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A table of contents for *The Churchman* can be found here:

https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_churchman_os.php

ceremony, in which, by its intricacies, if by nothing else, he has been prevented from taking part? Has no man left his parish church in sorrow, if not in disgust, when he has witnessed the transformation which has taken place in its services? We think the remark about "moral failure" had, in the interests of Mr. Wakeman's cause, been better omitted.

We have surely extracted sufficient from this work to show that it is at once something more and less than a mere history of the Church of England. We can only say in conclusion that we deeply regret its publication.

W. E. CHADWICK.

Short Notices.

The Victory of Christ over Satan. By the Rev. J. RATE. Pp. 147 Nisbet.

SIX discourses delivered during Lent in Belgrave Chapel, Pimlico, in the year 1845, and now for the first time printed. We think that clergy who intend dealing with such a topic in the coming Lent will do well to purchase this little volume. Practically all that the Scriptures contain on this subject is here presented in suitable order, and without either rhetoric or imaginative interpretations. Beneath the simplicity of language there is evidence of much knowledge, and Note C, dealing with causation, or the relation of mind to matter and force, contains a useful list of quotations from such men as Newton, Herschel, President Edwards, Lord Brougham, etc., and goes to prove that "the laws of nature are the laws which He, in His wisdom, prescribes to His own acts."

Our Journey to Sinai. By Mrs. R. L. BENSLEY. Pp. 185. R.T.S.

A description of a journey to Mount Sinai to transcribe the Syriac Palimpsest of the Four Gospels previously discovered by Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Gibson in the Convent of St. Catarina. The brightly-written pages of observant travel will please those who take no interest in the ultimate object of the journey; while students of Biblical manuscripts will value this description of so important a document, and will be glad to have the chief points of Mr. F. C. Burkitt's able paper, read at the Church Congress of 1895, in a permanent form in the last chapter. The excellence of the letterpress and illustrations, the eminent Oriental learning of at least four of the party, and the pathos of Professor Bensley's sudden death, and his wife's blindness so soon after their return, all give this little book a special and merited place of interest among recent publications.

Jesus the Poet. By the Rev. J. REID HOWATT. Pp. 279. Price 6s. Elliot Stock.

At the outset we were a little prejudiced against the title. But the author's apology in the preface, and the many striking excellences of his pages, made ample amends. Poetry, we are reminded, is neither rhyme nor metre, but the fit clothing of noble thoughts. The thoughts of Christ are the grandest the world has received, and their verbal raiment is perfect in suitability. In this volume is presented practically everything in the nature of image, illustration, metaphor, or simile used by our Lord,

together with crisp and often beautiful comment upon these passages. We think it is a new book in the best sense, and believe that it will appeal to a large circle of cultured readers.

Talks with Young People on the Psalms. By C. H. PERRY. Pp. 180. Cheap edition. Elliot Stock.

Written from a feeling that the Psalms are "too abstract and too experimental for the understanding of most young people," and so neglected by them. In a plain and pleasant way, the central teaching of each of the 150 Psalms is brought out, and to each is given some brief and striking title, which forms at once a keynote and an aid to the memory.

Notes on the Life of Christ. By the late Rev. W. MEYNELL WHITTEMORE, D.D. Pp. 241. George Stoneman.

One hundred lessons on prominent incidents in our Lord's life, intended for children. The late editor of *Sunshine* understood the needs and minds of children, and Sunday-school teachers will find these lessons as helpful as they are comprehensive. We regret to see that the book was printed in Holland. The paper is poor, and the type too close to be read with pleasure.

Our Goodly Heritage. By the late Rev. Canon EDMUND HUGH M'NEILE. Edward Howell, Liverpool, and Simpkin Marshall, London.

A year's Bible readings, one for each day, originally written for *Vine Branches*, a magazine circulated among the members of the Bible Reading Union for the Study of the Holy Scriptures with the help of the Church Calendar. These short notes for meditation on the second lessons at evening prayer throughout the year are thoughtful and spiritual, and Scripture is contrasted with Scripture in the best manner of exegesis. Leaders of Bible-classes, and those who expound the Scriptures at family prayers, will use this book to advantage.

Eon the Good. By CHARLOTTE MURRAY. Pp. 125. Price 2s. 6d. Nisbet.

The piece which gives the title to this book of poems is a pretty legend bearing a much-needed lesson. The sentiments throughout are unexceptionable, but the authoress's muse is generally in the realms of commonplace, and but rarely soars to the point of mediocrity. The book is nicely got up.

"*Unto Thee.*" By J. ORTON SMITH. Pp. 200. Price 2s. Nisbet.

