

BRIEF NOTICES.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD. By *William Milligan, D.D.* (London: Macmillan & Co.) Professor Milligan was singularly happy in the choice of his subject for the Croll Lecture. While the more negative criticism has been greatly exercised over the Resurrection of Christ, the more positive criticism has been too little concerned with it. And this neglect has been not simply as regards its critical and historical aspects and worth, but also as regards its constructive and theological significance. Yet, without the Resurrection, positive thought can as little build a Christian theology as construct a history of the Church in its primitive and creative period. Dr. Milligan has seen what was needed, and has endeavoured to supply it. His lectures are at once critical and theological, three being occupied with critical and historical questions, and three with doctrinal. He well sees that these questions are so related that a critical vindication of the fact is incomplete, and, indeed, insignificant without its theological interpretation; and it is not too much to say that it is in their attempt at the latter that the real importance of these Lectures lies. The critical matter is, indeed, most valuable. The position of Baur, the critical theories of Strauss, Holsten, and Renan, are most exhaustively analysed, judicially examined and tested by the histories of the event; and, in the process, many historical and exegetical points are admirably handled and elucidated. Every student of these matters will be grateful to Dr. Milligan for the incisive criticism of Lectures II. and III., with the related notes. But the most suggestive discussions are contained in the other Lectures. We commend, in the first, the discussion as to the nature of our Lord's resurrection body, with the rich exegesis of texts in Note 15. This latter is important because of the light it sheds on the vexed question as to the nature of relations of the *πνεῦμα* and the *σάρξ*, though we are by no means sure that texts that relate to the *exalted* are applicable to the *risen* Christ. In Lecture IV. the Resurrection is discussed in its relation to the person and work of Christ, the most suggestive being the Section on the sacrifice and priesthood, with the long and elaborate Note 53. We are, indeed, inclined to differ radically in some respects from Dr. Milligan. The priesthood was not the "fundamental office which our Lord came into the world to discharge." It was never claimed by Him,

or ascribed to Him while He lived on earth. It belongs not to his state of humiliation, but to his state of exaltation. He was, in the first, a sacrifice; but, in the second, and through his resurrection, He became our great High Priest. While the Mosaic sacrifices are typical of Christ's, the typical priesthood is not the Levitical, but the Melchizedekian; and He enters on it as the Son of God established or constituted in power by the resurrection from the dead. In Lectures V. and VI. Dr. Milligan discusses the Resurrection in its relation to Christian life and the Church respectively, and so brings out its permanent worth and meaning alike for the individual and the society. In the latter, especially, the fine catholic spirit of the writer comes out. His heart is evidently sick of the narrow and divisive ecclesiasticism which has so long and so disastrously reigned in North as in South Britain, and his face is turned towards a large and generous unity. But a visible need not be an ecclesiastical unity; the sort of living and unorganized unity which enabled men so diverse as Peter and Paul, James and John, to be at once Apostles of the Lord, citizens of his kingdom, ministers of his church and teachers of his people, is the only sort of unity that was primitive and can be permanent, expressing as it does the variety of the forms in which the Spirit of the risen Lord works and is manifested. We desire, in conclusion, to thank Dr. Milligan for his volume. It is full of ripe scholarship, rich Christian experience, fine and mature thought, and proceeds from a spirit that is as enlightened and critical as it is reverent and robust.

A. M. F.

FOOTPRINTS: SERMONS ON SCRIPTURE CHARACTERS. By *Rev. Hartley Carmichael, B.A.* (London: Williams & Norgate.) These Sermons are full of faults and blemishes—faults of immaturity and of an over-eager spirit which “drinks up the way” in which it travels. Nevertheless, there is true power in them, power of insight and power of expression. They strike the right tone too, and are set in the right key. And if the writer of them be, as I suspect, quite a young man, his faults are those proper to his age, while his power is his own; and, despite his faults, he may yet go far and do much, if he will but put himself to the best uses.

S. C.