

Notices of Books.

APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION CONSIDERED. By Richard Whately. *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 1s. net.

This is an abridgment from Dr. Whately's great book on "The Kingdom of Christ." It is a work of profound learning on a subject that is at the present time one of increasing importance. A right attitude to the Christian ministry controls almost every other department of belief, and we venture to believe that Archbishop Whately takes that right attitude. There is added to the book a series of quotations from present-day scholars. The book, though marked by great learning, is easily written and pleasant to read.

MODERN FISHERS OF MEN. By George Lansing Raymond. *Putnam's.* Price 5s. net.

FISHERS OF MEN. By J. E. Watts-Ditchfield, M.A. *Robert Scott.* Price 2s. net.

It is unkind to put these two books together, but they have come to us together, and their titles forbid separation. One is American—very American—and presents us with a picture in story form of the way men are fished for in Chartville Church. There is much that is good in it, though the story is poor, and the good is often spoiled by its poverty. In our fishing for men we distinctly prefer the help of Mr. Watts-Ditchfield. His actual work has stood the test of time, for even now that he is in Australia the work at Bethnal Green is going on as well as when he is present, perhaps even better. There is no severer test of method than to see if it works without the originator. And more, the book has stood the test of time, for this is the third edition, revised and enlarged like the work. No man ought to attempt to work amongst men without reading and re-reading Mr. Watts-Ditchfield's book.

ROMANS VI.—XI. By W. H. Griffith Thomas, D.D. *R.T.S.* Price 2s.

This is the second volume of Dr. Thomas's Commentary on the Romans. That fact makes it necessary to say but little of it. We were able some little while since to warmly commend the first volume. We can repeat the commendation here. This volume deals with some of the most difficult parts of the Epistle. Dr. Thomas evades the great controversy of the seventh chapter by means of a happy suggestion of his own. He agrees, as all must, that St. Paul is thinking of himself, but declines to say whether he is thinking of himself as regenerate or as unregenerate. He contends that he is speaking of himself as a man, who is trying to be good and holy by his own efforts, and is beaten back every time by the power of indwelling sin. Hence the passage can refer either to the regenerate or to the unregenerate, but to a particular group in either class. Perhaps wisely, Dr. Thomas makes no effort to explain in detail the predestination passage in Chapter VIII. Of the three following chapters he generally accepts Godet's interpretation. The question is, how can God reject the Jew whom He has chosen? Chapter IX. answers, God preserves his liberty. Chapter X. adds that Israel's sin is the true explanation, and in Chapter XI. God vindicates His action by foretelling

future consequences. Here this volume ends. We are glad to place it by the side of the first volume, and are quite prepared to welcome the third. It is an excellent piece of work.

THE SORROW OF THE WORLD. By Francis Paget, D.D. *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 2s. net.

HOURS OF INSIGHT. By William Collins, D.D. *John Murray.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

Both these books have a pathetic interest. They are both the work of Bishops, both scholarly men: one who laboured in a University Diocese, the other who watched over the scattered flock of Southern Europe. They both died, or seemed to die, before their time; they both gave themselves richly to the service of their Lord. We are glad to have something from their hands. From Dr. Collins we have some sixteen sermons, some preached in England, some in his Southern Diocese. They are simple, earnest, and suggestive—a worthy memorial of a useful life. From Dr. Paget we have an essay concerning "Accidie," and a sermon on "The Sorrow of the World." Both are written with the beauty of style, the depth of thought, and the intense devotion that marks everything that Francis Paget wrote.

JOHN THE LOYAL. By A. T. Robertson, D.D. *Hodder and Stoughton.* Price 5s.

Dr. Robertson has set out to write a monograph upon The Baptist, and the title indicates the point of view. At once and naturally we turn to the chapter which deals with the moment of doubt in the prison-house at Macherus. Dr. Robertson thinks that part of the reason for the mission to Jesus was for the help of the disciples of John; but he believes, and rightly so, it seems to us, that it was mainly for John's own sake. He was in doubt and he was impatient, and then Dr. Robertson proceeds to tell us why. The whole book is easily written and aptly illustrated. Dr. Robertson has studied the Baptist, and he has reproduced his study in an attractive and useful book.

