

At the Literary Table.

THE BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

THE RELATION OF THE APOSTOLIC TEACHING TO THE TEACHING OF CHRIST. BY THE REV. R. J. DRUMMOND, B.D. (*T. & T. Clark*, 8vo, pp. x, 432. 10s. 6d.)

This is the fourth series of the Kerr Lectures. Mr. Drummond hints that it may be the last. If so, the Kerr Lectureship will rank above any series of theological lectures in existence. For lectureships are like cricket elevens, their weakness is in their tail. But this lectureship, if it 'declares' now, will have no tail, and the four published volumes will rank for many a day as standard authorities on their respective subjects. The first was Professor Orr's *Christian View of God and the World*, the second Dr. Kidd's *Morality and Religion*, the third Dr. Forrest's *Christ of History and of Experience*, the fourth is Mr. Drummond's *Relation of Apostolic Teaching to the Teaching of Christ*.

The apologetic part of this subject was thoroughly written a few years ago by Vice-Principal Knowling, whose *Witness of the Epistles* is one of the few books that circulate less widely than they deserve. Mr. Drummond has now written the expository part. It will circulate more widely than Mr. Knowling's *Witness*; for its subject is more momentous, and its style is more arresting. We foolishly thought we knew most of this already, but no book of its size has taken such a hold of us for many a day.

Its subject is the greatest of all that arouse keen interest at present. Three chapters are spent (not misspent, however) before Mr. Drummond gets into it. When he does, the strength of the man rises up to meet the greatness of the subject, and he shows with irresistible persuasiveness that the Epistles are in the direct succession—that, to adapt an old expression,—*Epistula latet in Evangelio, Evangelium patet in Epistula*,—the Epistles are concealed in the Gospels, the Gospels are revealed in the Epistles.

The focus of this great luminous theme is the death of Christ, and Mr. Drummond is most original, and we feel most convincing also, when he explains the view Christ held of His own

death, and lays it alongside the view of His death which the apostles held.

It is a strong book, the book of a scholar and thinker, fearless yet reverent, new and yet built on a solid foundation of faith and experience.

A volume of popular lectures on *The Women of the Bible* (paper, 1s. net), by the late J. S. Forsyth, D.D., has been published by Messrs. R. Banks & Son.

PARABLES FOR OUR TIMES. BY WOLCOTT CALKINS, D.D. (*Clarke*, pp. 160. 1s. 6d.)

Our Lord's Parables are for our time as for all other. Dr. Calkins makes the direct application. He takes the time first, its commercial and domestic life, and then applies the parable to it. That was Christ's way. And then Dr. Calkins opens up the future a little by the help of the parable and its principle. That was Christ's way also. It is a practical book, but it has none of the hardness which practical persons and things suggest.

Mr. Clive of the University Tutorial Press has published *A Tutorial History of English Literature*, by A. J. Wyatt, M.A. It is excellent. The judgments are sensible and simply stated; the selections are chosen independently and skilfully.

One of the most significant signs of our time is the interest manifested in higher Bible scholarship by the Friends. The clearest evidence is the formation of a Summer School of Theology, with lectures from scholars of all Churches, but all very scholarly. Another piece of evidence is the issue for nearly three years of a series of *Present Day Papers*, which, with perfect freedom to the writers, discuss all the subjects that come within the range of theological interest. The *Papers* are now issued monthly (6d. each), and may be obtained from Messrs. Headley Brothers of 14 Bishopsgate Without, E.C. The July issue was noticed last month. The issue for August contains an article on the Atonement by Professor W. N. Clarke, the author of that phenomenal book, *Outlines of*

Christian Theology, together with a short paper on Whittier, and a review of *The Temperance Problem* by Dr. Spence Watson. The editor, in a prefatory note, says that he shares the Quaker abhorrence of doctrinal strife, and can sympathize with the Quaker dread even of the word 'Theology'; but he fears that if the science of God is longer neglected the practice of God may ultimately suffer.

THE CITY TEMPLE PULPIT. BY THE REV. JOSEPH PARKER, D.D. (*Hodder & Stoughton*. 8vo, vol. iii. pp. 288. 3s. 6d. net.)

It is impossible to say which portion of this original book is most original—the sermons, their titles, the texts, or even (if we may venture to say so) the prayers: Is there any confused preacher who has lost his way and cannot find a text for next Sunday's sermon? He will find one here. Is there any one whose store of ideas has run dry? There are plenty of ideas here, and they are not copyright.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. BY C. J. LITTLE, D.D., LL.D. (*Kelly*. 8vo, pp. 96. 2s.)

