

So, too, with Saul and David. Each was the Lord's anointed; each in a sense was typical of Israel's royalty oppressed beneath the enemy. In Saul we have the deepest traits of suffering, the darkest feeling of abandonment; but he was *not* innocent, his faith was *not* triumphant in this deepest gloom. Here David was his substitute; in him alone we have the true prefigurement of faith exultant through adversity. The two together picture Christ to us in all His depth of passion and height of calm serenity.

If this be so, it will account in some degree for the great fulness of description in the Scripture narrative of these last days of Saul, and throw some light upon the mystery of his strange, tragic end. The love of Samuel, the love of David, the hopes of other good men that had clung about him, were not all lost and wasted. They bore fruit for the good of others, it may be even for his own, if they resulted in Psalm xxii., which Christ Himself could use for comfort in His dying hours. It helps us to believe that somehow the perplexing lives that fail, and the warm love that seems so vainly squandered on them, may be wrought into the great scheme of God's wise Providence, and issue in some final good to men.



Literary Notes.

BEFORE his death Canon Overton had practically finished the main part of his volume on the "English Church in the Eighteenth Century," which forms the seventh volume of the series jointly edited by the late Dean Stephens and Dr. William Hunt. Canon Overton's manuscript was taken in hand and finally prepared for the press by the Rev. Frederick Relton. The period covered by the volume is from the accession of George I., in 1714, to 1800. Dr. Overton was, of course, recognised as the foremost English scholar in Church history of the eighteenth century, and by the inclusion of this latest work from his pen this particular history of the English Church is greatly strengthened. The eighty-six years covered by the book are divided into four well-defined periods, in which the subjects belonging to them are treated. As the average length of each period is less than a quarter of a century, it is hoped that the consecutive order, which a reader is entitled to expect in a history, will be sufficiently presented by such

a method. The first period embraces twenty-four years, from the accession of George I. to the "conversion" of John Wesley, in 1738; the second, from 1738 to 1760, deals with the rise and early history of the Methodist movement; the third, 1760 to 1790, includes the first half of the reign of George III.; and the fourth covers ten years only, and a good deal of space is devoted to the discussion of the effect produced on the English Church by three great events—the American War of Independence, the altered position of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and the French Revolution. A special chapter towards the end of the volume deals with the colonial and missionary work of the Church.



One of the most interesting and valuable series of volumes which has been started in recent times is "The Political History of England," which is being written by various authors under the direction and editorship of the Rev. William Hunt, D.Litt., who is President of the Royal Historical Society, and Mr. Reginald Lane Poole, M.A., Ph.D., who, it will be recalled, is editor of the *English Historical Review*. The completed work will be in twelve volumes, each of which will contain about 500 pages. It is believed by both editors and publishers (Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co.) that the time has come when the advance which has been made in the knowledge of English history as a whole should be laid before the public in a single work of fairly adequate size. This history is an attempt to set forth in a readable form the results at present attained by research, and the twelve volumes will be written by twelve different writers, each of whom has been chosen as being specially capable of dealing with the period which he undertakes. Of course, as its title suggests, the work deals in the first place with politics; but as the life of a nation is complex, and its condition at any given time cannot be understood without taking into account the various forces acting upon it, notices of religious matters, and of intellectual, social, and economic progress also find place in these volumes. So far, four volumes have been issued: Vol. I., "To 1066," by Dr. Hodgkin; Vol. II., "From the Norman Conquest to the Death of John (1066 to 1216)," by Professor Adams, of Yale University; Vol. III., "From the Accession of Henry III. to the Death of Edward III. (1216 to 1377)," by Professor Tout; and Vol. X., "From the Accession of George III. to the close of Pitt's First Administration (1760 to 1801)," by the Rev. William Hunt. The writers of the other eight volumes are Mr. Dinan, Professor Pollard, Professor Montague, Mr. H. G. L. Fisher, Professor R. Lodge, Mr. J. S. Leadham, Hon. George C. Brodrick, in collaboration with Mr. J. K. Fotheringham and Mr. Sidney Low.



Messrs. A. and C. Black have in the press Part I. of "Old Testament History"—*i.e.*, from the call of Abraham to the death of Joshua—by the Rev. T. Nicklin, M.A., Assistant Master at Rossall School. This volume is in the publisher's "Educational Series," and is primarily written for the sixth form, and not for the middle forms. "I have therefore," says Mr. Nicklin, "passed over those beautiful but familiar scenes which generally become endeared, for their pathos and picturesqueness, to the imagination even of children. I have endeavoured to review everything from the stand-

point of a Christian. The Divine preparation for the advent of our Lord seems to be the sole reason for requiring our pupils to study Hebrew history."



