

SURVEY OF LITERATURE ON THE NEW
TESTAMENT.

THE craving for union among Christian Churches has already given rise to a large and varied literature, but no book recently published seems to strike so keen a blow at the true root of alienation as *Dogma in Religion and Creeds in the Church*, by John Kinross, D.D., Principal of St. Andrew's College, University of Sydney (James Thin, Edinburgh). The author is not one of those to whom dogma is a red rag. On the contrary, he has mastered dogmatic theology, and advocates its claims. But he insists that its province and function have been misunderstood, and that it has been allowed needlessly to sever Churches. He seeks to divide dogmas into fundamental and non-fundamental, and holds that the incarnation and the atonement must be included in the Church's creed. It may be doubted whether this is the surest way to union. Personal and practical submission to Christ as King is undoubtedly that which constitutes membership in the Christian Church. Not the acceptance of certain truths about Christ, but allegiance to Him as our moral Supreme, is the essential of Christianity. Were this universally recognised, Churches would make less of their doctrinal differences, and, even though they remained apart, would approach one another in spirit. Dr. Kinross' book is timely, and is well worth pondering.

Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, of Brooklyn, has issued through Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton *The Gospel of the Divine Sacrifice*. His theory of the Atonement is that "the Holy Sacrifice of the God-Man meets, on behalf of a beloved but sinful race, the necessary moral demand in the Nature of God the Righteous for the judgment and condemnation of sin." This idea is arrived at by steps which are justified to reason, and which are stated in language calculated to avoid giving offence to sensitive persons. In answering the question, Can there be forgiveness without sacrifice? perhaps Dr. Hall bases his answer too much on considerations arising out of the Divine nature, and makes too little of the consequences to man which would result from forgiveness without any demonstration of the evil of sin. The small volume is easily read, and those who read it will recognise the clearness of its thinking. It may be added that it is a beautiful specimen of American printing.

We have also received *Catholic Christianity*, by the Rev. Lewis C. Price (Messrs. James Parker & Co.); a text-book of Church teaching for those desiring to become good Catholic Christians, with instruction as to what they must believe and do. Written by a High Churchman, it is well fitted to serve his purpose.—*The Four First Things, and other Essays*, by J. C. A. Brown (Elliot Stock); meditations, with occasional flashes of insight.—*A Plea for the Unborn*, by Henry Smith (Watts & Co.); an argument that children could, and therefore should, be born with a sound mind in a sound body, and that man may become perfect by means of selection and stirpiculture. A volume in which a good cause is spoiled by extravagant statement and ill-judged argument.—*Prayer in the Four Gospels*, by W. E. Winks (Baptist Tract and Book Society), in which statistics regarding the allusions to prayer in the Gospels are given, with the result that in the Gospel of St. Luke—the Gospel of our Lord's humanity—a larger number of instances of His praying and speaking of prayer are found.—*The Ideal City, the Crowning Vision of Patmos*, by Rev. John Thomas, M.A., of Liverpool (Arthur H. Stockwell & Co.), carefully thought, well written, and edifying interpretations of the New Jerusalem, with too much pressure of details of symbolism.—From Messrs. Alexander and Shephard we have *The Witness of History to Baptist Principles*, by W. T. Whitley, M.A., LL.M., Cambridge, in which a number of passages which are supposed to favour Baptist principles are brought together; and *The Early Churches of Great Britain prior to the Coming of Augustine*, by J. Hunt Cooke, in which the evangelical teaching and resistance to Rome which characterized those Churches are brought out.—*The Science of Everlasting Life*, by Rev. Gordon P. Proctor, M.A., Beverley, is issued through Messrs. Skeffington & Son, and is a brief exposition of the beginning and maintenance of everlasting life by one who believes that the doctrine of baptismal regeneration is absolutely necessary for the understanding of Christianity.—*Sermons and Addresses*, by W. C. Wheeler, M.A., Wimbledon (Messrs. James Parker & Co.), remind us of Hare's Village Sermons by their broad sense, clear perception of what is vital in religion, and perfectly lucid style.—Rabbi Wijnkoop's *Manual of Hebrew Syntax* has been translated by Dr. Van den Biesen, and is recommended by Cardinal Vaughan. (Luzac & Co.).

MARCUS DODS.