This is the first time, is it not, that an American has delivered the Fernley Lecture? It is the first time also that the subject has been practical religious politics. Dr. Little leaves theology to others, Church organization also; his mind runs out toward God in history, he traces the movements of the Divinity that shapes our ends. His eye is piercing almost fierce like the eagle's; he frankly tells us where he sees that the God of history is *not* working, and with what consequences. And if you call him optimist, his answer is, Because God's in His heaven and I am a Methodist.

THE THINGS BEYOND THE TOMB. BY THE REV. T. H. PASSMORE, M.A. (*Longmans*. Crown 8vo, pp. 146. 2s. 6d. net.)

Mr. Passmore says that he looks at the things beyond the tomb 'in a Catholic light.' A Catholic light is no doubt a dim religious light, and that is the best light in which any of us can view the things beyond the tomb. In any case the Catholic light reveals nothing that the Bible does not contain, though Mr. Passmore occasionally tells us what the Church has believed and practised. His best chapter is on the Resurrection Body—quite impressive indeed that chapter is. Thus, 'So on

the whole to your question, "What will be the nature of my Resurrection Body?" I can only answer by another question, "What are you doing with your present body?"'

The new volumes of Messrs. Macmillan's Library of English Classics is Sir John Mandeville's *Travels* and White's *Selborne* (8vo, 3s. 6d. net, each). They are magnificent for the money. The risk which the publishers ran has been turned, it seems, into a great success. Though the margin of profit is small, there will be many margins; and, besides, great wholesome books will be sown broadcast over the land.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. BY W. W. WHITE, PH.D. (*Marshall Brothers*. Crown 8vo, pp. 449. 8s.)

There is extraordinary activity in America at present in higher Bible study. By 'higher' we mean study by adults, study beyond the reach of the Sunday school. The activity is largely due to the efforts of the University of Chicago, and the instrument is chiefly their monthly magazine, the *Biblical World*. This volume is the outcome of that activity. It owes to it its character, its field, and its chance of success. For it is a stiff student's book. The reader must be ready to study the Bible in all its historical and literary aspects, if he is to profit by it. It is divided into two parts. One part draws lessons from the lives of the great Old Testament characters, and gives quotations to illustrate. The other part is largely occupied with David and Jeremiah, not now as men however, but as poet and prophet.

Messrs. Marshall Brothers have published some small books that deserve attention, because their beauty and worth are beyond all comparison with their size. They are *The Pattern Prayer-Book*, or Glimpses of the Prayer-Life of the Apostle Paul, by E. W. Moore, M.A. (1s. net); *Face to Face* by Mrs. Penn Lewis (1s. net); *Green Pastures and Golden Gates*, by the Rev. C. A. Fox (6d.); selections from Gurnal's *Christian in Complete Armour* (1s.); and *The Fold*, by E. Lyne (6d.), a curious and beautiful chart showing the way in which the ransomed are brought home.

A biography of Ruskin, brief enough to be read by young and busy people, and yet long enough to

let us know the man, was a happy conception of R. E. Pengelly, and it has been happily accomplished (Melrose, is.).

I SAY UNTO YOU. BY J. W. OWEN, B.A. (Melbourne: *Melville, Mullen, & Slade*. 8vo, pp. 220. 7s. 6d.)

This volume is further described as 'An Essay in Constructive Religious Meliorism.' It is difficult to find another title for it if another should seem to be needed after both title and subtitle. Perhaps we should say, however, that it contains thoughts (not very deep and not very broad) about following Christ. It is an expansion of the words, 'Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it'; but somewhat after the manner of the man of whom it was said that he announced his text and then 'went everywhere preaching the Word.' Unfortunately the thoughts of most of us are of more interest to ourselves than to the world, and the farther removed the world is, the thinner does the thread of interest become. In the writer's own household, congregation, or even country, these thoughts might be considered estimable and even profitable. But we doubt if they should have been sent so far from home.

THE SECOND AND THIRD EPISTLES OF ST. PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS. BY J. H. KENNEDY, D.D. (*Methuen*. Crown 8vo, pp. xxviii, 202.)

Dr. Kennedy believes that our present Second Epistle to the Corinthians is made up of two distinct epistles, sent by St. Paul at different times and for almost opposite reasons, to the Church in Corinth. He believes that the Second Epistle or part of it is found in 2 Co x.-xiii., the Third Epistle in 2 Co i.-ix. All the arguments for this finding are skilfully set out, and then every aid is given that can be given to make us understand the circumstances under which both Epistles were written and the Epistles themselves. It is a fine scholar's finest work, most interesting and most instructive. Let no student of St. Paul forget this volume.

CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH. BY THE REV. H. W. WEBB-PEELOE. (*Nisbet*. Crown 8vo, pp. 181. 2s. 6d.)

This volume contains a series of six sermons on the foundations of the faith. They owe their

existence to the present crisis in the Church of England. It has cost their author much to prepare and preach them. It is almost staggering to his faith that at the end of his life he has to teach which be the first principles of Christianity when he should be leading his people on to perfection. But it has to be done, and it has been done here with the utmost consideration and brotherly love.

