

Notices of Books.

IN THE DAY OF BATTLE. By the Right Rev. H. L. Paget, D.D., Bishop of Stepney. With Introduction by the Bishop of London. *Longmans, Green and Co.* Price 2s. 6d. net.

The Bishop of Stepney has given us a very beautiful book for our edification this Lent. It was written at the request of the Bishop of London, who warmly commends it to the attention of his diocese. And it is worthy of commendation for the freshness and fulness of its thought, its clear discernment of modern needs, and its true spiritual power. The war is, of course, the greatest thing in men's minds just now, and the Bishop has shown a wise discretion in so modelling his Lenten book that it touches at almost every conceivable point the interests of those whose lives, responsibilities, and duties, are affected by the war. Men need guidance, and the Bishop of Stepney seeks to offer it them in a careful, reasoned, sympathetic series of chapters on the Lord's Prayer. "The Prayer, by itself," he says, "cannot mislead us," and truly his wonderfully impressive expositions of the various petitions will arrest attention. The book is full of thought, and it compels thought. "Interesting" it is in the best sense of the word, but we think that "inspiring" best expresses its effect upon the reader's mind and heart.

It is not a book that calls for criticism or review in the generally accepted sense. Its purport can best be described by giving a few extracts. The volume consists of seven chapters, each chapter dealing with a separate petition of the Lord's Prayer; and, as the book runs to 157 pages, it will readily be understood that the treatment of the various subjects is ample and complete. There is nothing superficial or unreal about it; depth of thought and earnestness of spirit characterize every page.

In the chapter on the love of the Father and its relation to suffering, the Bishop says that "we have a disastrously distorted idea of God's omnipotence, if it is to us the sort of thing that casts a shadow on God's love."

Try, then, to say "Our Father." He is not far away; He is with us in this stricken world of grief and terror and confusion and pain, His world which He has made and pitied and redeemed.

St. Paul, under an unjust suspicion of a certain hardness, could call God to witness, "Because I love you not! God knoweth." God cannot appeal to another; because there is no greater, He must swear by Himself! "Because I love you not?" "Yea, I have loved you with an everlasting love."

One of the finest chapters is on the hallowing of the Divine Name, and in it the Bishop incidentally refers to the forgotten value, in this connection, of the diligent use of the Psalms:

There were times when the Psalms were the common possession, the treasure, of the simplest Christians; times when, as the ploughman guided the plough, he would be heard singing gently to himself "something of David." They have, it is to be feared, very largely passed away from us. It may be that elaborate chants with high reciting

notes have helped to rob us of them. We should do well to get hold of them again. It is wonderful how even the daily use of them month by month brings us, if only we say them carefully, the thoughts, the encouragements, the comforts, that we need. Even more wonderful is the growing sense they give us of the reality of God. It grows upon us, faint it may be at times, but rising again to incredible strength of absolute conviction.

Or take, again, the practical application of the petition, "Thy Kingdom come"; the Bishop shows how far short of our profession we often come:

We do well to ask ourselves what measure of reality and sincerity there has been hitherto in the fiercely warlike terms in which we have spoken and sung of the Christian life—"Marching as to war," "The trumpet-call obey," "Take to arm you for the fight the panoply of God," "Fight the good fight with all thy might." It is all sound and good; it is all implicit in our Christian obligation and in our baptismal vow. But how thoughtlessly, how listlessly, we have used the big words! Tested by our complacent attitude towards the horrible evil around us, by our faint and intermittent and half-hearted struggle with our own particular and besetting sin, by the sort of fight we make and the sort of vigilance with which we are satisfied, how can such language stand, as we face the inexorable demands, the absolute and primary requirements, of an actual state of war? Let us pray to be delivered from the inconsistency of braggart language coupled with cowardly inaction. The soldier language on the lips must be justified by the soldier spirit at the heart.

The chapter on "Thy Will be done" is specially addressed to those suffering bereavement through the war, and has many passages for their comfort and consolation. "It is quite certain," the Bishop says, "that life here is only, at most, the short prelude to life hereafter."

