

parable or allegory will be his companions in the dock. Shall we speak of law-crazed fancy or spiritual insight?

The above represents the most important and far-reaching criticism that can be made on the book—fatal lack of comprehension of the Chronicler's aims, purpose, method. Yet perhaps reference should be made to one or two other matters. Considerable attention is devoted to the question of the Chronicler's sources and the allotment of different passages, and a number of guesses are retailed at some length. The answer to all this has been given by Professor Curtis himself in a criticism of a theory of Winckler's: "In reality no one can decide the exact basis of any unknown work. Many and extensive volumes may lie before an author whose work is restricted and meagre" (p. 23). It is a pity that the Professor did not bear these remarks in mind throughout his volume.

Of more importance is the misconception of the relation of the Chronicles to the Law. The former book does not really represent P in operation, as I have recently shown in an article on "Priests and Levites" in the *Bibliotheca Sacra* for July, 1910. Unfortunately, Professor Curtis has entirely misunderstood Num. iii. 28-32 (p. 268). This passage relates merely to desert services of transport. His commentary, however, proceeds on a series of assumptions as to the meaning of the provisions of the Law with regard to the priests and Levites which are absolutely untenable, and this, in turn, affects his view of the sources and his historical estimate.

Other matters of which I had wished to say something would take me too far. The type of the book is often inconveniently small, especially in the references to Biblical verses in the small print notes. Misprints are numerous, but harmless. In conclusion, a word of praise must be given to the unusually full English index, which is by far the best feature of the book.



Notices of Books.

THE CHRISTIAN CERTAINTY AMID THE MODERN PERPLEXITY. By Principal A. E. Garvie, D.D. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 7s. 6d. net.

Dr. Garvie has collected in this volume a series of papers which he has contributed from time to time to various magazines. But the book in no way suffers from this fact; it is bound together by a common thought throughout. He writes from amid the *Modern Perplexity*; he has sought to keep himself informed of the many conflicting currents and modern thought. But he remains a convinced Christian; he is able to retain the *Christian Certainty*, and he would have others enjoy the same conviction. The book is one rather to read and ponder over than to pass in review. It will cause difference of opinion from time to time. We shall not always follow exactly Dr. Garvie's lines, but we shall ever be thankful for the bracing tonic which his words will administer to those who are harassed by the doubtings and difficulties of present-day thought. The first section of his book he heads "Constructive," the second "Critical." It is the right order, but it is the more difficult order. The first chapter is headed "The

Restatement of the Gospel for To-day." He tells us that there are three factors in modern thought which make that restatement necessary: criticism, science, philosophy. Of criticism he warns us: "We must not be always revising our creed to bring it into accord with the last book we have read, but may await with patience and confidence the assured results of the new movement." Of science he writes: "We must see to it that we do not mutilate the Gospel in order to lay it as a vain sacrifice on the altar of science." Of philosophy: "No speculative system has or can have the certainty of the religious experience of the grace of God in Christ, and accordingly Christian theology does not need to wait on any philosophy for the terms of its restatement of the Christian Gospel." Dr. Garvie is afraid of none of the three; he is assured of the Christian Certainty. He speaks of conscience and creed, of sin and sacrifice, of atonement and personality; he discusses Reichle and Ritschl, Harnack and Kaftan, Loisy and Tyrrell, Denney and Orr, Forsyth and Sanday; he tells us something of the philosophy of Eucken, something of Modernism, and much of value judgments. But for him Christianity is not at the cross-roads; it is pursuing with calmness and confidence its road, broad in its comprehensiveness, but narrow, if need be, in its exclusion of that which might destroy the faith. For those who are anxious to have a real grasp of the present position, but who have little opportunity for the wide reading that the occasion demands, this book will be both illuminating and reassuring.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM HAGGER BARLOW. Edited by Margaret Barlow.
London: *George Allen and Sons*. Price 12s. 6d.

The book is a picture, drawn by several friends, of one who for many years toiled incessantly and successfully for the good of the Church which he loved, and the school of thought to which he belonged. Few men have exerted a larger influence, or have played a greater and more unassuming part, in the life of Evangelicalism than William Hagger Barlow. As the Bishop of Liverpool points out in his introduction, he was not a great man as the world estimates greatness; but he was a good man—a man of strong common-sense, of sound judgment and extraordinary powers of work.

"But it was his character even more than his gifts which gave him his great influence over clergy and laity alike, and which made him the confidential friend of two such great Bishops of London as Dr. Temple and Dr. Creighton. . . . None could doubt his unflinching adherence to principle, his devotion to truth, his absolute self-effacement, and his close walk with God."