HEROES OF THE REFORMATION: PHILIP MELANCHTHON. BY J. W. RICHARD, D.D. (*Putnams*. Crown 8vo, pp. xv, 399. 6s.)

Of this scientific and successful series the volume on Melanchthon is probably the most scientific and the most successful. We say successful, not in the selling sense, of which we know nothing, but in the sense of accomplishing the author's purpose. For the author's purpose was to give us his own reading of the life of Melanchthon, drawn directly from the original sources, in such a way that we should seem to belong to his generation and know him in the flesh. And surely he is worth knowing. They disparage Luther now, and he did some things that left a way possible for determined disparagement. But who can help loving Melanchthon? This is a scientific book. The utmost pains is taken to be accurate and unprejudiced. And the beauty, the sublimity let us say, of this man's Christlikeness shines out the more brilliantly.

As with all the volumes of the series, the times are reflected in the man. But the man is central and so fully richly described that we call him friend. The aid of map and drawing is freely, even lavishly, called in to make the writer's graphic pen more telling in its effectiveness.

The new volume of Messrs. Rivington's Oxford Church Text-Books is a history of *The Reformation in Great Britain*. We fear it will be felt by Scotsmen that the authors of the little book have set themselves to glorify the English and belittle the Scotch Reformation. But we believe that would be unjust to Mr. Wakeman and Mr. Pullan. They do not know better. They have been brought up to look on these things in that light, and it has not occurred to them that there is any other. They know a great many facts about Scotland, but they do not understand its Reformation, and they do not seem to wish to understand it. Even the greater half of the book is biased,

but not radically wrong. The authors do understand the English Reformation, even though they do not tell its story as we think it should be told.

A PROBLEM IN NEW TESTAMENT CRITICISM.

By M. W. JACOBUS, D.D. (*Scribners*. Crown 8vo, pp. 286. \$1.50.)

The title is not intelligible enough. It is also a little misleading. There are more problems than one. Dr. Jacobus really discusses the great matters of the formation of the Canon, the influence of one's philosophy upon one's criticism of the New Testament, the relation of St. Paul's theology to the teaching of Jesus, and the development of St. Paul's doctrine of Christian unity. This range of subject is not surprising in a course of lectures (this is the Stone Lecture of 1897-98), and it is much to be praised in its brevity and incisiveness. The only pity is that the title should possibly repel rather than attract readers.

Dr. Jacobus is more in sympathy with tradition than the average scholar in this country. But he knows his field well, and no one can call him guilty of anything more serious than a little optimism. It is optimistic, for example, to believe that Blass and Ramsay have settled all the critical problems of the Acts of the Apostles. But the result is merely to have one problem fewer in this book.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE OF JESUS.

By A. W. ANTHONY. (Boston: *Silver, Burdett*. Crown 8vo, pp. 206.)

No scholar in this country has done this very thing, and we thank Professor Anthony of the Cobb Divinity School in America for doing it. For it places us in a position to credit the Gospels as actual records of history, giving us just those external documents and opinions we desire, if we are really anxious to know and believe. And this is with many the necessary preliminary to believing the gospel unto salvation. For if the Gospels are

not reliable, how, they ask, can we rely on the gospel they contain? Professor Anthony is fully in touch with the literature of his subject, and he inspires confidence by his courteous treatment of the enemy.

MAN AND THE SPIRITUAL WORLD. By THE REV. A. CHAMBERS. (*Taylor*. Crown 8vo, pp. 293. 3s. 6d. net.)

Mr. Chambers wrote a volume on *Our Life after Death*, which has had what his publisher correctly calls an enormous circulation. It did not owe its success wholly to its merits. Partly to the fascination of the subject, and partly, no doubt, to the things that were not merits in it. That is always so with books that have an enormous circulation. It will be the same with this volume. It will have an enormous circulation, and it will owe that partly to its least admirable portions. For it is not all admirable. It is not all scriptural, as we understand Scripture, and it is not all true, as we understand the truth as it is in Jesus. But whenever it is read, it will do this great service, it will lift men somewhat out of the slavery to sense and time, and encourage them to live for the Spirit and for eternity.

A DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE. By JOHN D. DAVIS, PH.D., D.D. (Philadelphia: *Westminster Press*. 8vo, pp. 802.)

This single-volume dictionary deserves a kindly notice. It must have cost its author unspeakable labour and pains. It belongs to what is called the Princeton school in Theology, which means the most conservative position possible, including, of course, the verbal inspiration of Scripture. But the author is none the less a scholar, knows on the whole where to go for things, and can set down what he sees briefly and clearly. There are no theological articles, and no Old English words, but all other departments are fully represented. The illustrations also are fairly numerous and very good.