And, thus, when a man with these, just the bare outlines of it all, in his mind, opens his Bible, and, kneeling, yields himself to the teaching of the Holy Spirit, the vision becomes clear and bright. There are the many mansions in the Father's house, there is the welcome of the Father's love. There is the better country, that is, a heavenly; the rest that remaineth for the people of God. It is no longer a dreary, colourless outlook, it is a land of life and love; it is no longer desolate and lonely, for Christ and Christ's servants are there. It is no longer dark, it is the light of God's presence. The bitter sense of separation yields—at least begins to yield—to the assurance of a union that death cannot destroy. The horror of loss is broken by the clear hope of a happy meeting.

One more quotation must be permitted to us. It is from the chapter on "Our Daily Bread," and contains a strong protest against personal luxury:

There is room in life for splendour—more room, perhaps, than has been allowed it: in God's service, in great national affairs, in buildings that serve high purposes, in our memorials of great work and great worth. Those are the things which splendour may well be invited to adorn. But over-dressing, over-feeding, personal self-indulgence, what is there worthy of splendour in these? Personal luxury has always been the precursor of national decay. It is a bitter provocation flung in the very face of the poor. It is disastrous for those who seek it. It is the commonest form of that love of the world which is actually death

to the love of the Father. We might almost thank God for the stern discipline which to-day so sternly rebukes it.

The closing chapters are very fine, and breathe the true devotional spirit. The volume will be read with pleasure and profit, and we venture to thank the Bishop of Stepney for giving us so uplifting a book.

PLAIN TALKS ON THE PASTORAL EPISTLES. By Eugene Stock, D.C.L.
London: *Robert Scott*. Price 5s. net.

Dr. Stock furnishes an excellent commentary on the Pastoral Epistles, characterized by that thoroughness and systematic work which we have learned to associate with all his work. He declines to use the word "commentary," because the treatment is not "chapter by chapter . . . verse by verse"; but every word of importance is carefully studied, and, although he rightly claims that his topical method has "the merit of novelty," the reader will find here all for which he usually consults a commentary, and more. The discussion of the Epistles by analysis of the contents, whether doctrinal, ecclesiastical, or ethical, and by separate consideration of each, adds interest to the book, and provides an ampler elucidation of the sacred text than can usually be obtained from other sources.

The Greek Text is the basis of this exposition, but results are so presented that readers will have no difficulty even when they are unacquainted with that language, for the Greek letters are not employed except in occasional footnotes. In this way Dr. Stock is enabled to associate together the various verses in which the same word is used, and to unfold its meaning with precision. Scientific theology is thus clothed in its most pleasant guise. Incidentally, suggestions of considerable value are made, and will engage the attention of subsequent scholars and writers.

The great army of Bible-readers who, like the Bereans, search the Scriptures daily, but who cannot follow the New Testament in its original language, will welcome the aid afforded them here, and will long for other Epistles to be treated in like manner. They are aware that much is inevitably lost even in the best of translations. They timidly hold to their conclusions, in fear lest some linguistic expert should suddenly and sharply expose their delusions. Thus many fall a ready prey to the specious expositions offered in such fertile abundance by the improvisors of innumerable modern heresies. The judicious use of Dr. Stock's able, solid, and lucid explanation of St. Paul's teaching will give balance to their judgment, and security against these disastrous but popular errors. They will know that they are building on the sure foundations of truth.

Apt illustrations from missionary information frequently assist the exposition of a word or phrase; acquaintance with the thought and life of to-day brings forth the permanent value of the old doctrine; the facility of accurate expression in the simplest terms removes many difficulties. But Dr. Stock in no wise undertakes to think for his readers. He guides and instructs, but they must apply for themselves. Here and there is room for legitimate difference of opinion; Dr. Stock never writes in an imperious or dogmatic tone. We are brought up to the point where application to modern conditions arises; then we are wisely left to pursue the road. The lamp is

turned to cast its light upon our path ; in its light we must walk. Sufficient has been done if the obscurities of partial knowledge have been to some extent removed, and we can now see our way more clearly.

The book before us is just the one for thoughtful Sunday-school teachers and earnest Christian workers. It cannot be hurriedly read, but needs contemplation at every paragraph. Then its teaching power will be found to be immense, and it will strengthen and stablish many in the Christian Faith.

THE AUTHOR OF THE SPANISH BROTHERS (DEBORAH ALCOCK): HER LIFE AND WORKS. By Elisabeth Boyd Bayly. London: *Marshall Brothers, Ltd.* Price 6s.

