

“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

are well to the fore in the list, and we are particularly struck with the number as well as the ability of the contributions from the Church of Ireland. Two critical attitudes are unfortunately revealed in this work, which, as all the subjects deal with New Testament topics, is not at all helpful. Thus, by the only German scholar whose work is included in this volume, Acts is said to be not by Luke, though by a curious coincidence the Dictionary was published just when Harnack had declared for the Lucan authorship. Dr. Denney's article on the "Authority of Christ" favours a view of the Kenotic theory which seems to us at once wrong and dangerous, while his very free treatment of the fourth Gospel is eminently unsatisfactory. The article on the "Annunciation" by Plummer, and that on the "Virgin Birth" by Knowling, are admirably clear and convincing. We naturally turn to the article on the "Atonement," which is by the Rev. J. G. Simpson, of the Leeds Clergy School, and we are delighted to find in it a careful and thorough treatment of the New Testament doctrine of an objective and substitutionary Atonement. The article will prove a fine introduction to the study of the subject. A Presbyterian scholar, Dr. Kilpatrick, of Toronto, writes on the "Character of Christ" and on the "Incarnation," and his work is marked by striking theological insight, as well as by great freshness of treatment. The Church is the subject of an article by the Rev. J. H. Maude, and, as was to be expected, he takes a definitely High Church view, regarding Apostolic succession as necessary for the valid administration of the Sacraments. Litton's great work does not find a place in the literature quoted for reference. Mr. Maude maintains the astonishing position that the "visible Church" represents the Church on earth, and the "invisible Church" that which is behind the veil. Surely the distinction ought to have been discussed in the light of sixteenth-century teaching. It would have been well if another view of the Church could have been added to counterbalance this article, which certainly takes a view of the New Testament teaching which many will regard as largely without foundation. The Bishop of Clogher writes on "Christ's Consciousness," and his article will well repay study. It is marked by all the clearness, forcefulness, and freshness of that able thinker and scholar. It must suffice to call attention to valuable articles on the "Death of Christ," "Eschatology," "Foresight," "the Gospels," the "Holy Spirit," to say nothing of many others of almost equal importance and value. There are two on the "Fourth Gospel" by different authors—the one critical, the other dealing with the contents. The article on "Justification," by the Rev. R. S. Franks, of Birmingham, is a truly valuable and informing piece of work, and deserves close study. It will be seen from this what a feast of fat things awaits the careful and discriminating student. We are strongly opposed to some of the critical positions laid down in several of the articles, and we both regret and deplore their presence. But this apart, it is simple truth to say that the Dictionary will prove invaluable to preachers and teachers, and ought to be in constant use. It will assuredly raise the standard of our teaching, and provide "light and leading" for preachers and their flocks. Above all, it will reveal afresh the inexhaustible wealth of Him whose Name it bears, and give fresh proof of the truth that Christ is Christianity.

LECTURES ON MODERN HISTORY. By the late Lord Acton. London: Macmillan and Co. Price 10s. net.

Lord Acton is acknowledged to have been, in his own province, one of the most learned men in Europe. His knowledge of history was unrivalled; it was encyclopædic in range, and based on exhaustive research. Lord Acton took nothing for granted; and his work is the reflection of a striking and intense personality. Those who were present at his inaugural lecture at Cambridge, just twelve years ago, will never forget the impression of moral force that thrilled through every one of its massive and weighty paragraphs. High seriousness, austerity of thought, magnificent reliance on the illuminating influences of truth and of liberty—these were the things that mark Lord Acton out as a rare and inspiring teacher. To him all history—containing, as it does, the key to our knowledge of the present—was something more than a pursuit; it was a passion. History for him was (to use his own pregnant words), “not a burden on the memory, but an illumination of the soul.” To be with him, says one of his friends, was “like being with the cultivated mind of Europe in its finest characteristics.” Yet, despite all his erudition, all his high purpose, Acton left little behind him that was, in a sense, worthy of his wonderful gifts—a handful of essays, hidden for the most part in periodical literature; the inaugural lecture already alluded to; and now this collection of lectures delivered during his tenure of the Chair of History at Cambridge. One thinks of such men as Ranke, Dollinger, Thirlwall, Grote, Macaulay, Mommsen, and one sighs as one reflects upon what might have been done had Acton been able, or willing, to devote his vast intellectual resources to one great and epoch-marking work. “A History of Liberty” he had indeed planned, but it was never even begun. “*Magni nominis umbra*”—in that phrase posterity may yet have to speak of Acton. The present volume, valuable as it is (if for nothing else, then because it contains the inaugural lecture), strikes one as a little disappointing. It has great merits, no doubt, but there is nothing in it which many another man could not have done, and perhaps done as well. Perhaps, as in the case of Hort’s posthumous books, the author has to suffer some diminution of fame in that these lectures were not prepared save for a Cambridge lecture room; we must, to be just, regard them as chips from the workshop. As such they have considerable interest and value; but one is conscious of a sense of disappointment as one lays the book down. It is not really an illuminating work, such as, for example, the introduction to his contemplated “History of Liberty” would have been; even the marks of greatness seem somehow to be absent. We would not be ungrateful to the learned editors for the pious care with which they have preserved these pages for us—and they were worth preserving—but we *do* feel how much more might have been achieved had Lord Acton had the resolution to finish, in his lifetime, something that the world would not willingly have let die. Balance of judgment was not always conspicuous in Lord Acton’s *obiter dicta* on men and things, but this book does not err in this respect. It is careful, interesting, helpful; yet it misses greatness.

