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Short Notices.

Joyce Morrell's Harvest; or, the Annals of Selwick Hall. A Story of the Reign of Elizabeth. By EMILY SARAH HOLT, Author of "Lettice Eden," &c. John F. Shaw & Co.

"Those to whom 'Lettice Eden' is an old friend will meet many acquaintances in these pages." So says the Preface; and many who get this book—and readers of "Lettice Eden" will order it without delay—will be pleased to see the statement. Miss Holt's "Tales of English Life in the Olden Time" form a really valuable series; every tale—we have read the whole series—merits warm praise, view it how we may; and a charming little library of high-class works of fiction is formed when we collect "Lettice Eden," "Joyce Morrell's Harvest," with "Ashcliffe Hall," "Mistress Margery," and the other volumes for which we are indebted to the accomplished author. And of this almost, if not quite, unique collection, we must mention first its sound and sober piety: a life sweetened by the love of Christ crucified is set forth in a winning way. The Protestantism is never harsh or stilted. Secondly, Miss Holt's stories are really interesting; they show no small amount of literary ability and research. In the movement there is a happy briskness; the descriptions are natural; the dialogue, with character-sketches, is Austen-like in force, and grace of style. A celebrated statesman in the House of Commons (we heard it) said that a certain nobleman's invective wanted *finish*. Now, the tone of Miss Holt's portraits is no more remarkable than their finish; they have an historic as well as a religious value. In the volume before us, *e.g.*, a good deal of information is conveyed; and yet an average member of the general-reader species will never complain that the story is dull, or over-weighted with teaching: the informing aim, literary, historical, and above all, religious, is happily blended with the power to attract attention, and sustain it, through the incidents, dialogues, and descriptions of a *plot*. For this reason we warmly recommend "Lettice Eden," and similar stories, not only as gift-books for the well-educated, but as books to be lent in a parish or neighbourhood, and to be placed in lending-libraries. The influence of such stories is likely to be very great. We heard a colonel recently say, with a smile, he knew nothing of such and such an archaeological point but from one of Sir Walter Scott's novels. There are many delightful historical and antiquarian touches in Miss Holt's stories; but their chief value, as we have said, lies in lines above the literary. The present story—a pleasing one, with pathetic passages—will have, we doubt not, a well-merited success. The book, it may be added, is well printed, as usual, and has a tasteful cover.

A Commentary on St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. By JOSEPH AGAR BEET. Second Edition. Pp. 401. Hodder & Stoughton. 1881.

With the author of this Commentary we do not always agree, but his scholarly exposition contains much that is suggestive and profitable. Together with Godet, Philippi, and Moule, it may prove very useful to theological students. Mr. Beet holds that the well-known verses in ch. vii. describe Paul's own experience before justification. His remarks on verse 22, "I delight in the law of God . . ." seem to us feeble; and his translation, "*What pleases the Law of God pleases me,*" is far-fetched, not at all defensible. The Greek is *συνήδομαι γὰρ τῷ νόμῳ τοῦ θεοῦ*, which is "literally," he says, *I am pleased together with the Law.* The

rendering of the A. V. [that of the R. V.], however, seems to us thoroughly correct. Meyer renders it, "*I rejoice with the Law.*" Philippi has, "*I take delight in. . .*" Mr. Beet evidently feels the difficulty.

A Handbook of the Church and Dissent. By the Rev. F. O. MORRIS, B.A., Rector of Nunburnholme, Yorkshire. Pp. 104. London: W. Poole, 12, Paternoster Row.

This little book consists of extracts. The author quotes from the "Congregational Yearbook," "Baptist Handbook," and other Nonconformist authorities; from Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Phillimore, Lord Selborne, "The National Church," provincial newspapers, and that remarkable and valuable little work, "The Englishman's Brief" (S. P. C. K.), recently reviewed in THE CHURCHMAN. The dates and sources are not appended to all the elegant extracts: e.g., many readers would be glad to know when, and in what publication the late Mr. Miall called the Wesleyan Conference "grim, ferocious, boastful of itself, savage to its opponents . . . Pharisaism rampant," and so forth. A few of the extracts, we think, are rather out of place. Is it expedient, for example, in such a book as "The Church and Dissent," to refer to Mr. John Bright's voting against the beneficent Factory Act in 1844?

Seven Chapters of the Revision of 1881 Revised. By the Rev. S. C. MALAN, D.D., Vicar of Broadwindsor. Pp. 108. Hatchards.

The "seven chapters" are St. Matt. i.-vi. and St. Luke xi. We have read Dr. Malan's criticisms with mingled feelings. Of the scholarship and ability displayed not a word need be written; but his opinions, not seldom, appear prejudicate. To his remarks on the alteration in the Lord's Prayer, compared with the defence of the Bishop of Durham, we may hereafter call attention.