CROCKFORD, 1912. London: *Horace Cox.*

For the forty-fourth time Crockford comes from the Press, and wins the warm welcome it deserves. We cannot all afford a new Crockford every year, but a Crockford of some kind we must have. It is as accurate as ever, and if possible even more complete. This year the preface is serious and deals with Disestablishment, Additional Bishoprics, New Testament Revision, the Insurance Act, Prayer-Book Revision, and such like weighty matters. We confess we rather miss the lighter torch. Still, so ponderous a tome needs to be weighty sometimes. It needs no commendation. Amongst other things, however, we would like to commend it to those who circularize the Clergy. The writer of this note frequently receives circulars addressed to a predecessor who has been dead for years.

THROUGH EVOLUTION TO THE LIVING GOD. By Rev. J. R. Cohu. Oxford: *James Parker and Co.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

"Its author is a thorough-going evolutionist," says the prefatory note, and the book itself offers abundant illustration. "We believe in the evolution of worlds from nebular molecules and in the evolution of life from protoplasm to man." "Dots of jelly are the direct ancestors of man. We see

little jelly-dots grow into plants or animals, fishes evolve into reptiles or birds, then into four-footed beasts, and eventually into man." Haeckel's *science* is swallowed wholesale and his influence is observed almost throughout the work.

But the very point of the book is that evolution, when accepted, leads to belief in God. The key to all locks, the solution of all problems, is "Directivity," the mysterious psychic force which our author observes in all that has life, "faintly present in plants, more definitely in animals, most pronouncedly in man." "Directivity" is the potent factor by which the seed strives to become a plant, by which the animal race evolves mankind. Directions from outside seem to have been given to the seed, the egg, the reptile, the ape, and they have unconsciously striven to rise and evolve. "Who gives these directions to the seed, etc?" Thus are we led to that "Reality in the background," "call it God, or Force, as you will," that "outside Reality," that "Supreme Mind," that "Unknowable Power" of Herbert Spencer, which "Science calls Force and religion calls God." Mr. Cohu's favourite definition for this Divine Personality is "Mind + Heart + Will," which, he claims, implies a living, personal God, the "Living God" of the title of the book.

Mr. Cohu has written for the "troubled and perplexed" that they may preserve a faith assailed by scientific difficulties, and we should not like to seem to disparage an object so excellent. He feels his subject keenly and the book reflects a personal struggle. But many will not approve the attitude towards the Bible, and many more will wonder what message of Good News the preachers of this "Gospel of Evolution" will have for the sin-stained and world-weary. Christ, indeed, remains as our "Great Pattern" in the eternal struggle against our lower nature which evolution compels, but we had thought of Him as far, far more than this.

W. HEATON RENSHAW.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SYNOPTIC PROBLEM. By E. R. Buckley. London: *Edward Arnold*. Price 5s. net.

It is one thing to understand the nature of the Synoptic Problem, quite another to solve it. We do not think Mr. Buckley has solved it. In some directions at least we cannot follow him; but he has stated the problem clearly and simply, and he has told us the general lines along which others besides himself have tried to find the solution. He accepts the two-document hypothesis, but limits his acceptance by saying that it must not be understood to mean that these two sources were the only documentary ones employed. There we entirely agree; indeed, we doubt if any advocate of the hypothesis would disagree. But Mr. Buckley believes that Q was only indirectly used by St. Matthew and St. Luke; the intervening document in St. Matthew's case being a collection of sayings, in St. Luke's, another and unknown Gospel. It is true that an indirect use of Q by St. Matthew and St. Luke does solve some difficulties, but it makes more, and we cannot help feeling that Mr. Buckley has not proved his point. We agree, further, that for his independent matter St. Luke had a second source; but Mr. Buckley's effort to prove that the second source was a complete Gospel is quite unconvincing. Finally, Mr. Buckley is compelled, because of the considerable

amount of pre-canonical Gospel literature that his theory demands, to once again put the date of the Gospels late; and here we think that he too lightly brushes aside the arguments of Harnack for the earlier date. So much by way of criticism. But the problem is so difficult that we can hardly hope to get beyond the region of criticism. On these points some will agree with Mr. Buckley, some will agree with us; but we shall all agree Mr. Buckley has written an admirable book, a real introduction to the problem—just the sort of book which the Christian student who does not profess to be an expert has long wished to possess.

