

author, while Mr. Smeaton will contribute an introduction to each book. I suppose that some day, in the distant future, we may get that long-promised volume "The Satirists and Satires of the Reformation."



Mr. G. K. Chesterton has a volume on Dickens coming out. Mr. Chesterton holds the opinion that Dickens' influence represents the permanent and good elements in the English temper.



Mr. Herbert Paul has a volume of "Stray Leaves" on press. It is composed of dissertations upon George Eliot, Charles Lamb, and Bishop Stubbs among others.



The Clarendon Press are publishing shortly the literary remains of the late Professor York Powell, prefaced by a selection from his letters and a memoir.



Notices of Books.

A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH FROM THE ACCESSION OF GEORGE I. TO THE END OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY, 1714-1800. By the late Rev. Canon John H. Overton, D.D., and the Rev. Frederic Relton, A.K.C. London: *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.* Price 7s. 6d.

This is the seventh volume of the "History of the English Church" edited by Dr. W. Hunt and the late Dean of Winchester. Canon Overton, who had undertaken to deal with the eighteenth century, died when he had only completed the rough draft, and the final form is therefore due to Mr. Relton. The general plan divides the century into four periods. The first extends from the accession of George I., 1714, to the beginning of the Evangelical revival in 1738, and includes the Bangorian controversy, the later stage of the Non-Juror controversy, the trial and banishment of Bishop Atterbury, and the greater part of the Trinitarian, Arian, and Deistic controversies. The second period, from 1738 to 1760, is concerned with the rise and progress of the Methodist movement, as to which it is noted that in 1760 the Sacraments began to be administered in Methodist chapels. The third period, 1760 to 1790, covers the first half of the long reign of George III., and deals very largely with the growing influence of the Evangelical party within the Church. In this division we have brought before us the names of well-known men who were, of course, not of that party, such as Johnson, Burke, Horne, Horsley, and Lowth. This section covers only ten or eleven years, and marks the end of the reign of lethargy and the beginning of the reign of energy. Canon Overton's method of writing history was that of dealing with the lives of men rather than of giving a consecutive narrative of events. This leads to a certain amount of repetition, but in the case of the eighteenth century the plan, on the whole, has distinct advantages. Mr. Relton speaks of the gradual change that has come

over our judgment of eighteenth-century Church life, and remarks that the period is found to be the more full of life as the more it is studied. This is doubtless true, and yet it is impossible, at least at present, to feel any great interest in the Church life as a whole, or in the characters and actions of most of its leaders. The biographical parts of the work are certainly interesting and effective, and the sketches of prominent men are, on the whole, very well done. While there is an endeavour to be fair to the Methodist and Evangelical movements, we cannot say that the result is very successful. The bias of the High Churchman will come out. There is scarcely a reference to Evangelical Churchmen without some qualification pointing the moral of their individualism and their weak Churchmanship. It is easy to be wise a hundred and fifty years after the event. What we should have preferred would have been a very much stronger insistence upon the causes leading up to the Evangelical assertion of individual religion and personal piety. Canon Overton considers that the Wesleyan movement was inevitably schismatic from the first, and that no one but Wesley thought anything else. At the same time, it may be permitted us, even now, to believe that if the Church leaders of the eighteenth century had been spiritually alive and alert, the movement, instead of being schismatic, might have been productive of the most far-reaching spiritual revival that has ever been known in our Church and country. It would have conduced very greatly to the improvement of this volume as a book of history if the entire Methodist and Evangelical movement could have had a section written by someone who is much more directly sympathetic than either the author or the editor is. It is a sorry and painful thing to note how few prelates of that day were alive to the needs of the Church, or to the presence of the Spirit of God in Methodist and Evangelical circles. With this qualification as to the Evangelical side of things, the book may be rightly regarded as a worthy contribution to our knowledge of the eighteenth century. Bibliographical notes are appended to each chapter, and greatly add to the value of the book.

AN INQUIRY INTO THE EVIDENTIAL VALUE OF PROPHECY. By E. A. Edghill, M.A. With Preface by the Right Rev. H. E. Ryle, D.D. London: *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.* Price 7s. 6d.