Strong and Free. A Book for Young Men. By the Rev. GEORGE EVERARD, M.A., Vicar of St. Mark's, Wolverhampton. With a Recommendatory Letter from the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury. Pp. 182. Nisbet & Co.

This is the best book of the kind, so far as we know; and we tender our hearty thanks to the esteemed author for so clear, so courageous, and so comprehensive a work. On some subjects really important, as all earnest Christians who have had much to do with young men very well know, he is not afraid to speak out. The strong common-sense of the advice is quite as remarkable as the plain and positive doctrinal teaching. The book is interesting, and thoroughly practical: we heartily recommend it.

Constantine the Great. By the Rev. E. L. CUTTS, B.A. S.P.C.K.

The reign of Constantine, as Mr. Cutts observes, is a most interesting and important period in Church History; and in this volume it is unfolded in a readable and instructive form. Here and there, as, e.g., in regard to what is alleged to be the Worship of the Primitive Church, we miss a word of protest or explanation. The treatment of the great question of "Church and State" is not, having regard to present controversies, clear enough.

Report of the First Conference upon the Training of Candidates for Holy Orders, held in the Divinity School, Cambridge, on April 26th and 27th, 1881. Pp. 65. London: Parker & Co. Lincoln: James Williamson.

A very interesting Report. It deserves to be studied. We regret that at present we are unable to give it the review-notice which it merits.

Lay Help in the Church of England. A Paper read at a Quarterly Meeting of the Huddersfield Churchmen's Union of Mutual Improvement Societies on the 28th of March, 1881. By HENRY BARKER, President, Reader in the Diocese of Ripon. With an Appendix containing the Bishops' Resolutions of 1866, the Resolutions of the York Convocation of April, 1881, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Letter of September, 1881, and other Matter. Published by Request for the Benefit of the Huddersfield Ruridecanal Branch of the Ripon Diocesan Lay Helper's Association. 30 pp. Huddersfield: Jubb, Westgate.

On this subject we hope shortly to write at some length: in the meantime we gladly recommend this readable and suggestive Paper.

Slavers and Cruisers. A Tale of the West Coast. By S. W. SADLER, R.N. Pp. 380. S.P.C.K. 1881.

This is a really interesting story: just the sort of book which boys like, and which—to say the least—girls do not dislike. It brings out the coast-side of the curse of Africa traffic in a graphic way. There are several illustrations; and the volume, well suited in every respect for a prize, has a very tasteful cover.

Gospel Types and Shadows of the Old Testament. Fifty-two Short Studies on Typical Subjects. By the Rev. WILLIAM ODOM, Vicar of St. Simon's, Sheffield. Revised and Enlarged. Pp. 60. Nisbet & Co.

This well-written little book is specially adapted for Bible Classes and Sunday School Lessons.

A Letter to the Very Reverend the Dean of Ripon, containing Strictures on the Life of Bishop Wilberforce. Vol. II. With Special Reference to the Cuddesdon College Enquiry, and the Pamphlet "Facts and Documents." By the Rev. CHARLES P. GOLIGHTLY, M.A. Oriel College. "He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him." Prov. xviii. 17. Pp. 100. London: Simpson, Marshall & Co. Oxford: Slatter & Rose. 1881.

We have given the title page of this interesting pamphlet *in extenso*. We had marked three or four passages for quotation, but at present we must content ourselves with recommending the pamphlet as a valuable appendix to the second volume of "The Life."

A History of the British Empire. With numerous Pictorial Illustrations, Genealogical Tables, Maps, and Plans. By EDGAR SANDERSON, M.A. Pp. 450. Blackie & Son.

A well-written book; clear and compact.

The October number of *The Church Quarterly Review* (Spottiswoode & Co.) contains several ably-written and interesting articles—*e.g.*, "The British Church," "Henry Martyn," "The Tithe Commutation." To the article headed "Position and Prospects of the Church in Cambridge" we hope to return. The *Review* says:—

We seem to have observed among the younger ordained fellows of colleges a growing number who attain to some clear consciousness that there is such a thing as Church doctrine and what it is; though their Churchmanship, it should be added, is for the most part of a very quiet and moderate type. Many of them were brought up in the Evangelical school; they have a lively sense of the immense debt which the Church of England owes to the Evangelical movement, and of their own obligations to it; but there are few who have not, through wider views of the world and of life, or through strengthening of Church feeling, or both these, departed considerably from the old Evangelical standpoint.

