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Thirdly, in addition to this, there must be steady, firm reliance day by day on the Holy Spirit. Without this, this work, as all other, must fail in reaching the only end which is the justification of any and all our methods—the salvation of men, or, as Dr. Arnold said, the making of earth like heaven and every man like God. Men-fishing is most difficult work, but He who bade us go has likewise said, “I am with you always.” In our weakness He is our strength. In our ignorance He is our wisdom, our all in all. Then let us go forth, living, working, preaching, as if we believed it true what He said, “If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me.”

Lift up Christ. Never mind one’s self. Never mind the Church (He will take care of that); and then men shall be won to holiness, righteousness, God, and in His great day we shall not appear empty-handed, but bringing as sheaves to lay at His feet the souls of men for whom He died and for whom His blood was shed.

J. E. WATTS-DITCHFIELD.

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## Reviews.

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*The Supernatural in Christianity; with special reference to statements in the recent Gifford Lectures.* By Principal RAINY, D.D., Professor J. ORR, D.D., and Professor MARCUS DODS. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark. Price 2s.

THE recent Gifford Lectures of the Berlin Professor, Dr. Otto Pfeiderer, delivered at Edinburgh, raised no small storm among Christian teachers and students of every sort. It was felt—not without good reason—that an unfair advantage had been taken by the professor, upon the strength of his position as lecturer on the Gifford foundation, to attack the records of the Christian faith; and a strong resolve was made that something should be done publicly to counteract the effect of the attack. Hence this little book, which contains three lectures by well-known writers, each an undoubted authority in his own line. Though it numbers scarcely more than one hundred pages, we doubt whether a better and more efficacious counterfoil could have been dealt even in a book a dozen times the size. In particular, Professor James Orr’s contribution to the question is, in its way, a masterpiece in little. Weighty in argument, thoroughly considered in the position it takes up, and temperate in tone, the volume deserves to be studied far and wide.

E. H. BLAKENEY.

*Lux Naturæ.* DAVID SINCLAIR. London: Elliot Stock.

Mr. Sinclair has here brought before us a very fascinating study, and his book will doubtless interest and instruct many. The nerve system of the universe is clearly demonstrated as having an almost exact parallel in the nerve system of the human body, and corporal nerves are shown to perform the same functions for the body as the so-called etheric chords do for the universe. In fact, from our perusal of the book, we are

inclined to observe that Nature is the brain, so to speak, of the universe, and therefore feels every action or movement that is contrary to her governing laws in precisely the same way that the sensitive power of corporal nerves is supplied from the brain when any part of the human anatomy is hurt. And throughout the whole book we are taught that the light of Nature must be before our eyes in every phase of our existence as natural beings; and, furthermore, we must live according to Nature—the Divine organ that God Almighty has appointed to guide the course of our lives—and not in complete antagonism with her, or else we shall be found to fight against God. This is a very thoughtful work, and one that in itself suggests thought.

W. A. PURTON.

*Psalm Mosaics.* By the Rev. A. SAUNDERS-DYER, M.A., Chaplain to H.M. Indian Service. London: Elliot Stock.

*Talks with Young People on the Psalms.* By C. H. PERRY. London: Elliot Stock.

We noticed lately a book on the Psalms, issued by the same house, that in its own domain might aptly be termed brilliant. We refer to Mr. Marson's "The Psalms at Work." No less praise may be given to Mr. Dyer's "Psalm Mosaics." The two will form a complete dovetail, and prove an almost indispensable addition to the clergyman's library.

The peculiar quaintness and freshness of "The Psalms at Work" is balanced by the deep sympathy and rich appreciation of the volume now under notice, which, moreover, has itself gathered informing details from many sources. For instance, a note on Ps. xxii. 14—"all my bones are out of joint"—runs:

In the literal meaning these words have given rise to some of those long and patient disquisitions which have inquired into the component parts of the cross, and the nature of our Lord's sufferings there. The Eastern Church, as well as some particular doctors of the West, has always held that, besides the cross and the nails, our Lord was supported by a smaller transverse bar beneath His feet; and that, in the convulsions of death, this became slightly displaced, so as to present the form which surmounts all Oriental churches.

