NOTICES OF BOOKS

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.

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Notices of Books.

BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

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
Testament Christianity. In a field that Dr. Knowling has made peculiarly his own, we have here the fruit of years of ripe study and teaching. Perhaps we may be allowed to add that Durham University is to be congratulated on the accession of such a scholar to its teaching staff.

**The Days of His Flesh; the Earthly Life of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.** By the Rev. David Smith, M.A. London: Hodder and Stoughton. Price 10s. 6d. net.

A new life of our Lord, whose aim, to use the author's words, is "to vindicate the historicity of the evangelic records." As a result we have a long and important introductory essay on the evangelic records, and then the life itself in forty-nine chapters, followed by eight appendices which discuss a number of difficulties found in the Gospels. The work is at once scholarly and popular, and, as the author suggests, those who do not wish for technical discussion can easily omit the introduction and the appendices. We confess to feeling somewhat perplexed by the apparently conflicting statements on the question of the evangelic records. In the preface we are told that the author endeavours to vindicate the historicity of these records, and yet the discussion seems to detract seriously from their historicity. The theory of the Synoptic problem favoured by Mr. Smith is that "each Gospel is an independent reproduction of the Apostolic tradition, and the differences are such variations as were natural and inevitable in the process of oral transmission." This is an interesting and somewhat refreshing deviation from the prevailing documentary theory at present favoured by scholars. The author considers that the Evangelists were not so much authors as editors, and that their task was the arrangement of the confused and disconnected oral tradition. Consequently, he thinks that free manipulation of material was inevitable (p. xx); and while the Evangelists guarded the deposit with scrupulous fidelity, it was inevitable that the tradition should suffer in the process of oral transmission (p. xxi). Among such results are (1) slips of memory; (2) fusion of similar but distinct passages; (3) emendation of what was deemed incredible or unintelligible; (4) mutilation of obscure *logia*; (5) tradition modified into mere precise agreement with the Old Testament; (6) confusion due to erroneous editorial presuppositions; (7) comments inserted as *logia* of Jesus. Mr. Smith also argues that John not only supplements but also corrects the Synoptists, and, further, that the oral tradition, by which he means the common matter of the Gospels, stopped short at the Crucifixion, and omitted the supreme fact of the Resurrection (p. xxxiv). The last verses of St. Mark's Gospel are described as "a later supplement, and quite valueless" (p. xxxviii). Then comes the conclusion, which reads very strangely: "It appears as the result of this investigation that the evangelic history is worthy of all acceptation." This method of vindication perplexes us, for the historicity of the narratives seems to us very seriously threatened by the author's treatment. Leaving out entirely any question of inspiration, when the Evangelists are charged with slips of memory and manipulation of material we naturally seek to know where and how the limits of historicity are to be defined. When, however, we turn to the life itself, the atmosphere at once becomes different. There is an
intellectual freshness, a literary charm, and a spiritual glow about the narrative which is wholly satisfying and delightful. Of course, we do not accept all the author’s arrangement of his material or every interpretation, but his treatment is helpful and his interpretations often suggestive even when not convincing. Mary Magdalene, the woman who was a sinner, and Mary of Bethany, are regarded as one and the same person. The discourses at Capernaum in St. John vi. are interpreted as a prophecy of the sacrament. “When He fed the multitude at Bethsaida the sacrament was before His mind” (p. 236). Thus do Presbyterians and Anglo-Romanists sometimes meet. For our part we prefer Bishop Westcott’s discussion of that notable chapter. While generally the author holds firmly to the miraculous element, there are concessions which will not satisfy many of his readers. He will not allow the coin in the fish’s mouth to be a miracle, but “only a piece of raillery,” and he adds that if it were a miracle it would be “grotesque,” which is an entirely gratuitous supposition. On the subject of demoniacal possession he argues that it was nothing more than lunacy, and he considers that our Lord accommodated Himself to the prevailing view by seeming to admit the fact of such possession. To sum up, while we consider the author’s spirit of concession is often carried too far, and his treatment of his authorities unnecessarily free, and really impossible on any true idea of inspiration, the work itself will prove of great service to students and general readers as a suggestive and informing discussion of the Life of lives. The materials of the Gospels are interwoven in a very skilful, intelligible, and readable form, and are illustrated by a wealth of Patristic, Rabbinical, and Medieval quotation and allusion. Footnotes are numerous, and indicative of very wide and full reading. It was time that we had another treatment of our Lord’s earthly manifestation, and apart from the serious and grave exceptions already referred to, this book will do much to provide what was required.


