

Notices of Books.

THE CONFLICT OF RELIGIONS IN THE EARLY ROMAN EMPIRE. By T. R. Glover. London: *Methuen and Co.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

The language of the author's preface best describes the aim of this striking book: "To see the Founder of the Christian movement and some of His followers as they appeared among their contemporaries; to represent Christian and pagan with equal goodwill and equal honesty, and in one perspective; to recapture something of the colour and movement of life, using imagination to interpret the data, and controlling it by them; to follow the conflict of ideals, not in the abstract, but as they show themselves in character and personality; and in this way to discover where lay the living force that changed the thoughts and lives of men, and what it was." The opening chapter discusses Roman religion. Then we are introduced to "The Stoics" and "Plutarch." The fourth chapter on "Jesus of Nazareth" is naturally the most interesting of all, and while full of remarkable insight and characterized by great freshness and force, it is too much under the influence of Ritschlianism to be true to the New Testament conception of Christ. It is curious to see the blend and conflict of the writer's early home influences as the gifted son of an honoured Baptist minister, and the results of the acceptance of German scholarship in regard to Christ and the Gospels. The last word Mr. Glover has to say about Jesus Christ is a reference to His dying words: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" But this is not the whole story of the Gospels, and is certainly not the secret of the power of Christ in early Christianity. It is astonishing to see the Resurrection and a belief in the Resurrection ignored in an able and important book of this kind. Again, in the next chapter on "The Followers of Jesus," the Holy Spirit is always written without capital letters, another indication of the author's theological position. But in spite of much that a Christian must feel to be lacking, the book is fascinating to a degree, and each chapter is a fine, fresh study, full of point and power. The treatment of Tertullian is particularly valuable and, indeed, the book will at once take rank as one of the most important contributions of recent days to the study of early Church history. It is marked by a great thoroughness of knowledge, a perfect mastery of materials, a keen historical instinct and a fine spirit. It is so good that we could heartily wish that it were still better in regard to Christ and the Holy Spirit, but taken as it is, it is a noteworthy book for which we are profoundly grateful. No student of primitive Christianity can overlook it.

CHARACTERS AND EVENTS OF ROMAN HISTORY, FROM CÆSAR TO NERO (Lowell Lectures for 1908). By Guglielmo Ferrero, Litt.D. New York and London: *Putnam's Sons.* 1909. Price 7s. 6d. net.

The writer of these very readable and interesting lectures has recently sprung into considerable repute. His work, "The Greatness and Decline of Rome" (still unfinished), has been hailed as one of the most brilliant works of recent years—not without some cause. However we regard the author, he is a writer of undeniable brilliance. Whether the more solid virtues of the historian belong to him by indefeasible right is not so certain; but he

has the power, without doubt, of presenting his case with uncommon skill. He would almost seem to be more akin to a clever artist than to what we usually understand by an "historian." He has a genius for paradoxical statements; proposes new (and untried) theories with great boldness; and displays originality on every page. These are great things; but they are not everything. Sometimes the thought will crop up: Is not this brilliance at the expense of certainty? Yet, when all is said and done, Signor Ferrero has the admirable gift of making old and time-worn themes glow with interest; and he assuredly does his thinking for himself. His text is "the infinite littleness of men" in the scale of the universe; and from that text he wrings a striking and effective lesson. Yet this very text is, of itself, but a half-text; and the very brilliance of his commentary serves only to throw into undeserved gloom the other half of the text. Ferrero writes (we imagine) from the purely rationalistic point of view; he has no illusions (we think that of delusions we can find abundant traces); of the mystic element in life and religion he is unable to grasp the significance. That is what detracts from the value of his book, as a whole. But, if these things be duly borne in mind, the lectures of this clever Italian historian ought to have a decidedly stimulating effect. There is not a dull page in them, and they will repay careful study.

SOCIAL LIFE AT ROME IN THE AGE OF CICERO. By W. Warde Fowler, M.A. London: *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.* 1909. Price 10s.