The large circle of people who have been charmed and fascinated by the late Miss Alcock's writings will read with very great interest this account of her life, coming as it does from the pen of her intimate friend, Miss Bayly, herself an authoress of no mean repute. The biography of one who numbered among her friends such well-known personages as W. E. Forster, Mrs. Rundle Charles, Dr. Blaikie, Sir Robert Ball, Archbishop and Lady Plunkett, Archbishop Crozier, and the Bishop of Durham, could not fail to be full of interest. The commanding interest, however, of the volume is Miss Alcock herself, her personality and influence, her struggles, her successes, and, above all, her gift for winning souls. She had a powerful imagination. As a child she would make up stories about her dolls till she made the discovery that "the stories could do just as well without the dolls." Passionately fond of history, John Huss, Gustavus Adolphus, and Alfred the Great, were her heroes. Great was her disappointment when after hard work at a religious tale she failed to win her father's approbation, he believing, as many Evangelicals of that day did, that all fiction was wrong. It was a cruel blow to her, as for some considerable time she could not, from a sense of filial duty, exercise what evidently was her vocation. Her father at last himself came to recognize this, and God's blessing obviously rested upon her writings, for many true conversions resulted from them.

Like many others, she was much exercised on the subject of future punishment, and if it be the rule, as has been said, and possibly may be the case, that those who cannot accept the doctrine of a literal eternity of suffering are not blessed with so many conversions as those who hold the "orthodox" teaching, at least Miss Alcock's case was the exception which honours the rule.

The work ought to command a very wide circulation, and Miss Bayly is heartily to be congratulated upon her book.

THE OBJECT OF THE BIBLE. By the Rev. Edward F. Wilson. London: *Elliot Stock.* Price 2s. 6d. net.

We thoroughly go with the author of this little book in the Gospel truth which he sets forth, and in his contention that the Bible is the Word of God, also that "the tribes of Israel, the direct descendants of Abraham, were destined by God to be the conveyors of His will and the expounders of His laws to the remainder of mankind." After the Introduction, the second chapter deals with the question, "Who was Abraham?" Then come seven chapters on Isaiah, which is taken in sections, and these are followed by one

on "The Present Condition of the Jews." After this, and before the concluding chapter, we have one on "The Whereabouts of the Ten Lost Tribes," in which the Anglo-Israel theory is maintained and defended, a view to which some of the statements in the earlier portions of the book have been leading up. We are sorry to join issue with one with whom otherwise we are so much in agreement, but we cannot regard this position as in any sense proven. It seems to us to contradict the prediction of Noah, "God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem." If the Anglo-Israel view is correct, then God has enlarged *Shem*, and he is certainly now dwelling in the tents of Japheth.

THE MANHOOD OF THE MASTER. By Harry Emerson Fosdick, D.D. London: *Student Christian Movement*. Price 1s. 6d. net.

A course of short readings from the Gospels, with brief comments, arranged for each day during twelve weeks, each separate week having its own special subject—e.g., "The Master's Joy," "The Master's Magnanimity," etc., concluding with a week's study on "The Fulness of Christ." "Originally prepared for American students," we read in the Preface, this "little book is issued for British students, by permission of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations, who are owners of the copyright." A manual put forth under the double sponsorship of the Student Christian Movement and of the Y.M.C.A. should meet with a warm welcome, and when to this we add the sacred nature of the subject, so infinitely precious to every lover of the Master, the success of this little volume should be assured.

THE UPWARD CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST. By Bertha Fennell. London: *Marshall Brothers, Ltd.* Price 2s. 6d.

A sweet little volume, full of rich and deep spiritual thoughts. There are twelve papers or meditations, each on some Scripture character, taken as illustrating a principle. Thus, Abraham stands for "the separated life," Eliezer for "stewardship," the man born blind for "progressive revelation," and St. Paul is "the bond-servant of Jesus Christ." We would heartily commend these Bible studies, which are on thorough Keswick lines. The reader will find many suggestive and happily worked out ideas—e.g., the thought of full surrender leading to prosperity and plenty, as shown in the acceptance of Joseph's corn policy by the starving Egyptians; or, again, the reflection in the case of St. Paul's deliverance from the conspiracy at Jerusalem that "to be the prisoner of Rome meant deliverance from the plots of vile conspirators—to be the bond-servant of Jesus Christ carries with it the glorious liberty of sonship." Each meditation is closed by a suitable hymn or poem, which, as no name is given, we conclude to be the author's own. We wish the little volume a wide circulation.