The new number of the *Quarterly Review* (Murray), published, we think, a little later than usual, contains a very interesting article on "Luxury," full of striking and amusing anecdotes. The reviews of Dean Stanley's "Christian Institutions," of Elwin and Courthope's edition of Pope's Works, and of "Jebb's Attic Orators," are well done. The article on "The Past and Future of the Conservative Party" is one of the ablest we have read for a long time. But the special feature of this *Quarterly*, to our mind, is the article on "The new Greek Text," a review of the Revised Version, to which we hope to return. The authorship can surely be no secret. We give the closing paragraph:—

In a future number, we may perhaps inquire into the measure of success which has attended the Revisers' *Revision of the English* of our Authorized Version of 1611. We have occupied ourselves at this time exclusively with a survey of THE NEW GREEK TEXT, on which their edifice has been reared up. And the circumstance which, in conclusion, we desire to impress upon our readers, is this—that the insecurity of that foundation is so alarming, that, except as a concession due to the solemnity of the undertaking just now under review, further criticism might reasonably be dispensed with as a thing superfluous. Even could it be proved concerning the superstructure, that "it had been [ever so] well builded"¹ (to adopt another of our Revisionists' unhappy perversions of Scripture), the fatal objection would remain—viz., that it was not "founded upon the rock."² It has been the ruin of the present undertaking—as far as the Sacred Text is concerned—that a majority of the Revisionist body has been misled throughout by the unsatisfactory decrees and eager advocacy of Drs. Westcott and Hort, who, with the purest intentions and most laudable industry, have constructed a Text demonstrably more remote from the Evangelic verity than any which has ever yet seen the light. "The old is good,"³ say the Revisionists: but we venture solemnly to assure them that "the old is better,"⁴ and that this remark holds every bit as true of their Revision of the Greek throughout as of their infelicitous exhibition of St. Luke, v. 39. To attempt, as they have done, to build the Text of the New Testament on a tissue of unproved assertions and the eccentricities of a single codex of bad character, is about as hopeful a proceeding as would be the attempt to erect an Eddystone lighthouse on the Goodwin Sands.

Two Tales by the Rev. H. C. ADAMS, M.A., Vicar of Old Shoreham, have reached us, too late for a worthy notice in the present number. *Who did it?* (Griffith & Farran) and *School Days at Kingscourt*, "A Tale of 1803" (G. Routledge & Sons). Both books are illustrated, and well got up. Mr. Adams is one of the most popular writers of the day, we believe, for school-boys.

A notice should have appeared in the last CHURCHMAN of *The Seventy-third Report of the London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews* (16, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.). The Report contains a Sermon by the Bishop of London. Under the heading "Jerusalem," occurs the following:—

¹ "Revised Text" of St. Luke, vi. 48.

² "Authorized Version," based upon A C D and 12 other uncials, the whole body of the cursives, the Syriac, Latin, and Gothic versions.

³ "Revised Text" of St. Luke, v. 39.

⁴ "Authorized Version," based upon A C and 14 other uncials, the whole body of the cursives, and all the versions except the Peschito and the Coptic.

During the past year, there has been a Sunday evening service in Christ Church, in addition to the English and German services. Also a Wednesday evening service, and a children's service on Thursday afternoon. There has been a fair attendance at all these, showing that they are valued, and that there is sufficient reason for continuing them. The Sunday morning service has been very well attended throughout the year. The Tuesday afternoon Prayer Meetings are fairly attended, though not so well as might be wished. The monthly Missionary Meeting has a pretty good attendance. . . . There have been two communions in the month, on the first Sunday in the morning, and on the third Sunday in the evening, besides occasional communions and those on the Festivals. No record of numbers has been kept until last year, so that we cannot compare with former years, but during the year 937 persons have communicated, giving an average of 78 per month, and 31 at each communion.

The Rev. C. J. GOODHART, in an introduction to *Thirza, or the Attractive Power of the Cross*, terms it "a narrative of thrilling interest." (E. Stock.)

A series of *Protestant Papers for the People* (Partridge & Co.), well printed, have been published, price one penny. Some of the Papers are very good.

Of *Little Flotsam* (Cassell, Petter, Galpin, & Co.) it is enough almost to say that the stories first appeared, some years ago, in that charming periodical for children, *Little Folks*. The work is neatly got up, with several illustrations. It is a good and pleasing gift book.

"A Story of Barge Life" has for its title *Silent Highways* (John F. Shaw & Co.). It has some very painful passages. "Black Tom," the bargee, was a cruel master for woman and child; and it may be well to show some readers what the incidents of canal life really were.