The story of his life is told with considerable but not tiresome detail by friends and colleagues. Something is always lost when biographies are written by several hands, but it is doubtful if any one man could have dealt satisfactorily with the multifarious interests which Dr. Barlow served. He was the Principal of a theological college, he was the Vicar of one of the most important parishes in the kingdom, he was the chairman of a great municipal authority, he was an educationalist of wide influence and prudent initiative, he had a larger influence in matters of patronage than probably any single man of his day, and, finally, he became the thoroughly efficient Dean of a beautiful cathedral. Small wonder that it needs the labour of many loving hands to describe his many-sided life. This is no

place to tell its story, the interest of that story is sufficient to send us to this book; and those who are anxious that the Evangelicalism of the twentieth century shall be worthy of its glorious traditions, and capable of grasping its splendid opportunity, can learn much from the study of it. In the sermon preached at the College Memorial Service at Highbury, the Rev. E. Grose Hodge puts his ecclesiastical position in a few telling sentences:

"He was a definite, strong, convinced Evangelical. But he always asserted he was not a party man. 'No, I am not a party man,' he said; 'I hold by the whole Church and the whole teaching of the whole Church: I am a Churchman.' He did not want for a moment to gain a reputation for breadth, liberality of view, and for charity, by holding lightly things he knew were true, or by tolerating things he knew to be untrue."

There we must leave him, simply echoing the words with which Bishop Chavasse closes his Introduction: "The Church of England may have had greater men and more brilliant in her day, but it had none who served it and its Lord with greater faithfulness, wisdom, and devotion."

SOME OF GOD'S MINISTRIES. By Rev. W. M. Macgregor, D.D. CHRIST AND CHRIST'S RELIGION. By Rev. F. H. Dudden, D.D. Edinburgh: *T. and T. Clark*. Price 4s. 6d. each net.

These are two volumes of a second series of "The Scholar as Preacher." Dr. Macgregor had a volume in the first series on "Jesus Christ the Son of God." The present volume is of a more general character, but it is a worthy successor of the first. His sermons are scholarly and thoughtful, but they are also stimulating and inspiring. He draws his illustrations from many sources; he not infrequently quotes from other men, but the sermons are his own, and there is personality behind them. There is not a weak or uninteresting or unhelpful sermon in the book. The volume justifies the publishers in including a second volume from the same pen in this somewhat carefully guarded series.

Dr. Holmes Dudden's book in some ways runs along similar lines; what Dr. Macgregor calls "Some of God's Ministries," Dr. Dudden sums up as "Christ's Religion." This, too, is a thoughtful and well-illustrated series of sermons, perhaps not quite so simple as Dr. Macgregor's—but it is ill work comparing books that are both excellent. Dr. Dudden is always practical, and he is always devotional. He preaches the Christ who came to minister, and he would have our service the service of real charity, not

"Organized charity scrimped and iced,
In the name of a cautious, statistical Christ."

He preaches the Christ who came to help, and so he bids us, whatever else we do, learn first to pray. For we have at our disposal "the greatest force in all the world," and he bids us use it.

"The Scholar as Preacher" series differs from most of the many sermon series published to-day. The writers are scholars as well as preachers. There is no need to fear that this means that the sermons are dull, unintelligible, and unhelpful. The two volumes before us—indeed, all the volumes of the series—maintain a high level of scholarship; they maintain also a level of spirituality and simple, practical Gospel-preaching which all preachers do well to emulate.

BIBLE-READINGS FOR CLASS AND HOME. By Rev. R. C. Joynt. London : *Nisbet and Co.* Price 1s. 6d. net.

Many of our readers will be glad to possess this little volume of suggestive Bible studies, which appeared from week to week in the columns of the *Record*. Mr. Joynt knows his Bible, and he knows how to help us to study it to profit, without being either fanciful or unscholarly.

PICTURES OF THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH : ITS LIFE AND TEACHING. By Professor Sir W. M. Ramsay. London : *Hodder and Stoughton.* Price 6s.

Professor Ramsay is so rapid and so voluminous a writer that few of us are able to keep pace with him. We get every year one or more large volumes from his pen, and the reader sometimes wishes that he would practise the art of compression more than he does. But this volume is somewhat different from the rest. It was written to guide Sunday-school teachers through the story of the Infant Church, as they taught from Sunday to Sunday the International Lessons for 1909. The fifty-two studies thus put together by one who knows St. Luke from long study, and the lands of the New Testament from personal travel, will provide the Sunday-school teacher and the ordinary reader with a handbook to the Acts which takes into account the work of modern scholarship, and yet is free from the tiresome details that only serve to puzzle ordinary folk. To those for whom it is written, especially to the Bible-class teacher, the book will be invaluable.

THE GREAT TEXTS OF THE BIBLE. Edited by Rev. James Hastings, D.D. Edinburgh : *T. and T. Clark.* Price, general, 10s. ; to subscribers, 6s. net.