THE SLEEPING CARDINAL, AND OTHER SERMONS. By Canon C. H. D. McMillan, M.A. London: *Robert Scott*. Price 1s. 6d. net.

These sermons, preached in Malmesbury Abbey, are well above the average. Our only regret in reading them was that there were but seven of them, and one hopes that the volume will be so well received that the author may be tempted to give us another. The title of the first sermon is certainly arresting, and the subject of each discourse is introduced with a

graphic and apt illustration. The "Sleeping Cardinal" is the recumbent effigy of an ecclesiastic in the beautiful church of Santa Maria del Popolo in Rome. Slightly raised on one side, there is the suggestion that the Cardinal is about to rise; but still he sleeps, unmoved by the music of his solemn services. So, when the throne of the Papacy was rocking on its foundations, he slept on through September 20, 1870. "As our Lord moves to and fro in the aisles and choir and countless chapels of the vast structure of the church, is it not true that in a large number—nay, in the vast majority of instances—the men and women He looks upon, so far as spiritual life is concerned, are like the lifeless effigies of the dead?" These sermons are intensely practical, and treat of such subjects as Socialism, Christian Science, and New Theology. Canon McMillan speaks well of the Reformation (p. 83), and is a firm believer in the mission and future of the English Church and the ultimate downfall of the Papal Church as punishment for her many offences. Young preachers will find these sermons excellent models in style and arrangement.

THE PARABOLIC GOSPEL. By the Rev. R. M. Lithgow. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark. Price 4s. net.

An original and careful study of the significance of the sequence of our Lord's parables. The author says: "The development and synthesis of doctrine which the parables reveal, when arranged in their chronological order, afford an interesting conspectus of the whole scope of Christ's evangelic teaching. They present that before us as a distinct and harmonious message from God." The Matthean and Lucan parables are therefore chronologically arranged under five headings: (1) The Great Distinction; (2) Growth and Prayer; (3) Grace and its Conditions; (4) The Divine Claims; (5) Judgment and Doom. These are elaborately and exhaustively discussed, together with what are called the "Minor Parables" and the "Parabolic Emblems of the Fourth Gospel." A glance at the preface is sufficient to show how extensively the author has read upon the subject to which he has given so much attention. Even those who cannot follow him all the way will find much that is suggestive in these pages.

AUSTRALIAN SERMONS. By the Right Rev. A. V. Green, LL.D., Bishop of Ballarat. London: Macmillan and Co. Price 3s. 6d. net.

These sermons, "preached to country congregations," have certainly what is considered a merit nowadays—namely, brevity. As might be expected, there is a good deal of local colouring and some plain speaking on what the Bishop, in his preface, calls the besetting sins of Australia which threaten its growing national life. The book has been published by request of the Council of the Diocese in order to afford help to the honorary lay readers who have frequently to officiate in the absence of a clergyman, and who find the printed English sermon seldom meets their requirements, because the seasons are inverted, Christmas being at midsummer and Easter in the autumn; and because, too, the allusions and illustrations are often inappropriate. All this notwithstanding, these plain, short sermons will be found helpful by many an English preacher, clerical and lay. The sermon, for instance, on Betting and Gambling might, with the omission of two sentences, be delivered with advantage in any English church, and the appeal on

behalf of Sunday is as sorely needed in England as in Australia. If these are typical Australian sermons, we need have no fear for the virility and vitality of the Church of the Commonwealth.

THE SON OF MAN. By the Rev. R. O. Shone, B.A., B.D. London: *Robert Scott*. Price 2s. net.

This volume, which consists of a series of addresses delivered in a Liverpool church, is full of suggestion. In his careful introduction, Mr. Shone discusses our Lord's probable reason for selecting a title, frequently used and used by Him alone. In the chapters that follow the subject is worked out—the Son of Man: His ministry, authority, sufferings, triumph, glory, and personality. These are sound, thoughtful discourses, in which the "gallery" is never "played to." Happy indeed is the pastor who has gathered round him those who love sermons of this order. Perhaps Mr. Shone's little book will serve as an encouragement to others to feed their people on strong meat and discontinue the milk diet!

