

At the Literary Table.

THE BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

THE CHRISTIAN PICTORIAL. (*Alexander & Shephard*. 4to, pp. 308. 4s. 6d.)

It is the triumph of successful editing when every number of a periodical quivers with immediate interest, and yet the numbers may be bound and preserved for future use in a handsome volume. That triumph the editor of *The Christian Pictorial* reached at once, and holds it still. Its permanent interest lies chiefly in the record it contains of the public religious work of every year, and the portraits it presents of the public religious men.

Messrs. Alexander & Shephard have also published *Things that are Made*, being devotional meditations in the haunts of Nature, by Alfred J. Barnford.

IN HIS STEPS. BY CHARLES M. SHELDON. (*Allenson*. Crown 8vo, pp. 282.)

'In His Steps; or, What would Jesus Do?' has been written by an American preacher, and has been read by a vast American audience. It comes to us with the unmistakable American flavour, but beneath that there is the solid substance of the universal gospel-call to sacrifice. 'What would Jesus Do?' said Henry Maxwell, and resolved to answer it in every act of his ministerial and private life. 'What would Jesus Do?' he persuaded many of his congregation to ask, and the town was changed incredibly. 'What would Jesus Do?'—will such a question *work*? we ask. This book answers that it will.

Mr. Allenson has also published *Immortality on God's Terms*, by G. P. McKay (fcap. 8vo, pp. 96, 1s.), an effort to establish the doctrine of Conditional Immortality by an examination of the language of Scripture. It seeks especially to meet the objection that this is a degrading doctrine.

READINGS FROM THE PENTATEUCH: EXODUS. BY T. W. PEILE, M.R.A.C. (*Bemrose*. 8vo, pp. 320-707. 5s. net.)

These readings are prepared on the basis that the writings of Moses afford internal evidence of their genuine and authentic character which no external evidence is able to nullify, and that there

is no real antagonism between natural science and theology, which is the science of spiritual and moral facts and phenomena. And so the author quotes the men who agree with that basis, and passes the others by. It is a frankly confessed bias for the old ways, and it will be welcomed heartily by those who love them still.

THE PEOPLE AND THE PRIEST. BY THE REV. R. E. WELSH, M.A. (*Bowden*. Fcap. 8vo, pp. 199.)

In this volume—which the publisher has produced in a novel and charming style—Mr. Welsh covers the ground, the whole practical ground, of our controversy with Rome. Why not accept the pope, you said? There are many good reasons. And in all the literature that the present stress is likely to call forth, nothing will be found clearer or gentler than this.

THE INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL COMMENTARY: ST. LUKE. BY THE REV. ALFRED PLUMMER, M.A., D.D. (*T. & T. Clark*. Post 8vo, Second Edition, pp. lxxxviii, 592. 12s.)

The reception given to Dr. Plummer's *St. Luke* proves that the very best biblical scholarship may be sure not only of a welcome, but even of a wide welcome in England. German scholars envy us this—not the welcome, but the extent of it. They dare not publish, they say; they dare not publish except in the flimsiest binding and the poorest paper. This volume is as handsome as the art of the printer and binder can make it, no expense at all is spared there. The new edition contains a new preface and sundry corrections and small additions. Some little things we had marked on our copy of the first edition have been put right, the great things seemed to be right already.

THE HOLY BIBLE: REVISED VERSION, WITH MARGINAL REFERENCES. (Oxford: *At the University Press*. 8vo. 5s.)

Simple as they appear, there is nothing connected with a Bible that costs more labour than the marginal references. They have a curious and even painful history. Men of the highest attainments have given many precious years of their life to make the marginal references suffi-

cient and reliable, and the reward they have reaped is namelessness and death. The Revised Version does at least name the men who have furnished its references, and in that it has done well, but it has not come between them and death. Scrivener and Moulton are their names. Their work has been supplemented and finished by others, and now we have in the margin of the Revised Version the best array of parallel passages in the world.

For that alone this latest edition of the Revised Version is in front of all that went before it. But it has other merits. Its chapter and verse numbers are clear and intelligible for the first time. And it has a little change for which we have pleaded long, chapter and verse are marked at the outer as well as the inner top margin, the page, which is of no consequence, being transferred to the bottom.

THE CHURCH HYMNARY. THE MUSIC EDITED BY SIR JOHN STAINER. (*Frowde*. Crown 8vo, pp. 864. 2s. 6d. net.)

