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Short Notices.

The Soul of the Bishop. A Novel. 2 vols. By JOHN STRANGE WINTER. Pp. 224. F. V. White and Co.

THE popular and lively authoress of "Bootles' Baby" has undertaken an ecclesiastical novel. She has felt that the narrow theories sometimes drawn by High Church divines as to unbaptized infants, and certain of the more restrictive of the Thirty-nine Articles which are characteristic of the sixteenth century, present great difficulties to conscientious believers; and she has woven an attractive story to illustrate her point. A popular and athletic bishop aged about forty becomes engaged to a delightful English girl of good birth and fortune, who sees these difficulties in a way which does not press upon the bishop. It is probable that in contemporary life some satisfactory explanation could have been offered; but the authoress has a right to make her characters do as she pleases, and the story ends in a hopeless breakdown of the engagement.

The Andersons. By AGNES GIBERNE. Price 3s. 6d. Pp. 300. Nisbet and Co.

A charming story of Christian and semi-Christian lives being brought in the course of events together, and the one sort improving the other by the power of personal influence.

Ermengarde. A Story of Romney Marsh in the Thirteenth Century. By Mrs. HADDEN PARKS. Elliot Stock.

This is a glimpse into English mediæval life. The local touches are well studied and the interest sustained.

The Walrus-hunters. By R. M. BALLANTYNE. Price 5s. Pp. 410. Nisbet and Co.

This is one of the most delightful of all Mr. Ballantyne's romances of adventure in different parts of the world. The story is one of imagined encounters between Eskimos and Indians in the far North of America. The writer hopes he may in some small degree advance the cause of right and tend to demolish wrong. The touches of natural religion which occur here and there in the best of the characters on both sides are wise and effective.

Betting and Gambling. By Major SETON CHURCHILL. Price 1s. 6d. Pp. 202. Nisbet and Co.

The author has already written some most valuable books for young men; and the present volume is a complete handbook about this danger of the age. It ought to be in the hands of every young man of every class.

The Primitive Saints of the See of Rome. By F. W. FULLER. Price 7s. 6d. Pp. 428. Longmans.

This book has already been reviewed by Canon Meyrick in the October number of the *CHURCHMAN*; but attention should here be called to it as a temperate and learned epitome of the growth of the Papal usurpation. An important sentence is the following: "According to the primitive teaching, the visible unity of the Church, though a great blessing which is always to be aimed at, is, nevertheless, not strictly necessary."

The Close of St. Christopher's. A Story for Girls. By EMMA MARSHALL. Price 5s. Pp. 337. Nisbet and Co.

This is a sympathetic and intelligent sketch of English society about five-and-twenty years ago. The scene is laid in a south-western cathedral close, and the characteristics of dignified ecclesiastical society are very well drawn. The scholarly and reserved Dean; his gentle and quiet grand-daughter; the bustling lady of the modern world who arrives with a thirst for lectures and movement, and the handsome and extravagant nephew who is only idle and careless because he knows no better, together with some excellent minor characters, form an interesting group.

The Sunday at Home. Volume for 1893. Pp. 828. R.T.S.

This admirable volume is equal to any of its predecessors. It will be a most welcome addition to any household library. Amongst the biographical sketches are Sir Hope and Lady Grant, John Macgregor, Henry Martyn, Charles Simeon, Adolphe Saphir, and George Williams. Other features of the volume are the excellent sermons and devotional papers, Sabbath Thoughts, Scripture Exercises, Tales and Sketches, and Things New and Old.

The Leisure Hour. Volume for 1893. Pp. 860. R.T.S.

This is the corresponding volume for week-day reading, and, like its companion, is one of the best of Christmas gifts. The papers of the monthly parts have often been noticed here during the year, but we may again call attention to the interesting series of twenty-one biographical sketches; twenty-nine fascinating Notes on Natural History; thirteen Notes on Science; the long and valuable series of "Varieties," containing facts, characteristics, and anecdotes; and thirty valuable household queries. The illustrations of both these volumes are admirable.

The Quiver. Volume for 1893. Price 7s. 6d. Pp. 960. Cassell and Co.

It would be difficult to praise too highly this most varied and capacious volume. From end to end it is thoroughly wholesome, instructive, useful, and lively. Amongst its characteristic papers are Chapters for the Sick and Infirm; Christ in the Home; God in the Book of Nature; Hymn-Tunes; Illustrated Interviews, amongst which are Dr. Moon, the friend to the blind; A. K. H. B., the Scottish essayist; R. M. Ballantyne, and Principal Reynolds; the Scripture Lessons for School and Home; the *Quiver* Bible-class; the *Quiver* portraits, including the Bishop of Ripon, Dr. Macmillan, Miss Everett Green, Prebendary Gordon Calthrop, the Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Newman Hall, the Dean of Norwich, and Dr. Glover. Short Arrows are an invaluable series of many hundreds of illustrations and short pithy passages on an immense variety of subjects.

