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sympathetic France to drink beer wholesale—as if it likewise had become a German province, and partly to forsake wine.”

We are sorely tempted to give some further extracts relative to Strassburg, and especially of the industry of the *pâté de foie gras*, but we must forbear. Further in his book we have an account given of Oberlin's church at Foudai. “The one church of the district as it used to be in Oberlin's days. . . . A most bare and uncomfortable place of worship this church looks—as are indeed its sister buildings. For Vosgian Lutheranism is a stern and severe creed, averse to luxuries and comfort. Advisedly there are no forms put up for the congregation, but mere carpentered beams, on which people may sit, but cannot lean back, or possibly, as M. Dietz was careful to point out, ‘go to sleep’—be the sermon never so soporific. This church was built by Oberlin 115 years ago, in the plain, barn-like style, which seems so dear to orthodox Lutherans. The tower is much older, and, having been consecrated before the Reformation, is still regarded with peculiar awe as indelibly ‘Catholic.’ In it is hung a bell, cast in the twelfth century, dedicated to the Virgin, and partaking accordingly of the ‘Catholic’ character of the town. In other respects these Lutherans are less rigid. They use their church for all manner of purposes—lectures, and meetings, and social gatherings—more particularly at Christmas time, when the German Christmas-tree is placed familiarly upon the altar, and the parishioners assemble for a pleasant social evening in the body of the church.”

In these extracts we have let Mr. Wolff speak for himself. His work is full of valuable matter, which should be interesting at all times, but is especially so in connection with the country coming under German rule. We hope our readers will derive as much pleasure as we have in perusing the volume.

W. E. RICHARDSON.

Short Notices.

Christus Comprobator: The Testimony of Christ to the Old Testament. Seven Addresses. By C. J. ELLICOTT, D.D., Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

IN the December CHURCHMAN we expressed the hope that Bishop Elliott's Charge would without delay appear in *extenso*; and we heartily welcome this volume, published by the great and venerable Church Society, and earnestly invite to it the attention of our readers.

From the fourth chapter, “The Appeal to Christ,” a lengthy extract appeared in “The Month”; and we content ourselves at present with remarking that to that passage are appended in the volume two or three footnotes. Here is one, a note following the words “realm of history” (CHURCHMAN, p. 167). His Lordship says:

Comp. *Lux Mundi*, p. 360 (ed. x.). See also Sanday, *Oracles of God*, Lect. viii., p. 110 (Lond. 1891)—an interesting lecture, but deficient in its

realization of the truth (see below) that the nature of the humanity of the sinless Lord was not, and by the nature of the case could not be, "on the same footing with that of His fellow-men" (p. 111).

The "Bishop" referred to in this portion of the Charge, as many of our readers would be aware, is Bishop Moorhouse (see CHURCHMAN, p. 168: "A Bishop preaching from a University pulpit"). The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol gives the reference to "a recently published volume of sermons by the Bishop of Manchester." Canon Meyrick's article on the Bishop of Manchester's sermon (CHURCHMAN, May, 1891), we may observe, has been reprinted, and may be obtained as a pamphlet from Mr. Elliot Stock. Bishop Ellicott, like Canon Meyrick, quotes the Bishop of Manchester's words, "limitation as well in knowledge as in moral energy."

Social and Present-Day Questions. By FREDERICK W. FARRAR, D.D., F.R.S., Archdeacon of Westminster, Chaplain to the Queen and House of Commons. Pp. 360. Hodder and Stoughton.

Of the twenty-seven Orations (which is probably the best word for them) in this volume, several deal with social questions, as the title-page states, and biography. Here, for instance, are several titles, "National Duties," "Trials of the Poor," "Religionism," "Art," "General Grant" and "John Bright." On the eloquent preacher's earnestness and fire we need not comment. Not a passage is dull or feeble. Of striking facts, illustrations and anecdotes, there are many. Here and there, as we think, there is a lack, *not* of "finish," as Disraeli once said, but of balance. We give a few specimen sentences from "Religionism" :

At this very day there are many whom I do not wrong in saying—for they make it their open boast—there are many who are trying to undo as far as they dare the work of the Reformation. But the Reformation was nothing but the sweeping away of accumulated falsities and mountainous corruptions. And if—may God avert the omen!—but if the Church of England should grow gradually false to the principle that she is a Reformed Church, one thing then I see with the absolute certainty of prophecy, that there will be from her a vast secession—"Every knee that hath not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him." If—and I say again may God avert the omen!—but if the Church of England should indeed dwindle and degenerate into a feeble imitation of the Church of Rome, with a pale reflexion of her doctrines and a poor copy of her practices, then sooner or later, if truth be truth, she will collapse into irremediable ruin, and upon those ruins shall be built once more a truer and a purer fold.