We welcomed the *Hymnary* when the edition with words alone came out, and we should like to welcome it yet more heartily with the music. But this edition is a little disappointing. The binding is very plain, and the paper is very poor. No doubt that is partly due to the necessity of keeping the price very low. But the paper in the cheapest 'word' edition is much better, and it costs only 3d. in limp cloth. Many of us are ready to introduce the *Church Hymnary* at once, and we would encourage our people to get an edition with music; but this copy that has reached us would last no time. Perhaps it is a bad specimen, for we see that the waste paper at the end is torn away, and the binding begun to go. Still we feel that for so thick a book, and for a book that is to be in constant use, a stronger binding than this is absolutely necessary, though a little more should have to be paid for it. The printing is as good as it could be. We have not seen the sol-fa edition.

THE CHURCH OF THE WEST IN THE MIDDLE AGES. BY HERBERT B. WORKMAN, M.A. (*Kelly*. Fcap. 8vo, pp. 316. 2s. 6d.)

This is the first volume of a promising work on the history of European Christianity in the Middle Ages. It carries the history from Gregory the

Great to St. Bernard. It is a popular conception, being one of Mr. Gregory's 'Books for Bible Students,' but it is written with knowledge and, what is not less commendable, with genuine Christian sympathy.

GRAMMAR OF NEW TESTAMENT GREEK. BY FRIEDRICH BLASS, D.PH., D.TH., LL.D. TRANSLATED BY H. ST. JOHN THACKERAY, M.A. (*Macmillan*. 8vo, pp. 340. 14s.)

We shall have New Testament Grammars enough by and by. Besides those known, there are the Schmiedel-Winer lately appeared, the Moulton-Winer coming, and the fine translation of Blass before us.

Blass's Grammar is distinctive. It is the work of a classical scholar. That means that outside illustration is more and exegesis less than in Winer or even Buttmann. And that means very much. It means that we must have both a Winer and a Blass. We certainly cannot do without the age-long results of believing exegesis,—in this Blass is too bold and independent,—and as little can we do without the flash of interpretation, the sudden conviction, that comes from a well-chosen classical parallel.

Another striking feature of Blass is this. The manuscripts are cited, not the editions. To the scholar, even to half a scholar, that is a great gain. It is a distinct advance on New Testament grammatical work. For B I know and A I know, but who are Tregelles and Hort? We have the materials, we can make up our own minds. It is an anti-popish proceeding, no doubt. It would be easier far to surrender our minds to the great editors, and ask them to make them up for us. But it pays in the end.

We have searched through the book,—being always delighted with the extraordinary accuracy of its printing,—and have placed our queries and exclamations down its margin after the most approved fashion. But we have always found one thing—unfettered freshness of thought. Dr. Blass owns obligation to Winer, Buttmann, and Burton; but that is in his amiable preface,—we find little trace of obligation in the book. Of course, Dr. Blass refers to these grammars for fuller discussion, or for corroboration of his points. But his points are his own, and they are incisive.

Blass has sprung into New Testament scholarship fully armed. His success has been dazzlingly

rapid. This valuable and stimulating book will give him a place beside the very foremost of our English New Testament scholars—beside the few of whom we are so proud.

Those who know Mr. Thackeray's work in the new *Dictionary of the Bible* will not be surprised at the accuracy and finish of the translation.

THE MODERN READER'S BIBLE: ST. LUKE AND ST. PAUL (Two Vols.), AND ST. JOHN. (*Macmillan*. 12mo. 2s. 6d. each.)

Whatever Professor Moulton touches becomes alive. No man ever conceived a more unpropitious project than this. Yet it is successful. For it is impressed with a living energetic hand.

Nothing would surprise us less than to find that 'The Modern Reader's Bible' was become the favourite for school and college use, and even for private reading, if the reader reads for more than self-satisfaction.

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER, I. I.—II. 17. BY THE LATE F. J. A. HORT, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D. (*Macmillan*. 8vo, pp. xvi, 188. 6s.)

The New Testament student, the student who seeks to understand the New Testament unreservedly, cannot have too much of the late Professor Hort's writings. He now knows that Professor Hort was the least biassed, the most loyal to the simple truth as it is in Jesus, of all the men whom he has ever studied. And the student who has come to that conclusion must be glad to find it supported by the present Bishop of Durham. Dr. Westcott has written an Introduction to the volume before us. In a few carefully chosen sentences he describes Dr. Hort's mind and purpose as an expositor. He speaks of 'his remarkable power of setting aside all traditional opinion in examining the text before him'; he recalls 'his breadth and minuteness of view, free from every prepossession.' The student of Dr. Hort's writings is glad to have that said, and said by Dr. Westcott. For he has found it so. Strong as the words are—they are the deliberate result of more than forty years uninterrupted association—they are verified by the student himself.