This volume contains the Hulsean Prize Essay for 1904. The Bishop of Winchester contributes a cautious and decidedly non-committal preface, while full of genuine praise for the industry and ability of the writer. In the course of nine parts, extending to over six hundred pages, practically the whole field of Messianic prophecy is covered. The subjects include such aspects as those of "The Kingdom and the King," "The Covenant and the Prophet," "The Church and the Priest," "The Messiah," "Our Lord's Use of Prophecy," "The Use of Prophecy by the Evangelists," "The Use of Prophecy by other Writers in the New Testament." It is not easy to discover the precise critical standpoint of the writer, though we are perhaps not wrong in assuming his general agreement with the modern critical position, more particularly as he speaks of Deuteronomy as the product of the prophetic school. But there is no undue prominence given to critical theories, and those who hold conservative views can use the book with no little profit. We are, however, very greatly surprised that the author is

prepared to give up the literal Davidic sonship of our Lord, interpreting the phrase "Son of David" of the Davidic character rather than of the Davidic origin (p. 365). This is surely opposed to the plainest teaching of the Gospels and of the Apostle Paul, more particularly when considered in connection with our Lord's Messianic claim. The book closes with a valuable treatment of the evidential value of Old Testament prophecy, in which prophecy is seen to be first of all fulfilled in our Lord and then in the Church of Christ. Prophecy is said to be a witness to a Divine origin, a Divine power, and a Divine plan, and it is rightly urged that Christianity cannot be divorced from the preparative work of Old Testament prophecy. The entire subject of the book is discussed with great fairness, genuine ability, and praiseworthy clearness, and no one, whatever his view of the Old Testament may be, can consult it without obtaining information, guidance, and suggestion on one of the most important topics of biblical study and theology. As the Bishop of Winchester truly says, "That such a work should have been produced by a young curate, amidst the heavy duties and continual distractions of work in a large town parish," not only "reflects credit upon the writer's resoluteness of purpose," but surely leads to the hope and expectation that we shall have other works from him in due course.

LEX CREDENDI. By George Tyrrell. London: *Longmans, Green and Co.*
Price 5s. net.

This book is by one of the best-known and ablest of Roman Catholic writers of the present day, who, it may be remembered, has been expelled from the Society of Jesus by reason of his liberalizing tendencies. It is a sequel to his former book, "Lex Orandi," which dealt with the Creed under its aspect of a rule of prayer. This book is a treatment of the Lord's Prayer, "viewed as the rule and criterion of pure doctrine." The special interest of the book to non-Roman Catholic readers is the revelation it affords of the way in which Roman Catholic writers deal with non-controversial matters. The distinctive features of the writer's Church position naturally appear very frequently, but there is also much in it that is common to all Christians with special reference to the spiritual and devotional life. The author discusses, among other things, what he calls "the truth and the fallacy" which underlie the phrase "New Testament Christianity," and it is interesting in this connection to note his belief that "if we compare St. Francis of Assisi with a typical Puritan or Bible-Christian, we shall find that the latter thinks, speaks, and conducts himself generally much more in accordance with the New Testament embodiment of Christianity" (p. 52). This is a very significant admission, even though the author goes on to say that the spirit of St. Francis is immeasurably truer to the spirit of Christ than that of the Bible-Christians. It is evident that the author is prepared to admit to the full the logical conclusions of Newman's theory of development and Loisy's view of the relation of the New Testament to succeeding ages. Mr. Tyrrell's distinction between the Church visible and invisible is another point of genuine interest to English Churchmen. The book is not easy reading, but if read with care and discrimination it will be found to contain much that is suggestive and helpful to all Christians.

STORIES OF GREAT REVIVALS. By Henry Johnson. London: *The Religious Tract Society*. Price 3s. 6d.

The title does not convey an adequate idea of the contents of the book, which is intended "to illustrate the general feature of revival movements from the time of Wesley and Whitefield." Seven chapters deal with the revival in the eighteenth century, four more with the awakening of 1858-1862, one with the work of Moody and Sankey, while two concluding chapters deal with the recent revival in Wales and the Torrey-Alexander Mission. In addition to the work of the author, there are contributions by four well-known missionaries. Canon Aitken discusses revival work from the standpoint of his long and varied experience; the Rev. F. B. Meyer considers the "Conditions of Revival"; Mr. Stuart Holden deals with the "Permanent Element in Revivals"; and an interview with Gipsy Smith gives us a glimpse of a missionary's experience. This is a book which should be in the hands of all clergymen, ministers, and students for the ministry. It will inform the mind, stir the heart, and lead to prayer for revival. It is a truly welcome and valuable contribution to a subject of the very first importance.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF PALESTINE EXPLORATION. By Frederick Jones Bliss, Ph.D. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 6s. net.