The third edition of one of the best known and most popular of Bishop Westcott’s works. Owing to the Bishop’s inability to bring out another edition, Dr. Aldis Wright undertook the task at the Bishop’s request, and with the aid of his materials. The result is the work before us. Dr. Aldis Wright thus states his position: “The plan of the work is unchanged. Every statement and every quotation have been verified. Such corrections as were necessary have been silently made, and all additions are placed in the notes in square brackets.” These corrections are often of an important nature, and include an endeavour to reduce the method of reference to authorities to a system more consistent with chronology. Real additions are also made, and more recent works on the same subject have been consulted and used. It will be seen how extremely valuable this third edition will prove, combining, as it does, the learning of two great Cambridge scholars. It is far too late in the day to do anything else than call attention to a work which will long be absolutely indispensable to all students of
the subject. It is inspiring to read again the story of Wycliffe, Tindale, Matthew, Cranmer, and the Authorized Version, and to realize afresh what has been involved in the history of our English Bible. We could have wished that Dr. Aldis Wright had added a concluding chapter on our Revised Version, but probably he considered this outside his province as editor.


Dr. Luckock has here brought together a number of papers on separate subjects involving difficulties of interpretation found in the Bible and the Prayer-Book. They include such subjects as "The Blessing of Jael," "The Imprecatory Psalms," "The Book of Ecclesiastes," and other Bible problems. On all these topics the Dean has much to offer, which is always suggestive and not unfrequently convincing. It is only when we come to deal with ecclesiastical and theological questions, such as priesthood, absolution, and the sacrament, that we have to part company with him. In discussing these he is the advocate of extreme views of Church doctrine and government, and his ecclesiastical position gives such a bias to his reasoning that the discussion proceeds almost entirely on *a priori* lines. The points made will not often stand the test of Scripture exegesis or Prayer-Book history. Consequently, we read without being at all convinced or even impressed with the arguments. As in former works of Dr. Luckock, we always read him with pleasure and profit when he is occupied with purely spiritual topics, and when his scholarship and spirituality have free course unhindered by ecclesiastical prepossessions.

**The Pastoral Idea.** By James Theodore Inskip, Vicar of Leyton. Macmillan and Co. 6s.

This book contains ten lectures on ministerial life and work delivered in 1905 to theological students at King's College, London. Any clergyman might well read this book with profit, although it is primarily addressed to prospective assistant-curates. "The pastor's inner life" is laid deep to start with. After that we have strong and wise words of spiritual and practical value on almost every point in a young clergyman's life on which brotherly hints and counsel are needed. It is full of strong common-sense and of fearless and courteous piety. A few sentences gathered promiscuously may be cited as samples of some of the author's ideas: "In our preaching the death of Christ must be our key-note." "Foreign missions ought to be of absorbing interest to us, because our Lord is waiting for the Gospel to be proclaimed to all nations." "Personal experience of deliverance by the living Christ from the guilt and power of sin." "Decay of conviction may co-exist with great activity on the part of the Church." "In an average town parish a curate ought to visit for some fifteen hours in the week at least." "In raising money you must be careful not to damage what is more precious than money—the souls of your people." "Some clergymen will spend hours over their newspaper, but minutes over their Bible." Mr. Inskip makes good use of utterances and suggestions from accredited exemplars of pastoral ability. Bishop Gore
is quoted for "conversion." A "confraternity" priest bears witness to the value of "prayer-meetings." Amongst others, Dolling and Butler of Wantage have something to teach us, as well as Bernard Gilpin, Lightfoot, Liddon, Latham, Moule, Chavasse, Holson of Liverpool, Evan Roberts, and Torrey. This, for some readers, will add piquancy to the book. Walker of Truro (a name dear to readers of Bishop Ryle's "Evangelical Leaders") and Bishop Thorold are types of ministers held up for our imitation in several particulars. There are very useful remarks on such a variety of subjects as: Visiting dwellers in flats and patients in fever hospitals, indiscriminate baptism, fasting and evening Communion, ugly churches, slovenliness, athletics, bazaars, "begging," and details in regard to personal conduct and dress. The book, which is liberal and generous in tone, is the work all through of an evangelical clergyman, whom the Bishop of St. Albans describes in a brief prefatory note as "a leading incumbent of London-over-the-border in my diocese." If any one wants to know what a whole-hearted, soul-winning clergyman of the Church of England ought to be, and what he ought to do in these days, let him read this book.

PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE.


These two splendid volumes speak for themselves. They are absolutely indispensable to the student of ancient philosophy, not only for the material they contain for forming a judgment de re philosophica, but also for the admirably lucid summing up of the various problems that confront a student in dealing with so vast a field as Greek philosophy. Professor Gomperz is a great scholar. He is an earnest and indefatigable thinker; and—a rare, delightful gift!—he has, what few German scholars ever possess, a charm of diction and a picturesqueness of presenting his views which go far towards making the reading of such volumes as these a pleasant instead of a laborious and distasteful labour.

Vol. ii. opens with a series of chapters on Socrates and the Socratics, passing on to Plato and the Dialogues; vol. iii. completes the survey of the Platonic philosophy. The fourth volume, when ready, will contain an account of Aristotle and the Peripatetics.

A word of cordial praise is due to the translation, which is at once faithful and elegant. In the competent hands of Mr. Berry, Gomperz's work bids fair to become (like Jowett's "Plato") an English classic.


Classical scholars will welcome this new edition of a famous play, which, if more severely academical than the admirable work that Mr. Bickley Rogers has done (and is doing) on Aristophanes, is none the less an interesting performance. There is an independence of view throughout which is refreshing, and the editor seems to have mastered the ample (indeed, over ample) material at hand, both English and foreign, in order to enrich his own
commentary. One thing we do certainly miss, and that is a translation accompanying the text and notes in the fashion made familiar to us in the noble edition of Sophocles by the ever-to-be-lamented Professor R. C. Jebb. As Dr. Verrall, in his second edition of the "Agamemnon," has not disdained to follow the lead of Jebb in such a matter, possibly Mr. Sharpley, if ever his book attains to the honours of a second edition, will perform a like service to students. A good translation serves the function of a commentary in hundreds of instances.


This volume of essays, by one of the first living authorities on the subject, will be read with deep interest by students and specialists as well as by the "general reader." All the essays have been printed before; but Professor Ker has done well to gather them together and present them in a handy form. None of these essays is exactly easy to read—why, it is difficult to say; possibly the author has been over-anxious to avoid diffuseness, and, by a somewhat severe compression, has managed to impart an air of scholastic angularity to many of his paragraphs. If the reader, after perusing one of Professor Ker's essays, will take up and read one of Matthew Arnold's lucid and delightful papers on the poets, he will see what we mean. The following is a list of the essays included in this volume: (1) The Earlier History of English Prose, (2) Historical Notes on the Similes of Dante, (3) Boccacio, (4) Chaucer, (5) Gower, (6) Froissart, (7) Gaston Paris. People who want amusement, not instruction, in perusing a literary essay should not consult Professor Ker's volume, which demands a good deal of attention, and assumes a considerable amount of knowledge on the part of those that read it.


It is almost too hackneyed an expression to refer to a "felt want," and yet how else or better can we express what is intended by the phrase? The want felt in this case has been for a clear, simple, short, well-informed, illustrated history of English literature, suitable for average people. The valuable encyclopædia of English literature published by Messrs. Chambers has abundantly supplied this want for the more serious student, and now Mr. Seccombe and Dr. Nicoll have rendered the same service for ordinary folk. No one will be able to plead ignorance of his country's literature after the publication of the twelve parts of which this is the first. This section takes us from Chaucer to the early Tudor period, and it goes without saying that the book is well-informed, well written, and well produced. The authors and publishers are more than sufficient guarantee on all this. It ought to be purchased and pondered by all who desire to be abreast of the main outlines of English literature. The illustrations are very effective and when the parts are bound the whole work will fill a gap which has long been experienced in regard to English literature.
NOTICES OF BOOKS

FICTION.