This brilliant and captivating volume ought to find many readers. Nowhere can we get a better account, in clear and succinct fashion, of those moving days when the Roman Republic was tottering to its fall in the presence of Cæsarism. Histories of the time there are in plenty: Long's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Republic," or Mommsen's great work, are familiar enough. But these deal rather with the external features of Rome's history; we trace there the huge movements which culminated at Actium. The figures of Pompey, of Cæsar, of Antony, and of Augustus move before us in all their fateful splendour. But these works, admirable as they are, touch only the fringe of things; they do not lead us into the heart of the social life at Rome. And it is this which we desire more closely to investigate. Mr. Fowler's book brings home to us, in a way that is at once helpful and stimulating, the *springs* of political action. In his pages we may watch the causes that led up to momentous crises. The life of the people—not merely of their great political and military representatives—their "hopes, loves, hates"; the "little, nameless, unremembered" things that, slight by themselves, are of such profound consequence in the aggregate. These are the features of Roman life that are portrayed in Mr. Fowler's book. Such questions as are raised by a just consideration of the social life in Rome at the Ciceronian epoch have no slight value for the men of the present. The same political forces, in many cases, are at work then as now; the effects produced by social evils in the first century B.C. have their analogue to-day. These points deserve conscientious study. To many, history is but a bare record of a buried past; to the scientific historian, however, the story of what has been may be, and often is, both an inspiration in the present and a warning for future days. To the thoughtful reader Mr. Fowler's book will

open many a vista hitherto undiscerned; we should be surprised if he laid it down without having some fuller insight into the causes that lead to immense and far-reaching changes. The educationalist will learn from these pages how little attention (apparently) was paid to what is nowadays a momentous matter—the proper direction of education during childhood. The moralist will discover how slightly the educated Roman of the period valued his responsibility to God; how little dependent he was upon Divine providence. What a solemn lesson is here! The student of social questions will learn the good and mischievous results of the system of slave labour which was so significant a feature of Roman life. And so on. We are grateful to Mr. Warde Fowler for his book. Armed with this, with Dr. Samuel Dill's two instructive volumes, and with Mr. Glover's remarkable work reviewed above, a student may safely feel that he has, in some measure, got into vital contact with the life and thought and polity of the most remarkable nation of antiquity.

THE APOCALYPSE OF ST. JOHN. By the Rev. H. B. Swete, D.D. London: *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.* Price 15s.

This great work is already in its third edition, which is in no essential respects different from the first, though it has had the advantage of the author's careful revision. As the book has now been electrotyped we may assume that it has received what is practically its permanent form. As we noticed it more fully on its first appearance, it only needs to be said that for many years to come it will remain one of our standard authorities on the Apocalypse. For all serious study it is simply indispensable.

MISSIONS IN STATE AND CHURCH. By the Rev. P. T. Forsyth. London: *Hodder and Stoughton.* Price 6s.

A series of Sermons and Addresses on the great subject of Missions. The first, with the striking title of "The Fatherhood of Death," discusses the real meaning of the Cross, and deals some trenchant blows at that shallow liberalism which "never strikes the tragic note and therefore never sounds our human greatness." The second sermon, "Final Judgment, Full Salvation," strikes the same clear, deep note of reality in discussing Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment. The book is well worth having for these two sermons alone, and we could wish nothing better than that they should be read, pondered, and assimilated by all who have to advocate the cause of Missions. Other subjects are "Some Causes of Missionary Apathy," and "Some Grounds of Missionary Zeal," and these are followed by sermons on "The National Aspect of Missions," "The Exclusiveness of Christ," and "The Missionary's Staying Power," in which we are aptly reminded that "it is not the enthusiasm of humanity that makes the Christian missionary. . . . He is the servant of the holiness of God to humanity. He is the messenger of the Cross." Three more sermons on other aspects of missionary work close this fine book which we warmly commend to all who would do some definite, hard thinking, and at the same time rejoice afresh in the Gospel of Divine Grace here so powerfully enunciated. For our part we do not hesitate to confess that we read everything that Dr. Forsyth writes, and almost always with pleasure, thankfulness, and profit.

THE GOSPEL AND HUMAN NEEDS. By J. N. Figgis. London: *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 4s. 6d. net.

