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The present edition is beautifully printed, and most tastefully bound in demy octavo size ; it is to be followed by complete editions or selected portions of the writings of the principal English theologians of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Among volumes already announced, we note Hooker's "Ecclesiastical Polity," Book V. ; Jewel's "Apology"; and Butler's "Analogy and Sermons." We hope most earnestly that the general editor will not preclude from this invaluable series—as it promises to be—the writings of the great English Reformers ; Cranmer, Ridley, Latimer (to name no more) need adequate editions of their chief works, not least at this time.

Canon Overton's notes do not err on the side of fulness ; indeed, both these and the preface are almost too brief and sparse, in our judgment. However, the attempt to familiarize English students with the theological classics of our literature deserves all support, and we cordially wish the new series every success.

Short Notices.

Good Words, 1898. Isbister and Co. Pp. 860. Price 7s. 6d.

THIS most attractive volume again maintains its high place amongst high-class magazines. The illustrations are very delicate and beautiful. The principal stories are by Gilbert Parker and Maarten Maartens. The studies in biography, religion, social matters, art and literature, natural history, science, travel, history, and archæology, give an excellent variety. The whole makes a most interesting and charming gift-book.

Boys' and Girls' Companion, 1898. Church of England Sunday-School Institute. Pp. 192.

A useful contribution to interest and instruct on the Day of Rest. The series of Bible Questions, Bible Reading Union papers, Red Letter Days, the Editor's Letter-Box, and the stories, "Time Tries," "Charlie-Boy," and "Brightric the Sword-bearer," are all good.

The Sunday Magazine, 1898. Isbister and Co. Pp. 856. Price 7s. 6d.

There must be a great satisfaction in sending out so large a collection of admirable literature as is contained in this volume. Mrs. Molesworth is the principal story-teller, and there are many shorter pieces of the same kind. The Talks with Notable People are well and delicately executed, and there are seventeen biographical papers. Religion, Sunday Evenings with the Children, Travel, Literature, Art, Social papers, Poetry, Archæology, and kindred topics, happily fill up a very interesting collection. Dean Farrar's "Great Books" appeared here ; and the account of the Decorations at St. Paul's, and other architectural sketches, are valuable.

The English Reformation and its Consequences (Church Historical Society).
By Professor W. E. COLLINS. S.P.C.K. Pp. 314. 1898.

This temperate and moderate statement of what took place during the period of the English Reformation, and the consequences arising from it, consists of four lectures delivered in Manchester and in Ipswich. The first is on the Reformation itself, the second on Romanism, the third on Puritanism, and the fourth on the result of Puritanism—Sectarianism. There is also a very valuable appendix consisting of thirty-two sections, chiefly giving important documents and quotations illustrative of the Reformation. The writer wisely avoids points at present in dispute as to what exact changes the Reformation did or did not effect in doctrine, as foreign to his purpose, and deals mainly with historical facts and aspects. The obvious continuity of the Church is well drawn out. The statement on p. 20 about non-episcopal bodies might perhaps be re-considered in the light of Professor Sanday's "Conception of Priesthood"; but one of the most important points in Professor Collins' book is the clear and unhesitating way in which he shows that the Church of England has a mind of its own, and is not a compromise.

Authorship of the Epistle to the Hebrews, and other Papers. By Rev. A. WELCH. Oliphant, Anderson and Co. Pp. 214. Price 3s. 6d.

This is an interesting attempt to prove St. Peter to be the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews. It also contains valuable and suggestive papers on Melchizedek; the Spirits in Prison; Baptism and Salvation; Things which make Salvation certain; the Cup of Gethsemane; and other important topics. The writer is a careful student, and has turned his attention to some of the more out-of-the-way subjects of New Testament inquiry. The style is clear, and the tone reverent.

The Cardinal's Page. By JAMES BAKER. Chapman and Hall. Pp. 314.

Mr. Baker is favourably known as a writer of historical romance. This is a capital story of Cardinal Beaufort's crusade against the Hussites in Bohemia. The descriptions of Gloucestershire and Berkeley, where the early chapters are laid, and afterwards of the scene of the crusade, are vivid and natural, and the story is one of sustained interest.

One Hundred Years. C.M.S. Pp. 188.

This is the short history of the C.M.S., and is full of the most valuable information. It will be an excellent guide to all speakers at missionary meetings, and is a wonderful record of noble work.