There are two volumes in Messrs. Constable's Spring list of more than ordinary interest—"The Fixed Period," by Dr. Osler, being five addresses which the author delivered before leaving America to assume his duties in Oxford; and "The Subconscious: A Study in Descriptive Psychology," by Professor Jastrow. This volume is a systematic and appreciative study of the function of the subconscious factors in every-day mental processes, and in the less usual elaborations of essentially similar experiences. The purpose of the volume is thus to furnish an acceptable survey in modest proportions of the nature and significance of an important principle in the mental life—a purpose that is the more pertinent by reason of widespread misconception of the psychologist's attitude upon this and allied questions. Professor Jastrow holds the chair of Psychology at the Winconsin University. As a continuation of this note, it may be mentioned that we are shortly to have a volume entitled "Enigmas of Psychical Research," by James H. Hyslop, Ph.D., LL.D., Vice-President of the Society for Psychical Research, and the author of another volume, which has secured a good number of readers, "Science on Future Life." In 1882 a number of the world's most eminent scientists formed the society mentioned above for the purpose of carefully investigating and studying the great number of abnormal phenomena that were constantly occurring. Professor Hyslop in the present volume presents the general reader, who has not the time or the inclination to read the twenty-five odd bulky volumes of the society's reports, a digest with many well-authenticated examples collected by the society. The titles of these two books by Dr. Hyslop call to mind two others, both of which enjoy a number of readers ever on the increase—"Psychic Phenomena" and "The Scientific Demonstration of a Future Life." The author—who died some months back—Thomas J. Hudson, was, like Dr. Hyslop, an American. The first-mentioned book of the late Mr. Hudson's, "Psychic Phenomena," may be found in the libraries of a multitude of English readers of all shades of opinions. It secured the reader's interest by reason of its tolerance and broad-mindedness, and the lack of arrogance so prevalent usually in books belonging to its class.



Another volume dealing with the "Future Life" is a translation of Louis Elbe's book, which he says he has prepared "in the light of ancient wisdom and modern science." Certainly "La Vie Future" has been widely read and widely discussed in France, but it remains to be seen whether in its English translation it will create the same *furor*. It is said that "this volume offers for the first time a complete presentation of all the available evidence hitherto to be found only in the most scattered and inaccessible forms."



"The Drawings of Jean François Millet," which Mr. Heinemann is issuing, should make a very beautiful book. Millet was undoubtedly a striking factor in French art, and whose influence has wielded a sway in

other countries besides his own. Probably his pictures are as well known in England as those of any other French artist, unless one excepts Meissonier. Millet's spirit was simple and austere, and he seemed to accept with a mournful resignation "the sense of tears in human things." From the same firm there is being published, in commemoration of the 300th birthday (July 15) of Rembrandt, a tercentenary edition of his works in ten fortnightly parts, at two shillings and sixpence net per part. In all there will be 70 plates, some in colour and some in photogravure, while M. Émile Michel, Member of the Institute of France, will contribute a study of Rembrandt. This work is also being issued in Paris, Berlin, and Amsterdam.



Mr. Angus Hamilton's book on "Afghanistan" should provide some attractive reading, seeing that it deals with the problem concerning Russian advances in that neighbourhood and the position of India. The political and economic aspects are fully discussed, and, while the chapters dealing with the military question will appeal to all students of Imperial politics, it is of interest to note that detailed information of the celebrated secret line down the Murghab Valley is presented for the first time to the public. The volume will contain sketches of the domestic life of the Ameer, and a description of the Oxus, its fords, trade, and the strategic value of the roads which approach it.



A new poem by the Poet Laureate, entitled "The Door of Humility," is in the press, and will be shortly published by Messrs. Macmillan.



Under the title "The New Religious Education Act: A Suggestion and a Plea," Rev. A. Ogle, of the Bangor Church Hostel, will publish a pamphlet immediately through Mr. Elliot Stock, in which the author proposes a *via media* for the consideration of Churchmen, which he believes would be acceptable by the House of Commons.



Notices of Books.

BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JESUS THE MESSIAH. By Alfred Edersheim. London: Longmans, Green and Co. Price 8s. net.

WE are glad to welcome this new and cheap edition of a standard work. By the use of thin paper the original two volumes are here put into one volume, extending to over 1,400 pages, with the result that this truly valuable and scholarly book is now brought within the reach of many more students. Among all the Lives of our Lord produced during the last thirty years, Edersheim continues, and will continue, to hold a foremost place. If only for its Jewish background, it is indispensable to all serious students.