If only the sacramental doctrine of this book could be brought into line with Scripture, we should have a great deal of praise for its fine, forcible, and fearless plea on behalf of supernatural religion. In view of certain serious and ominous influences at work in Cambridge just now, we are thankful for Dr. Figgis's courageous testimony. It is refreshing in these days to come across an apologist who does not "apologize" in the modern sense, and is prepared, with Tertullian, to accept the supernatural and even the "impossible." The book consists of the Hulsean Lectures, which discuss in turn Revelation, Mystery, the Historic Christ, and Forgiveness. Then follow four sermons, with an appendix. We could have dispensed with the sermons for more of the lectures and their accompanying notes, especially as some of the points in the lectures are simply repeated in the sermons. We are bound to confess that, somehow or other, Dr. Figgis's execution falls short of his plan, for he does not seem to fulfil the promise of his first lecture. We are also greatly surprised that so clear a thinker cannot see that his view of the Church and Sacraments is not only absolutely wanting in Scripture proof, but is essentially opposed to New Testament teaching. He has simply adopted the general view of the extreme Anglican school, to which he has recently attached himself, without staying to inquire whether it is true to Scripture. As long as men cannot see that this exaggerated emphasis on Church and Sacraments ill accords with the place given to them in Holy Writ, they will never proclaim a Christianity that appeals to those who know something of their New Testament. When it is remembered that the word "grace" is never once found in the New Testament associated with either of the Sacraments, we may surely see in this a significant warning against a disproportionate emphasis on these means of grace. Then, again, to be told that sacramental confession is the only reasonable hope of overcoming temptation is utterly incredible in the light of the most obvious teaching and the most significant silence of the New Testament. Thus far has Dr. Figgis gone from the earlier influences of his life; indeed, some of his references to Protestantism are astounding, coming from him. Either they betray an ignorance which is impossible in so great a scholar, or else a bias which goes far to neutralize his testimony to other truths. We sincerely regret that these doctrinal and ecclesiastical aberrations tend to spoil for Evangelical Churchmen a book that has so many good points in it.

INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW BIBLE. By A. S. Geden, D.D. London: *T. and T. Clark.* Price 8s. 6d. net.

Six chapters dealing respectively with the Language, Text, and Canon of the Old Testament, Later Hebrew Literature, the Versions, and the Pentateuch. The author is Hebrew Tutor of the Wesleyan College, Richmond, and we have here the substance of his lectures on the Old Testament. His aim has been "to stimulate and suggest . . . to indicate lines of profitable or necessary research." Details have been avoided, and also the presentation and discussion of varying conclusions. Dr. Geden's view of the Old Testament is, in the words of the preface, that "it is vain for the Christian Church to suppose that she can surrender her heritage in the

Old, and yet maintain unimpaired the validity of the doctrines and the power of the truth which she finds in the New." It will be seen, therefore, that he holds a conservative position in regard to the Old Testament, and he thinks there are reasons for believing that the turn of the tide has already set in, and that the next twenty-five years "will witness a significant rehabilitation of the rights and authorities of the books of the Old Testament, as religious and historical records second to none." The last chapter, dealing with the Pentateuch, will, of course, prove of the greatest general interest, though the whole book will be found valuable as a handbook for students. While he regards the Mosaic authorship of the entire Pentateuch as impossible, yet, on the other hand, he considers that the arguments for the late origin of many of its parts have been overstated, and we are particularly glad to observe the emphasis that he places on the importance of studying the Old Testament as an Eastern, not as a Western, book. It is along this line, as several writers have been showing us during recent years, that we shall obtain the best and truest materials for a thorough criticism of the Old Testament. We are glad to observe Dr. Geden's conviction that the failure of much modern criticism has lain in its "inability or unwillingness to discriminate and to make allowance for a difference of standpoint as widely separated from our own as the era at which the author lived." This reference to "inability or unwillingness" is the key to a great deal of modern writing on the Old Testament. The value of this book is increased by a number of well-executed illustrations. To some students Dr. Geden's acceptance and statement of the documentary hypothesis will not carry conviction, though he is very careful to show that the composite character of the Pentateuch, as he conceives of it, does not imply historical untrustworthiness. He is also convinced that future and more exact investigation "will perhaps succeed in assigning more precisely the limit of the depth which the Hebrew law owes to the hand of Moses. In any case, it was more considerable than has been allowed." The book is written in a very judicial spirit, and this, with the combination of scholarly ability and true spirituality, makes it of real value to careful students. If Old Testament criticism were conducted in the spirit of Dr. Geden's work, there would not be any very vital differences among orthodox believers in the Divine authority of this section of Holy Writ.

MANSFIELD COLLEGE ESSAYS. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 12s. net.