This book, by one of the leaders of Palestine Exploration, embodies an American lectureship, the Ely, for 1903. The lectures were delivered at Union Theological Seminary, New York, and consist of a compendious history of the development of Palestine Exploration from its dawn to the present day. After a deeply interesting introduction and lectures on the "Ages of the Pilgrimage and the Crusades," we are brought down to modern days, with special reference to the great American scholar, Edward Robinson, whose volume of "Biblical Researches" is still one of the standard works on the subject. Then a lecture is given to Renan and his contemporaries, another to the recent work of the Palestine Exploration Fund itself, and last of all we are told, on the authority of a master, what is to be the Exploration of the future. Dr. Bliss is as able a lecturer and writer as he is an explorer, and no one who is at all interested in the fascinating subject of Palestine Exploration can afford to overlook this book. That it is written with full and accurate knowledge goes without saying, and Dr. Bliss is as enthusiastic as he is well informed. The importance of the Land in relation to the Book was never more fully realized than it is to-day, and we are glad to have in this attractive and valuable form the latest word on the subject.

BIBLE SIDE-LIGHTS FROM THE MOUND OF GEZER. By R. A. Stewart Macalister. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 5s.

The author of this book is well known as the leader of the most recent expedition connected with the Palestine Exploration Fund, and here he gives a popular account of what he has recently found at Gezer. The book is an endeavour to make the discoveries of the Palestine Exploration Fund available for the immediate needs of Bible students. The work at Gezer is therefore taken as a basis of a number of essays dealing with a series of

Biblical incidents and passages on which light is thrown by the excavations. We do not by any means endorse all the author's conclusions, nor can we accept his critical positions on certain points, but he has a remarkable power of bringing before his readers the bearing of discoveries on passages in the Bible, and no Bible reader can take up this book without being deeply interested and even fascinated by the suggestions given. Forty-seven photographs add greatly to the interest and value of the work.

LITERARY AND VOCAL INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE. By S. S. Curry, Ph.D. With an Introduction by Francis G. Peabody, D.D. London: *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.* Price 6s.

"Who has not felt dissatisfaction with the way the Bible is read in public?" So most truly says the author in his Preface. This book is intended to remove the causes of this dissatisfaction, and rightly, ably, and worthily it fulfils its purpose. It opens with a statement of the functions of the Bible in worship, and of the nature of vocal expression. Then follows a careful and thorough discussion of the message of the Bible in its various forms; then consideration of the technique of reading, both mental and physical; and lastly, some indication of the necessary preparation for the work of public reading of the Bible. As the author points out, most people think that Bible reading in church is one of the most elementary and easy accomplishments, while, as a matter of fact, there are comparatively few who know how to do it. This book is a serious study of a very important subject. No one can exaggerate the value and power of well-read Scripture lessons; and, on the other hand, it is scarcely possible to exaggerate the dissatisfaction and disappointment when lessons are badly read. If clergymen and theological students would give themselves some hard study along the lines of this book, their congregations would soon feel the benefit, and the Word of God would have free course in our churches.

THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO PHILEMON. By the Rev. A. H. Drysdale, D.D. London: *Religious Tract Society.* Price 2s.

THE PSALMS: THEIR SPIRITUAL TEACHING. Vol. III. By the Rev. J. Elder Cumming, D.D. London: *Religious Tract Society.* Price 2s:

We welcome two more volumes of this admirable devotional Commentary. In the volume on Philemon it might seem as though the author had unduly spun out his material to make a book of nearly three hundred pages on so short an Epistle; but the reader is soon shown that this is not the case, for the book is full of spiritual teaching clearly expressed. A pretty complete bibliography is appended, and will prove a distinct advantage to the usefulness of the work. St. Paul's perfect little Epistle has scarcely ever had more thorough or acceptable treatment.

