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Literary Notes.

OF course, *the* literary item of the present month is the publication of Mr. Winston Churchill's Life of his father, Lord Randolph Churchill. It is due on the 5th instant. There are several points about this important work which are of interest. First and foremost, there is a feverish desire among all earnest men to discover the inner workings of the mind of the man whose genius made itself heard so early in life, and which had so emphatic an influence upon the political world during the later years of the reign of Victoria. It is doubtful if any biography has been looked for with such interest as this one, excepting, perhaps, Mr. Morley's "Gladstone"—which, by the way, we are glad to learn is being bought freely by the more intelligent working men. We now only need one to complete the trio of political biographies, and that is a Life of Disraeli. Another circle of men, other than the politicians, who are anxiously awaiting Mr. Churchill's work, are the younger literary men, who see in him one of the most brilliant men, contemporary with themselves, of their particular sphere of life. Mr. Churchill's "River War" was sufficiently picturesque, unconventional, and strong as to augur well for all his future undertakings. To the publisher and bookseller also this publication has an interest. Messrs. Macmillan conceived the idea of issuing in advance of Christmas forms of instruction to deliver a copy to the holder, upon presentation, immediately the work was issued. It was a good and a new idea, because there are many who would regard "The Life of Lord Randolph Churchill" an ideal Christmas present. Lord Randolph Churchill occupied so conspicuous a position among his contemporaries in political life, and impressed his personality so effectively on the public mind of his time, that there can be no doubt about the great success of the undertaking. It is said that the agreement between the author and the publisher is an exceedingly generous one. Undoubtedly it will be the book of the present publishing season.



Messrs. Archibald Constable and Co., whose rapid development from a small office in Westminster, near the Houses of Parliament, to larger premises in the same city, and eventually to even more commodious offices in James Street, Haymarket, is a striking evidence of the great march that the demand for good literature is making, to say nothing of the effort upon the part of such publishing houses to meet this demand by issuing books "good and true," which are not of the ephemeral kind, but can be classed as Literature. Messrs. Constable have commenced a little series of interesting books under the general heading "Religions: Ancient and Modern," in which it is proposed to present the salient features, first of the Great Religions, secondly of the Great Philosophies, of the Human Race. Some of the contributors to

this series are Mr. Edward Clodd, Professor Giles, Dr. A. C. Haddon, Professor Petrie, Professor Rhys Davids, Mr. W. A. Craigie, Mr. Israel Abrahams, and others. The price per volume is one shilling net.



Mr. G. A. Morton, who was originally the manager of Messrs. Blackwoods, and who recently started publishing on his own account in Edinburgh, is going to publish an English translation of Mr. Louis Elbé's "La Vie Future," in the early spring. It was published in Paris a few weeks ago, and caused a great deal of discussion in religious and scientific circles. *Apropos* of publishers' managers starting a house of their own, it will be remembered that another recent instance was Mr. T. W. Laurie, who was Mr. Unwin's right-hand man. Both Mr. Morton and Mr. Laurie are Scotsmen. Other modern publishers who served their time in older houses are Mr. Heinemann, who was originally with Trübner and Co.; Mr. Nash, at one time a literary adviser to Messrs. Constable; Mr. Sealey Clark, connected originally with various publishing houses; Mr. Grant Richards, who learnt of books at Messrs. Hamilton before their amalgamation with the Simpkins'; and Mr. Stanley Service (Messrs. Seeley and Co.) was at one time with Messrs. Nisbet, afterwards opening a house (with Mr. Paton) of his own, from thence to the managerial position at Pearson's, and finally to Messrs. Seeley's, which business has already felt the value of his work. There are one or two others, but the above names are just those which have come to my mind.



Altogether, eight volumes have appeared in Messrs. Putnam's series, the "Heroes of the Reformation," the last being "Balthasar Hubmaier, the Leader of the Anabaptists," by Henry C. Vedder, who is Professor of Church History in Crozer Theological Seminary, in the United States. Two new volumes are promised for 1906: "John Calvin (1509-1564), the Founder of Reformed Protestantism," by Williston Walker, Ph.D.; and "The Satirists and Satires of the Reformation, both Protestant and Catholic," by Oliphant Smeaton. Dr. Macaulay Jackson is the editor of this series.



"Seven Friends" and an editor, Archdeacon Sandford of Exeter, are responsible for a "Memoir of Archbishop Temple," to be published immediately by the Macmillans. The seven are: Canon Wilson, Mr. H. J. Roby, Mr. F. E. Kitchener, Archdeacon Sandford, Archdeacon Bevan, the Bishop of Bristol, and Archdeacon Spooner.



"Episcopal Reminiscences," by Bishop Potter of New York, is coming out simultaneously in New York and London this spring. It is likely to be a very interesting volume, and its contents will appeal to English as well as American readers.



It may not be generally known that there is an English translation of an Italian book, "In the Country of Jesus," which has justified its importance by the fact that in Italy it has gone through thirty editions. The author is Matilde Serao, who is quite orthodox in his belief. The book, which is translated by Richard Davey, is a delightful record of a journey through the Holy Land.

M. C.



Notices of Books.

BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

THE TESTIMONY OF ST. PAUL TO CHRIST. By R. J. Knowling, D.D.
London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 10s. net.

THIS large volume represents the Boyle Lectures, twenty-four in number, for the years 1903-1905, and it treats of some of the more important aspects of St. Paul's testimony to our Lord. In the first series of lectures the documents are carefully considered in the light of modern criticism. The second series discusses St. Paul's testimony in relation to the Gospels, and the third deals with St. Paul's testimony in relation to the life of the Church. Canon Knowling's knowledge of German criticism is remarkable for its fulness and variety. Nothing seems to have escaped him, and no point raised by even the most extreme criticism is left untouched. Indeed, our only fear is that there is too much detailed discussion of the varieties and even vagaries of German criticism to be of use to most readers. But English students who do not know German will find here a valuable amount of clear information about the most recent works, such as those of Bousset, Weinel, Wernle, Wrede, and Clemen. Dr. Knowling writes with characteristic modesty in his preface that the lectures make no pretension to exhaust the great subject, but it would be hard to say what aspect of importance has been left unnoticed. The book appears at an opportune moment, for it is impossible to overlook the trend of present-day critical thought on the New Testament, or to exaggerate the gravity of the issues raised. There is a persistent endeavour to make out that the earliest conception of Christ was Ebionitic, and that it was only afterwards that the *Aberglaube* of the Christian Church exalted Him to an equality with God. St. Paul's witness is the simple but sufficient disproof of this contention, and Dr. Knowling's work will render the greatest possible service in this respect to the cause of Christian truth. The discussion of the documents is marked at once by great candour and confidence, every point of attack being clearly faced and convincingly met. The varied character of the audience to which these lectures were addressed enables the author to deal with several popular aspects of the subject, and accordingly we have chapters on such topics as "St. Paul and Personal Devotion," "St. Paul and Social Life," "St. Paul and Missionary Work." The book closes with a long and valuable chapter on recent literature. The work is clearly one that will be needed by every serious student of New