Eighteen essays, a sonnet, and a bibliography, written in honour of Dr. Fairbairn's seventieth birthday by a number of men who have studied or taught in Mansfield College during the twenty-two years of his notable principalship. The subjects and treatment afford a true and characteristic illustration of Mansfield theology, its strength and weakness, its breadth and limitations. It is, of course, obvious that it was impossible to treat all the subjects of theological study, but nevertheless we should have liked to see a far greater prominence given to the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit; for the omission seems to us to carry great significance in regard not only to Mansfield, but to very much else in modern theological thought. The essays are unequal in treatment, but the book contains some truly valuable

work. Mr. Silvester Horne writes well on "Calvin in His Letters," and Churchmen will be especially glad to see what, according to Mr. Selbie, Dr. Fairbairn's successor, is to be understood as "the religious principle of Congregationalism." We are less satisfied with Dr. Bartlet's essay on "The Eucharist in the Early Church," for we are not clearly told whether he considers the development warranted by New Testament teaching. Professor Andrews writes suggestively on "The New Testament Doctrine of Atonement in the Light of the Historico-Critical Method," and his general conclusions are very welcome. He adheres firmly to the simple fact which formed the starting-point of what he calls the five types of New Testament teaching—namely, "Christ died for our sins," and he goes on to say that if we prefer to explain this statement in the terminology of Kant rather than in the language of the ancient sacrifices, there is nothing to prevent us so long as we do not surrender the basal fact, and so long as we do not sacrifice the Pauline interpretation for something lower and inferior. "The only alternative open to us is between the interpretation of Paul and something of equivalent value in the language of modern thought." One of the ablest and most valuable articles is by Dr. Garvie on "The Nature of Religious Knowledge and the Certainty of Christian Faith," and we are particularly glad to welcome the essay on "The Conception of Personality in Theology," by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, whose contributions to Hastings' *Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels* were so fresh and suggestive. We can only mention some of the other essays by name to enable our readers to see what to expect: "The Person of Christ in the Revelation of John," by Professor Peake; "English Versions and the Text of the Old Testament," by Dr. G. B. Gray; "Final Christianity," by the Rev. D. Macfadyen; "The Holy Spirit as Wisdom," by the Rev. T. Rees. "The New Apologetic in India," by the Rev. F. Lenwood; and a valuable and noteworthy contribution of deep interest to all New Testament students on "The Progress in the Textual Criticism of the Gospels since Westcott and Hort," by Dr. A. Souter. Though the subjects are necessarily treated with brevity, yet the volume as a whole will be welcomed by all students of theology. They will find herein both scholarship and ability, and also not a little suggestiveness which will lead them into further study of the particular topics treated.

THE PAULINE EPISTLES. By the Rev. Robert Scott, D.D. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark. Price 6s.

The purpose of this volume, as set out by the author, is to indicate the teaching of the Pauline Epistles, and to propound a theory of authorship based on characteristics of thought and style. The conclusion to which he comes is that there are four groups of Epistles, which are to be assigned respectively to Paul and the three best known of his younger associates and interpreters. The strictly Pauline group consists of parts of 1 Corinthians and 2 Corinthians, parts of Romans, Galatians, and Philippians. These are said to be "unique, the image of a unique personality." The next group is attributed to Silas, and includes Ephesians, Hebrews, 1 Peter, parts of 1 and 2 Thessalonians, parts of Romans and Corinthians, and the first Gospel. The third group is associated with Timothy, and includes the rest of Thessalonians, Colossians, Philemon, a chapter in Romans, and the

second Gospel. The fourth group is associated with Luke, and consists of the Pastoral Epistles. We frankly confess that we do not know what to make of all this. We should have thought that these purely subjective results would have made the author's position impossible, and yet his views are set forth with seriousness and unquestioned ability. If the book had not come from so well known a publishing house, we should have been tempted to pass it by; but as it calls for that attention which we have rightly learned to give to everything with the imprint of Messrs. T. and T. Clark, we are of course bound to study its nearly four hundred pages. It is the second volume in the general series entitled "The Literature of the New Testament," and it will be remembered that the first volume was "The Fourth Gospel," by Mr. E. F. Scott, which, in spite of its suggestiveness, adopted an extreme and unconvincing view of that Gospel. We cannot believe that these purely personal and subjective conclusions are tenable, nor do we conceive it possible that books so full of life and so closely associated with the facts of Christian history can be considered purely on internal grounds. It is curious that just as this book is issued Sir William Ramsay is engaged in championing the Pauline authorship of the Pastoral Epistles.

THE DOCTRINE OF THE LAST THINGS. By the Rev. W. O. E. Oesterley, D.D. London: *John Murray*. Price 3s. 6d. net.

A study of the teaching of the Gospels concerning the Last Things, and intended for clerical and general readers. Six chapters discuss the Antecedents of the Gospel Teaching as found in the Old Testament and the Jewish Apocalyptic literature; then one chapter is devoted to Rabbinical literature, and four more to the teaching of the Gospels themselves. The writer assumes the position of modern scholarship, that our Gospels in their eschatological references have been influenced by Jewish Apocalypses, though it may still be questioned whether the prevalent view does not make too much of the pre-Christian and too little of the post-Christian elements of these books. According to Dr. Oesterley, the essence of our Lord's teaching on the Second Coming is the assurance that evil cannot exist eternally, and that spirit is greater than what is merely material. So far well, but this does not help much in the interpretation of the details of the teaching. Indeed, the author does not go further than a belief in the fact of a Second Coming. For everything else we must necessarily look elsewhere. Within its own limits, and always assuming that its critical position is not necessarily true, the book is a useful contribution to a subject that is already prominent in modern thought, and bids fair to become still more so in the immediate future.

UNIVERSITY SERMONS. By Hugh Black. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 6s.

Like the other uniform volumes of sermons by this able author and theological professor which have been issued in recent years, these also are marked by the elevation of thought and freshness of statement which we have noted before. An additional interest is added to this volume by their being addressed to members of Universities in Oxford, Scotland, and America. They are not academic or learned in the technical sense, though the product

of a learned mind. As the preacher remarks, students get enough of that in the week, and need rather to be addressed on the practical problems of youth and inspiration for life. We should like to see more direct statements of the foundation facts of the Redeemer's Love as the ground of all our hopes combined with these profitable words. They are often all the more interesting because based on rather unusual texts and subjects, which bespeak freshness and originality. For elevation of thought and for instruction, nothing could exceed in practical value such a truly useful sermon as the one on "Speaking the truth in love" in regard to religious controversy; and this is a type of the spiritual insight which marks these sermons as a whole, even if the initial evangel of salvation in Christ by grace through faith is rather too much presupposed.

LAW AND LOVE. By Francis Leith Boyd. London: *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 2s. 6d. net.

This is a study of Psalm cxix., vers. 97-104, by the Vicar of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. It bears an introduction by the Bishop of London, who describes it as "a strong book by a strong man on one of the strongest utterances in religious literature," and "commends the book to the Diocese for Lent, 1909." There are many passages in this book which put some things needing to be said strongly and with profit to the reader. But there is not a little which compels us to regret, as we did last year, both the Bishop of London's Lenten commendation, and also many of the author's own opinions and doctrines. It is to the exaggerated Sacramentalism of the book that we must gravely object, for it is a mixture of mysticism and error. It is with feelings of deep regret that a sense of a duty to the truth and to the Church compels us to take exception of a serious kind to a book which is evidently written with good intent. Episcopal commendation, we respectfully submit, should be reserved for books which deal with topics less extreme and partisan than those found here.

THE PREACHER. By Arthur S. Hoyt. London: *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.* Price 6s.

Books on preaching are always welcome if they have a message, as this one certainly has. We called attention to the earlier work by this author a year or more ago, and we are glad to have another from his pen. He calls it "A Book for the Classroom and Study," and truly it is, for it deals in turn with the Person, the Message, and the Method of the Preacher. The seven chapters which describe the Person of the preacher are the best in the book, and should be studied and prayed over by every minister of the Gospel. They are full of good things aptly said, and are instinct with spiritual force and intellectual conviction. We do not agree with his treatment of the Holiness Movement associated with Keswick, but it is always well to see ourselves as others see us. The Holy Spirit is also intended to be more to preachers than we seem to be taught here, and a stronger emphasis should have been placed on prayer and the Bible in relation to the devotional life of the minister. But with all its limitations (and it has some), and in spite of its inadequacy here and there in the light of the full New Testament Gospel, it is a book that deserves the thought and attention of every preacher who desires to make full proof of his ministry. We have enjoyed it greatly.

SIXTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS. By H. W. Lucy. London: *Smith-Elder and Co.* Price 10s. 6d.

The autobiography of "Toby, M.P." could not fail to be at once interesting, amusing, and valuable. No public man has had anything quite like Sir Henry Lucy's experiences. For years he has delighted his readers in the columns of various papers, and here we have the cream of his reminiscences. We follow him from his boyhood's days in Liverpool, through his early experiences in Shrewsbury, until he reaches London, and at length becomes the best-known pressman in the country. He has friends on every side, and has been in close touch with the political leaders of both the great parties. It is a most fascinating story, and the reader is carried along with interest and enjoyment as he comes in contact with the author's experiences. We are delighted to read in the preface that the material is not exhausted, and more than a promise is given of other good things to come. To one who, like the present writer, remembers Mr. Lucy in his early days at Shrewsbury, the story is of particular interest and attractiveness, and we wait with keen expectation another instalment of these good things. No one who wishes to know some of the most important of the political and social events of the last half-century should fail to read this book.

MISSIONARY ACHIEVEMENT. By W. T. Whitley. London: *Morgan and Scott, Ltd.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

"A Survey of World-Wide Evangelization," giving the substance of an American Lectureship. It endeavours to deal with the story of missionary achievement in four Continents. The subjects are "Failure in Asia," "Success in Europe," "The Struggle for Africa," "Expansion in America," "Replanting in Asia." It was, of course, difficult to compress all this into the space of 250 pages, but the work has been well done, and on the whole the discussion is clear and informing, and based on a large number of first-hand authorities. Many will read a bird's-eye view of Missions as here given who would not be prepared to attack larger works, and even serious students will find this a useful introduction to further and more detailed study. A bibliography of eight pages forms a valuable appendix to a work which ought to be in every missionary worker's possession.

THE FIRST THINGS OF JESUS. By the Rev. John Reid. London: *James Clarke and Co.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

Our readers already know something of the author's power as an expositor, and in this volume they will be able to enjoy his work still further. He takes the various passages where the word "first" occurs, and comments on each with forcefulness and suggestiveness. Casual readers of the Gospels scarcely realize the number of passages which can be included in a treatment of this kind. For example, "Let the children *first* be fed"; "Seek ye *first* the kingdom of God." On all these, much helpful comment is provided, based on true and scholarly exegesis. For expository sermons and Bible-class work, the book will prove particularly useful. The field of practical and yet scholarly exposition is far too little worked to-day, and we are glad that Mr. Reid is doing such welcome service in this direction.

MYTHIC CHRISTS AND THE TRUE. By the Rev. Dr. W. St. Clair Tisdall. London: *The North London Christian Evidence League*. Price 1s. cloth boards, 6d. paper.

For several years past the Rationalist Press Association has been flooding the country with books directed against the uniqueness of the Person and Work of Christ, by arguing that what is best in Christianity comes from Mithraism, Buddhism, and Eastern mythology. Dr. Tisdall here examines these claims, and not only finds them baseless, but is able to show that their authors have been guilty of something more than ignorance in asserting them. In a series of five chapters, treating respectively of "Mithra and Modern Myths," "The 'Indian Christ' of some Modern Mythologists," "The Historical Buddha and Modern Mythology," "The Myth of Adonis, Attis, and Osiris," "Our Modern Mythologists *v.* the Virgin-Birth," the various questions are clearly and ably discussed with all the learning, accuracy, and fearless loyalty to Holy Scripture which we have learned to value in Dr. Tisdall's writings. The book ought to have a large circulation, and it should be noted by all clergy and other workers who are called upon to meet current objections to our Faith. In no hackneyed, but in a very real and literal sense, this book will meet a felt want, for workers are often asking for material to enable them to deal with the objections here discussed.

LIGHT FOR LESSER DAYS. By the Rev. Canon H. F. Tucker. London: *Elliot Stock*. Price 6s. net.

The sub-title explains the purport. "Studies of the Saints, Readings, Meditations, Devotions, and Illustrations for the Minor Festivals Commemorated in the English Calendar." The author is an enthusiast for 'black letter saints' days." The book has grown out of his daily celebrations of the Eucharist and his evensong addresses (p. 14). We do not believe that the spiritual life is to be cultivated by meditations on, and prayers about, largely, hypothetical saints. We believe that the Church of England is stamped by the honour it gives to the Bible as the food of the soul. The calendar has to do with law-court fixtures, fairs, and farming operations, and was retained for the convenience of people before the days of widespread printing and almanacks. The emphasis of the book is therefore altogether wrong, and is calculated to divert the mind from Christ and His Gospel.