THE CHURCH, THE STATE, AND THE POOR. By W. Edward Chadwick, D.D., B.Sc. London: *Robert Scott*. Price 6s. net.

Dr. Chadwick has made the subject his own, and he lays before us the results, carefully arranged, of his work and thought. The articles attracted attention when they appeared in the *CHURCHMAN*; and now that they are obtainable in bound form they re-present a full and illuminating treatment of the social problem which all students of human conditions, and especially all clergymen, will buy and read with much interest and definite advantage. Obviously the book has entailed hard work, and it deserves and demands careful reading. The fifteen chapters give us an historical survey of the relationships between the poor and the Church and the State from the days of the Early Church to those of the C.S.U. and the 1909 "Minority" Report. How both Church and State have repeatedly fallen into traps and errors which had ensnared them in previous generations is clear enough. How amateurish and clumsy many of the palliatives and remedies have been is just as plain. The enormous advance secured by the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, of which "it is impossible to exaggerate the importance," is seen by the twofold fact that it absolutely transformed all existing methods of poor relief, and still remains in force, with modifications, to-day. The new problems thrust upon the community by the industrial revolution, and again by the rise of Unions and Federations, are dealt with, and there is abundant information providing much food for thought for those younger clergy who will have wisdom enough to acquaint themselves with the kind of problem which is filling the minds of many thoughtful men and women of this generation, and which will unquestionably loom largely in the next. The Church must enlarge her outlook if these matters themselves are not to prove too large for her in the result, and to have the subject discussed carefully, sympathetically, thoroughly, as Dr. Chadwick discusses it and from a clergyman's point of view, is great gain.

MESSAGES OF THE BEATITUDES. By the Rev. T. A. Bailey. London: *Robert Scott*. Price 3s. net.

Ten sermons on thirteen verses of St. Matthew, chapter v., which the author has wisely left in the direct spoken form of appeal in which sermons

are ordinarily delivered. In simple phrases which should bring comfort and direction to many ordinary Christian folk, the sermons emphasize the beauty and inner meaning of our Lord's wonderful words. The poor, the mourners, the meek, the merciful, the pure, the peacemakers, the persecuted . . . all are "blessed," not only in that they thus please God, but because such graces do actually result in deep and lasting happiness. We have Jesus Christ's authority for this as well as life's experiences, and we believe it because we believe Him.

WORLD PROBLEMS. S.P.G. Price 1s.

This attractive little book is made up of addresses delivered to London business men by "Five Bishops," who prove to be the Archbishop of Brisbane (who deals with Australia), the Bishop of Willesden (Canada), Bishop Montgomery (the Far East), the Bishop of Lucknow (India), and the Bishop of Bloemfontein (Africa). The addresses naturally vary somewhat in "grip," for no five men can be exactly equal, but, generally, they are forceful and direct, and they bring before men with busy minds and lives the important "world problems" of the new world and the old in a vigorous manner. "No new organ ought to be built in England, no new window inserted, no new vestment bought, unless a similar sum to that expended on them is given for the work of our Church in Canada," says the Bishop of Willesden. The Bishop of Bloemfontein's desire for Christian unity in Africa is interesting in the light of recent controversies. He wants a "spirit of co-operation in which each fragment of Christendom shall contribute to a common stock."

GOD'S WORD SUPREME. By Arthur H. Carter. London: *Protestant Truth Society*. Price 1s. 6d. net.

Many who are in general agreement with Mr. Carter's attitude to the Holy Scriptures will find it difficult to appraise the worth of his lectures. In a court of justice two methods are employed to persuade a jury. The evidence is carefully adduced and sifted, and there is the counsel's speech. This book is the counsel's speech. Minds which attach weight to trenchant delivery, definite statement, and unhesitating confidence, will be readily swayed. Others will instinctively feel that eloquence is not evidence, assertion is not argument, discursiveness is not demonstration. Moreover, Mr. Carter forgets the old adage of the indifferent attorney, and prefers to launch accusations against each and all of the Higher Critics in a manner which is neither fair nor charitable. We believe those critics are in error; we think that, commencing with a literary criticism, they will never be led on to discovery of the Word of God; we are persuaded that a true study of the Bible must begin with a recognition of its wonderful power in the conversion of souls; but we should not be justified in attributing a deep moral guilt to those who proceed from another source in their investigations. For all that Mr. Carter has brought much interesting information together, and his labours will not be useless.