It is no slur on the many similar aids to sermon-making to say that this new series bids fair to be the best. The danger of most is that they provide the preacher with a ready-made sermon into which he puts little effort and less personality. For those who want ready-made sermons it is useless to apply here, but those who want help in preparation will find it abundantly. In the volume just published, that on the Prophet Isaiah, the great texts of the prophecy are selected for treatment, and each text is dealt with on the same plan. First we find a list of the sermons which great preachers have preached upon the text. Then the text itself is dealt with in relation to its context and the circumstances of its utterance. Then there follows a careful exposition, if it be needed, and the chief topic or topics are indicated. Finally there follows a full exposition, interlarded with apposite illustrations. To the preacher who makes his own sermons,—and all preachers should, or they are not sermons at all—these volumes will provide abundant help. But the preacher who tries to preach these chapters as they stand will be inordinately long, and extraordinarily muddled ; he will deserve to lose his congregation, and will probably do it. This is exactly as it should be. The best book for a preacher is not the book that saves him from working and thinking, but the book which helps him to think out great texts, and enables him to work better and more successfully.

IRISH LAND AND IRISH LIBERTY. By Michael McCarthy. London: *Robert J. F. Scott*. Price 7s. 6d. net.

Mr. McCarthy's studies of Irish life, politics, and religion, are well known. The Land Purchase Scheme has inspired him to write the story of the Irish farmer and the Irish peasant. Only incidentally, but none the less ruthlessly, is it an exposure of the ill effects of the Roman Catholic domination. Mr. McCarthy writes of what he knows, and he gives us a real picture of Irish life as it is among the poorer classes. The book is excellently illustrated, and in these days, when the Irish Question is so prominently before us, it should have a wide circle of readers.

NOVUM TESTAMENTUM GRÆCE. Edited by Alexander Souter. Oxford: *The Clarendon Press*. Price 3s. net.

The Clarendon Press have just issued an edition of the Greek Testament according to the Revisers' text of 1881, with full critical notes at the bottom of each page. A list of manuscripts, uncial and cursive, of versions with their manuscripts, and of Fathers, is placed at the commencement of the volume. The explanatory matter is in Latin. A very useful working Greek Testament.

CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS. By W. Cunningham, D.D., Archdeacon of Ely. London: *Duckworth and Co.* Price 2s. 6d. net.

We should scarcely expect to find such a book as this in a series the general title of which is "Studies in Theology"; nevertheless, we are grateful indeed for this excellent contribution to the study of Social Problems in the light of Christianity.

Of Archdeacon Cunningham's qualification to deal both with Christianity and social questions there can be no doubt. He is an expert theologian and economist.

The book, which opens with a very full and detailed statement of its contents, is divided into three main parts. Part I. deals with world-wide influences; Part II. with national economic life; and Part III. with personal duty. The field of investigation is broad and comprehensive. Perhaps the most important section of the book, and that which will appeal most forcibly to those who desire to see a true adjustment between Christianity and social problems, is the section which deals with *Personal Duty*.

With Socialism as an economic theory the author has little sympathy. The right of private ownership and free scope for individual enterprise are essential conditions of prosperity.

"For a man to be secured by authority in the enjoyment of the fruits of his enterprise, and of his labour, and to be secured in the possession of that to which he is entitled under the laws of the State, is the corner-stone of all industrial prosperity.' On the other hand, Municipal enterprise which involves interference with the use of the public thoroughfares is advantageous."

With regard, however, to the welfare of society and the means of realizing it, Christianity, says Dr. Cunningham, has no specific teaching to give.

"Its appeal is addressed primarily and directly to individuals. . . . The welfare of society in material prosperity, or in human culture, is secular and mundane, and there is

no special Christian doctrine as to the best means towards this end. This is the business of the State, and not specially that of the Church; the duty of the Church is merely indirect, and consists in using her influence, as far as possible, to secure that the duties of the State shall be done effectively and as in the sight of God by the persons who are responsible for discharging them."

In the following quotation the writer is even more emphatic :

"The primary aim of the State is mundane in ordering the affairs of this world ; and the primary aim of the Church is spiritual in the salvation of souls ; but both powers can co-operate."

We are thankful to have this clear statement of the issues, for there are not lacking evidences of what Dr. Cunningham calls a "Secularized Christianity. This and "The Christianity of Christ" are the titles of the two closing chapters, the contents of which we earnestly commend to the careful perusal of our readers. From so much that is excellent it is difficult to quote. The following, however, will indicate the conclusion of the matter to which the Archdeacon leads his readers :

"The Church, indeed, consists of men each of whom, as a citizen of an earthly kingdom, is called upon to do his political duties, as well as his other duties, in the name of the Lord Jesus. For ordinary purposes, in ordinary life, it may not be important, or even, perhaps, possible, for a man to distinguish that which is incumbent upon him as a citizen of an earthly realm from that which is incumbent upon him as a child in the family of God. But the distinction is of vast importance in regard to those who are called to office and ministry in Christ's Church. The terms of their commission lay down the limits of what they are to do by Christ's authority. They have no commission to put the affairs of society right, or to eradicate the evils in this present naughty world. In the Gospel of the Grace of God they have committed to them the supreme means of touching men personally, and inspiring them with high but practicable ideals. This is the grandest work to which any man can give himself. . . . Christ sent His Apostles on evangelistic work, and bade them administer the Sacraments and exercise pastoral care ; but He did not enjoin them to agitate for social reforms. Since the task which is given us to do is spiritual, it can only be accomplished by spiritual strength and through spiritual means."