CHRISTIANITY IN THE MODERN WORLD. By the Rev. D. S. Cairns.  
London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 6s.

This is a noteworthy contribution to Christian thought. It comprises six chapters, the first of which deals with the nineteenth century, regarded as *The Modern Præparatio Evangelica*. This is followed by chapters on Jesus and the Fatherhood of God, Jesus and the New Life, Jesus and the Kingdom of God, The Kingdom of God and Science, Christianity in the Modern World. The subtitle is, *Studies in the Theology of the Kingdom of God*. The book is marked by keen insight into the conditions of modern thought, and equally keen insight into the essentials of Christianity in relation thereto. The main thesis is that the conditions which have produced the present unsettlement of belief lead to the conclusion that "this great and apparently sinister movement of thought was inevitable," and lay in the very nature of the case, and moreover, that "the movement has been part of the great counsel of God." After enumerating the main causes of the present anarchy of belief, attention is drawn to "the positive synthesis of Christian belief which is emerging from the long analysis of the past century." The book closes by showing "the incalculable value of this positive result for the world and its present stage of development." On each aspect of his subject the author writes with great force and real freshness. We cannot accept his view of the Fatherhood of God as either scriptural or really thinkable, but apart from this the book can be unreservedly commended as one of the freshest pieces of apologetics written for many a day. It ought to be in the hands of every minister of the Gospel and every educated layman, for it deals with marked ability and penetration with some of the vital problems of the day. The discussion on the eschatological element of the Gospels is particularly good and convincing, and is remarkably clever in its effective utilization of the most recent German criticism on the Gospels. Within its own limits the book is an extremely valuable one, and we have seldom read a work of the kind with more genuine interest and pleasure.

PUSEY'S MINOR PROPHETS. Vol. I., Hosea; Vol. II., Amos; Vol. III., Joel and Obadiah. London: *James Nisbet and Co., Ltd.* Price 2s. 6d. each net.

The reissue of this great work in a cheap, convenient form is a great boon. It is entirely unnecessary to praise it at this late date, but it may be allowable to call the attention of the present generation to the fact that the material is by no means antiquated or set aside by later works. This is a book of the great Oxford Churchman which it is possible for his most strenuous opponents in matters ecclesiastical to value and welcome. The Warden of Keble writes a preface to this edition, giving an appreciation of Pusey as a commentator, and quoting testimonies of modern scholars and theologians to the value of the work. We hope this reissue will lead to a further study of this most fruitful part of the Old Testament.

THE LAMP OF SACRIFICE. By W. Robertson Nicoll. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 6s.

Those who read the *British Weekly* find the front page occupied from time to time with discussions on current topics, such as Passive Resistance,

London County Council Expenditure, Disestablishment, and the like. On such occasions the editor is the resolute and sometimes almost fierce foe of his opponents. At other times the reader finds articles of a spiritual type which suggest thought, afford inspiration, and minister comfort and cheer. When Dr. Nicoll is in this vein he does for his readers what no one in modern days is doing or apparently can do. It is in the latter and more genial and delightful guise that he appears in the present volume, which represents sermons and addresses delivered on various special occasions, and afterwards issued in the *British Weekly*. They require no praise at our hands. Those who have already enjoyed them will be glad to have them in this convenient form, and those who have not yet made their acquaintance have a pleasure in store for mind and heart. We need not say more to commend them very warmly to our readers.

JOHN CALVIN. By Williston Walker. London: *G. P. Putnam's Sons*.  
Price 6s.

