

of the country, but not before he had sold 361 volumes, some of which had found their way into the palace, and one at least into the hands of the Ranee, the wife of the King.



There is a systematic distribution of Scriptures in India among students, and in the light of a recent event it is interesting to learn that the applications for Scriptures by students in the Punjab is greater than ever.



Since Chinese coolies were introduced into South Africa, 6,778 copies of the Scriptures have been distributed among them. They were mostly Gospels in Mandarin and Easy Wenli.



Modern research and discovery show in a remarkable manner how the kingdom in its comings utilizes rather than invents. It takes and employs what is; it uses the provision of the times, and does not create or construct its own. It speaks the tongue the people speak, it occupies the public and accepted pulpit, whether of synagogue, of school, or water-side. It even takes up peculiar expressions—what we should call theological terms—and makes them, in a higher employment, drawers of water in the House of God. Jew and heathen had written, and were writing, letters and epistles; the Apostles accept the custom and do likewise. The sacred literature of to-day flowed at first through a very public and sometimes commonplace channel; its carriers were not angelic, but such as had perhaps often carried vastly different writing. According to the circumstances of their times prophets did much as Apostles did afterwards, and much as others had done before them. The pen has ever been a chief, if not a supreme, agent in the kingdom, for writing is more ancient than preaching, and writing has frequently reigned where preaching has been unknown. A survey of the world's religious history demonstrates the sacred or religious writer as a man of utmost importance.



Literary Notes.

CAPTAIN A. T. MAHAN'S next book differs entirely from the character of his previous writings, the best known of which is probably "The Influence of Sea-Power upon History." The forthcoming work is to be called "The Harvest Within: Being Thoughts in the Life of a Christian." A welcome awaits the volume. As a student and teacher of naval history, Captain Mahan has no living rival. It will surely be thought a matter of peculiar interest that now in later life he has wished to "gather up the fragments that remain," and give to the world the sum of his experiences in the most important of all spheres, and to profess those conclusions with regard to the meaning of life which command his allegiance and have influenced him in conduct. This work is a study, not so much of religious theory as of Christian experience, and of the writer's own experience.

It is a study of the power of Jesus Christ in the individual and in the Church; of Christian responsibility and the Christian hope. The mature expression of his religious convictions by a man whom both England and America have learned to trust is a noticeable event; and the simple sincerity of these pages will win for them, it may be hoped, widespread attention.



"The Harvest Within" is being published by Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co. They are also bringing out Professor William James's "The Nature of Truth." This is a sequel, if one may be permitted to so call it, to "Pragmatism," published last year. The author is Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University, U.S.A. The same publishing-house also have in their list for speedy publication, "Christian Ideas and Ideals: An Outline of Christian Ethical Theory," by Canon Ottley, Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology, Oxford.



In Messrs. Constable's useful little series, "Religions: Ancient and Modern," which present the salient features of the Great Religions of the human race, some nineteen volumes have appeared. There are three others expected this year: "The Religion of Ancient Persia," by Dr. A. V. Williams; "The Religion of Ancient Israel," by Professor Jastrow; and "The Psychological Origin and Nature of Religion," by Professor J. H. Leuba. The design of the series is to provide information as to the variations of religious experience in all ages; and by confining the task to acknowledged experts in the art of condensed popular exposition, it has been found feasible to cover the ground at least in rudimentary, essential outline in a series of small shilling handbooks or primers. The ground covered, so far, by these little books is roughly as follows—Primitive Religions: Animism, Magic and Fetishism, Pantheism. Non-Semitic Religions of the East: Ancient Egypt, Hinduism, Early Buddhism, Ancient China, Shinto. Semitic Religions: Babylonia and Syria, Early Palestine, The Old Hebraic Religion, Judaism, Early Christianity, Islam, Special Developments of Islam in India. European Religions: Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Celtic, Scandinavian, Ancient Britain and Ireland. American Religion: Mexico and Peru. There is a companion series to the "Religions," entitled "Philosophies: Ancient and Modern." The price and format are the same, and the subjects so far arranged for are: Early Greek Philosophy, Stoicism, Plato, Scholasticism, Hobbes, Locke, Comte and Mill, Herbert Spencer, Schopenhauer, Berkeley and Spiritual Realism, Bergson, and Lucretius and Atomists.



Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson, and Ferrier have in the press a translation, by the Rev. Neil Buchanan, of the third edition of "Die Lebenskräfte des Evangeliums," to be published here under the title of "The Living Forces of the Gospel: Experiences of a Missionary in Animistic Heathendom." The author of the book is the Rev. Johannes Warneck.



From Messrs. Luzac and Co. comes "Islam: Her Moral and Spiritual Value," by Major A. E. Leonard. Syed Amir Ali has written a short

introduction to the work. He was formerly a judge of the High Court in Bengal, and is a well-known authority on Mohammedan Law.



