

but the substance of St. Luke, as that of the other three Evangelists, may be taken as absolutely certain.

This notice of Professor Burkitt's book may close with the words of another Professor, formerly Professor of Modern History at Cambridge. In W. Smyth's "Evidences of Christianity" (p. 182) we read: "There is no stamp of genuineness which an ancient writer can possibly exhibit, which we do not find in the books of the New Testament, nor has a single mark of spuriousness ever been pointed out."



Literary Notes.

"THE Substance of the Faith" sounds an interesting title. It is a volume which Sir Oliver Lodge has written, and will naturally find many readers, and should bear out the promise of the title. Sir Oliver is always fair in his view-point, and if only for that reason many will read his book, though they may differ from him so widely in most matters about which he always writes so fluently and picturesquely. The very title of this projected volume bespeaks controversy, and it is said to attempt an outline of a foundation for religion which is based upon science "preliminary to the special denominational teaching of the Churches." One of the chief items in the book is a suggested catechism specially adapted for general use. There should be a big demand for this volume.



We are to have a volume, which promises good reading, by the Rev. William Ewing, who is in charge of the Grange United Free Church, Edinburgh. He was for many years a resident at Tiberias, on the Sea of Galilee, and he has written an interesting account of his experiences, his travels, and his intercourse with the people east of the Jordan. It is to be called "Arab and Druze at Home," and will contain a large number of the many excellent photographs which Mr. Ewing has taken at different times during his sojourn in this part of the world. The work is really an effort to lift the veil which, to some extent, still rests upon Tiberias and the immediate vicinity. It seems almost a tragic circumstance that so historical a spot, a place which has had such a large measure of importance in the world's history, should now be so little known and so little thought of. Its scenery is beautiful, and "the crumbling memorials of grey antiquity and the life of villager and nomad to-day cast a mysterious spell upon the spirit."



Mr. Unwin has published a volume which is exceedingly attractive to readers of these pages. It is a well-illustrated romance of the mission-field, and is called "Coillard of the Zambesi: the Lives of François and Christina Coillard, of the Paris Missionary Society (1834-1904)." While it is in the greater part an important record of mission work, it also gives the reader a close view of many points, known and unknown, upon the native question in South Africa, as well as impressions of many other matters. There is also

an account of the way in which first Basutoland, and afterwards Barotseland, came under the charge of the British Protectorate. The Rev. F. Coillard's work in South and Central Africa extends over a period of many years (1858-1904), a time when great developments were commencing in South and Central Africa. The first twenty years were spent in Basutoland, the last twenty in Barotseland, north of the Victoria Falls, a tremendous expanse of territory, first, of course, explored by Dr. Livingstone, and in which the Coillards were the first Europeans to settle. Certain years were spent in mission work, travel, and exploration among the tribes of the Matabele and Mashona. It is a graphic and picturesque work, and as interesting as any book of travel I know.



Dean Hole was a striking and attractive man. He was best known to the world at large through the medium of oysters and roses. Of course, he is the personality who always made the Colchester feast the great event that it was, while the beautiful roses which he grew were the envy of hundreds of pilgrims. He was probably the most attractive and interesting of after-dinner speakers among the dignitaries of the Church; at least, he was certainly the most witty and the most humorous. There is to be published a volume which will probably bring a smile or two to our faces when in the recreative hour we sit back in our chairs and read it. It is "The Letters of Dean Hole," and is a collection of his best letters. I do not happen to know if the late Dean Hole was as amusing in his letters as he was after dinner. There is such a difference in these sides of many a man's life. He may be halting in speech and fluent on paper. Bad phrases come easy by way of the mouth, when via pen and ink he gives vent to some of the choicest expressions. Or, mayhap, he is a past master in rhetoric and an execrable scribe. And so the opposites continually crop up in life. Mrs. Hole has concurred in the publication of these "Letters," and Mr. G. A. B. Dewar is to edit them.



We have lost many hard workers in the cause of temperance during the last few years, notably Mr. Caine, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and last month Mr. Samuel Smith. But in spite of these gaps younger men come forward and are doing their best to make good the losses. There is a larger measure of attention given to their demands both in the House of Commons, on the platform, and in the country. It may be that the results of general education and increased opportunities of higher training of the boy and girl are beginning to show themselves in the conduct of life. Certainly drunkenness does not seem so rampant as of old, and the teetotaller is not so openly scorned as in days gone by. Moreover, there is more desire to know what are the important points in the scientific aspects of the drink question. For instance, this increased interest is evidenced by the fact that two new and important books are promised for early publication upon the matter. One hails from Germany, and has been translated into English. It is entitled "Scientific Sanction for the Use of Alcohol," which Dr. J. Starke has written; the other is called "The Drink Problem in its Medico-Sociological

Aspects." The work will be edited by Dr. T. N. Kelynack, and each chapter has been written by a medical expert.



Of use to temperance workers, lecturers, and others, is a volume giving the history of "Licensing and Temperance in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark," by Mr. Edwin A. Pratt. It is a readable account of the Gothenburg system and the present conditions of the drink problem in Scandinavia.



Mr. Murray—who had such an illuminating and modest article in the *Contemporary* the other day about publishing, and incidentally some autobiographia concerning the house of Murray—has on his new list a fine series of books on English literature. From recent personal investigation, the writer of these notes has come to the definite conclusion that there is coming a most healthy revival in the literature of our country, as so many publishers are bringing out short histories, long histories, hand-books, guide-books, and books of impressions, dealing with the subject. Only the other day there appeared in these pages some information concerning a big history which the Cambridge Press were bringing out; a little time previously Dr. Nicoll started, in connection with the *Bookman* and in conjunction with Mr. Seccombe, a history of literature, told in a popular manner and issued in parts; and now we have this scheme of Mr. Murray's, which will be on the lines of Mr. Mackail's "Manual of Latin Literature," and Mr. J. R. Green's and Mr. C. R. L. Fletcher's "English History." The first volume of the new series deals with the sixteenth and early part of the seventeenth century, and will be accompanied by three graduated columns of extracts, each complete in itself, and designed, in the first instance, for upper, middle, and lower classes in the schools. The authors are Mr. E. W. Edmunds, M.A., of Luton Secondary School, and Mr. Frank Spooner, B.A., Director of Education for Bedfordshire.



I suppose as long as there are books there will be found those dealing with the problem of life. We are always hearing of some new work dealing with the origin of life, life after death, and so on. A few are earnest and serious efforts at an elucidation of the mystery. But to what end? Is it not another form of that grim disease worry? Surely one's duty is to develop the life which has been entrusted into our care to the fullest capacity, to the highest plane, and bring it back humbly to God when the trumpet shall sound, with a consciousness that, while we have done our best to achieve the ideal which He has prompted us to reach unto, we have but done it feebly, and without that zest which should come to all who have heard the voice of Divine direction. Possibly this kind of book does at times set the minds of the casual *dilettante* thinking of the future; but I wonder how many peaceful souls are disturbed? Now we are promised another volume in this department. It is called "Some Problems of Existence," by Mr. Norman Pearson. The work is really down for publication about the date of the appearance of this magazine. Mr. Pearson essays to throw some

light upon the origin of life, spirit, and matter, free-will and determinism. The author comes to the final conclusion that "philosophy and religion may accept and science not reject the conceptions of a Deity, of immortality, and of a Divine scheme of evolution."



In continuation of the foregoing paragraph, and in connection therewith, Mr. Laurie is publishing a consensus of opinion as to what lies beyond the final scene of our earthly existence. The book is composed of a series of papers upon the subject by many of our great modern thinkers, among which I may note the following: Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir William Crookes, Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace, Professor Lombroso, and M. Flammarion. The origination of this book was a pathetic one. Mr. R. J. Thompson lost a very much loved brother, and the thought came to him, with all its vast suggestions, would they meet again, and so he sat down at his table and wrote to these various prominent personages and asked for their opinions.



Mr. Unwin has in the press the following volumes: Professor Bousset's "What is Religion?"; Professor Villari's "Historical and Critical Essays"; Mr. H. de Windt's "Through Savage Europe"; and "The Life of an Empire," by Mr. W. Meakin.



Some new theological books: "The Master of the World: A Study of Christ," by Rev. Charles L. Slattery, Dean of the Cathedral in Faribault, U.S.A.; "Common-sense in Religion," by Martin R. Smith; and "Theomorphism True: God in Modern Light," by Rev. Frank Ballard, in which he continues the defence of fundamental Christian dogmas, which he commenced in his previous volume, "Haeckel's Monism False."



"The World Machine: The First Phase, the Cosmic Mechanism," by Carl Snyder, is almost ready. It is an historical survey of the growth of our knowledge of the world in which we live, from its crudest beginnings to the newest ideas and discoveries of the present day.



Notices of Books.

BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

THE APOCALYPSE OF ST. JOHN. By H. B. Swete. London: *Macmillan and Co.* Price 15s.

Slowly but surely we are obtaining modern commentaries of the first rank on all the books of the New Testament. The tradition of the great Cambridge triumvirate, Lightfoot, Westcott, and Hort, is worthily maintained by Dr. Swete, whose "St. Mark" is our foremost modern commentary, and with which the present work will at once take its place. No less than 200 pages are devoted to questions of introduction, and nothing of importance in ancient