BATTLING AND BUILDING AMONG THE BHILS. *Church Missionary Society*, Salisbury Square, E.C. Price 1s.

Here is another missionary book full of illustrations and facts about C.M.S. work among the Bhils. In a chapter entitled "Pioneering" the

story of the Rev. C. S. Thompson's life and death is briefly but effectively told. The rest is a stimulating account of the triumphs of the Cross among an interesting but little known people.



Publications of the Month.

[Insertion under this heading neither precludes nor guarantees a further notice.]

BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

- IN THE DAY OF BATTLE.** By the Right Rev. H. L. Paget, D.D. (*Longmans, Green and Co.* 2s. 6d. net.) The Bishop of Stepney's Book for Lenten Reading, with an Introduction by the Bishop of London. [See review on p. 231.]
- DISCOVERY AND REVELATION.** By H. F. Hamilton, D.D. (*Longmans, Green and Co.* 2s. 6d. net.) An interesting and profitable study in comparative religion. It follows very closely Dr. Hamilton's previous work, "The People of God." The idea of "The Layman's Library" series, to which this volume is an addition, is "to offer a religious ideal which may satisfy both heart and mind"; and, "while taking full account of the results of modern criticism," to "build up a constructive religious ideal."
- EMOTIONS OF JESUS, THE.** By Professor Robert Law, D.D. (*T. and T. Clark.* 2s. net.) A welcome addition to the "Short Course" series, which theological students have cause to value much. It does not profess to be exhaustive, but as a succession of studies on the human side of our Divine Lord's character the book will be found at once both scholarly and simple. The "Emotions" treated of include joy, geniality, compassion, anger, and wonder.
- OFFERINGS MADE LIKE UNTO THE SON OF GOD, THE.** By the Ven. W. S. Moule, M.A., Principal of C.M.S. Training College, Ningpo. (*Longmans, Green and Co.* 6s. net.) A volume of first-rate interest and importance. It is an "independent inquiry into the typical character of the history, etc., of the Mosaic ritual," and the writer's hope is that when the end has been reached the reader will be thinking no longer of the Divine origin and authority of the Scriptures (which will be evident to his own consciousness), but rather of the sufficiency of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the sinner." The writer does not hesitate frankly to state his position. "The reliability of the Five Books of Moses is assumed."
- PREPARATION FOR THE PASSION, THE.** By the Rev. James S. Stone, D.D. (*Longmans, Green and Co.* 6s. net.) This "Study of the Incarnation and Virgin Birth of our Lord and of His Life from Bethlehem to Cana of Galilee" will prove of great value to all Bible students who will be at pains to discriminate. The volume represents a particularly wide range of reading.
- SHORT STUDIES ON BIBLE SUBJECTS.** By William Dale, F.S.A., F.G.S. (*Elliot Stock,* 2s. 6d. net.) These brightly-written and eminently readable "studies" should not lack readers. The study on "The Water of the Well of Bethlehem" pleases us much. The volume is rich in suggestion.
- LESSONS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT.** By the Rev. A. S. Hill Scott, M.A., and the Rev. H. T. Knight, M.A. (*Oxford University Press.* 3s. 6d. net.) This is the second part (Trinity Sunday to All Saints') of a work which has been widely approved. It contains notes, critical and expository, on the passages appointed for Sundays and Holy Days.
- SAVING FAITH, OR THE GREAT QUESTION ANSWERED.** By the Rev. A. Metcalfe. (*C. J. Thyne.* 1s. net.) A fourth edition of a work which deals faithfully and usefully with the difficulties, object, promise, effects, illustration, and influence of "saving faith." The Bishop of Durham contributes a warmly commendatory Preface.
- PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD.** By W. Prescott Upton. (*C. J. Thyne.* 1d.) A scholarly exposition of the teaching of the Church, the Scriptures, and the early Christian Church on this much-discussed subject.