The Sunday Magazine. Volume for 1893. Price 7s. 6d. Pp. 856. Isbister and Co.

There is a wonderful store of entertainment and instruction in this admirable volume. We have often spoken of the contents of the monthly parts; but when they are united they make a whole of excellent and varied reading, the interest of which in its way could not be surpassed. The two principal story-writers are Silas Hocking and Miss Everett Green. Amongst the writers of Biblical papers are Dr. Macmillan, Dr. Clifford, Dr. Blakey, Dr. Cox, Dr. McLeod, Dr. Munro Gibson, Dr. Macduff, the Master of Trinity, Canon Scott-Holland, and Mrs. Boyd-Carpenter. Among the writers of biography and history are Dr. Bowman Stephenson, Mr. Stead, the Bishop of Ripon, Dr. Newman

Hall, and Precentor Venables. Nine papers are "Talks with Contributors," including Archdeacon Farrar, Silas Hocking, Dr. Bowman Stephenson, Bishop Thorold, Dr. Newman Hall, and Dr. Horton. The rest of the volume is on Natural History, Missions and Travel, Philanthropy, Sunday Evenings with the Children, Miscellanies, and Poetry.

Good Words. Volume for 1893. Price 7s. 6d. Pp. 860. Isbister and Co.

Good Words, which has now been flourishing for several decades, keeps up its very high reputation. The illustrations and letterpress are alike of the highest order, and it is delightful to think of so much excellent Christian literature circulating constantly through the United Kingdom. A story by Edna Lyall gives this volume a strong characteristic. Among other story-writers are Mrs. Comyns-Carr, William Canton, and John Reid. There are twenty-two biographical and historical papers, including Archimedes, Fredericka Bremer, St. Magnus-of-the-Isles, R. L. Nettleship, and John Pettie. There are twelve Sunday Readings by the Bishop of Ripon, twenty-four original poems, and some fascinating papers on Science, Literature, Art, and Travel.

Young England. Volume for 1893. Pp. 571. Sunday-School Union.

The fourteenth volume of *Young England* is a capital present for boys or girls. The two principal stories are "The Little Bag of Gold," by Bayford Harrison, and "The Wild Catters," a tale of Pennsylvanian oil-fields, by C. J. Hyne. The twelve papers for the Sunday Hour are by different well-known writers. There are also papers, which all boys will appreciate, on Science and Natural History.

The Church Monthly. Volume for 1893. Pp. 284. *Church Monthly* Office.

Mr. Sherlock's magazine is now so widely known that it stands in need of no recommendation. It is an excellent collection of useful and interesting matter. Among the contents may be noticed twelve valuable papers on Church Defence by that learned and able champion, the Rev. Thomas Moore; seven important parish churches—St. Mary's, Nottingham; St. George's, Jesmond; St. Mary Abchurch, London; Wimborne Minster; St. Lawrence, Thanet; St. Martin's, Birmingham; and St. Mary's, Leicester. The Representative Churchmen are the Bishops of Ripon, Bath and Wells, Pelham of Norwich, St. David's, Southwell, Newcastle, Sheepshanks of Norwich and the Chaplain-General.

Come Ye Apart. Daily Readings in the Life of Christ. By the Rev. P. R. MILLER, D.D. Sunday-School Union.

We can most cordially recommend these admirable and original religious readings for every day. Each page contains a valuable and interesting lesson, and the excellent type and paper help to form a most attractive volume, which cannot fail to do good to its readers. These short portions might also be read aloud with great advantage at family prayers.

The Heir of Sandyscombe. By K. M. EADY. Sunday-School Union.

This stirring tale of adventure by land and by sea, in the battle-field, the railway accident, and by the sea-shore, makes up in interest what it lacks in probability. But the characters are well drawn, and the class of readers for whom it is intended are not likely to find fault with the extraordinary experiences of the hero and his cousin. The illustrations, as is usual in the publications of the Sunday-School Union, are decidedly above the average.

The Child's Own Magazine. Sixtieth annual volume. Sunday-School Union.

This capital little magazine keeps up its high character, the illustrations are very pretty, and in many cases artistic, the letter-press is bright and well-written, and the prizes form an interesting feature. It should be taken in for all children between six and twelve.

Loyal to his Trust. By M. H. CAPES. Sunday-School Union.

A simple and interesting story for boys. The writer is thoroughly at home with her subject, the characters and dialogue are natural, and the only defect is a structural one—the arrival of the stern uncle in Lewis Prior's rooms. If he came at all, why did he not come sooner? But the whole tone of the book is a most wholesome one, and it will make an excellent Christmas reward book.

Beneath the Surface. By SARAH TYTLER. Sunday-School Union.

We looked for something better from the pen of Miss Tytler. The story is neither very interesting nor very probable, but still it may find a place in the village library with advantage, or be safely given as a reward book to elder boys or girls.

Jennifer's Fortune. By Mrs. HENRY CLARKE. S.P.C.K.