Thoughts of a man of business on the twenty-fifth Psalm. A booklet of spiritual and practical meditations; evidently the fruit of a devout mind. It will be appreciated as a gift-book, its shape and printing being after the manner of devotional manuals of the present time.

Beulah-Land. By THEODORE L. CUYLER, D.D. Pp. 208. Price 2s. 6d. Hodder and Stoughton.

These words of good cheer, addressed especially to God's veterans, will be welcomed by hearts made all the happier by them. There is not a dull page throughout, and Dr. Cuyler's characteristic genial piety makes itself felt for good in every paragraph.

The Revelation of the Christ. By Prof. W. DOUGLAS MACKENZIE. Pp. 303. Price 3s. 6d. London: Sunday-School Union.

Originally printed as the introductory article on the weekly "International Lesson" in *The Sunday-School Chronicle*, these thirty-six studies thoroughly deserve their present handsome book form. They bring out in a natural and convincing manner, from incidents in the life of our Lord, the process and the reality of the belief in His divinity, which grew in the minds of the Saviour's followers till it became the religion which overturned the massive structure of classical heathenism.

A Harbour Light. By C. E. MALLANDAINE. Pp. 221. Price 2s. S.P.C.K.

This is a well-thought-out and very nearly original story. The characters are real, and the descriptions of Cornish life and scenery very vivid. There is nothing stereotyped about either hero or heroine.

A Mystery at King's Grant. By A. E. D. Pp. 128. Price 1s. S.P.C.K.

Though highly improbable—as stories of foundlings and their ultimate identification usually are—this little book is a most interesting one, and would hold a Mother's Meeting enthralled for at least two afternoons.

The Sunday Magazine. Vol. for 1896. Pp. 856. Price 7s. 6d. Isbister and Co.

This delightful volume retains its high character in art, literature, and theology. It begins with a series of autograph mottoes specially sent by ten of the most distinguished writers of the day. There are two serial stories by Emma Marshall and W. J. Dawson. The series of interviews is continued; the subjects are "Ian Maclaren," W. J. Dawson, Dr. Robertson Nicoll, Abraham Park of the P.S.A., the Primate of Ireland, Principal Evans, and Lady Henry Somerset. There is also an interesting series of papers on "The Discipline of the Soul," by Ian Maclaren. But the whole of the matter is so valuable that it is difficult to make a selection.

Good Words. Vol. for 1896. Pp. 860. Price 7s. 6d. Isbister and Co.

This admirable volume is of course a little lighter both in tone and illustration than the *Sunday Magazine*. It contains four papers on Bishop Butler from Mr. Gladstone. Among the biographies are Lady Blanche Balfour, the Countess de Gasparin, Handel in England, Lord Kelvin, Sir John Millais, and Bishop Thorold.

Among the historical papers are: "A Bedfordshire Squire of the Fourteenth Century," by the late Bishop of Bath and Wells; "Ely Cathedral," "The Dawn of English Trade with Turkey," "Old Life of Inns," and "The Janissaries."

Papers on social subjects, science, art, literature, travel, religion, and nature, complete a most welcome collection.

The Leisure Hour. Vol for 1896. Pp. 811. Price 7s. 6d. R.T.S.

Our old friend *The Leisure Hour* annually renews a perpetual youth. The features this year are a series of striking American notes, papers on the British Museum by Sir E. Maunde Thompson, notes on Science, Invention and Discovery, Tales and Sketches, Varieties, and the series of "Occasionalities" on remarkable and curious facts. Among the biographies we find Alfred Austin, Thomas Carlyle, Jackson the Explorer, Dr. Johnson, Rienzi, Sir Robert Sandeman, and the Presidents of the Royal Society.

It is difficult to be too thankful for the wide dissemination of such wholesome and excellent literature.

The Sunday at Home. Vol. for 1896. Pp. 812. Price 7s. 6d. R.T.S.

The Sunday at Home is a treasure-house of quiet and suggestive reading for the Lord's Day. It contains, as usual, stories and sketches from life, Stories for the Young, Things New and Old, poetry, and a well-selected monthly record. Among the biographical studies are: The Death of Bede, Sir Arthur Blackwood, Carlyle as a religious teacher, the authoress of "The Schönberg-Cotta Family," the Gurneys of Earham, Spurgeon, and papers on the Handwriting of Famous Divines. Mr. Winnington-Ingram contributes an interesting paper on "What Christianity has done for Working Men." There is a capital series of illustrated papers on "A Sunday in Liverpool," as well as illustrated local papers on Canterbury, Winchester, Malmesbury, Japan, and Johannesburg. The Editor is to be congratulated on the variety and attractiveness of his materials.

The Girl's Own Annual. 1896. Pp. 832. Price 7s. 6d. R.T.S.