And therefore even a fragment of Dr. Hort's work is valuable. We might say that no harm would have been done if Dr. Chase, who has so loyally edited this fragment, had completed the commentary. No harm but much good would

have been done, for Dr. Chase's work is so sensitive to the claims of true Christian scholarship as to be in place beside Dr. Hort's. Still, this fragment is of great price. Every judgment it contains is weighty, every note is fertile.

The Notes, says the Bishop of Durham, require patient and reflective study. We would select for illustration the note on *πικρός* at 1²¹, for, of course, Dr. Hort accepts that reading there. Its historical fulness is balanced by its exegetical insight. There is nothing to be added to it, except an additional example here and there from the Christian inscriptions, which Deissmann or Ramsay may give us.

One interest which attaches to this commentary is the light it reflects on Westcott and Hort's New Testament. Here we see how certain readings are made use of, what exegetical and theological value they possess, sometimes also what new reasons there are for their adoption.

CAMBRIDGE AND OTHER SERMONS. BY F. J. A. HORT, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D. (*Macmillan*. Crown 8vo, pp. x, 278. 6s.)

Dr. Hort's *Village Sermons* reminded us of Dean Church's. There was the same extreme desire to be understood, seen in the choice of the simplest words and the plainest order of thought. There was also the same atmosphere of the illimitable. Understand that, both seemed to say, but understand that that is only a pebble off the shore of infinite Christian truth. The village hearers would go home from both preachers saying, 'We got something to-day,' and feeling that there was immensely more to get yet.

The new volume of Dr. Hort's sermons contains more village sermons, and they have these characteristics also. It also contains university sermons, which are its surprise. For they too are simple and illimitable. The language is not perhaps so very primitive, but it is chosen with equal care; the thought is built on equally regular lines, and the same air of expansiveness is all around.

Messrs. Macmillan have also published *The Epistle to the Colossians*, with Analysis and Examination Notes, by the Rev. G. W. Garrod, M.A. (crown 8vo, pp. 176, 3s.), and if the Epistle to the Colossians is to be read in schools or colleges, this is the edition to use.

STUDIES OF THE MIND AND ART OF ROBERT BROWNING. BY JAMES FOTHERINGHAM. (*Horace Marshall*. Crown 8vo, pp. xx, 576. 7s. 6d.)

Among the books on Browning, which are many, Mr. Fotheringham's has a place. It has passed to a third edition, revised and enlarged. It owes its place chiefly to the arrangement of its matter. With magnificent courage Mr. Fotheringham headed one chapter 'Browning's Criticism of Life,' and many persons who would not read a criticism of *Sordello*, read that chapter greedily. He headed another 'The Ideal of Religion,' and again the many who were interested in that read greedily. A third he headed 'Psychological Studies,' and once more the philosophical readers read greedily. It is the easier way after all. The courage was only in attempting it. One who could say nothing profitable even on *Saul* by way of formal criticism, could gather many striking thoughts on the 'Nature Poetry in Browning.' And even if he gathered little, the reader is so much more easily pleased with that. For he feels he is learning something about a great practical part of study, and perhaps storing up material for future use. And Mr. Fotheringham meets the case of the easily bewildered reader of Browning. He is never bewildering.

This third edition is altogether another book, fuller, deeper, stronger. There is Browning enough left for a second volume like it. We hope Mr. Fotheringham will write that volume.

SERMONS TO YOUNG BOYS. BY THE REV. F. DE W. LUSHINGTON, M.A. (*Murray*. Crown 8vo, pp. 107. 3s. 6d.)

Mr. Lushington preached these sermons to boys under fourteen, boys just ready to be sent to the great public schools. He does not count these boys beneath the attention of a serious sermon. He holds the truth that their character is mostly made by the time they enter the public schools, and he strives to make their character Christ-like. There is anecdote, but it is incidental not ornamental: it serves the preacher's serious purpose.

LESSONS FROM THE CROSS. BY THE BISHOP OF LONDON. (*Nisbet*. Crown 8vo, pp. 132. 2s. 6d.)