The Fireside. Pictorial Annual. 1891. Edited by the Rev. CHARLES BULLOCK, B.D. "Home Words" Publishing Office, 7, Paternoster Square.

In this volume, handsomely got up, as usual, appears a great variety of matter. Principal Moule contributes "First Impressions of Rome," and Dr. James some social Essayettes. The Tales are by Mrs. Marshall and Miss Giberne. There are many extracts. All, of course, is wholesome.

The Socialism of Christianity. By W. BLISSARD, M.A., Vicar of Seasalter, Kent. Elliot Stock.

Mr. Blissard is thoughtful and outspoken; many will think he lacks caution. In an introductory letter, Bishop Mitchinson discreetly commends the book.

Christianity and Buddhism. By T. STERLING BERRY, D.D., Rector of Birr, Diocese of Killaloe. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

This is a volume of the Society's "Non-Christian Religious Systems" series, and it contains the Donnellan Lectures for 1889-90. Dr. Berry writes well; he is clear, and as a rule sufficiently firm. It is desirable that Buddha's religion should be fully known, so far as the laws of decency and propriety will admit of details being given from his own Scriptures. Dr. Berry might have done something in this way by referring to those pages of the *Pārājikā* book, which are filled with details of fearful vices. The sins of the Bhikkus, it may be admitted, are not chargeable to Buddha; but what can be said of the legislation which makes vices, almost inconceivably abominable, of less degree in guilt than actions which result in the reproduction of the species?

Good Words. 1891. Edited by DONALD MACLEOD, D.D., one of Her Majesty's Chaplains. Isbister and Co.

First and foremost in this Annual may be noticed the Novel which the critics have been lately commending, "The Little Minister," by the author of "A Window in Thrums." The other work of fiction running throughout is Mrs. Oliphant's "The Marriage of Elinor." There are papers on Art and Travel, Social and Biographical papers. Some "Sunday Readings" appear by the Bishop of Winchester. The illustrations are beautiful.

The Newly Recovered Apology of Aristides. With extracts from the Translation by Professor J. RENDEL HARRIS. By HELEN B. HARRIS. Pp. 100. Hodder and Stoughton.

A distinctly helpful book; and many of our readers who were interested in the article on the "Apology" in a recent *CHURCHMAN*, by Rev. Morris Fuller, will be pleased to hear of it. The frontispiece shows the Convent of St. Catherine, Mount Sinai, in one of the libraries of which the MS. was found by Professor Harris.

The Gate Beautiful. By HUGH MACMILLAN, D.D., LL.D., F.R.S.E., author of "Bible Teachings in Nature," etc. Pp. 284. Macmillan and Co.

This is a delightful book. It consists of twenty-seven "Bible Teachings for the Young": "The Gate Beautiful," "The Thistle," "The Barberry," etc. Dr. Macmillan's pen has lost none of its pictorial power.

An attractive and really cheap volume is the Annual of the *Sunday Magazine* (Isbister and Co.). We especially note "Reminiscences of Archbishop Magee," by the Editor, Rev. Benjamin Waugh, whose name is so well-known in connection with the championship of little children.

There are several religious papers. Mr. W. T. Stead writes about General Booth. The Tales seem of average merit, and there are many illustrations.

We certainly cannot commend *Advent Readings*, by M. E. Granger, with an introduction by Canon Knox Little. The writer states that while the Church of England "urges the need of private confession and personal absolution in certain cases, she abstains altogether from defining the degree or extent of the necessity. If then, to individual consciences, belongs the responsibility of accepting or resigning so solemn a Rite (which partakes of the nature of a sacrament), and so unspeakable a blessing" . . . and so on.

In a new edition of Archdeacon Farrar's works, issued by Messrs. Macmillan and Co., appears his *Seekers after God*. This work has had, we see, a large circulation. The copy which we have read, and read again, was published in the year 1873. From Messrs. Macmillan we have also received the second volume of the new issue of Maurice's *Sermons*.

The third edition of *The Church of England*, by the Rev. William Odom, Vicar of Heeley, Sheffield, is revised and enlarged (Sheffield: T. Widdison, 14, Fargate). There is a real need for sound Manuals.

