

Himself the result of years of labour. Almost nightly we are besieged by a band of young fellows asking to have the way of salvation made more clear to them. . . . The coming of the Lo-Mongo New Testament has done much to influence the young men." It is hard to escape the conviction that the Word of God is preparing for a day of God.



One notable activity of the Bible is the instant interest that is quickened by any discovery in the East. Even the acquisition by Lord Ffrench of the complete Kah-gyur, or Tibetan version of the Buddhist Scriptures, reported in the issue of the *Times* for January 28, illustrates in an emphatic manner the exquisitely portable size of the Bible for universal distribution. The Kah-gyur consists of 100 volumes or more, each with 1,000 pages. Such Scriptures will never know a world-wide distribution.



The 4,000 manuscripts found by Dr. Stein, of the India Government Mission to Central Africa, excite wonder as to the light they may throw both on Buddhism and Christianity. So many Buddhist traditions indicate very clearly a Christian source, that the testimony of volumes going back, in some instances, as far as A.D. 100, may possibly offer most valuable evidence. At present there is no truly authentic source of any such tradition earlier than the Christian era.



The excavations being carried out by the German Oriental Society at Babylon, under the direction of Dr. Koldewey, as illustrated in the *Graphic* of January 30, are full of interest. They show unmistakably that the prophet rightly described Babylon as "the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldee's excellency," and that the proud boast of Nebuchadnezzar had at least its material justification, even judged by the stupendous remains that are now being unearthed. The prophet's word likewise has been absolutely fulfilled, for Babylon became "heaps," and has remained "heaps" to this day. "From the East" came all the light that we enjoy, and "From the East" is calculated to become significant of a light that in many respects will make the truth of the Word all the more remarkable. The archæological relationships of the Bible are as wonderful as they are interesting; but possibly we are as yet only in the dawn.



Literary Notes.

THE other day Mr. St. Loe Strachey gave an address to the members of the Authors' Club upon the difference between literature and journalism. I suppose that as long as both exist there will always be a great diversity of opinion as to what this difference really is. To instance: the *Spectator* itself is a weekly journal, but I suppose most of us, irrespective of political views, will admit at once that in its pages may be discovered as good literature as is to be found in the writing of to-day. Of course, this fineness of expression, this fairness of view, and this restraint of opinion, reflect in a large measure something of the mind which occupies the editorial chair. And, also, there

is the tradition weaving its atmosphere around the personalities of those whose business it is to see to the conduct of the paper. It would be strange if the directors of this particular journal should miss the spiritual influence of some of their greater forbears. It was, therefore, most fitting that its editor should address the members of the Authors' Club upon such a subject. His opinion—his unique opinion, I think I may justifiably say—would carry considerable weight. Good journalism is assuredly good literature. Yet literature, in the fullest sense of the word, *is* good; therefore the qualification is superfluous. It seems to the writer that journalism—I mean pure journalism of the *Spectator* type—is a distinct condition from that other kind of journalism (*sic*) which lives its unsatisfactory life upon the carrion news of sensationalism. It points to the fact that there are many grades of journalism. This modern method of writing news and producing “live” articles should not, under the greatest stress, be called journalism; it is an insult to it, and a gross impertinence. Journalism is dovetailed into literature; both have a dignity which is theirs by right of birth; both have a hemisphere of their own, which they can fill by the grace of their own virtue. But the former needs our compassion when its name is associated with much of the wicked method of writing which obtains to-day. In one way journalism should be a help to literature—I mean to the person whose immediate motive in life is to write and publish a book. The writing for the press is a great refining fire. Pedantry, flamboyancy, arrogance, verbosity, and the like, receive their quietus in the ruthless demands of the canons of journalism. It teaches us by hard—perhaps sometimes it is cruel—experience that all these things are so much verbiage, which must be calmly cast upon the mental dust-heap as useless. Simplicity should be the paramount feature, coupled with a directness of attack which goes right to the root of the subject under treatment. At first the writer will find his work bald and unpalatable, but the harvesting time will come along eventually, and with it a picturesqueness of expression which no set of rules can possibly teach.