This agreeable serial might usefully be localized for various societies for girls.

Amongst the composers are Princess Beatrice, Myles Birket Foster, late organist of the Foundling Hospital, Humperdinck, Miss C. A. Macirone, and Lady Thompson, the wife of the great surgeon. Among the writers are Adeline, Duchess of Bedford, the Countess of Buckinghamshire, Lady Dunboyne, the Hon. Sarah Lyttelton, Helen Marion Burnside, Sarah Doudney, Evelyn Everett Green, the Rev. T. E. Thiselton-Dyer, and Sydney Grier.

Besides the usual choice of stories and papers, there are useful instructions in the arts most interesting girls.

It is probably the most popular of all similar publications for girls.

The Boy's Own Annual. Pp. 824. Price 7s. 6d. R.T.S.

In the same way this attractive magazine affords excellent scope for localization. One of the features is the fine coloured lithographs, including a lion by Nettleship, British fresh-water fish, favourite British birds' eggs, British butterflies, "No place like Home," Sudden Storms, and others equally well executed. Among the contributors are Principal Adams, Colonel Barker, R.A., Major Battersby, Commander Deane, R.N., George Manville Fenn, G. A. Henty, Ascot Hope, General Sir F. Middleton, K.C.M.G., Hume Nisbet, Dr. Greene, F.Z.S., Theodore Wood, F.G.S., and Dr. Gordon Stables. Among the serials are "Adventures," "A Marine Aquarium," Aviary, Birds, Chess, Competitions, Correspondence, "The Cruise of the Good Ship *Boreas*," A School Story, "Doings for the Month," Electricity, and Indoor Amusements.

The Fireside. Vol. for 1896. Pp. 778. Price 7s. 6d. Home Words Office.

The Editor deserves great sympathy for his earnest efforts to provide religious and semi-religious reading for the family on lines which are in thorough accordance with the Reformation. Among the writers in this volume are Archbishop Alexander, Dean Farrar, Agnes Giberne, Dr. Alexander Grosart, George Macdonald, Principal Moule, Archbishop Lord Plunket, the Rev. P. B. Power, Prebendary Godfrey Thring, and Bishop Pakenham Walsh.

Mr. Walter Senior has some papers on "The Deluge," "The Destruction of Sodom," and "The Plagues of Egypt," in reference to their localities. The Biographical, Literary, Naturalistic, and Poetical Papers are of their usual interest.

The Day of Days. Vol. XXV. Pp. 240. Price 2s. "Home Words" Office.

This useful parish magazine when bound together has much to recommend it. There are biographical studies of Lord Selborne, Andrew Bonar, Charlotte Maria Tucker (A.L.O.E.), Harriet Beecher Stowe, John Knox, Bishop Perowne, Richard Baxter, Canon Allan Smith, and Canon Hoare, besides sermons, meditations, notes on mission work, and verses. It is well suited to the readers for whom it is designed.

Home Words. 1896. Pp. 284. Price 2s. "Home Words" Office.

This well-known serial contains sets of papers on Ancient British Churches, Scientific Topics (In Wonderland), The Noble Army of Martyrs, Facts from the Mission Field (Our Marching Orders), Social Problems, Temperance, and Watch-making. The illustrations are of a high order, and the matter agreeably diversified.

The Church-Worker. Vol. XV. 1896. Pp. 192. Price 2s. 4d. Church of England Sunday-School Institute, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet Street, E.C.

This most useful hand-book is full of suggestions for active and wholesome parish life. The chief features are: The Preparation Class, paper

on How to Obtain and Retain Church-Workers, Notes and Comments, and Fifty-two Lessons on the Gospels for the Church's Year.

The Boys' and Girls' Companion. Pp. 192. Price 2s. Church of England Sunday-School Institute.

This serial answers the excellent purpose of maintaining a spirit of unity amongst the innumerable Sunday-school scholars who profit by the admirable efforts of the Institute. The chief items are : Bible Questions, the papers of the Bible Reading Union, Prize Competitions, Puzzles, a story by Emma Marshall, another on My Duty towards My Neighbour, by the Rev. E. J. Sturdee, and some verses suited to children.

Sword and Song. By R. MOUNTENEY-JEPHSON. Pp. 298. Simpkin, Marshall and Co.

Army and navy songs have always been popular and useful in a two-fold capacity. They have nerved and encouraged soldiers and sailors, and helped them to pass away their numerous idle hours. And they have been in great vogue with civilians, and helped them to understand and sympathize with the necessary profession of the combatant. Mr. Jephson, the well-known author of many popular military novels, has collected in a very interesting manner the literature of this subject, giving animated accounts of the various songs and song-writers. It is a capital theme well treated.