A volume of sermons on the Cross of Christ, delivered in St. Paul's during Holy Week. A volume of exceptional courage and insight. The Cross on that side, the whole world on this—that is its declaration. All the influences that count as

most respectable—political, social, and intellectual; all the parties into which contemporary life was divided; public opinion in every phase in which it expressed itself—all against Jesus, and Jesus against all. And it is so still. Sin clings to them all, to us all, to all our actions, motives, everything, and it is a crucifying of Jesus every moment. A volume of sermons on sin that might be the work of Owen or of Alexander Whyte.

WHEREIN? BY THE REV. G. CAMPBELL MORGAN. (*Nisbet*. Crown 8vo, pp. 114. 1s. 6d.)

Wherein? is a volume of expository addresses on Malachi. There is scholarship, and the evangelical religion. There is even close pressure of of present-day duty. But what a title is *Wherein?* It is amazing that men will deliberately throw their books away, by the use of a title that has nothing in it.

THE GOD OF OUR PLEASURES. BY MARK GUY PEARSE. (*Nisbet*. Crown 8vo, pp. ix, 92. 1s. 6d.)

Mr. Pearse is one of the great preachers, he dare not be imitated. Perhaps he is more minutely characteristic than any of our great preachers. We think we could tell by a paragraph, often by a sentence, what is his. The six sermons in his new book are characteristic. But they are fresh, even from him. For they take us to the things of nature, and they keep us there till we drink in nature and with it nature's God, and find Him the God of our innocent outside pleasures.

FROM FACT TO FAITH. BY THE REV. J. MONRO GIBSON, M.A., D.D. (*Nisbet*. Fcap. 8vo, pp. 151. 2s. 6d.)

When Christianity was ecclesiasticism it was no wonder that men rejected it. Now it is not so. You may follow the Lord Jesus Christ now, though you do not follow the pope. And that being so, what ails men at Christianity? Perhaps two ailments may be named, ignorance and wilfulness. For wilfulness, which rejects Christ because He insists on their rejecting sin, there is no remedy. For ignorance there is. And Dr. Monro Gibson is one of the most successful men we know in applying it. In this little book he appeals to the practical man who is ignorant, the man who knows a little about science and a good deal about machinery. So he starts with the machinery. Here are certain things the practical man knows about—the struggle for existence and the like.

But these things lead to other things. The facts lead to faith. And it is all reasonable, readable.

THE AUTHORSHIP OF THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS. BY THE REV. A. WELCH. (*Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier*. Crown 8vo, pp. 214. 3s. 6d.)

Once more we have the whole question of the authorship of the Hebrews raised, capably, cleverly raised, and once more a new author is advocated. It is the apostle Peter. Now, Mr. Welch has not proved that St. Peter wrote the Epistle to the Hebrews. It would take more than the thirty pages of this essay to do that. But he has done something substantial both for St. Peter and for the Epistle. He has brought them together, and the repeated contact has cast most useful sparks of light on both. Henceforth writers on either subject will find suggestion here. The rest of the volume is expository. Besides three on Melchizedek, there are papers on the Spirits in Prison, the Significance of Baptism, the Death to Sin, and other kindred subjects. And all are alive with exegetical emotion. Mr. Welch has as keen an expository interest as one could desire, and he turns it to profitable account. He never mistakes dogmatism for suggestion. If he could settle these knotty problems, he might not do us so much good as he does by rousing us into interest over them.

KOREAN SKETCHES. BY THE REV. J. S. GALE, B.A. (*Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier*. Crown 8vo, pp. 256. 3s. 6d.)

The book is well named. These are sketches. The touch is light to the border of flippancy. For example: 'In medicine his [the native doctor's, his name was Mr. Moon] great success had rested on the classification of diseases under two heads, desperate cases and general weakness. For the latter he prescribed pills made from tiger bones. He reasoned logically that as the tiger is the strongest animal, and the bones the strongest part of him, consequently such pills must be strengthening in any case. For the former he had a solemn mixture that he spoke of with bated breath. It was made of snakes and toads and centipedes carefully boiled together, and warranted to kill or cure.'

Even the missionary chapter, for there is a missionary chapter, is very light reading. Mr. Gale has passed through many tribulations in

Korea, but they have left him light-hearted. The photographic illustrations are numerous, and will be much appreciated.

FAMOUS SCOTS: R. L. STEVENSON. BY MARGARET MOYES BLACK. (*Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier*. Crown 8vo, pp. 159. 1s. 6d.)