Mischievous, high-spirited children and their doings are the subjects of this book. The story is told by the old-fashioned, lovable, rag-doll of nursery fame. It is difficult to understand why such an unkind, not to say cruel, nurse as is depicted in the narrative was kept on in this family's service. We suppose that lovers of the irrepressible "buster" type would find these young folks highly entertaining, and to such this book will prove a welcome addition to the list of gift-books. The story is hardly suitable for children under eight or nine years of age.

BABY BOSH BY THE SEA. London: David Nutt.

A book of nonsense rhymes for the nursery, dealing with the adventures of Baby Bosh, Brother Tosh, and Sister Sosh, and amusingly illustrated in colours.

BABIES IN TOYLAND. By Glen MacDonough and Anna A. Chapin. London: David Nutt. Price 5s. net.

Children will find in this book the nursery rhyme favourites under new conditions and in new circumstances. Bo-peep, Tommy Tucker, Mistress Mary, and all the famous tribe of childhood's acquaintances, are woven into a novel story of exciting exploits. The illustrations are charming.


A new book for grown-ups or those who are growing up. It is characterized by Miss Le Feuvre's usual earnestness of religious purpose, and is at the same time, an interesting love story with a charming personality for its heroine. We commend this volume most cordially as a gift to those who enjoy a wholesome and romantic tale.


Another book for children by the popular author of "Probable Sons." While the characters are full of imagination, fun, and mischief, yet there is an undercurrent of real childish and childlike aim in following Christ. Miss Le Feuvre knows child nature well, and there is no incongruity in the mixture of religion with the pranks and playfulness of these young people.


A story with a purpose, interestingly written. The characters group themselves round a Ritualist priest and a Highland girl brought up in Free Church traditions. Their love, alliance, and separation by death lend the story its incident and pathos. The conclusion of the former, borne in by suffering and contact with facts, that the Church of Christ is larger than "a particular Church, is, indeed, the blessed company of all faithful people," becomes a commentary on narrow sectarianism, and a credit to the whilom partisan. O si sic omnes!
NOTICES OF BOOKS

A HOUSE DIVIDED. By E. M. Jameson. London: Hodder and Stoughton. Price

Most unusual circumstances are the reasons which cause this house to be divided. It is a well-worked-out romance, and makes a very pretty and pathetic love story, which, however, ends well and happily. It will make an acceptable gift.


This story of Corinth and the Isthmian games in St. Paul's time is excellently written. The writer is a past-master in his art. He gives us a capital idea of the life of the period, and instructs us in a most interesting manner. The story is an ideal combination of romance and history.

FRIEDHELM. By E. K. Seth-Smith. London: S.P.C.K. Price 1s. 6d.

This story of the fourth Crusade well illustrates the gospel of duty—today's specially needed message. The hero is a fine character, true to his human love, and, according to his light, to his Divine Master.

THE HAUNTED MILL OF BIRLEY RIVER. By Edith E. Cowper. S.P.C.K. Price 2s. 6d.

We like this story, and think it would make an excellent prize-book. The tone is lofty throughout, and exciting enough to fasten our interest.

RUPERT DUDLEIGH. By Frederic Harrison. S.P.C.K. Price 3s. 6d.

The love story of Rupert Dudleigh is the occasion of many an exciting incident. Our pulse is stirred as the various situations come and go. True love, though not smooth in its course, is happy in its issue, while straightness and loyalty win their true reward.

STORIES FROM HEATHEN MYTHOLOGY AND GREEK HISTORY. By the late Rev. J. M. Neale, D.D. S.P.C.K. Price 1s. 6d.

This reprint is in response to a continuous demand. The style is often Homeric, and, in fact, is frequently a translation of that poet. The morals pointed are good, and emphasis is laid on the true and beautiful.