An interesting and useful work for young readers, or Sunday-school Teachers, is the Rev. R. H. Brenan's *The Children's Afternoon*; or, "Words to Young Children." The volume is well illustrated, and tastefully got up. (Elliot Stock.)

In the *Church Sunday School Magazine* appears a paper by the Bishop of Dover (read at the Canterbury C. S. S. Conference in October), "How Sunday Schools may be made more successful." The Editor comments upon some depressing statements, quoted by the Bishop, about criminals who had been Sunday scholars. The whole matter—present-day statistics of this sort—should be inquired into.

In the *Sunday at Home* appears an interesting paper on John Bunyan's "Book for Boys and Girls"—a facsimile of the unique first edition (1686), published by Mr. Elliot Stock.

Nearly thirty years ago, in the course of a conversation with the Rev. James Vaughan, the Incumbent of Christ Church, Brighton, about useful books, the present writer mentioned Oxenden's. "Yes," said Mr. Vaughan, "and yet I sometimes wonder why they have so large a circulation. What do you say?" "They meet a want," we replied. "But how?" inquired our friend. "Well," we said, "they are printed in good type, they are not too big, they are simple, and they point to Christ." Mr. Vaughan quite agreed, adding a remark about their loving earnestness. This chat comes quite fresh to us as we turn over the pages of Bishop Oxenden's latest work, *The History of my Life* (Longman, Green, and Co.). As the Rector of Pluckley, Mr. Oxenden was for a long time, through his excellent little books, one of the best-known men in the Church of England. "The Pathway of Safety," we observe, has reached its 363rd thousand, and "The Earnest Communicant" its 587th thousand. "Over Two Million Copies" of this author's writings, it is stated, have

been sold—2,000,000! How many parallels to this total, we wonder, in books distinctly religious, can be found? Bishop Oxenden's first Publisher was Mr. Macintosh. Then Messrs. Hatchard took charge of his numerous writings; and lately they have issued from the house of Longmans. Mr. Oxenden, as everybody knows, became Bishop of Montreal, and resided in Canada several years. In a vigorous and honoured old age the Bishop has given this Autobiography to the Church which he has served so well. It contains several stories. We quote only one, about Manning, a school friend at Harrow, now Cardinal Manning. The Bishop writes: "There was, even in those early days, a little self-assertion in his character. On one occasion he was invited to dinner at Mr. Cunningham's, the vicar of the parish. On his return at night, one of his friends questioned him as to whom he had met, whether he had enjoyed his evening, and especially as to what part he had taken in the general conversation. To these inquiries he answered that he had spent the evening pleasantly enough, but that he had said but little, and, indeed, had been almost silent, for there were two or three superior persons present; and he added, 'You know that my motto is, "Aut Cæsar, aut nullus." I, therefore, held my tongue and listened.' This was characteristic of the after man." A brief extract from this Autobiography was given in the December CHURCHMAN. We heartily recommend the book.

Letts's Diaries are now published by Cassell and Co. We recommend *Letts's Clerical Diary for 1892* and the *Tablet Diary*.

With the *Musical Times* for December 1st is issued an interesting "Mozart Supplement." Mozart died December 5, 1791.

We heartily recommend a biographical sketch of our much-esteemed friend Canon Carus, with extracts from his writings, having the title "Speaking Years." ("Home Words" Publishing Office.) The venerable Canon's "Reminiscences of Professor Sedgwick" appeared in the CHURCHMAN of February, 1889.

Two volumes of a rather rare species, "Tales for a Bible Class or Night School," by Rev. W. E. Heygate, are issued by the S.P.C.K.; both for Boys. These well-written Tales, an experienced Teacher tells us, are admirably adapted for the purpose.

Several books have reached us too late for notice in the present number.—*Two Sailor Lads* is a story of stirring adventures, by that popular writer, Dr. Gordon Stables (John F. Shaw and Co.).—*Hazell's Annual for 1892* is excellent, as usual (Hazell, Watson, and Viney).—*The Oxford Miniature Bible* is a gem; the smallest ever printed: a dainty present (Henry Frowde).—*Our Darlings* (Shaw) is as bright and helpful as usual.

The annual volume of *Cassell's Family Magazine* is a marvel of excellence, in its own line. We often commend this high-class Magazine.

Messrs. Partridge and Co.'s annual volumes are, as usual, attractive and cheap. What can be better, for the class of readers kept in view, than the *Mother's Companion*, *Friendly Visitor*, *British Workman*, and *Band of Hope*?