Only Susan. By EMMA MARSHALL. Pp. 304. Nisbet and Co.

One of this popular writer's agreeable stories of social English life, told as an autobiography by a charming and unselfish maiden, who is finally rewarded for her self-denying life. The scene is laid in Devonshire, Exeter, and Peshurst.

The Clergyman and Church Worker's Visiting List, 1897. Pp. 276. Messrs. Hazell, Watson and Viney.

We thank this eminent printing and publishing firm for a very well-considered production. The Calendar is on one side, the Schools and Sick List on the other. Each day has three lines for engagements. After the Calendar come departments for the Chronic Sick, Parish Receipts, Parish Payments, Offertory, Communicants' Attendance, Sunday-School Teachers, Day-School Teachers, Private Baptisms, Communion of the Sick, Parish Workers, Districts and Visitors, Communicants not Workers, Persons Unbaptized, Missionary-box Holders, Special Preachers, Sermons Preached, Addresses, Confirmation and Bible Classes, Choir, etc.

St. Anselm of Canterbury. By J. M. RIGG, Barrister. Pp. 284. Price 2s. 6d.

A vigorous and vivid account of the life, times and writings of this great saint and archbishop, by an able and sympathetic writer, who clearly holds to the Roman allegiance so inflexibly supported by Anselm. He distinctly shows, incidentally, that, whatever the sturdy independence of William the Conqueror might be, and however far he was supported by his satellites, the ablest and best of the clergy in England were in as direct dependence on the Pope as the clergy of any other national or provincial church in Europe.

MAGAZINES.

We have received the following (December) magazines :

The Thinker, The Expository Times, The Religious Review of Reviews, The Anglican Church Magazine, The Church Missionary Intelligencer, The Evangelical Churchman, The Church Sunday-School Magazine, Blackwood, The Cornhill, Sunday Magazine, The Fireside, The Quiver, Cassell's Family Magazine, Good Words, The Leisure Hour, Sunday at Home, The Girl's Own Paper, The Boy's Own Paper, Light and Truth,

The Church Worker, The Church Monthly, The Church Missionary Gleaner, Light in the Home, Awake, India's Women, The Parish Helper, Parish Magazine, The Bible Society's Gleanings for the Young, The Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, The Zenana, The Cottager and Artisan, Friendly Greetings, Little Folks, Our Little Dots, The Child's Companion, Boys and Girl's Companion, The Children's World, Daybreak, Day of Days, Home Wor.s, and Hand and Heart.

The Month.

THE MOTOR CARS.

THE year 1896 will perhaps be famous, like the year 1830, in the history of the means of locomotion in this country. In the earlier year the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was opened, the first of that long series of similar enterprises which has covered every county with a network of iron roads. On Saturday, November 14, of last year, motor cars of various types were to be seen on the road from London to Brighton. Hitherto an Act of Parliament had prevented such machines from being used freely on the public ways, but that was now removed. All the official cars seem to have made the entire journey, and this in at least an hour less than the fastest four-in-hand coach, and with reasonable comfort to the passengers, in spite of the extremely bad weather. Doubtless the mechanism is only in its infancy, but there is every reason to expect rapid and surprising improvement.

Every additional means of communication is a mighty formative power. The railway, the national post, the telegraph, the telephone, have completely changed the character of English life. The country population has crowded into the towns. The facilities afforded to the rich of managing their financial concerns from a distance have led to their separation from the working classes in more ways than mere places of residence. Together with all the advantages gained many such evils have ensued which are not only apparent, but deep and grievous. Yet it does not seem to us altogether visionary to state that here and there indications are not wanting of a new movement back to the country. Lord Winchelsea, who was on the box-seat of one of the motor cars on November 14, has done something to bring this about by the admirable British Supply Association just started, which will bring the ordinary agricultural producer into close, and therefore profitable, contact with the best markets of consumers. It is hopeful to see some of the railway companies at last making this a possibility. Townspeople, also, are beginning to find out what the doctors have so long warned us of—that a third generation born and bred in cities is a sorry sort of humanity. So all along our coasts villa-residences are springing up, and on healthy hill-slopes within nearer reach of the great cities; while people of slightly larger, yet quite moderate, means find it possible to have a small house in both town and country. All this is giving a certain impetus to country producers. It is pleasant, too, to see how the old inns, which have languished into fewness and feebleness since the last stage-coach turned the road-corner never to return, are beginning to brighten with fresh paint and new red blinds at the coming of the cycles. And who shall say that this genesis of the motor car along our ancient roads may not be an additional reign of a new era of rural prosperity on the best because the most natural of lines?