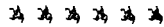


Dr. Bradley's "Oxford Lectures on Poetry" contain selections from the lectures delivered during the author's term of office as Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford which are not to be found in his well-known volume on "Shakespearean Tragedy." Of course, anything that Dr. Bradley has to say on poetry may be accepted as authoritative, and one is anxious and glad to have on record his various lectures on such subjects as "Poetry for Poetry's Sake," "The Sublime," and "Hegel's View of Tragedy." Then there are five sections dealing with the poets and poetry of the early nineteenth century, while another four treat of Shakespeare.



At this point perhaps I may be permitted to call attention to a new work by Mr. Arthur Symons, entitled "The Romantic Movement in English Poetry." This is being issued by Messrs. Constable, who are also bringing out a translation of "The Last Days of Papal Rome." It is being done into English by Miss Helen Zimmern, who has much knowledge of Italy and the Italians, and the literature, past and present, of the country. This publication which she has translated is an abridgment of the original work in two big volumes.

What Cesare has done in the past in giving us a trustworthy account of the gradual death of the jurisdiction of the Pope over Rome, between 1850 and 1870, Signor Guglielmo Ferrero is doing in the present for the rise and fall of Rome in its great historical aspect. His stupendous and most scholarly work, "The Greatness and Decline of Rome," is a masterly production. So far four volumes have appeared: Vol. i., "The Empire-Builders"; vol. ii., "Julius Cæsar"; vol. iii., "The Fall of an Aristocracy"; vol. iv., "Rome and Egypt." The new fifth volume will bring the work (it is the completing volume) to the close of the reign of Augustus, A.D. 14. I cannot give any better description of the work than a quotation from the review of a certain critic: "His largeness of vision, his sound scholarship, his sense of proportion, his power to measure life that has been by his observation of life that is, his possession of the true historical sense, stamp him as a great historian." At the moment of writing Signor Ferrero has just returned from America, where he recently delivered a course of lectures at Columbia University. He has also been lecturing at the University of Chicago, and at the Lowell Institute, Boston. It is interesting to compare his work with Gibbon's, inasmuch as the spirit of the modern age must affect the ultimate decision of the present-day historian. And there is Mommsen's work, which, of course, always has its place upon the shelves of thinkers and students. Naturally, as years go by, research provides new material; hence Signor Ferrero's five-volume work is a valuable undertaking.



I wonder if the ordinary man and woman know much of Bartholomew de Las Casas? There is an important biography of him just issued—"His Life, His Apostolate, and His Writings"—by Francis Augustus MacNutt. Las Casas was the sixteenth-century historian of early Spanish America. He was also the devoted Dominican missionary and the defender of the Indians who fared so ill at the hands of their Christian conquerors. Mr. MacNutt recently published a very fine translation of "The Letters of Cortes."

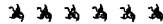


Among many important books to come from the notable publishing house of Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co. is one entitled "Pre-Tractarian Oxford," a volume of reminiscences by the Rev. W. Tuckwell, late Fellow of New College. The book should make very interesting reading, as it deals with a rather memorable period. In it will be found sketches, among others, of Archbishop Whately, Dr. Arnold, Hampden, and Blanco White. These were men who were known as "Noetics" or Intellectuals, whose teaching, preceding the Newman movement, found its expression in "Essays and Reviews," and may be said to have some kinship with the higher criticism of to-day. There will be several portraits by that wonderful photographer, Mr. Frederick Hollyer.

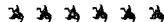


A new series of books is in the making. It is called "Harper's Library of Living Thought." Its object: To furnish the living central thought in a permanent book-form as soon as it is born. The idea is based upon immediacy. A writer feels at times that he has a new living thought to express. Often he does not wait—there is too much hurry to-day—calmly and philo-

sophically to develop the idea and clothe it in its appropriate raiment; he just sits down, makes a fairly long article of it, and sends it to one of the many magazines. So, then, Harper's will assist the Hotspur of the great new thought out of his difficulty, help him to expand it a little, and then publish it in its middle-aged form. The price of the series is to be, in cloth, 2s. 6d. Among the first volumes are: "Personal Religion in Egypt before Christianity," by W. M. Flinders Petrie; "The Teaching of Jesus," by Count Leo Tolstoy; "The Life of the Universe," by Svante Arrhenius; "Three Plays of Shakespeare," by A. C. Swinburne; and "Poetic 'Adequacy' in the Twentieth Century," by Theodore Watts-Dunton.