Our Captain (Shaw & Co.), pp. 220, tells a story of the "heroes of Barton School:" interesting and good: boys will like it. The book, like all Messrs. Shaw's Tales, is got up with taste.

From the Religious Tract Society we have received the volumes for 1881 of *The Child's Companion* and *The Cottager and Artizan*, both of which we heartily recommend. There is a charming coloured frontispiece in the *Child's Companion*, which has a very attractive cover. Two of Harrison Weir's "Animal Pictures for Children," *Birds and Blossoms* and *Lords of the Forests*, are capital.

A bulky book, pp. 548, one of "The Home Library" Series (S.P.C.K.) is *Black and White: "Mission Stories,"* by H. A. FORDE. Judging from what we have read, these "Stories" are likely to do good; the style is simple and the tone devout. Miss Weston among our sailors, Miss Robinson among our soldiers, Miss Whately in Egypt, and Miss de Broen in Paris, with many other Christian workers are brought before the readers of *Black and White*.

A Voice from the Sea, telling of "The Wreck of the Eglantine" (pp. 106), shows the need of the Plimsoll legislation. (Wesleyan Conference Office). A powerful story with a sad ending.

A charming little gift-book is *Miscellanies of Animal Life* (S.P.C.K.). Dogs, herons, ravens, wrens, wolves, locusts, &c. Several woodcuts.

We are pleased with *Story Flowers for Rainy Hours* (Cassell), a bright, chatty little book, with many illustrations and a tasteful cover.

A little book specially suitable for factory "hands," *Ann Whitby's Trial*, tells of devotion to duty. Ann, after severe trial, marries happily. Another short story (also published by the S.P.C.K.), *The Black Donkey*, is of a brighter cast.

A second edition of *The Young Crossing Sweeper*, "A Tale of Orphan Life," by Mrs. W. OLDING, is published by Mr. Elliot Stock. It is a simple story, with much direct religious teaching.

The Boy's Own Annual. London: *Leisure Hour* Office. 1881. This is the third volume of that ably-edited and most successful publication, *The Boy's Own Paper*, a Monthly Magazine, which on many occasions has been warmly recommended in these columns. For ourselves, reading here and there in the volume, we have not a single fault to find; and the praise of a juvenile critic is of the warmest. The volume is a fund of amusement and of really useful information.

The author of "The Story of Christmas" and "The Story of Easter" two very valuable little publications which have been strongly recommended in THE CHURCHMAN, has written *The Forerunner*; "The Early Ministry of John the Baptist" (30 pp.), also published by the Religious Tract Society. We are much pleased with this tractate; it is suggestive, deeply reverent, and has not one needless, pointless word.

We have received the *Thirty-sixth Report of the Thames Church Mission Society* (31, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, E.C.), and we gladly invite attention to it. The "Thames Church Mission Society" was instituted A.D. 1844; the patron is the Archbishop of Canterbury, the vice-patron is the Bishop of London. At the Annual Meeting, we observe, the chair was taken by the Marquess of Cholmondeley, a vice-president; and the first resolution was moved by another vice-president, Admiral Baillie Hamilton, whose Paper, in a recent CHURCHMAN, on Missions to Seamen, our readers will remember. Other speakers were, Mr. Sheriff Woolton, the Rev. L. B. White, and the Rev. H. Stevens. An appeal, signed by such esteemed and trusted men as the Hon. Capt. Maude, and C. J. Bevan, Esq., ought to bring in financial aid.

Le Nouveau Testament de Notre Seigneur Jésus Christ. Traduction Nouvelle d'après le Texte Grec, par LOUIS SECOND, Docteur en Théologie. Published by Mr. Stock.

A short story, called *Minnie; or, A Child's Path to Heaven* (Sunday School Union, 56, Old Bailey, E.C.), was written by a lady, who for "many years was a devoted Sunday School Teacher," and who thought the account of a dying girl might be of service.

Le Voyage du Chrétien vers l'Eternité Bienheureuse. Par T. BUNYAN. Imprimé pour B. West, se trouve chez Elliot Stock, London. Lyon: Chez Vautrin. Cheap, with many woodcuts.

The Church in Britain. By CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH OLLIVANT. Second Edition. Hatchards. A tractate of thirty pages on the pure primitive Church of this country.

A well written and very interesting tale, *The White Gipsy* (S.P.C.K.), by the Author of "My Lonely Lassie," relates how a boy was lost and brought home again. Touches of school life are true, and likely to do good.

We have received the first volume of *The Universal Instructor* (Ward, Lock & Co.), the numbers of which have been commended several times in these columns.

From the *Leisure Hour* Office we have received the Annual of the *Girl's Own Paper*, a handsome volume, and very cheap.