The Christian Year in its Relation to the Christian Life. By JAMES W. BISHOP. Elliot Stock. Pp. 290.

This is a series of twenty essays on the Christian seasons. The language is simple, the sentences brief, and the tone throughout Scriptural and devotional. The book may be a real help to spiritual life.

The Clerical Visiting List for 1899. Hazell, Watson and Viney. Price 4s.

Besides the usual interesting clerical information, this excellent pocket-book contains places for recording addresses, anniversaries, private

baptisms, Bible-classes, things borrowed, Sick Communion, lists of communicants, and every other kind of ministerial record. It is admirably conceived, and will be found a real help by every hard-working clergyman.

The Church of Christ. By the late Rev. E. A. LITTON. With a Preface by PRINCIPAL CHAVASSE. Nisbet and Co. Pp. 327.

The second edition appears nearly fifty years after the first. It is the most Scriptural and satisfactory answer to the question, What is the Church? and is in reality the teaching of Hooker in a more modern dress. After the reading of this book there need be no further confusion on the conception of the Church.

What Church? By Canon BULLOCK. "Home Words" Office. Pp. 119. Price 1s. 6d.

This is a new and enlarged edition of Canon Bullock's well-known work on the Church of Rome and its claims, with an account of the recent correspondence between the Pope and some of the English clergy.

Beneath the Banner. By F. J. CROSS. Cassell. Pp. 284. Price 1s.

This is a new and enlarged edition of upwards of forty narratives of noble lives and brave deeds. These sketches must be a strong incentive to virtuous effort and action.

Sermons preached in Westminster Abbey. By Canon BASIL WILBERFORCE. Elliot Stock. Pp. 244.

These eloquent and beautiful discourses were taken down in shorthand and published by reiterated request. The preacher has great oratorical gifts hereditary in his family, and takes a broad view of Christian teaching. Whether the reader agrees or not with all the views expressed, he will find much food for thought and reflection.

The World's Third Sunday-School Convention. S.S.U. Pp. 344. Price 3s.

This is a complete record of the largest gathering of Sunday-school experts, and is full of interest and suggestion.

Addresses and Sermons. By BASIL, ARCHBISHOP OF SMYRNA. Translated by the Rev. A. BAKER, R.N. S.P.C.K. Pp. 126.

These compositions will be read with great interest at the present time, as showing what is the authoritative teaching in the pulpit of the Orthodox Eastern Church. The teaching is, of course, not exactly that of the English Church, and the inculcation of confession on p. 99 is much stronger than that in the Prayer-Book, but the tone throughout is one of simple faith and piety.

The Papal Conclaves. By the Rev. A. R. PENNINGTON. S.P.C.K. Pp. 100.

This is a brief and a very interesting study of the way in which the Roman Church obtains its Pope.

John Bunyan. By LINA COOPER. S.S.U. Pp. 144. Price 1s.

The great allegorist may well find a place in The Splendid Lives Series. The writer has given a popular account of him and his work.

Lives of the Saints. Volume XVI. Nimmo. Pp. 411.

This is an appendix volume on the Celtic Church and its saints, including the princes and saints of Brittany; the pedigrees of saintly families; a Celtic and English Calendar of Saints; proverbs of the Welsh, Cornish, Scottish, Irish, Breton, and English people. This volume will, of course, be particularly interesting to English readers.

The Conception of Priesthood in the Early Church and in the Church of England. Professor SANDAY. Longmans. Pp. 128.

Four most interesting sermons on the controversies of the present day, by the learned and temperate Margaret Professor at Oxford. On the unity of the Church he says: "None of the Reformers believed themselves to be breaking the true unity of the Church. There was not one who would not have confessed from his heart that the Church is one. Some of them, it is true, like Zwingli and Calvin, sought this unity in the invisible Church, rather than in the visible. And for the stress which they laid upon the distinction the crying faults of the visible Church must bear a great part of the blame." Speaking of the origin of the ministry, and considering the case of the Quakers, he says: "Any theory as to the nature of the Christian ministry must have its place for phenomena, or paradoxes, if we will, like these; it must not only have a place for them, but it must do justice to them; but I greatly doubt whether justice can be done by singling out a particular principle, and pressing it through in all its logical severity, without constant regard to what lies on the right hand and on the left—i.e., the whole context of its expression in history." On sacerdotalism he writes: "I submit that to sacrifice, and to plead or present a sacrifice ceremonially, are really distinct things; and if those who think with Bishop Lightfoot took their stand upon this distinction, and said that, in a strict use of terms, those who do but plead or present the sacrifice of Another are not entitled to speak or be spoken of as though the act of sacrifice were their own, their position would seem to be inexpugnable." The volume is a model of judicious and conciliatory statement.