To the unblessed Bohemian who says, Now, what *is* all this fuss over Stevenson about? this book will come with the needed blessing. It does not wholly account for the fuss—the devotion, we mean—it is true. National worship is a subtle thing, not to be expressed in grammatical sentences. But it gives some good reasons for the good opinion his countrymen have of Robert Louis Stevenson. A novelist, and a wild one, but a heroic soul. A dweller in uncivilized Samoa, but a writer of purest English undefiled. A brother of men, but born for the adversity of perpetual exile from his brothers. A combination, we must almost admit it,—Miss Margaret Moyes Black does not cease to insist upon it,—a combination of uncertain, unresolvable materials which we call genius. His ambitions never interfered with his true and deep modesty, and here they are crowned and smiling—he is numbered among the Famous Scots.

Messrs. Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier have also published *The Fine Art of Smiling*, and other papers, by Margaret Maclure, a happy hit for girls' clubs and the like, as well as for private reading, with a Preface from the Countess of Aberdeen; *Agatha's Unknown Way*, by 'Pansy,' a short argument for missionary interest, in the form of a fresh well-told story; and *Green Garry*, a healthy school story, by Marianne Kirlew. (Crown 8vo, pp. 220. 2s. 6d.)

HISTORY OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. BY C. H. CORNILL, PH.D., S.T.D. (Chicago: *Open Court Pub. Co.* Crown 8vo. 7s. 6d.)

Many attempts have been made since Old Testament criticism settled down into a science, to write the history of Israel popularly. And some of these attempts are highly meritorious, especially Kittel's and Kent's. But Cornill has been most successful. His book is smallest and it is easiest to read. He has the master faculty of seizing the essential and passing by the accidental. His style (especially as freely translated into English

by Professor Carruth of Kansas) is pleasing and restful. Nor is he excessively radical. If Isaac and Ishmael are races, Abraham is an individual still. And, above all, he has a distinct heroic faith in the Divine mission of Israel.

OUR INDIAN SISTERS. BY THE REV. E. STORROW. (*R.T.S.* Crown 8vo, pp. 256, with illustrations, 3s. 6d.)

When the next Indian Mutiny begins, we shall lament with bitter lamentation that we did not do more for the women of India when we had the chance. For the future of India is in their hands, with all their feebleness and degradation. We have done no more for them because we have not yet realized their power—their power to keep India in enmity to us. We do not know them. Mr. Storrow does, however, and he has written the Introduction to the subject. Begin with it. You will go on till you know.

METHODS OF SOUL-CULTURE. BY THE REV. J. A. CLAPPERTON, M.A. (*R.T.S.* Fcap. 8vo, pp. 96. 1s. 6d.)

If the title is commonplace, the contents are not so. There are certain virtues, graces, call them what you will. The first is Courage. How is it to be mine? Mr. Clapperton has three methods of working that out. First, he sets us test questions, as 'Am I shy by nature? How much of this shyness is lack of courage? Have I publicly sided with Christ? Have I joined some section of His Church? If not, is it not largely or altogether because of a lack of courage?' Next he has 'Lower Helps' to Courage. They are 'Conquer ridicule,' 'Brace the heart,' 'Rejoice in difficulty,' and others, and each is flashed home with an anecdote. Lastly, there are 'Higher Helps' — 'Remember God's wisdom,' 'Remember Christ's love,' 'Keep a promise on the tongue,' and the like. The method is new, it will prevail.

THE BOY'S OWN ANNUAL AND THE GIRL'S OWN ANNUAL. (*R.T.S.* 4to, pp. 824, 832. 8s. each.)

These handsome volumes must be noticed at once, that they may be in time for Christmas. They are strongly bound; they overflow with apt illustrations, some of which are coloured and yet truly artistic, and their reading matter is at once entertaining and wholesome. All *that* must be

said of these fine old favourites; it could not be said of many other magazines for young people.

The R.T.S. has also published: (1) *A Letter for You* (2s.), being readings for mothers' meetings, evangelical to the core, with a preface by Dr. Moule; (2) *Insect Lives*, as told by themselves (1s. 6d.), by Edward Simpson, good for young dabblers in science, and accurately illustrated; (3) *Musings for Quiet Hours* (1s. 6d.), by G. S. Barrett, D.D., choice prayer-meeting addresses of ten minutes each; (4) *Midland Sketches* (1s. 6d.), by W. J. Gordon, one of the characteristic books of the R.T.S., the things of our daily life being made to minister to our knowledge and our sympathy. Here the things are found in the great manufacturing towns in the Midlands. The various industries are described and illustrated with utmost fidelity.