Here is a somewhat astonishing book, although the surprise will abate a little when I say that it comes from America. It is called "Principles of Successful Church Advertising." At first glance one wonders what it means, but on a second consideration the motive of the book, although a trifle foreign to our own methods, is clearer. The author is Mr. Charles Stelzle, who says his book is the result of wide study and considerable experience. Some of the chapters deal with such subjects as will give pointers to the incumbent of a church for bringing them prominently before the people. The author gained plenty of readers in the United States through his former books: "Christianity's Storm Centre: A Study of the Modern City;" and "Messages to Working Men."



Another new American book is Dr. George Barton Cutten's "The Psychological Phenomena of Christianity," which, I understand, is meeting with a considerable amount of attention on the other side of the Atlantic.



Among Mr. Elliot Stock's new books are: "Infidelity and Miracles," by Samuel Knaggs, a volume which should prove useful to inquirers after religious truth; and "Light for Lesser Days," by the Rev. Canon H. F. Tucker. This is a volume of readings, meditations, devotions, and illustrations for the minor festivals commemorated in the English Kalendar.



Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has just published a "History of Contemporary Civilization," by Mons. Charles Seignobos. It is the third and concluding volume of the author's "History of Civilization," a comprehensive yet concise summary of universal history, which has had a very wide circulation in France. The present volume starts with the eighteenth century, and goes down to the present day. It deals not only with political and military events, but with art, literature, science, and industry.

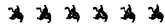


Last week there came from the house of Methuen "The Creed in the Epistles," by Wilfrid Richmond, M.A. This book is a study of the first chapter in the history of the Creed. The writer traces the articles of the Creed as they occur in the earliest Christian documents—the first group of the Epistles of St. Paul. The Creed which St. Paul assumes as the Creed of those to whom he wrote is distinguished from his own particular teaching. The preface deals with the bearing of the results of this inquiry on the inter-

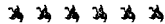
pretation of the Gospels, written as they were in the age which held the Creed of the Epistles, and maintains that "the Gospel," in the full sense of the word, is to be found, not in the Gospels, but in the Epistles.



Archdeacon Sinclair's history of St. Paul's Cathedral, which he finished the other day, is bound to be interesting. There is, anyhow, a wealth of material to draw upon. The scope of the book will be of such a kind as shall appeal to the populace. A good idea. At the same time, of course, the Archdeacon will not sacrifice accuracy to colour. The title is to be "Memorials of St. Paul's Cathedral," which is rather apt, and it will be illustrated by Mr. Louis Weirter.



Mr. Roger Ingpen possesses the true literary instinct. Moreover, he is one of the most conscientious of workers, and knows much of the eighteenth-century lights of literature. I hope Mr. Ingpen will give us in the near future a series of studies of the writing-men of the period, of which he is already so very familiar. His latest effort is an important work in two volumes, entitled "The Letters of Percy Bysshe Shelley," which Messrs. Pitman are issuing. The largest edition of Shelley's letters that has hitherto been obtainable contains only some 127 letters. Mr. Ingpen's volumes will have some 450 letters in them, many of which have never appeared before.



"With Christ in Bethlehem" is the title of a new Lenten work by Miss Helen Thorp. The Bishop of Rochester has supplied a preface. This book will be found especially useful to girls and young women.



Here are four new periodicals: *Travel and Exploration*, a shilling monthly; the *Englishwoman*, a paper for women, as the title indicates; the *Tuesday Review*, a new Oxford undergraduate's sixpenny weekly; while the fourth item is the *Anti-Socialist*.

M. C.



Notices of Books.

A COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE. By Various Writers. Edited by the Rev. J. R. Dummelow. London: *Macmillan and Co.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

A commentary on the whole Bible in one volume! Surely the task is impossible. Yet here it is, accomplished. The editor who conceived the idea was induced to undertake the work from a belief that, "notwithstanding all the commentaries in existence, there was still room for another more suited to the needs and means of the general public." And, quite apart from any question of the views here set forth, it must be at once admitted that he has been successful in a high degree in realizing his ideal. The contributors number forty-three, and are drawn from this country, Canada, and the United States. They include well-known scholars of different Churches, though we regret, from our standpoint, that there seem to be