Dr. Cumming's volume on the Psalms is characterized by all those marks of genuine, mature, spiritual experience, apt exegetical comments and suggestions, and interesting personal touches which we have already noticed and welcomed in the two earlier volumes. The venerable author is to be congratulated on the accomplishment of his task, and on a welcome addition to our devotional treasures of a valuable and informing commentary on "The Praises of Israel."

PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS.

TWENTIETH CENTURY QUARTERLY. August. Price 2s. 6d.

The second number of this new quarterly has several articles of current interest and real value, but it appears to us a weakness that the writers are too uniformly of one political type. Out of eight articles no less than four are by well-known and even pronounced Liberals. This is surely disproportionate, unless the review is intended mainly for the propagation of one set of political views. The first article is by Mr. H. W. Massingham, and discusses, under the title of "The Powers of Darkness," certain moral aspects of the present state of national life and international affairs. Like everything by this writer, it is forceful and able, but it is unduly pessimistic in tone, and betrays little or no sympathy with the great ethical principles of distinctive Evangelical religion. Chancellor Lias and Mr. Guy Johnson deal clearly and forcibly with the Report of the Royal Commission in two valuable contributions. Major Seely writes characteristically on "Chinese Labour"; Sir T. P. Whittaker discusses "Practical Temperance Reform" with his accustomed good sense and practical statesmanship. The value of Sir G. W. Kekewich's article on the Education Bill is largely vitiated by his severity and bitterness to opponents. This is not the attitude to adopt if peace is to be insured. A plea for relaxation of the terms of clerical subscription takes up a position which no Evangelical Churchman could adopt. Articles on "Robert Schumann" and "Some Poets on Poetry," with book reviews and notices, complete the number. The last-named feature is, as before, distinctly able and informing. We shall watch with special interest succeeding issues of this quarterly. If it can preserve a more even balance in things political, it will cover a field of great usefulness untouched by any similar publication.

THE MODERN PURITAN AND CHRISTIAN QUARTERLY. No. 1. July, 1906. Price 1s.

Another new aspirant to public favour. An introductory note describes its aim as the attempt to do for to-day what Puritanism did for the seventeenth century in relation to the purity of doctrine and discipline, and the furtherance of righteousness in the family and the State. To accomplish this end it appeals to all who hold the Word of God to be what the Lord Jesus and His disciples believed it to be, as against present-day criticism and humanitarianism. Dr. Orr's book on the Old Testament is ably reviewed by Professor Leitch; there are useful reprints of valuable articles from old sources; we have the commencement of a series of articles on the Confessional, and of another on "Studies in English Etymology," taking the Atonement as the first subject. Other articles and extracts make up this number, which, while not in any way distinctive, is nevertheless thoughtful and useful. We are inclined to think that the sub-title would make a better title, and less likely to be misunderstood than the present title. There is room for a magazine on the lines here laid down, and we hope the present one may succeed in filling the gap.

MATRICULATION DIRECTORY. No. xliii. June, 1906. With Articles on Text-books. University Tutorial Series. Cambridge: Burlington House. Price 1s. net.

Full of that necessary and valuable information for all those who are contemplating a Degree in the London University.

THE INWARD LIGHT. London: Headley Bros.

As the title suggests, this emanates from the Society of Friends, and consists of several articles on Quakerism, with extracts from their standard authority, Berkeley's "Apology." It is the Quaker doctrine of the Inward Light as something independent of the written Word that constitutes the inherent weakness and spiritual danger of Quakerism.

RECEIVED:

Our Little Dots, The Child's Companion, Church Missionary Intelligencer, Church Missionary Gleaner, Awake, The Round World, India's Witness, The Canadian Churchman, India's Women and China's Daughters, The Bible in the World, Bible Society Gleanings, The Cottager and Artisan, Church and People, South American Missionary Magazine, The Sunday at Home, Protestant Observer, Church of England League Gazette, Grievances from Ireland (No. 19), The Dawn of Day, Girls' Own Paper, Orient and Occident, The Expository Times, The Reader and Lay Worker, The Optimist, Open Doors (organ of Mrs. Meredith's Homes), McAll Mission in France Quarterly Record, The Trinitarian Bible Society Annual Report, The Church Standard.