THE TEACHING OF JESUS ON LIFE AND CONDUCT. BY SOPHIE BRYANT, D.Sc. (*Sonnenschein*. Crown 8vo, pp. 100.)

Dr. Bryant's teaching ability and success are a proverb. Here, however, we are struck by the use of this work in family worship. Suppose we had this little book. The father reads the sentence or two of summary, then he or another reads the passages quoted, they are just enough for a reading. We predict the redoubled interest the worship would gain.

A New Manual of Theology.

DR. WILLIAM CLARKE is a name unknown to us. But it is often said that the best work is done by unknown men, and there is no truer commonplace. Dr. Clarke is described in his title-page as Professor of Christian Theology in Colgate University, Hamilton, New York. In New York he is probably now well known. For it is equally true that when men do good work they are not left in obscurity, the work itself declares them.

Dr. Clarke does his work and says little about it. There is not one word of preface to this volume. Its first paragraph is: 'Theology is preceded by religion, as botany by the life of

¹ *An Outline of Christian Theology*. By William Newton Clarke, D.D. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. 8vo, pp. 488. 7s. 6d.

plants. Religion is the reality of which theology is the study.' We are in the heart of the subject at once.

The next impression is made by Dr. Clarke's interest in real life. In a sense he is aware of that. He is aware, for example, that theology may be made an abstract study. Then he says a scientific terminology might be advisable. But the practical point of view is more important; both for its own sake and for the sake of the Christian people, theology, he says, should be kept as near to actual life as possible. And so, as far as possible, he uses deliberately and delightfully the simplest language.

The next impression is the effect of his arrangement. It is chosen for simplicity, it ministers to effect. (1) Man, (2) God, (3) Sin, (4) Christ, (5) The Holy Spirit and the Divine Life in Man, (6) Things to Come. Each of these great divisions is clearly subdivided, and occupies a proportionate space. Each subdivision is so natural, related to its surroundings, and so transparent in thought and

expression, that there is no missing the author's meaning.

The next impression made is by the firmness of the author's faith. It is not only, I know whom I have believed; it is also, I know what I have believed. And as he gives it to us, it carries the freshness of the present, the hope of the future. He believes it still, he will believe it more and more as he sees.

And the last impression is the absence of dogmatism. The faith is gentle, easy to be entreated. To hold firmly is not to pull tightly. He draws us with the cords of a Christian man, with the bands of Jesus' love.

Altogether the book, by being always clear and candid, is a surprise in theological literature. And it will charm any reader, as the simply expressed does charm always. If there is to be a resurrection of the doctrinal sermon, which we pray God hasten, this book will be sought on every hand. It is possible to make doctrine interesting as nothing else is interesting.

Sermonettes on the Golden Texts.

BY THE REV. J. S. MAVER, M.A., ABERDEEN.

I.

'Yield yourselves unto the Lord, and enter into His sanctuary.'—2 CHRON. xxx. 8.

THE words translated 'yield yourselves' mean literally, as you will see in the margin, 'give the hand,' and the phrase is used in Scripture sometimes in the sense of submission, and sometimes of fidelity; generally, perhaps, both ideas are included. Let us take it in the two senses here, for both are needful in approaching God.

First, to give the hand in token of submission. Yield is not a very attractive word in some ways. We admire the man who does not yield to adverse fortune. It is not an agreeable word from a soldier's point of view. Let us do or die, but not yield, he would say. But the soldier, too, gives the best example, in the right sense, of yielding. He won't yield to the enemy, but there is perfect submission to the will of his commander. And it has been remarked of soldiers that, when they are

Christians, they are usually thoroughgoing ones, with no half-measures or half-changes about them, but strong in the faith, and with a simple obedient life, proving themselves good soldiers too of Jesus Christ. 'What are the marching orders?' is the view they take.

When the present Emperor of Germany came to the throne, his will and Bismarck's came somewhat into collision, with the result that Bismarck had to give way and retire. 'Who can fight against the king?' said he. Yet it is evident that he yielded with an ill grace, and cherished a grudge. It is not an unwilling yielding, however, that is implied here; it is only a glad submission that will be acceptable to God,—the whole nature, every thought, brought into subjection. How gently, how hesitatingly, as it were, Christ comes to us! He will not thrust Himself upon anyone unwillingly. 'Behold a Stranger at the door, He gently knocks, has knocked before.' But if, outside the door, Christ is a patient Suppliant, inside