A charming fresh story of Cornish life and character, which cannot fail to attract readers of all ages, and which, moreover, contains a strong vein of humour. The only criticism we have to offer is that, as usual, the heroine is "faultily faultless," and we can hardly believe that Jennifer's education and surroundings had fitted her to be a governess, or that Winifred would acquire a very pure German accent from her. But the story will be read with interest from the first page to the last.

Of High and Low Degree. By HELEN MILMAN. S.P.C.K.

This pretty and picturesque little tale will be read with enjoyment by boys and girls of any degree. The descriptions of the old Manor House and its mistress, and of the three children, are excellent, and though the coincidences in it are both in the highest degree improbable, probability is not of much account among youthful readers.

The Squire of Bratton. By the author of "The Dean's Little Daughter," etc. S.P.C.K.

Were it not for the list of other works on the title-page, we should be inclined to suppose that this rather unequal story was a first effort. The beginning is somewhat childish, while the last few chapters are both pretty and touching.

The Fireside. Vol. for 1893. Pp. 358. Price 7s. 6d. Home Words Publishing Office.

The editor is to be congratulated on the continuation of the great interest of this volume. It is a worthy companion to *Good Words*, *The Quiver*, *The Sunday at Home*, and *The Leisure Hour*. The principal features this year are A. J. Symington's "Chats about Authors and Books"; the Editor's "Heart Cheer for Home Sorrow"; the "Twelve Sunday Readings by Eminent Churchmen"; "Our Little Ones—a Study for Mothers"; Dr. James' "On the Surface"; the Editor's "Notes by the Way"; and "Present-Day Topics."

Purchasers of Christmas presents for the young will be sure also to secure *The Dawn of Day*, 1893. Pp. 238. (S.P.C.K.) *Light for Little Footsteps*; Bible stories illustrated. Pp. 64. Price 2s. 6d. (Partridge and Co.) *The Day of Days*. Pp. 188. (Home Words Office.) Vol. xxii. Price 2s. *Home Words*, 1893. Price 2s. *The Silver Link*, vol. ii. (Sunday-

School Union.) *The Child's Pictorial*. Pp. 192. Price 2s. (S.P.C.K.)
God's Barth, by Sarah Geraldina Stock. Pp. 112. Price 1s. 6d. (C.M.S.)
 Mrs. Molesworth's *Thirteen Little Black Pigs*. (S.P.C.K.)

Digest of the S.P.G. Records. 1701-1892. Second Edition.

All clergymen, and all laymen interested in missions, should have this wonderful volume. It is a mine of information, and ought to make missionary meetings and sermons far more vivid and interesting in the future.

We have only space to say that we have received the following monthly magazines:

Blackwood, The Fortnightly, The Review of the Churches, The Religious Review of Reviews, The Cornhill, The Thinker, The Educational Review, The Expositor, The English Illustrated Magazine, Good Words, The Sunday Magazine, The Leisure Hour, The Sunday at Home, The Fireside, The Newbery House Magazine, Cassell's Family Magazine, The Church Sunday-School Magazine, The Quiver, The Anglican Church Magazine, To-Day (Jerome K. Jerome), *The Church Missionary Intelligencer, The Church Monthly, The Dawn of Day, The Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, The Cottager and Artisan, Friendly Greetings, The Evangelical Churchman, The Church Worker, Light in the Home, India's Women, The Boy's Own Paper, The Girl's Own Paper, The Church Missionary Society, The Child's Companion, The Child's Pictorial, Little Folks, Young Methodism, Boy's and Girl's Companion, Children's World, Our Little Dots.*

The *Fireside Broad Sheet Almanack*, with its texts for every day, is admirably suited for cottage use.

Everyone should possess, in one form or another, the most useful Almanacks of the S.P.C.K. The illustration this year is the magnificent Perpendicular Church of Tattershall, Lincolnshire. There is the usual Table of Lessons for hanging up, the Remembrancer, the Pocket Book, and three sizes of the Pocket Almanack, as well as the Prayer Desk and Children's Almanack.



THE MONTH.

WE deeply regret to learn that little hopes are now entertained of the recovery of the Rev. Prebendary Gordon Calthrop. He has long been in failing health. On Nov. 13 the case was pronounced to be cancer, and yesterday morning the patient was said to be much weaker. A long and faithful ministry is drawing to its close, and the deepest sympathy will be felt for the sufferer and for his family.

At his recent visitation the Bishop of Sodor and Man said: "I am thinking now of the great masses of the people of the British electorate, who, after all, will have to decide this matter, and I say if the Church of England is to be maintained as a national Church care must be taken to keep her true to herself, true to her history, and true to her Protestant and reformed character, for if these things be obscured, either by direct teaching, or, as the Archbishop of Canterbury says, by aping the customs of a foreign Church, not only will it alienate a Protestant nation, but destroy our very *raison d'être*. I confess I have far less fear of the Liberation Society and its supporters than I have of the effect of proposals such as those lately made by men who would be teachers in the matter of Church defence with respect to rendering permissible the use