A BEARER OF DESPATCHES. By Emil Lock. S.P.C.K. Price 1s. 6d.

A tale of the siege of Lynn, 1643. The hero's devotion to Charles Stuart's cause is noble and touching. The claims of love make his sacrifice the greater. While the sympathy of the story is Royalist, there is evident respect for Puritan piety. It is good reading.

A QUEER CHILD. By Linnie Edwards. S.P.C.K. Price 2s.

This is a pretty story of village life pleasantly told. The character of the little girl heroine, her troubles, her successes, and all the characters that assist her development make up the story. There is a lesson against favouritism for teachers, and a deep lesson of love to Christ for us all.


This story is an apt illustration of the "tangled web we weave when first we practise to deceive." It is a well-told Devonshire tale.
NOTICES OF BOOKS

A schoolboy’s dream as he goes for the first time to his public school. It is distinctly funny and the sort of story a schoolboy will revel in.

A touching story illustrating once more the danger of the drink curse.

A pretty story enforcing the truth that a life lived for God is, after all, the best kind of Christian evidence.


Many of these well-told stories are spoilt by their unprotestant flavour.

A nice little story, rather marred by sentimental leanings Romewards.

The dog Mick is as good a teacher as he is companion.

This capital little book ought to find a welcome place on the nursery bookshelf.

The little folk will be delighted with these capital pictures.

An excellent edition. The illustrations are quaint and clever.

GENERAL.


Mrs. Peel’s name as that of a reliable guide to all housekeeping matters is sufficient in itself to recommend this new book. It is an attempt to revive the old-fashioned kitchen art of home-made jams, pickles, beverages, and essences. There are many excellent and desirable recipes contained in these pages.


This cook-book will prove a boon to the hostess who wishes to add variety to her list of savouries, while paying due attention to the moderate cost involved. The single-handed cook who is ambitious to do her very best will accord this work a warm welcome as a truly reliable and sensible aid.


This is another practical manual of culinary art. It is characterized by the usual excellence and economy of Mrs. Peel’s recipes. It deserves unqualified approval and recommendation.
NOTICES OF BOOKS

PUDDINGS AND SWEETS. By Mrs. C. S. Peel. London: A. Constable and Co.
Price 1s. net.

Another promising book of good things is this little volume. From experience of Mrs. Peel's former sweet concoctions we are led to expect further help in puddings and creams. It is a great thing for a housekeeper to be able to rely on recipes turning out real successes. Mrs. Peel is an acknowledged authority, and can be fully trusted as a safe guide to those who follow her directions.

WOMAN'S KINGDOM. By Mrs. Willoughby Wallace. London: A. Constable and Co. Price 3s. 6d.

Unqualified praise can be given to this book. The writer evidently knows her ground well, and writes from experience and trustworthy knowledge. This work can be specially commended to those about to furnish and are looking for practical, artistic, and economical aids. The illustrations are good and suggestive, and, like the accompanying text, are free from the objectionable fripperies which too often adorn a manual of house furnishing.

ANNUAL VOLUMES.

THE QUIVER. Cassell and Co. Price 7s. 6d.

This large and handsome volume is as full as ever of good things in stories, articles, illustrations, and records of Christian work. There are four long serials, and many articles of value and helpfulness from prominent Churchmen and Nonconformists. The QUIVER is an old friend, and we are glad to notice that it is taking a fresh lease of life under the new editor.

GOLDEN SUNBEAMS. S.P.C.K. Cloth boards. Price 1s. 4d.
The DAWN OF DAY. S.P.C.K. Cloth boards. Price 1s.

Full of interesting articles and stories, though the teaching on Church doctrine and life is not always according to our mind.

We have also received from the S.P.C.K., THE CHURCHMAN'S ALMANACK, THE CHURCHMAN'S POCKET-BOOK, THE CHURCHMAN'S REMEMBRANCER, THE PRAYER-DESK ALMANACK, THE PAROCHIAL OFFERTORY.

These well-known annuals, published in various sizes and at different prices, will be welcomed by clergy and laity. The different editions offer opportunities of choice to all, and practically every need is met.


A very timely word from this venerable author.

Received: