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pervade and animate all her ministrations. Whether in our ordinary teaching or in special evangelistic efforts a crucified and risen Saviour must be our one central theme. So alone can we hope to experience that Saviour's presence whenever and wherever we carry to our fellow-men the glad tidings of His salvation. In proportion as we are faithful to His commission will be the blessing with which the Spirit of truth and power will accompany His message, and men shall feel the power of His Resurrection as well as the fellowship of His sufferings. Christ's own promise will in every case be fulfilled, when He said so emphatically : " Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the [spiritually] dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God : and they that hear shall live " (John v. 25).

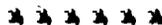


Literary Notes.

THE subject of Christianity and Socialism seems to be occupying the minds of a number of writers at the moment. The other day someone wrote a book entitled "Should Christians be Socialists?" Now comes the announcement, "Should Socialists be Christians?" by the Rev. Vallance Cook. It appears to the writer of these notes that all these treatises are missing the main point. The Socialistic movement cannot succeed Christianity, and its existence can only be assured by working *with* it. To oppose it would be futile. And for any writer to propound such queries as "Should Christians be Socialists?" or "Should Socialists be Christians?" is so much waste of good ink and paper. The truly conscientious Christian must necessarily be a Socialist, and the fervent Socialist cannot conscientiously enjoy the title until he has grasped and accepted the fundamentals of Christianity.



A new volume is being added to the "Historical Series for Bible Students." It is a compilation which has been undertaken by Dr. Frank Knight Sanders, and the title given to it is "Outlines of Biblical History and Literature," from the earliest times to A.D. 200. These outlines enable the student to get at the Bible itself in a most helpful way, to realize vividly the story which it relates, supplements, or develops, and to appreciate the various stages in the gradual development of the Israel which became the world's religious teacher.



The constantly discussed question of the evolution of life has probably become all the more absorbing of late owing to researches concerning

inorganic evolution, the properties of radium, and the transmutation of so-called elements. Dr. H. Charlton Bastian has written a volume in this connection. It is illustrated with many photomicrographs by the author. Recent new experiments of a decisive kind are recorded, and evidence is offered as to the existence of the *de novo* theory of the origin of life. The title is "The Evolution of Life."



The Bampton Lectures for 1905 were published last month. This important work is entitled "Christian Theology and Social Progress," and describes the influence of the Christian Church upon the development of society.



That talented family of *littérateurs*, the Bensons, are not only prominent for their literary skill, but also for their prolificness. Mr. Arthur Christopher Benson sends out his volumes of essays very quickly, and no sooner does he publish one volume than he commences the task of another. It would seem desirable both to reader and writer that there should be a little breathing-space between the publication of his books. Hurried work is never good, and does not last in the long-run. Mr. E. F. Benson is slower in his output. At first he, too, seemed inclined to hurry, and his work appeared, for a time, to suffer in consequence. Now he takes longer over his novels, and the result is most happy: each piece of fiction seems to be better than its immediate forerunner. The other Benson—Father Hugh—is fast becoming as popular as his brothers. There is one other feature worth noting about the Bensons. The tendency nowadays is for writers, as soon as they become famous, to flit from one publishing house to another. Probably the bait of better terms is the reason. Now, if one publisher can afford to pay a high figure for a man's work, so can another; and it is always advisable to keep one's books in the list of one publisher. In the long-run more sales are effected, as the bookseller is then able to "make up a number" of an author's works which are usually published at a uniform price: two of this, one of that, and so on, until the number of seven, thirteen, twenty-six, or more, is reached. The bookseller gets the seven charged at the rate of six and a half; the thirteen at the rate of twelve; the twenty-six at the rate of twenty-four. So it is obvious that where it is possible to "sort-up" an author's various books more of his writings are sold. Hence the desirability of having *one* publisher and not *several*. Now, the Bensons have realized this. Excepting for Mr. A. C. Benson's earlier work, and one or two other exceptions, Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co. are his publishers. Mr. Heinemann publishes principally Mr. E. F. Benson's books; while the Pitmans are chiefly responsible for Father Hugh Benson's volumes.



A collection of about 120 popular and favourite hymns has been compiled—Messrs. Skeffingtons are the publishers—all of which have been omitted from one or another of the existing hymn-books. The idea is a happy one,

and should be greatly welcomed by many of those who have found, on opening the new editions of their hymn-book, that their favourite ones are missing.



From Messrs. Macmillan is to come a posthumous volume on "Schools of Hellas," by Kenneth Freeman, a young scholar who had showed promise of a great future. The work will not want for careful editing. The first part of the work is in seven chapters, and deals with education in Sparta and Crete, Athens, and the rest of Greece. Consideration is also given to primary, physical, and secondary education; while a chapter is devoted to the Ephebi and the University. The second part of the book deals with the theory of education. The period is 600 to 300 B.C. The author surveys the whole subject in a final essay at the end of the volume. "I believe," he observes, "I am right in stating that the minuter details of Hellenic education have not hitherto been written down in the English language; at any rate, I have not found any complete English work upon the subject."



Some excellent "lives, biographies, and autobiographies" are coming out in the near future. The Rev. George Hawker is busily preparing a life of George Grenfell, the famous missionary and explorer, to which it is said Sir Harry Johnston will contribute a section dealing with the scientific results of Mr. Grenfell's work. This should prove an attractive book, and although it may be a little longer coming out than others mentioned in this paragraph, it will be worth the waiting, as Grenfell's life was an exceedingly interesting one, while his biographer has a peculiarly attractive manner of writing, and a picturesque way of describing things. From Professor Walter Raleigh, who is already noted for many studies of great literary men, we are to have a volume devoted to Shakespeare. It is to appear in that very popular series, the "English Men of Letters." It may be expected shortly. In another field is the life which Mr. M. Sterling MacKinley has in hand. The work upon which Mr. MacKinley is spending so much time and thought should prove to be a most readable volume. It is to be called "Garcia, the Centenarian, and his Time." The author has dedicated it to the King of Spain, who has graciously accepted the dedication. There will be found in this volume reminiscences of many other musicians and vocalists. Probably the volume which is assured of success is that which Messrs. Cassell and Co. are issuing, "From Workhouse to Westminster: The Life-story of Will Crooks, M.P.," by George Haw. Mr. G. K. Chesterton, of whose versatility there seems to be no end, is to write an introduction. In this volume Mr. Crooks appears in many guises. The story of his birth and early years in one room in the East End; of his being taken with his brothers and sisters to the workhouse, and afterwards to the Poor-Law school; of his tramping the country penniless seeking work; and of the many financial sacrifices he has made since he entered public life in order to remain, as he puts it, "a poor man in the service of poor men," are vividly set down. The author has known Mr. Crooks and his family for many years, and he lets him tell his life-story, as far as it is possible, in his own way, with many

touches, as Mr. Chesterton writes, of "his really fine humour." One may, without fear of contradiction, call this book a "human document."



There would seem to be no limit to the industry of Mr. Baring-Gould. I suppose he has written as many books as any man living. I believe it has been said he has written more. He has always had a deep interest in the Celtic saints of Wales, Cornwall, and Brittany. He and the Rev. John Fisher, who probably knows more about manuscripts relating to the subject, which are to be found in Welsh libraries, than most people, have collaborated upon a "Lives of the British Saints," which is to be published in four volumes under the auspices of the Society of Cymmrodorion. That excellent little series which Messrs. Dent publish, "Englishmen of Science Series," is to have an addition of some importance. Professor Ainsworth Davis has prepared for it a volume on "Huxley." The author considers him to be a unique figure amongst those who have "brought about the scientific renaissance which rendered the nineteenth century memorable." In closing this paragraph, mention may be made of a new life of "Tasso and his Times," by W. Boultong, who has made use of all the new information concerning Tasso's life which has come to light during the last few years; and "Dante and his Italy," by Rev. Lonsdale Ragg. These last two books are being published by Messrs. Methuen, who publish many books likely to interest readers of this journal. No complete translation has yet appeared of "My Memoirs," by Alexandre Dumas. This is going to be rectified by Messrs. Methuen, for they are arranging for the publication of them in six volumes, translated by Mr. E. M. Hudson. The same firm of publishers are bringing out a study of "Falkland and his Times," by Mr. J. A. R. Marriott, lecturer in Modern History and Economics at Worcester College, Oxford. All the important speeches of Lord Falkland are to be printed verbatim, with new material relating not only to Falkland himself, but to some of his contemporaries.



Dr. Ray Lankester has finished a work entitled "The Kingdom of Man," in which he traces the origin and progress of man, and his resistance to the natural law of extermination and survival. The author gives an excellent account of the way in which science has advanced during the past quarter of a century.



Dr. Schiller points out that about half the essays in his new volume, "Studies in Humanism," have appeared in various periodicals during the past three years, but "additions have grown so extensive that of the matter of the book not more than one-third, and that the less constructive part, can be said to have been in print before." The present volume may be regarded as a continuation of his previous work on "Humanism," both on its critical and its constructive side. He comments "on the logical, moral, and religious breakdown of Absolute Idealism," which he says has recently been rendered manifest.



“Radical Thinkers” is a collection of six essays which Dr. John MacCunn, the well-known Professor of Philosophy in Liverpool, has written.



Sir Rennell Rodd, who has already published several volumes dealing with modern Greece, has prepared for publication a work concerning the Byzantine and Frankish remains in Morea, and the condition of Greece in the Middle Ages. The book is called “The Princes of Achaia and the Chronicles of Morea.”



A volume which aims to bring school instruction into close relation with social problems has been written by the Rev. Dr. J. Wilson Harper, and is called “Education and Social Life.”



Notices of Books.

BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

A DICTIONARY OF CHRIST AND THE GOSPELS. Edited by James Hastings, D.D. Vol. I. Edinburgh: *T. and T. Clark*. Price 21s. net.

When the first announcement was made of a new dictionary dealing with the Gospels, and edited by Dr. Hastings, the natural thought was whether there was room for it after the now well-known and valuable “Dictionary of the Bible” in five volumes. The publication of the present volume at once set the question at rest. The new volume is not only independent of the former one, but is in many respects supplementary to it, since the articles and subjects common to both are by different authors. The purpose of the Dictionary is “to give an account of everything that relates to Christ, His person, life, work, and teaching.” It is, “first of all, a preacher’s dictionary”; and its title is explained by the fact that, while the Gospels are the main source of our knowledge of Christ, the Dictionary not only includes all that is found in the Gospels, but “seeks to cover all that relates to Christ throughout the Bible and in the life and literature of the world.” Consequently, there are many articles of first-rate importance which were not included in the “Dictionary of the Bible,” while there are others which are treated more fully here because of their special reference to Christ. Thus, there are three classes of topics—some which are wholly new; others which, while not new, are of wider range than any in the “Dictionary of the Bible”; and yet others which, though they have a narrower range because limited to the Gospels, are within that range fuller and of more practical value to the preacher. Contributions are included from scholars and teachers from all parts of the United Kingdom, as well as America and Canada, and it is safe to say that not a few names which have hitherto been unknown will come into prominence through their work in this Dictionary. Churchmen