great support to the cause since it is equally likely to convince the gainsayer and to stimulate the friends of all missionary enterprise.

Towards the Sunrising. By J. K. H. DENNY. London: Marshall Bros.

This unpretentious volume fills a void in the literature of missions, for it gives a connected and interesting account of women's work for India. Careful regard is had to the special characteristics of medical, educational and village work; but the record of earlier efforts, when women's part in missionary labours had not been popularly recognised, is not the least interesting part of the volume. The book is freely illustrated, and should find a place on the shelves of all who intelligently follow the steps taken for the evangelization of India.

An Artist's Walks in Bible Lands. By HENRY A. HARPER. London: R.T.S.

This handsome volume preserves for us a number of the late Mr. Harper's magazine articles. They are all of real interest to the Bible student, conveying as they do the impressions gathered by a devout observer on the spot. The illustrations are particularly good, and they have been reproduced with great success. As the Christmas gift-book season is upon us, Mr. Harper's volume should win the attention of those who want a work likely to interest the Bible student.

Woodland, Field and Shore. By OLIVER G. PIKE. London: R.T.S.

This is an interesting book, chiefly about British wild birds and their habits; though there is also a little about animals, insects and flowers. The text is illustrated from photographs taken by the author, and all the pictures are instructive as well as pretty. The volume should interest and entertain young and old.

The Awakening of Anthony Weir. By SILAS K. HOCKING. London: R.T.S.

Mr. Hocking's novel is a powerful protest against young men entering the ministry from a desire for self-aggrandisement, and a warning to deacons that they should aim at something more than a crowded chapel and a large income from pew-rents. Anthony Weir, a talented and ambitious youth, is appointed to the pulpit of a chapel which is considered one of the prizes of the denomination. He is an eloquent preacher, and

becomes exceedingly popular; but a consciousness of his own shortcomings as a pastor dawns upon him, and eventually, after many trials, he starts afresh with a determination to be worthy of his calling.

A Thousand Pities. By ELLEN TAYLOR. London: Fisher Unwin.

This story contains some excellent descriptions of life in the New Zealand Bush. A young Englishman, wishing to rough it, emigrates to New Zealand, and at a lonely Bush station meets a young Scotch girl, with whom he falls in love. But she, believing her father, brother and sister to be dipsomaniacs, declines his offer of marriage because of the family taint. There is tragedy as well as love in the story, which, however, comes to an agreeable ending. Our enjoyment of "A Thousand Pities" was, unfortunately, marred by the printers having muddled the first five chapters.

Francis and Dominic. By Professor J. HERKLESS. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

This is a number of a series entitled "The World's Epoch-makers." It is an interesting account of two great medieval personages, and of the Orders they founded. Professor Herkless deals frankly, but without exaggeration, with the history of the Franciscans and Dominicans. It is not a record which lends much support to any revival of such agencies, or the disposition to imitate them within the boundaries of the Anglican communion.

The Gold that Perisheth. By DAVID LYALL. London: R.T.S.

This is an up-to-date story for home reading and general circulation. The life of a millionaire and the evils of seeking at any cost to get wealth are contrasted with the devotion and self-sacrifice of earnest Christian characters. The religious teaching is sound.

Heather's Mistress. By AMY LE FEUVRE. London: R.T.S.

Young girls should find this story engrossing. It conveys a useful warning against yielding to the attractions of the world, and so imperilling faith and peace. All ends well, and the moral of the story can hardly be missed by young readers.

CHRISTMAS GIFT-BOOKS.

We have received from the S.P.C.K. a number of attractively got-up story-books, varying in size and price as in subject-matter. *Out on the Llanos*, by ACHILLES DAUNT (3s. 6d.), is an excellent adventure-story for boys. The wilds of Colombia present many possibilities for exciting stories, and *Out on the Llanos* is founded on facts. The book should be a treasure to boys of all ages. *Kitty*, by ADELA FRANCES MOUNT (2s.), will delight girls. Kitty is a good child who is trying always to keep her father from evil ways. In the end she succeeds, but only after having had a rather bad time. *Sir Phelim's Treasure*, by H. A. HINKSON (2s. 6d.), is another book which should be very welcome amongst boys. The hero has a most exciting time. He sets out to discover a hidden treasure, which should belong to the heroine's father. Of course he is successful, and the book ends well. *Like cures Like*, by CATHERINE E. MALLANDAINE (3s. 6d.), appeals to girls, who are sure to enjoy this book. Marjorie Tennant, after the death of her father, is sent to live with an uncle, who is understood to live in grand style. He is in fact a poor man, though he had once been rich. He alarms Marjorie, and she leaves him, but they are reconciled before the old man's death. *The Chronicles of Durnford*, by JOHN CARTWRIGHT (1s. 6d.), should succeed. A public school story is always popular amongst boys, and the *Chronicles of Durn-*