This volume forms one of the series of "Heroes of the Reformation," edited by Professor S. M. Jackson, of New York University. The object aimed at in the series is "critical biographies," "not mere eulogies," and it can be truly said that the object has been attained in this work. There is no attempt to gloss over the deficiencies in Calvin's character. The limitations of his genius are likewise judicially dealt with, and the just verdict given that his mind "was formulative rather than creative." At the same time, Professor Walker gives the natural corollary to this conclusion by showing that many matters usually attributed to Calvin, such as governmental regulation of faith in Geneva, the expulsion thence of those who refused Protestantism, the promotion of popular education, were merely systematized and not originated by him. Calvin, chronologically, and to a great extent theologically, is among the heirs rather than the initiators of the Reformation. It was his work to systematize, not to inaugurate, and the Protestant world should look with thankfulness to the great Genevan reformer. In the second half of the sixteenth century, when the Roman Church again reared her head and went forth with the Inquisition, the Jesuits, and the Tridentine Decrees to stem the tide which threatened to engulf her, and when, in the Counter-Reformation, she slowly won back territory after territory, it was then, in the darkest hour of the Evangelical cause, that the genius and worth of Calvin's work were seen. To those who desire to see the principles upon which were based an organization which in France could hold the monarch at bay, in the Netherlands could check the master of the Old World and the New, and could revolutionize Scotland, we commend Professor Walker's work. The author also usefully shows that Calvin was by no means the gloomy ascetic he is sometimes painted, and that he stood in closer sympathy with Luther than with Zwingli in his estimate of the nature and worth of the Lord's Supper. This is an able, scholarly, and well-written book, which will prove of the greatest value to all students of the subject.

**LIBERTY, AND OTHER SERMONS.** By Right Rev. Charles H. Brent, Bishop of the Philippine Islands. *Longmans, Green and Co.*

An uncommon volume of sermons. The first was preached before the Archbishop of Canterbury on the occasion of his visit to America in 1904, to correct popular definitions of liberty. "Riot and Harmony" urges that "Be filled with the Spirit" should be the practical heritage of our normal life. One, entitled "Christmas Haste," regards "the racing feet of the shepherd lads" as an illustration of earnestness in the presence of new truth. One on "The Garden of the Lord," preached at Lausanne, is a beautiful sermon on childhood. At the end there are two Shakespearian sermons for the times, enjoining faithfulness and prudence in the marriage relation from the lips of Portia and Othello. These discourses are versatile in their subjects and treatment.

**EDINBURGH SERMONS.** By Hugh Black. *Hodder and Stoughton.* Price 6s.

A new volume of twenty-seven sermons by the well-known author of "Friendship," "The Practice of Self-Culture," etc. These sermons, which are of a high order, suggest at times ideas kindred to those expressed by Frederick Robertson. They are cultured in style, discerning in their application of Scripture, concise in expression, manly in tone, and practical in their purpose—ethical and spiritual rather than directly evangelistic. Many of the titles sound suggestive, and invite attention—"Faith's Illusion," "The Discipline of Change," "The Charm of Goodness," "The Courage of Consecration," "The Wealth of Nations," "Social Conscience," "The Reincarnation of Christ," "The Law set to Music"—but they are greatly lacking in the distinctive notes of spiritual evangelical preaching.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN SCOTLAND.** By Rev. J. H. Shepherd, M.A. *S.P.C.K.* Price 2s. 6d.

This series of lectures in book form gives a succinct account of the history of the Church in Scotland from an Episcopalian point of view. It takes us from early times to the present day. The writer is a firm believer in the mechanical view of apostolic succession, but at the same time he writes moderately, appreciatively, and with considerable interest.

**THE SHEPHERD OF HERMAS.** By the Rev. C. Taylor, D.D., LL.D. Vol. II. *S.P.C.K.* Price 2s.

Dr. Taylor writes notes on this work and an appendix. He thus puts us face to face with some early Christian literature, and the comparison is instructive when we place it side by side with the New Testament.

**A CHURCH CHILD'S LIFE OF ST. PAUL.** By D. O. *S.P.C.K.* Price 6d.

The narrative of St. Paul's life is told in an interesting way, but the illustrations spoil the booklet.

**REASON AND BELIEF.** By Frank Sewall, M.A., D.D. London: *Elliot Stock.* 1906.

This book professes to be an examination into the rational and philosophic content of the Christian Creed. It is, in many ways, a useful piece of apologetic, and deserves to be read with attention.

## FICTION.

STORIES OF THE FIRST FOUR COUNCILS. By the Rev. G. B. Howard.  
London: S.P.C.K. Price 1s. 6d.

Written for reading at a ladies' working party. It is presented in book form in the hope of extended usefulness among those who wish for knowledge on early Church history. Presumably some degree of a fictional setting is introduced to add to the interest of this little work.

GRIMM'S HOUSEHOLD STORIES. London: S.P.C.K. Price 1s.