A PIECE OF NEW CLOTH. By James Adderley. London: *Hunter and Longhurst*. Price 2s. net.

"A Church Tale of the Twentieth Century" intended to show the difficulty felt by many in combining Church work as it is to-day with a knowledge of modern scientific criticism. Mr. Adderley's heroes are men who attempt to combine extreme Anglicanism, or broad Churchism, with a very pronounced Socialism. The pictures of Evangelicalism are nothing but caricatures, and are thereby deprived of all value as representations of fact. Nor is the story well told, even if we accept the author's positions and pet aversions. His gift does not lie in story-telling, while his idea of spiritual religion is very far from the simplicity of the New Testament and the Prayer-Book. His very strong prejudices rob his work of any real helpfulness and value, except to those who wish to be confirmed in the bias Mr. Adderley manifests towards everything Evangelical.

CHRISTIANITY AND HUMAN THOUGHT. By the Rev. J. O. Murray. London: *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*. Price 6d.

A paper read before a clerical meeting in Canada. It is an attempt to "weave into one brief and, so far as may be, one simple whole a number of subjects which, though

closely related, are usually dealt with in separate works." There are three main subjects: the relation of present-day scientific theories and the attitude of contemporary scientists to religion; the comparison of Christian theism with other forms of religious belief; and the true attitude of Christian thinkers towards modern science. On each of these the author writes frankly and well, and his desire is to be of service to the busy man who has little leisure to go deeply into these subjects seems to us fully realized. We cannot quite follow him in his view of the early chapters of Genesis, or in his statement of the doctrine of inspiration; but these apart, he has given us a very useful little essay, which can be warmly commended to clergy and thoughtful laity.

THE HERO OF INDIA. THE STORY OF LORD CLIVE. INTO THE POLAR SEAS. THE STORY OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN. By E. C. Birley. London: *Sunday-School Union*. Price 6d. each.

Just the bright sensible little books we are constantly wanting for juvenile libraries, Sunday-school prizes, and home reading.

HOW TO MAKE THE LORD'S DAY A DELIGHT. By the late Canon Parker. London: *Elliot Stock*. Price 1s. 6d.

This posthumous book on a pressing subject will be widely appreciated, and the counsel followed will mean the delight proved.

EPHESIANS, PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, AND PHILEMON. Edited by the Rev. W. K. Lowther Clarke. *Cambridge University Press*. Price 1s. 6d.

The notes, comments, and general get-up of this little volume are excellent. The revised version is given, and the best results of recent theological works on these books given in a nutshell. We warmly commend it to the young student.

FROM ONE TO TWENTY-ONE. By Walter C. Murray. London: *The Sunday School Union*. Price 1s. net.

A series of "Studies in Mind Growth," giving a sketch of the main stages and characteristics of the mind from one to twenty-one. It is intended especially for Sunday-school teachers, but it may be commended to parents and all other workers among children. It is comprehensive, clear, wise, and practical; and although it may not be possible to agree with the author's position at every point, it is written by an expert in education, a distinguished Canadian professor, and is well worthy of the most careful attention.

HALF-HOURS WITH THE MINOR PROPHETS AND THE LAMENTATIONS. By J. P. Wiles. London: *Morgan and Scott, Ltd.* Price 2s. net.

A help to the interpretation of the "Minor Prophets," which are here taken by sections suited to "half-hour" studies. An introduction comes first, then in parallel columns the text and paraphrase, followed by a few words of general explanation. So far as elucidation of the text is concerned the book will prove a useful help, but beyond this the author does not carry his readers very far. We observe a somewhat undue tendency to spiritualize the literal promises concerning Israel in regard to the earthly future of the Jews, so the student must consult other authorities for interpretations, while applying the spiritual lessons to himself as they are put forth in this little volume. Within its own limits, for the purpose of explaining what is often a difficult and obscure passage, the book will prove useful.

WAYSIDE WELLS. By Andrew A. Bonar, D.D. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price—cloth, 1s. 6d. net; leather, 2s. 6d. net.

A book of portions for Sunday evenings, selected from the various writings of the late Dr. A. A. Bonar. The author needs no commendation from us. He was one of the masters of the spiritual life, and his words are full of the fragrance of holiness and the beauty of Christlikeness. This little work will prove a precious help for moments of quiet in its delightful combination of thought and spirituality.

