At the Literary Table.

THE BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

Homiletic.


The great book on the Holy Spirit must be coming, for here is another small one. It is small in comparison with the grandeur of its subject; it is by no means small in itself. It makes no effort or pretence to grasp the doctrine of the Spirit all around. It touches it here and there. But it touches with a well-tried and sympathetic hand. Every sermon throws light on some one point, or presses some small truth more surely home: And then the whole volume is lifted out of the superfluity of adding another to our shelves of sermons, just because it makes so great a subject its persistent theme, and touches it truly where it touches it at all.

SERMONS PREACHED IN ETON COLLEGE CHAPEL. By F. St. John Thackeray, M.A., F.S.A. (Bell. Crown 8vo, pp. vi, 218. 5s.)

How eloquent one might be in a college chapel, and be the laughter of the listeners: how intelligible, and send them all to sleep! Mr. Thackeray was never blusteringly eloquent, and never irritatingly plain. But he held the boys' attention; you know he held it, for he holds yours. Every sentence has its own thought, is its own contribution to the thought of the whole; every sentence is a real presence. There are men who seem to speak without any language; while they are speaking you do not think of the language they are using. Mr. Thackeray spoke, and the Eton lads who listened thought of themselves and God.


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SMALL BOOKS ON GREAT SUBJECTS. CHAPTERS IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE. By W. M. Sinclair, D.D. (Clarke. Small 8vo, pp. 130. 1s. 6d.)

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THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. By George Jackson, B.A. (Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier. Crown 8vo, pp. 191. 2s. 6d.)

To the Ten Commandments we all must come.

And we cannot come too soon if we set them in their proper order. If we do not say, This do and thou shalt live; but, Thus live and thou shalt do. And then, when we come to the Ten Commandments it must be to do them, not to repeat them, study them, or even write commentaries on them. You must do them, says Mr. Jackson. And so we find Moses in close contact here with James Matthew Barrie and other modern instances. For you must do them, says Mr. Jackson, and leave the Jews alone. And when you ask him what he means by saying that you must not kill, he answers, When, e.g., a man in a fit of intoxication commits some terrible crime, the person who sold him the drink shares in the consequence—in God's consequence assuredly, and he ought to share in man's.

PREACHERS OF TO-DAY. SIN AND ITS CONSEQUENCES. By the Very Rev. F. W. Farrar, D.D., F.R.S. THE ENDLESS CHOICE. By W. J. Dawson. (Nisbet. Facp. 8vo, pp. 112, 126. 1s. 6d. each.)

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