These twelve stories are a selection of Grimm's popular fairy tales. They are charmingly illustrated by about forty pictures drawn by Dorothy Furniss.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF DAVID PENDARVE. By Edith E. Cowper. London: S.P.C.K. Price 2s. 6d.

This is the story of the mysterious disappearance of a man on the eve of his marriage and the search that was made for him. The authoress very skilfully unravels the mystery, and the reader is led on from page to page with ever-increasing interest. Every chapter is brightly written, and the writer's knowledge of seafaring life, even to the handling of a boat in a storm, seems remarkable for a woman. Naomi, Gwendra, and Tregenna are well-drawn characters. We commend this book as at once wholesome, romantic, and exciting.

THE PRIEST. By Harold Begbie. London: Hodder and Stoughton. Price 6s.

This is undoubtedly an able and startling novel. It is aimed against Romanizing practices in the Church of England. It represents in fiction very much what the author of "The Secret History of the Oxford Movement" represents in fact.

## GENERAL.

THE BOOK OF THE V.C. By A. L. Haydon. London: Andrew Melrose, 16, Pilgrim Street, E.C. Illustrated. Pp. 294. Price 3s. 6d.

A record of the deeds of heroism for which a Victoria Cross has been bestowed from its institution to the present time. It is compiled from official papers and authentic sources, and contains a complete alphabetical list of the recipients. A large selection of V.C. exploits are narrated. Just the book to give to boys of any age.

THE BLESSED JOHN VIANNEY. By Joseph Vianney. Translated by C. W. W. Duckworth and Co. Price 3s.

The life, work, and "beatification" of the celebrated Curé d'Ars is here recorded. The English mind will recoil from many a page, while it will not fail to admire a good man. Despite his Romish disabilities, we have the story of a simple and pious soul who did much good, and whose piety assumed a national importance. His mistaken view of charity was counter-balanced by a great love of humanity. He does not strike us as possessing the secret of a happy life, and we are left to feel that, if he had exercised a ministry based on God's Word, he might have done much greater things.

LIFE OF DAVID HILL. By J. E. Hellier. With Introduction by the Rev. J. H. Jowett. London: *Morgan and Scott*. Price 2s. 6d. net.

David Hill was one of the choicest men in the mission field—a wonderful combination of saint, scholar, and administrator. He is especially noteworthy as the one through whose instrumentality Pastor Hsi was led to Christ. This book is full of the beauty of holiness and the attractiveness of service for God. Mr. Jowett contributes a characteristic introduction. The book will carry blessing wherever it goes. It is just the very gift-book for young people in particular.

CAMP FIRE LIGHT; OR, MEMORIES OF FLOOD AND FOREST. By William Ridley, D.D., Bishop of Caledonia. London: *Seeley and Co.* 1906.

To those readers who have any knowledge, either at first or second hand, of British Columbia, this book will be of interest. It consists of verses composed by the Bishop during various wanderings in his vast diocese. If there is no fire of poetic inspiration in these verses, one is glad to read them for their sincerity and their genuine feeling. The Indian "sequence," entitled "Lûla," is effective.

FROM ROME TO CHRIST. London: *C. J. Thynne*. Price 6d. net.

The title tells its own story. It is the sad history of a French priest, told by himself and translated by Rev. C. S. Isaacson.

MRS. WIGHTMAN OF SHREWSBURY. By Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher. London: *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 3s. 6d.

The biography of a devoted pioneer in temperance work, whose name is well known as an honoured worker for fifty years in Shrewsbury. The story of her striking influence in leading working men to true religion and total abstinence is narrated in detail. Among her correspondents are Bishop Walsham How, Dean Close, Bishop Lonsdale, and Lord Shaftesbury. Her well-known book, "Haste to the Rescue," proved a call to arms to Temperance workers. The biography is appropriately dedicated to Miss Marsh.

PORTFOLIOS OF ENGLISH CATHEDRALS. With Historical and Architectural Notes by Arnold Fairbairns. No. 19, Rochester; No. 20, Hereford; No. 21, Norwich; No. 22, Gloucester; No. 23, Chichester; No. 24, Bristol; No. 25, Truro. London: *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*. Price 1s. net each.

We are glad to receive these additions to a very interesting and acceptable series. The information is brief and yet sufficient, while the photographic reproductions are clear and attractive. Whether in parts or in a volume, this portfolio will be very welcome.

#### RECEIVED:

*Our Little Dots, The Child's Companion, Church Missionary Review, 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, The Church Gazette, Grievances from Ireland (No. 25), The Dawn of Day, Girls' Own Paper, Orient and Occident, The Expository Times, The Lay Reader, The Optimist, The Church of England Pulpit and Ecclesiastical Review, The Trinitarian Bible Society Quarterly Record.*