ford will be no exception to the rule. *A Girl's Resolve*, by E. S. CURRY (1s.), is another book which girls are likely to enjoy. Patience Bertram has a somewhat hard time at first, but is eventually married happily to a soldier. *One Woman's Work*, by ANNETTE LYSTER (2s.), should appeal to elder girls. It is concerned with the fortunes and misfortunes of a girl who, because she had no home, was brought up by a poor woman. *An Irish Cousin*, by CATHERINE MARY MACSORLEY (1s. 6d.), is a pretty story quite certain to be welcomed by children in the schoolroom. One is obliged to pity Gerald in his old lonely life, and we feel quite pleased when his estate comes back to the family. *Golden-hearted*, by M. BRAMSTON (1s. 6d.), is a captivating story for elder girls. At the beginning of the book the difference between Helen and Lottie is very great, but Helen improves, and at the end of the story is a model wife and mother. *The Children's Campaign*, by the author of *Peter the Peacemaker* (1s. 6d.), is quite out of the common. Cicely and Olga are really fascinating children, though too fond of their own way. *Little John Cope*, by L. L. WEEDON (1s.), is an exciting story for girls or boys. It deals with the Jacobite rebellion of 1745. *In Luck's Way*, by CATHERINE E. MALLANDAINE (1s.), is another book for girls. It shows clearly the consequences of one wrong thing done. *Eyes and no Eyes*, by DR. AIKEN, Mrs. MARCET, Mrs. BARBAULD and JANE TAYLOR (paper cover 4d., cloth 6d.), is a reprint which ought to be welcome again among children. *The Blue Dragons*, by R. L. S. (2d.) and *Nine Days*, by S. L. G. H. (4d.), are books for little people. *Roses, Sweet Roses*, by the Rev. W. J. BETTISON, M.A. (9d.), is a pretty little story for girls. *Told by the Twins*, by F. LETHBRIDGE FARMER (9d.), is supposed to be written by a twin brother and sister, and is suitable for little children. It is a pretty, though very simple, story of home life in an everyday household. *Faithful Pollie*, by JESSIE CHALLACOMBE (6d.), is certainly a pretty story in its way, but is not quite suitable for little children. It tells how a little girl fulfilled her mother's dying request and was kind to her once drunken father. We have also to acknowledge: *Jim's Temptation*, by ELLEN M. BLUNT (9d.); *Father's Man*, by the Rev. W. J. BETTISON, M.A. (6d.); *The Roses of the Red House*, by M. A. DEBENHAM (6d.), and *Prayer-Book Stories*, by C. M. VINCENT (6d.).

Messrs. Nisbet and Co. publish some books which should be in favour with those who seek attractive volumes for young people. Miss VIOLET BROOKE-HUNT'S *Lord Roberts: A Life for Boys* (6s.), is the work of one who is personally acquainted with her subject, and has watched him in the South African War. The story of his career is vividly told, and will fascinate all boy readers. In *One of the Red Shirts* (6s.), Mr. HERBERT HAYNES goes back to the heroic deeds of the once popular hero Garibaldi, and entwines with them the exploits of an adventurous young Englishman. *The Key to the Riddle*, by MARGARET S. COMRIE (5s.), is a vivid and powerful story of the Vaudois persecution. The plot is ingeniously constructed, the characters readily win the reader's sympathies, and the tone of the book is soundly Protestant.

Mr. C. J. Thynne, of Great Queen Street, sends us several popular publications likely to be useful in parish work. One is a new edition (23rd thousand) of Dr. Preston's lucid little "Anti-Ritualism," a catechism on the Communion Office. "Stand Fast," Dr. Wace's sermon for the Protestant Reformation Society, appears as a neat pamphlet at 1d.