Again, regarding Ps. cxxi., quotations, which are really full and interesting—not mere tags—are made from twelve sources, which are as widely apart as Keble's "Psalter in English Verse" and the "Midsummer Night's Dream," the life of Fenélon and of Hanington. We naturally find a number of references on the first and sixth verses of Ps. xxxi. to the numerous saints of all times and of all characters who have been comforted by them. Amongst others, a long extract is given from that singularly beautiful life of young Henri Perreyve, which Père Gratry, himself so single-minded and childlike, wrote. The commentary on Ps. xlii. is also full of touching references, *e.g.*, one to St. Francis de Sales when dying at his beautiful old town in Haute Savoie, Annecy. Indeed, every page nearly is enriched with quotations, verse and prose, and anecdotes, that are by no means trite and hackneyed, but gathered with a discriminating and widely-searching hand. How curious it is, for instance, to find next door to a long account of an episcopal consecration this quotation from Spurgeon on Ps. xlviii. 3:

No sooner together than scattered! What! have they so suddenly fled? Even thus shall the haters of the Church vanish from the field. Papists, ritualists, Arians, sceptics, they shall each have their day, and pass on to the limbo of forgetfulness.

This is a book that should certainly find a place on the shelves of lovers of the Psalms.

The "Talks with Young People on the Psalms" is a little book admirably adapted for its purpose.

W. A. PURTON.

*Inspiration, and other Lectures.* By T. G. ROOKE, B.A., late President of Rawdon College. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

These lectures are published as a memorial of their author, and it is easy to see that such is the case from the varied nature of the subjects. Roughly, the book falls into three divisions—lectures on Psychology, on the Authority of Scripture, and on Pastoral Theology, the pastors in this case being Baptist ministers, for Rawdon College is of that denomination. To some extent this heterogeneous nature of the contents diminishes its value for the general reader; yet we can imagine that the inner ring of the author's friends and pupils will read it with eagerness and profit, for he was a man of varied parts and saintly life. The lectures on Psychology, which occupy more than a third of the book, do not convey any fresh ideas or theories, but afford a clear *resumé* of the main truths of Psychology, especially in their bearings with religion. They are the work of an able and devout man. The lectures on the authority and inspiration of Scripture treat the matter, on the whole, from a conservative standpoint, and would prove of great value to any student, or anyone who wishes to go over the evidence for and against inspiration in these "critical" times. The lectures on pastoral theology are marked by a broad, loving, and tolerant spirit, are at the same time full of shrewd sense, and cannot but have been profitable to those who heard, or will read, them. We quote from a passage on the relations of the young Baptist minister to the clergy (premising that our author is strong for Disestablishment, and, we grieve to add, for Disendowment):

"It is possible that you may be brought into close and friendly relations with clergymen of the Established Church—clergymen who may be expected to belong to the Low Church or Evangelical school; for it is rare, indeed, for a High Churchman to give a Dissenting minister the chance of meeting him on a common official platform. Sometimes, also, there are private houses where the notabilities of Church and Dissent are brought together with studious intent; and in such gatherings a new Dissenting pastor's character for amiability and good breeding is often established or ruined in one momentous hour, and through circumstances the most trivial and insufficient. Hence there is perhaps more urgent need for care and discretion when the young Baptist minister meets the State Church clergyman, and, still more, the clergyman's wife and daughters, in a drawing-room, or across a private dining-table, than there is when a public platform is the scene of their encounter."

W. A. PURTON.

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## Short Notices.

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*How to Read the Prophets—Part IV., Ezekiel.* By BUCHANAN BLAKE, B.D. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

THIS book should prove very useful to those studying the prophet Ezekiel, and will, no doubt, secure the popularity it deserves. The text of Ezekiel is clearly divided up under explanatory headings, which constitutes the first division of the book. The second division treats of "the prophecies in their historical setting," and in a very interesting and