F. S. G. W.

CHRIST AND HUMAN NEED. *Student Volunteer Missionary Union.*

A paper-backed, unimportant-looking book of 200 pages, packed from cover to cover with good things. We could wish that speakers at Church Congresses would give us such inspiring and helpful addresses as these, given at the Liverpool Conference last January. There are nineteen addresses, each by a different speaker. One Bishop, one lady, one Missions-Inspector, five laymen, and eleven clergy speak to us in turn, and excellently well they do it.

The whole book is a striking illustration of the fact that at last we are learning the lesson that God's work and man's need is one the wide world over. "The social and missionary problem is not two, or many, but one." If Christianity fails to influence our home life in Christendom, it cannot appeal successfully in heathendom. By paradox, it is also true that only as the Cross wins its way in India, China, and elsewhere, will it win its way through the slums of England and solve our social problems here. For a general view of "Christ and human need" this composite work is one of the best efforts it has been our good fortune to meet.

AFTER-THOUGHTS. By G. W. E. Russell. *Grant Richards.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

A volume of essays on personal, literary, and commonplace subjects, lightly written, but full of suggestiveness, most of them culled from the experiences of Mr. Russell's own life. Some of them are upon ecclesiastical subjects, and most of them will be of interest in circles where ecclesiastical literature goes. Mr. Russell reproduces an excellent letter by the late Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. He says that Sir Henry knew no more of the Church of England than he knew of the Sandemanians, and apparently he told him so in connection with his ecclesiastical appointments. Later on Sir Henry wrote to him—

MY DEAR GEORGE,

This is a clear case of coals of fire. You keep blazing away into me and my poor secretaries. I want you to authorize me to submit your name for a Privy Councillorship. Will you? and make glad yours, H. C. B.

OTHER SHEEP I HAVE. By Theodore Christian. *Putnam.* 9s.

An imaginative book in the interest of Christian unity. The author is impressed by the fact that in the United States they have "Lutherans in sixteen kinds, Presbyterians in twelve kinds, Baptists in thirteen kinds, Methodists in seventeen kinds; in all, some one hundred and forty-three so-called denominations, to say nothing of at least one hundred and fifty varieties of congregations which have no denominational connection." From some of these a cry goes up to heaven for unity, and a "celestial moderator" comes down to earth and hears representatives of different denominations upon the rationale for their existence. A large number of witnesses are thus called, and their explanations are very brightly recorded by the author-scribe. The serious value of the book lies in the fact that the "opinions expressed by imaginary characters in the work are really the opinions of learned authorities in the churches represented by the speakers, or of persons of the type of character depicted, credit for which is given by footnotes." So far as we can tell by examining some of the footnotes, the promise of the book is well fulfilled.

JESUS SALVATOR MUNDI. By Rev. J. H. Beibitz. London: *Edward Arnold*. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Mr. Beibitz has written a series of Lenten addresses with Jesus as the Saviour for the central topic. There are some things in them with which we cannot entirely agree, but there is much that is good and useful. In his treatment of the Atonement he presses the idea of reconciliation to God to the entire exclusion of that great aspect which St. Paul and St. John emphasize in common, the aspect of propitiation. We are willing to admit that the view of Mr. Beibitz is fashionable nowadays, but fashionable doctrine is frequently one-sided, and this is no exception to the rule.

RANDOM NOTES AND REFLECTIONS. By Joseph Harris. Published by the author, 17, Lancaster Avenue, Sefton Park, Liverpool. Price 2s. 6d., carriage paid.

