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Literary Notes.

OCTOBER sees the publishing world in full swing. Books appear in increasing numbers each day, as may be gathered from the various lists of "Books Received" in the dailies, weeklies, and monthlies. Activity in publication begins early in September, although publishers are more prone than formerly to issue books even during the summer months. And it is certainly the case that when there are not many volumes being issued a new book gets better attention; I mean it obtains a longer notice than it would in the busy season. As a rule, it is a work of fiction that is usually issued at such times. As September passes there is a rush on the part of those concerned to get their novels on the market; for more often than not, in spite of the guarantee of a well-known author's name, the last, or the late comer, is not likely to be met by so large an order as the first. Moreover, the bookseller begins his ordering with a light heart; but by the time he reaches the one hundredth traveller, and the thousandth book, his sense of what is good may, shall I say? have been dulled a little. But there is one axiom which must always be remembered by a prospective author: a good book is wanted, and will find its way and fulfil its destiny.



It may not be amiss to draw attention to a new and attractive annual, soon to be published. I hope every reader of these notes will buy a copy. It is to be called by a peculiarly appropriate title, "The Odd Volume." The title is a good one, and that its contents will indeed be excellent is vouched for by the fact that Mr. B. W. Matz, the indefatigable editor of the *Dickensian*, is editing it. Certainly he has worked hard in the interests of the volume—the profits from the sale of which, by the way, are to be devoted to the National Book Trade Provident Society. He has received aid from a number of authors and artists whose names should assure the success of the volume. It is impossible here to set out all the names, but they make a weighty and enticing list. The price will be a shilling net.



When Messrs. Constable launched their series of "Religions: Ancient and Modern," some four years ago, they promised to provide a companion series of volumes on the philosophies of the world. The wide acceptance of the first series has proved to the publishers that a very large body of readers were ready to consider what the most recent research had to say on the beliefs and aspirations of their fellow-men. Further, the whole scheme of the "Religions" just gave the busy man the headlines, so to speak, of the various systems, and guided those who wished to know more in the selection of lengthier treatises. The new little library will be known as "Philosophies: Ancient and Modern"; the volumes will be published at 1s. net; and the first issues will appear this month. Among the early volumes will be "Plato," "Hobbes," "Locke," "Stoicism," "Early Greek Philosophy," "Comte," "Mill," and "Psychology of Religion." The writers are scholars who are specialists in the subjects assigned to them.

The Rev. W. H. Hutton is editing a new series of historical biographies called "Makers of National History." The first few volumes will be "Cardinal Beaufort," by the Rev. L. B. Radford; "Archbishop Parker," by Mr. W. M. Kennedy; "Castlereagh," by Mr. Hassall; and "Atterbury: Bishop of Rochester," by Canon Beeching. The series is to be issued by Messrs. Pitman and Son, who are also the publishers of "English Choir Screens and Rood Lofts," a new and elaborate work in two profusely illustrated volumes, by F. Bligh Pond and Dom Bede Camm. Canon Beeching, I notice, is also publishing, through Mr. Murray, a book on "The Bible Doctrine of the Sacraments."



One of the most interesting of the various autumn volumes of reminiscences will be Lady Ritchie's "Blackstick Papers." They have been collected together from the *Cornhill* and the *New Quarterly*. Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co. are the publishers. They will also issue Mr. A. C. Benson's new book, "At Large," a series of essays, most of which have already appeared also in the *Cornhill*. The same firm will issue "Percy, Prelate, and Poet," by Alice C. C. Ganssen, to which Sir George Douglas has contributed a preface.



Mr. Edward Arnold's list includes a number of fascinating volumes, among which may be noted Lady Randolph Churchill's "Reminiscences." Another book in his list which will probably appeal more intimately to the readers of these notes is the Bishop of Uganda's "Eighteen Years in Uganda." Dr. Tucker has himself illustrated these two graphic volumes describing his arduous work for God in the mission-field. Then there is Mr. Thomas C. Holmes's book of impressions compiled from his many years' experience as police-court missionary. It is to be called "Known to the Police: Memories of a Police-Court Missionary;" while another book which Mr. Arnold will issue is "A Parson in the Australian Bush," by the Rev. Charles H. S. Matthews, better known in the "back-blocks" of New South Wales as Brother Charles. This will likewise be well illustrated.



There is in rapid preparation the Latin text, with a translation, an historical introduction, indices, and copious notes, of the "Epistolæ Obscurorum Virorum (1515-1517)." The notes, etc., have been compiled by Mr. F. G. Stokes. No English translation, or edition with English annotations, of this famous work has previously appeared. The volume will form a welcome companion to the noble edition of the Epistles of Erasmus, by Mr. F. M. Nichols, which was published a few years ago by Messrs. Longmans.



What should prove a very interesting volume will be "A Memoir of Sir Wilfrid Lawson," by Mr. G. W. E. Russell. Sir Wilfrid was a reformer of the best kind. There were those who looked upon him as narrow and bigoted. But he was neither. He was one of the most broad-minded and

tolerant of men, and his keen sense of humour made his speeches in Parliament as much a delight to his opponents as they were to his friends.



Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton have a long list of interesting books coming out this autumn, and it contains many items which will appeal to the readers of the *CHURCHMAN*. I can only mention a few in this month's issue. They are the publishers of Mr. Churchill's book dealing with his tour in South Africa: it is called "My African Journey." This volume needs no comment, as most people know that he is as forcible and intrepid a writer as he is a speaker. They have also issued Dr. Newman Smyth's "Passing Protestantism and Coming Catholicism," which received some advertisement at the hands of speakers at the Pan-Anglican Congress. Dr. Smyth divides his work into three sections: Coming Catholicism, Mediating Modernism, and Passing Protestantism. Other books are "Salvation and the Old Theology," by the Rev. Dr. Len G. Broughton, who has been acting as *locum tenens* for Dr. Campbell Morgan at Westminster Chapel; "The Panmure Papers," which will include a large number of hitherto unpublished letters of the late Queen Victoria, and is edited by Sir George Douglas and Sir George Dalhousie Ramsey; an interesting travel book, "To the Top of the Continent," by Dr. F. A. Cook; "Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893," by Alexander V. G. Allen; "Old London Churches," illustrated by twenty-five plates in colour by Arthur Garrett, the text by Canon Benham, and an introduction by the Bishop of London; "Egypt and its Monuments," by Robert Hichens, who has written a large number of novels, and knows as much about the country as most people; two volumes by Mr. Shorter, entitled "The Brontës," and "Life and Letters"; Dr. Nicoll's "Life of Ian Maclaren," about which I have previously written; the Stowe Lectures for 1907-1908—"The Reformation in Scotland: its Causes, Characteristics, and Consequences," by Dr. Hay Fleming; a pleasant book called "Out of Doors in the Holy Land," by Henry Van Dyke, D.D.; and "The World I Live In," by the blind author Helen Keller, who, as most readers of these notes will know, is not only blind, but deaf and dumb. But to absorb fully the attractiveness and interest of Messrs. Hodder's publications their announcement lists must be studied in detail.



That charming writer of books for children and grown-ups, Mr. E. V. Lucas, has two or three in the lists this autumn. One is called "Over Bemertons," and the other is a delightful book for the young ones entitled "Anne's Terrible Good Nature and Other Stories." There will be twelve pictures by A. H. Buckland, and a cover design and end-papers by F. D. Bedford.



Messrs. A. and C. Black are about to commence the publication of a new series of illustrated volumes dealing with ancient civilizations, the first three volumes being "The Story of the Pharaohs," a short history of Ancient Egypt, by Rev. James Baikie; "Buried Herculaneum," by Ethel Ross

Barker; and "Egypt in Asia," a plain account of Pre-Biblical Syria and Palestine, by George Cormack.



Under the title of "Ministers and Stewards," Sir Oliver Lodge has collected together the various articles which he has been contributing to the *Hibbert Journal* from time to time. The subjects have been highly controversial, but he has dealt with them admirably. The sub-title reads: "or Preparations for the Coming of the Kingdom."



Dr. J. H. Breasted's "Historical Series for Bible Students" is completed with "A History of the Ancient Egyptians." For several years Professor Breasted has been carefully copying all the important inscriptions found in the museums of Europe and Egypt as a basis for his volume.



Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson, and Ferrier are the publishers of Rev. Dr. Whyte's "Bunyan Characters." It treats chiefly of Bunyan himself as seen in his "Grace Abounding."



Among the forthcoming publications of the Oxford University Press may be noted "A Survey of London," by John Stow, to which Mr. U. Kingsford contributes an introduction; an important work on "Folk-Memory: or the Continuity of British Archæology," by Mr. Walter Johnson; Dom John Chapman's "Notes on the Early History of the Vulgate Gospels"; and "The Renaissance of the Reformation," by E. M. Tanner.



"The Romance of Modern Geology" should prove an interesting work in the hands of Mr. E. S. Grew, who not only knows his subject, but has a very facile pen. The publishers are Messrs. Seeley and Co. The same firm are issuing "Heroines of Missionary Adventure," by Canon Dawson. This volume is made up of true stories of self-sacrificing women who have devoted their lives to spreading the Gospel in all parts of heathendom.



Messrs. Macmillan and Co. have a particularly imposing list for this autumn, in which I may note the following important items: Dr. James Gairdner's "Lollardy and the Reformation in England"; Mr. Warde Fowler's "Social Life at Rome in the Age of Cicero"; Professor Bury's "The Ancient Greek Historians"; Dr. A. C. Bradley's "Oxford Lectures on Poetry"; a biographical memoir of "William Haig Brown, sometime Master of Charterhouse"; Mr. Austin Dobson's "De Libris: Prose and Verse"; Lord Avebury's "Peace and Happiness"; Miss Margaret Benson's "The Venture of Rational Faith"; the Bishop of Southwark's "University Sermons"; Rev. W. Garrett Horder's "The Other World"; and Dr. Paul Dahlke's "Buddhist Essays." These are but a few of the delectable items in the publishers' new list.