In other words, behind all social problems is the problem of the individual, the problem of sin, and it is with these Christianity is chiefly and directly concerned.

This able contribution to a subject of vital interest we heartily commend. The book closes with an excellent bibliography and index, which the reader will find very useful.

THE HISTORICAL VALUE OF THE FOURTH GOSPEL. By E. H. Askwith, D.D. London : *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 6s.

The old controversy about the Fourth Gospel concerned itself mainly with questions of date and authorship. The newer controversy concerns itself with another question—its value as an historical document. Some modern critics tend to suggest that St. John, or the writer, whoever he was, invented some of the incidents and most of the discourses in the interests of theology. They base their contention mainly on the ground that the story of our Lord's life as told in St. John is irreconcilable with the Synoptic tradition. And so to-day it is internal evidence, almost more than external, that demands our consideration. Dr. Askwith deals with this side of the problem in a series of able and carefully-written papers. He examines first those parts of the Gospel which cover the same ground as the Synoptists. He then turns to the vexed question of the Jerusalem and

Judean ministry in St. John as against the Galilean ministry in the Synoptists. He shows that the Synoptic narratives require such a ministry, and points out that St. Luke's Gospel contains obvious traces of the ministry which St. John records. Dr. Plummer in his Commentary on St. Luke has already shown in detail how the Judean ministry fits into the Synoptic story. Dr. Askwith pursues the same argument to the point at which we must either regard the Synoptic story as unintelligible or the Johannine story as true. The last chapter deals with some of the objections to the historicity of St. John. He notes the significant fact that Professor Birkett on the one hand denies the historicity of the Fourth Gospel, but believes that the writer of it is correct in his dating of the Crucifixion; while Schmiedel, on the other hand, believes that if the author is right on this point the Gospel is to be credited. The real fact is that the critics of the Fourth Gospel have, by their persistent attacks, involved themselves in serious difficulties with regard to the Synoptists, of which the only true solution is to give the Fourth Gospel the position which they deny to it. Dr. Askwith has written a learned and readable defence of the Gospel based on a careful comparison of the Three with the Fourth. We entirely agree with the Editor of the *Expositor*, that the papers were worth issuing in book form as a valuable contribution to the maintenance of the orthodox position.

THE FASCINATED CHILD: Talks with Boys and Girls. Edited by Basil Mathews, M.A. London: *Jarrold and Sons*.

This charming little volume consists of a number of addresses to children given by various people of every sort and denomination. But the best thing in it is the editorial preface, "A Quest for the Child-Spirit," admirable alike in its sympathy and good sense.

THE DOCTRINE OF CREATION. By C. M. Walsh. London: *Fisher Unwin*. Price 3s. 6d. net.

A discussion of various theories and religious doctrines of creation, the main point raised being that of the eternity or non-eternity of matter. The book is mainly useful for the abundant quotations given in it; these are taken from many writers, ancient and modern. But we cannot think that the Doctrine of Creation has had much new light thrown upon it by all these elaborate discussions and quotations. Nevertheless, the volume has a use, if only as a collection of valuable reference passages.

Received: GOD AND THE SINNER. By Canon Denton Thompson. *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 2s. 6d. net. This is a second edition, revised and rewritten in part, of an excellent volume of sermons on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, published some six years ago. The original edition was widely appreciated, and we venture to prophesy for this a wider circulation still. PORTRAITS OF WOMEN OF THE BIBLE. By Rev. Thomas E. Miller. *Allenson, Ltd.* Price 3s. 6d. A series of character sketches of the women of the Old Testament, ably and suggestively drawn. THE BELIEVER'S TESTAMENT. *Simphin, Marshall and Co.* Price 6d. The Gospel story told in the words of the Bible in harmony form. MOTTO CARDS, ETC. *Morgan and Scott*. A packet of illuminated text-cards with mottoes for the New Year, tasteful and effective as usual. RECOLLECTIONS OF SIR ALGERNON WEST. Nelson's Shilling Library. THE WOMAN IN WHITE. Nelson's Sixpenny Classics. THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER, THE BOY'S OWN PAPER, THE QUIVER. R.T.S. The new numbers of these excellent periodicals, adequately maintaining their long-lived reputation.