This book is the work of an old man. He is seventy-five years of age, and is a Jew. It deals with his experiences in Russia, and is a plea for giving to the Jew equal rights with the Gentile in the dominions of the Czar. The writer believes that thus the Empire can rid itself of the pogrom on the one side and Nihilism on the other.

SERVICE AND SACRAMENT. By Rev. A. W. Gough, M.A. London: *James Nisbet*. Price 1s. net.

We are very glad to welcome this new edition of Mr. Gough's excellent manual for Holy Communion. It is simple, it is short, and it is satisfactory. We wish it a wide sphere of usefulness.

FOUR NOTABLE MEN. By Rev. J. Gosset Tanner. London: *C. J. Thynne*. Price 1s. 9d.

The four notable men are Oliver Cromwell, Erasmus, Alexander the Great, and Cardinal Newman. The first three lectures were delivered in India; the first two before Christian audiences, the third before a mixed assembly; the fourth was delivered in London. Mr. Tanner has not attempted to detach these literary efforts from his great missionary object. And so the lecture on Erasmus comes to be a sermon to agnostics, and that on Alexander the Great a piece of Christian apologetic. If it is a defect at all, it is a defect due to the circumstances under which he spoke. The lectures are clear and interesting.

THROUGH DISCIPLINE TO VICTORY. By W. E. Chadwick, D.D., B.Sc. London: *Robert Scott*. Price 2s. 6d. net.

A series of sermons for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, thoughtful and solid, perhaps a little heavy. Dr. Chadwick does useful service by his careful explanation of doctrines and practices. In this respect we would especially commend the sermon to which he boldly gives the title "The Eucharistic Sacrifice."

Received: **THE COMING DOMINION OF ROME IN BRITAIN.** By the Author of "The Great Pyramid," etc. London: *Stanley Paul and Co.* Price 6d. net. We do not believe the main contention of this book: at the same time we are doing our best to make it untrue. **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ST. DOMINIC.** By Rev. de Lacy O'Leary, D.D. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 2s. 6d. net. An interesting and useful account. **APOLLOS, OR STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF A GREAT LAYMAN OF THE FIRST CENTURY.** By G. Robert Wynne, D.D. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 1s. 6d. Quite a suggestive study. **FOUR APOSTLES: THE TRAINING OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES.** By James Philip Lilley, M.A., D.D. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 2s. 6d. **THE PATHWAY OF SALVATION.** By Rev. T. A. Lacey, M.A. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 6d. **AN ENGLISH CHURCHMAN'S PROFESSION OF FAITH.** By Rev. James K. Swinburne, B.A. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 6d. **FACULTIES.** By Edward F. Emmet. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 1d. **CHATS ABOUT THE CHURCH.** By Fred. Geo. Browne. London: *S.P.C.K.* Price 6d. A handy Church defence manual for working men. **THE CHURCH QUARTERLY REVIEW.** By Rev. Arthur C. Headlam, D.D. London: *Spottiswoode and Co.* Price 3s. A good number. The three most interesting articles are on a New Theory of the Book of Isaiah by Dr. Burney, on Bergson by Dr. Brown of King's College, and on Priscillian by Dr. Burn. **THE ENGLISH CHURCH REVIEW** for May. London: *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 6d. net. **THE BOOK OF RUTH.** By R. H. J. Steuart, S.J. London: *David Nutt*. Price 3s. 6d. net. A literal translation from the Hebrew, with full grammatical notes and vocabularies. **A HEBREW CHRISTIAN CHURCH.** By Rev. Francis L. Denman. London: *C. J. Thynne*. Price 1d. **THE PROPHETIC SCRIPTURES IN RELATION TO ISRAEL.** By Rev. C. Abbey Tindall. Published by *London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews*. Price 6d. **CONSECRATION AND THE CROSS.** By Rev. J. G. Simpson, D.D. London: *Robert Scott*. Price 4d. net. **CONSERVATISM.** By Lord Hugh Cecil, M.A., M.P. London: *Williams and Norgate*. Price 1s. net.