The Rev. J. W. Arctander has written an account of Mr. William Duncan, who has spent fifty years among the Indians of British Columbia and Alaska. It is a most readable volume, entitled "The Apostle of Alaska." The story is so replete with adventure that it should appeal to a wide circle of readers; in fact, those who had the opportunity of reading it in manuscript, said it was more like a romance than anything else. Mr. Duncan is known among his people by the title of "Metlakahtla."



Two additions have been made to Messrs. Chatto and Windus's excellent "New Medieval Library." The first is "The Cell of Knowledge," seven early English mystical treatises, printed by Henry Pepwell in 1521, edited by Edmund G. Gardner, and illustrated from contemporary sources; and the second is "Ancient English Christmas Carols, 1400-1700," collected, arranged and illustrated from Medieval Books of Hours, by Edith Rickert. In their "St. Martin's Library," the same house are including Thackeray's "Rose and the Ring," illustrated by Gordon Browne; Browning's "Dramatic Personæ," and "Dramatic Romances and Lyrics," illustrated by Eleanor F. Brickdale; and "The Confessions of St. Augustine," as translated by Dr. Pusey and edited by Temple Scott, to which Mrs. Meynell has written an introduction, and for which Maxfield Armfield has prepared some coloured illustrations.



The Hulsean Professor of Modern History, Mr. J. W. Allen, has written an important book on "The Place of History in Education." It is being published by Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, and attempts to prove a theory and to define a system of education with a discussion of the place which history should take in this ideal structure.



Canon Beeching is possessed of a very picturesque style of writing, and anything which he sets out to do in the world of letters may always be reckoned to be interesting and attractive. One of his latest literary excursions has been made in the history of an eighteenth-century Churchman, Atterbury, Bishop of Rochester. The volume should be very valuable, seeing that Canon Beeching has been able to include in it much new material which has not before been published. This new matter includes the Chapter Records of the three deaneries which the Bishop held in succession, especially those of Westminster.



The "Library of Living Thought" may be said to have established itself. Several important issues have been included in it, and there is a new volume announced. It is a study of the founding of Christianity, by Professor Arnold Meyer. The title selected for this work is "Jesus or Paul?" and Professor Meyer's opinion is "that, although it was Jesus who led mankind

to the intimate communion with God as a Father, it was mainly St. Paul who founded that form of Christianity, which, though hindering and embarrassing in many ways to-day, alone proved capable of spreading the teaching of Jesus." Another work to appear in this series—the publishers are Messrs. Harper Brothers—is "The Transmigration of Souls," by Professor D. A. Bertholet. This will be a concise account of the belief in metempsychosis traceable in ancient and modern history—the theme concerning which Schopenhauer wrote: "Never has a myth, and never will a myth, be more closely connected with philosophical truth than the primæval doctrine." There are many additions contemplated in the near future, some of which are: "Diamonds," by Sir William Crookes; "The Origin of the New Testament," by Professor William Wrede; "Religion and Art in Ancient Greece," by Professor E. A. Gardner; "Poetic 'Adequacy' in the Twentieth Century," by Theodore Watts-Dunton; "Revelation and Inspiration," by Professor Reinhold Seeberg; and "Roman Law in Medieval Europe," by Professor P. Vinogradoff.



There have been a number of archæological books appearing of late, and there is an announcement that the Oxford University Press will issue a volume dealing with the prehistoric civilization of Italy. The author, Mr. T. E. Peet, has entitled it "The Stone and the Bronze Ages in Italy," in which he carefully traces Italy's earliest civilization, and theorizes as to its connection with the condition of life which existed at the same time in the Ægean, the Mediterranean, and in Central Europe. There are many maps in the volume, as well as some 275 illustrations.



Canon John Vaughan, Rector of Droxford, Hants, has long been a devoted nature-lover and a student of the lore connected with botany and botanists. For many years he has been the writer of several interesting and attractive papers and articles, as our own columns can testify. He is also a very busy worker in the matter of religious study, particularly in the Diocese of Winchester, among the more educated classes. The Honorary Canony in Winchester Cathedral which he has held for some time, now becomes, in his case, through the Bishop's collation, a residentiary canony, which is the reward of his diocesan work. The reading public will have an opportunity, in the early autumn, of acquiring some of his parerga, the literary recreations of a country parson, which Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons are publishing under the title of "The Lighter Studies of a Country Rector."



On the twenty-ninth of this month occurs the centenary of the birth of Oliver Wendell Holmes. Due recognition is to be taken of the event in both America and England. His "Breakfast Table" series is in the World's Classics—the "Autocrat," the "Poet," and the "Professor"—and lends itself admirably to pocket volumes. At the Encænia on June 23, at Oxford, the honorary degree of D.C.L. was conferred on the Autocrat's son.