HOME PARISHES AND FOREIGN MISSIONS. By the Rev. C. Haldon. London: *Sheffington and Son*. Price 6d.

Those who wish to improve their parochial organization in regard to Foreign Missions could not do better than consult this useful little book, which is the result of much personal experience, and is concerned with detailed suggestions which, if carried out, will prove fruitful in many a parish.

PAMPHLETS, PERIODICALS, AND REPRINTS.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CLAIMS. By the Right Rev. Charles Gore, D.D. London: *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price—paper, 6d. net.

A new and cheap edition of a well-known work. As we remarked in noticing a former edition, the Bishop is at a decided disadvantage in endeavouring to meet the Roman claims from the standpoint of an extreme Anglicanism which on several points of essential doctrine is virtually one with Rome. Although the Bishop has read Dom Chapman's criticism of his book, and made some slight alterations, he has not really faced the author's damaging criticism of the extreme Anglican position. Roman Catholicism can only be met effectively from the logical, historical, and spiritual standpoints by an Evangelical Churchmanship that rests absolutely on the truth of Article VI. Any other position must necessarily in the long-run play into the hands of Rome.

A MODERN UTOPIA. By H. G. Wells. THE LIFE OF FRANK BUCKLAND. By G. C. Bompas. Nelson's Shilling Library. THE PROFESSOR ON THE CASE. By Jacques Futrelle. KATHARINE FRENHAM. By Beatrice Harraden. Nelson's Sevenpenny Library. THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD. By Oliver Goldsmith. Nelson's Sixpenny Classics. London: *Nelson and Sons.*

Month by month these interesting reissues appear. Of the present batch it need only be said that they are as attractive as they are welcome. They are wonderful value for the money. It will be an especial pleasure to many to renew acquaintance with that most delightful man, Frank Buckland; while from a very different point of view Mr. H. G. Wells' imaginative work will attract readers and give them food for thought.

THE LAW OF THE CHURCH AND MARRIAGE WITH DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER. By John Wordsworth, D.D. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 6d.

The second edition, revised, full of the writer's profound scholarship and weighty argument, which cannot but impress even those who are unable to follow him.

HAPPY THOUGHTS OF JESUS. By the Rev. J. H. Scott. London: *Elliot Stock.* Price 9d. net.

An attractive title to a truly helpful little work which thoroughly justifies its designation.

THE NEARNESS OF GOD. By John Schwarts. London: *Elliot Stock.* Price 6d. net.

A booklet prompted by what the author calls the "New Theology Bubble." He calls his subject "a pledge of immortality," and he has a clear Gospel message for all his readers.

WELSH DISESTABLISHMENT. By R. H. Malden. London: *S.P.C.K.*

A strong plea against Welsh Disestablishment.

THE CHURCH. By the Rev. Charles Neil. London: *C. J. Thynne.* Price 1d.

A new edition, revised. Very clear and telling in its teaching.

"LEST THOU FORGET." By the Right Rev. Bishop Ingham. London: *C. J. Thynne.* Price 1d.

A timely Protestant message.

THOUGHTS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER. By E. S. Wright. London: *Bible and Prayer Union.* Price 7d. per dozen.

Some very helpful thoughts for quiet hours.

We have received from *Messrs. Marshall Bros.* a set of a reissue of seven books by the Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D.D., which were formerly published by Messrs. Passmore and Alabaster at prices varying from 1s. to 2s. 6d. They are now issued uniform in binding and price at 1s. net. The titles are: THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL, THE HEIGHTS OF THE GOSPEL, THE HOPES OF THE GOSPEL, EVANGELISTIC WORK IN PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE, PAPERS FOR THINKING PEOPLE, THE DIVINE ART OF PREACHING, THE COMING OF THE LORD. The first three of these volumes represent sermons preached at the Metropolitan Tabernacle during Dr. Pierson's temporary ministry there. The other volumes consist of essays on the various subjects indicated by the titles. Those who know and value Dr. Pierson's great abilities as a Bible expositor and teacher will welcome with heartiness this new and cheap edition of some of his best work. Those who have yet to make his acquaintance could not do better than commence with these admirable books. The volumes of sermons are particularly suggestive for preachers and teachers. We hope and fully believe that these truly helpful books will have a fresh lease of life and a greatly enlarged sphere of usefulness in this cheap form.