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retribution been so palpable and so severe. The sins of the fathers have been visited on the children, and the end is not yet."



Literary Notes.

AMONG the many great authors of the present day, few—indeed, if any—have lived so thoroughly in harmony with the high precepts which they have taught as the venerable Count Tolstoy. It is undoubted that his personality is as great, excepting perhaps that of our revered King, as any other person living throughout the whole world, and more particularly in Europe. The active and world-wide interest taken in the coming autumn celebrations to honour him go to prove how very deeply rooted his influence has been upon modern thought. This interest will undoubtedly be increased by the appearance in September of the official "Life of Tolstoy." The author chosen for this important task is Mr. Aylmer Maude, whose prolonged personal acquaintance with Tolstoy and twenty-three years' residence in Russia enable him to thoroughly understand his subject. Mr. Maude's previous short biography of Tolstoy elicited the latter's warm approval. Being English, he endeavours to make Tolstoy's life and teaching as intelligible as he possibly can to English readers. The "Life" will be a straightforward account of the man who stands easily first among the writers of his country and his age.



In the *Periodical*, a little literary journal published by the Oxford University Press, some very interesting statistics are given concerning the Oxford Dictionary. Mr. Falcolner Madan, in his brief and capital account of the Press, which was recently published, says that the Dictionary is the greatest literary work ever produced in Oxford; and the interesting facts bear this statement out. The scheme was started in 1888, and 1912 should see the completion of it! Truly a prodigious undertaking. This colossal publication and the "Dictionary of National Biography" are literal monuments to the enthusiasm and the genius of their founders, the late Mr. G. M. Smith and Sir James Murray. Some interesting calculations have been made as to the contents of the Dictionary up to and including the last published portion. There are over 154,000 main words, the special contributions explained under main words 29,534, and subordinate words 41,317—total being nearly 225,000. The illustrative quotations exceed one million. So far there are 9,431 pages; and it is said that if one were to read such portions as are already published at the moderate rate of one page per day, it would cover a period of twenty-six years. The total number of columns are 28,273, each 10½ inches long, allowing for short columns. These columns of type, the article continues, end on end, 2½ inches wide, would stretch over four miles. The printed matter thus arranged would be fifty-three times as high as the Great Pyramid. This reading matter would go

round the dome of the British Museum reading-room, at the base, some fifty-seven times. It would prove to be seven times the height of Snowdon. It is estimated that there are 34,351,680 words in the Dictionary to date, and 120,133,704 letters.



"The Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics," which Dr. James Hastings edits, should prove of great value to workers in many directions of religious activity. It is a big thing and has been in preparation some six years, and is to be issued by Messrs. T. and T. Clark, of Edinburgh. The first volume will appear next month in time for the Congress of Religions at Oxford. The work has the great advantage of contributions from scholars and students in many parts of the world.



The Rev. W. A. B. Coolidge is one of the chief authorities on the Alps. His new book, entitled "The Alps," has recently been published. The political history of the Alps is lightly told, and the story of their exploration given. The Alpine pastures, glaciers, and great passes are fully described, while separate sections deal with the fauna and flora. A special chapter relates to the interesting subject of Alpine guides, and the beauties of the Alps at different seasons are touched on by the author, who has been privileged to admire them for no fewer than forty-three seasons. There are some twenty illustrations from photographs, seven plans, and one full-page map. The book also contains a bibliography and a full index. It should not only prove an invaluable companion for the historian, the climber, and the tourist, but is full of interest for the more general reader.



Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, the well-known librarian of Nottingham, has been busily engaged upon a work which he expects to shortly have ready. It is only going to be possible to secure the book by subscription. It is to be a companion volume to his excellent "Bypaths of Nottinghamshire History." The title of the new work is "Chapters of Nottinghamshire History," and will consist of a series of papers and documents on the history and antiquities of various parts of the county, particularly the southern part.



Mr. Robert Scott has in his list two interesting new titles. One is the Rev. F. S. Webster's "Round the World in a Hundred Days: a Visit to China's Missions." Mr. W. B. Sloan, of the China Inland Mission, has contributed a sympathetic preface to the volume, which is a most graphic description of the various phases of missionary life in China as seen by an eyewitness. The author, in the company of Mr. Sloan, came into personal touch with more than 1,300 missionaries. From these they gathered a deal of interesting facts, all of which are embodied in this work. The other book is a new and revised edition of the Rev. Harrington C. Lees' work, "The Work of Witness, and the Promise of Power." This little book deals with the significance and importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Christian. The author, in careful and devout language, succeeds in emphasizing the great possibilities in the life of the Christian if the true value and the great power of the Holy Spirit are fully grasped, fully accepted, and fully used. So

many workers seem at loss to receive the fulness of this blessed Gift, and then wonder why the outlook is so often dull, the work so often arid, and the influence so often limited.