MINOR NOTICES.

WE have on our library table a copy of a volume of sermons by Professor J. H. Bernard, D.D., of Dublin, entitled *VIA DOMINI*. These sermons for Christian seasons are good; they are the result of careful thought and abundant knowledge; but there is nothing in them striking enough, we imagine, to justify another addition to our already overloaded sermon literature. Still, despite a certain sacramental tendency in Dr. Bernard's teaching, it is something to find a volume of sermons where the hand of the scholar and thinker, though never obtruded, is so patent. The publishers of the book are *Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton*.

From *Elliot Stock* we have received Archdeacon Madden's *ADDRESSES TO ALL SORTS AND CONDITIONS OF MEN*, practical enough and instinct with a vital Christian teaching, but hardly likely to appeal to readers, though they were doubtless effective enough when preached to the congregations of St. Luke's, Liverpool. The same publishers also send Mr. Henry Tipper's *GROWTH AND INFLUENCE OF MUSIC*, the purpose of which is to consider how that growth and development are related to the moral influence music has through all ages exerted, and the ideal forces of which it is the exponent. The language is too enthusiastic and overstrained, and we miss the sanity of judgment and fulness of knowledge which are such admirable features of such a book, for example, as Parry's "Art of Music." It may, however, prove stimulating to some readers.

Mrs. Blackwell's SCIENTIFIC METHOD IN BIOLOGY—also from *Stock*—is a plea for justice to the lower creation in the matter of physiological research. We are in cordial sympathy with every attempt to delegatize the practice of vivisection, believing that the secrets of nature are not meant to be wrung out through the anguish and blood of hecatombs of innocent beasts. We commend Mrs. E. Blackwell's book as a temperate presentation of the whole case in its moral aspect.

PITHY POINTS, by James Sprunt (*Stoneman*), is a useful little manual for furthering the intelligent study of the Bible.

Yet another volume of sermons!—this time by a Canadian divine, Rev. J. de Soyres (Cambridge: *Deighton Bell*). There is much here which commands our earnest sympathy, and something, too, from which we dissent; but the volume is distinctly above the average. Still, we doubt if it will positively increase the high reputation which Mr. de Soyres has won among scholars by his previous works—his study of Montanism in the second century, for instance.

We are unable to criticise in this place the Rev. F. Potts' FREE RHYTHM PSALTER (*Oxford University Press*); but the method applied seems to us complicated, and not likely to supersede existing methods. The book bears evidence, however, of immense labour and exact knowledge.



The Month.

THE outlook in France is more critical than ever. It would be unsafe to hazard any conjectures as to the probable turn of events, for France has a peculiar way of falsifying all forecasts as to her future; but we cannot hide from ourselves any longer that Revolution is nearer than it has been for more than a century. It may be averted, but at present it is difficult to see how. The bureaucracy of France is corrupt to the core. Possibly a diversion may be attempted by the military factions, which would be more than half disposed to declare war against England, if the opportunity presented itself, in order to take the nation's thoughts off from internal troubles. And we fear that recent events in connection with the Fashoda incident, and more lately with the Newfoundland dispute, have an ugly look. We hope for the best; meanwhile the country is bound to prepare for any eventualities.

The controversy over the present crisis in the Church of England, so far from quieting down, is growing daily more acute. Sir William Harcourt's letters to the *Times* (since reprinted as a pamphlet), by indicating the temper of a considerable section of the clergy, have simply voiced the discontent of the laity, which, though steadily repressed, has been felt for a long time past. Either the Bishops must face the situation in all its gravity, and draw the line between English and Latin Catholicism, as they alone can hope to do, or the knell of Disestablishment will have been rung—which would be the signal for the disruption of the National Church.

We regret to announce the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Waller from the Principalship of St. John's, Highbury, owing to breakdown in health. He has been Principal since the death of Dr. Boulton in 1884.