The early part of the coming autumn will see the publication of an important work entitled "The Hidden Church of the Holy Graal: its Legends and Symbolism considered in their Affinity with Certain Mysteries of Initiation and other Traces of a Secret Tradition in Christian Times," by Mr. Arthur Edward Waite. This is assuredly a prolix title; at least, it is the longest I have found this season so far. But at the same time it sounds interesting. And as Mr. Waite's value as a writer of this kind of literature is proven, we may expect a really interesting volume.



Mr. Murray is the publisher of a very intimate and personal book which tells the story in simple language of the life of an intelligent working man. It is called the "Reminiscences of a Stonemason." Mr. Turnbull, the author, began life under many disadvantages. But there must have been a little latent culture and refinement somewhere, for his desire to rise from the mediocrity of his mental environment was so great, and moved him to be doing with such tremendous impetus, that he set to work at his own education. In this, in spite of hard work and long hours, he succeeded; and his book will tell how he accomplished it, as well as describing some of the vicissitudes that such a life must necessarily bring with it. There is a survey of some import also of the labour problem, both in this country and in America.



There is a new translation of the Book of Isaiah. Professor Driver has written a preface for it. The reason for this new work, it is said, is the new points of view concerning the prophet, the result of modern research and scholarship. The Rev. G. H. Box has prepared the volume. His aim has been, by means of a new version of the work and of an introduction, to put the reader in possession of what he thinks might be called the problems associated with Isaiah. The work is free from technicalities, and is intended to meet the requirements of the average educated reader.



Mr. G. K. Chesterton, who seems able to write about almost any subject, has a new book coming out entitled "Orthodoxy," which will form a sequel to "Heretics." There is one great feature about Mr. Chesterton: he is fearless, and a defender of honesty. The under-man has his sympathy, and I cannot help thinking that he hates convention, while with the narrow and uncharitable he is entirely out of sympathy. Add to these characteristics a fluent style, and we get the explanation of his success. Moreover, he always knows what he is writing about. He thoroughly prepares his subject. In this new book Mr. Chesterton "has been forced to be egotistical only to be sincere," which is very characteristic.



The Cambridge University Press are publishing the sixth volume of the "Reports of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits,"

dealing with the sociology, magic, and religion of the Eastern Islanders. An introduction has been written by Dr. A. C. Hadden, the editor of the series.



Mr. Bumpus's new book on the "History of English Cathedral Music" has been in preparation for several years. The lives and compositions of the great masters of ecclesiastical music from the time of the Reformation to the close of the last century will be appreciated by many. There are many illustrations.



Father Hugh Benson's next book will not be a novel, but a biography of Thomas à Becket.



A single-volume history of the Jews is being prepared by Dr. M. Epstein, who has been collecting his material for six years.



Notices of Books.

THE REMINISCENCES OF ALBERT PELL. Edited, with an Introduction, by Thomas Mackay. London: *John Murray*. 1908. Price 15s. net.

If asked to describe Albert Pell in a sentence, one could hardly do better than say he was very much what is usually implied when we term a man "a thorough Englishman," and with many of "the defects of the qualities" of that often-quoted person. He was a man of sterling common sense and a considerable belief in himself, an implacable foe to every kind of humbug, with apparently little taste for learning or art or science (except so far as a knowledge of this bore upon the choice of patent manures), with an immense power of work, and an equally strong belief in demanding from other people the exercise of the virtues of self-effort and self-reliance. He was born in 1820 and died in 1907, and his autobiography, of which this volume mainly consists, gives an account of his career from his earliest years down to 1885, when he retired from Parliament. From boyhood he was an extremely keen observer, and all through life he was an equally outspoken critic of men and their manners; and as it was his lot during an unusually long and active life to fill many parts—a pupil of Arnold's at Rugby, a student (?) at Cambridge, a landowner in East London, Cambridgeshire, and Northamptonshire, a churchwarden, Poor Law Guardian, magistrate, a Member of Parliament, and of several Royal Commissions—his "reminiscences" are extremely interesting reading. He was as much at home in the slums of the East End as he was among the farming folk of the Fens or on his Northamptonshire estates, and wherever he was he always had on hand some good work for the benefit of the poor, but in which he always demanded their co-operation. Those who would learn how to help the poor wisely—witness what he accomplished in the totally different unions of Brixworth and St. George's-in-the-East, in both of which he was for many years a Guardian—will find many a valuable hint in this book. One of Albert Pell's *dicta*—and he gave good reason for his faith