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English race. There is no article hastily written by any modern journalist, there is no poem composed with greater or less ability by any modern poet, there is scarcely any interchange of ordinary speech between man and man, which does not consciously or unconsciously find itself influenced by and committed to the phraseology of the English Bible." Yet even stronger is the testimony of Mr. H. W. Hoare, in "The Evolution of the English Bible." "It interweaves itself with the momentous crisis of the nation's fortune. . . . It has quickened, moulded, and sustained what is best and strongest in our individual and corporate life . . . it has exercised upon English character an influence, moral, social and political, which it is not possible to measure." If a great statesman can say that about half a dozen lines of Burns' had had more influence upon political thought and action than all the millions of leading articles ever written, what shall be said of the Bible? What could be said by a competent man would be particularly interesting and particularly valuable as well as powerful argument for its wider circulation. Moreover, if the destiny of England is at all related to the cry Imperial, the Bible must, of necessity, have for this country a very important function yet to discharge.



Literary Notes.

AMONG the new forthcoming books of Messrs. Longmans, Green and Co. is an historical volume entitled "Explorers in the New World: Before and After Columbus, and the Story of the Jesuit Missions of Paraguay." The author is Marion McMurrugh Mulhall, among whose previous books are "Between the Amazon and Andes," and "The Celtic Sources of the Divina Commedia." To this new book will be added some very interesting pre-Columbian maps. Another attractive item in the Longmans' announcement is "The Gilds of China, with an Account of the Gild Merchant, or Co-Hong of Canton," by Hosea Ballou Morse, some time Inspector-General of Customs, China. "Studies in Christian Ethics" is also nearly ready. This volume has been prepared by Canon Ottley, of Christ Church, and Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology in the University of Oxford. I am also glad to call attention to the new volume in "The Anglican Church Handbooks," by the Rev. W. St. Clair Tisdall, D.D. The subject is "Comparative Religion." There are two other readable books on the same firm's list. One is "A History of Malta during the Period of the French and British Occupation, 1798-1802." This book was written by the late William Hardman, of Valetta, and edited by Dr. Holland Rose, who has added a number of important notes, as well as an introduction. Included in the volume is an epitome of subsequent events, while there are several reproductions of historic documents. The other volume is a work entitled "Historical Letters and Memoirs of Catholics, 1625-1793," by the Rev. W. Forbes Leith.



We shall shortly have an opportunity of reading the history of Liverpool Nonconformity—at least, the early portion of it. It is to come from the Booksellers Company of that city. The volume will present the history particularly of the two oldest Nonconformist congregations in Liverpool—those of Ullet Road and Hope Street Churches. Mr. H. D. Roberts is the author, and one of the personalities which stands out boldly in his book is, of course, James Martineau. The account goes back many years, and some of Martineau's "class talks" will be included in the work. The earliest specimen given in Mr. Roberts's book is dated 1843. A special chapter is devoted to James Martineau entirely, and a detailed study is made of his work as a learner and teacher in theology, psychology, and philosophy. The work cannot help being a deeply interesting one.



Six new volumes are being added to the Cambridge County Geographies. Although these capital handbooks are primarily intended for schools, they make, at the same time, a justifiable appeal to the general reader, so popular is the strain in which they have been penned. These six additions to the series are: "Hertfordshire," by R. Lydekker; "Wiltshire," by A. G. Bradley; "Somersetshire," by F. A. Knight; and "Gloucestershire," "Cornwall," and "Westmorland." There is no excuse for anyone to say that they know nothing about the history of their county when such a useful and cheap series as this exists. They are well illustrated with maps, diagrams, and pictures, and undoubtedly make a very attractive series of books.



There is no study of greater importance to the geologist than the science of petrology, which has in recent years made many additions to our knowledge of the structure and development of the earth. Mr. Alfred Harker, who has written a book entitled "The Natural History of Igneous Rocks," is well known for his knowledge of the subject. This is published by Messrs. Methuen. The importance of the present book lies in the association which he traces between igneous rocks and the evolution of the areas in which they occur. Then Messrs. Methuen and Co. have also in their new list Mr. F. G. Brabant's little guide entitled "Rambles in Sussex." These excursions include the whole county. Among the thirty illustrations are reproductions of six of Turner's Sussex views recently sold at Christie's. Another of the additions being made to the "Little Guides" is one on "Monmouthshire," by Dr. G. W. Wade and the Rev. J. H. Wade. These charming little books are got up in a very convenient form, and are always found to be very accurate. The same publishers are also issuing Part II. of Miss Mary E. Shipley's "English Church History for Children." This work has been written for children, with a view to making the study one of more interest than a mere textbook can do, or, at least, usually does. The volume brings the history from the Norman Conquest to the eve of the Reformation, a period naturally more complicated than that of Part I., which dealt with the early history of the English Church, but very full of incident. There are several illustrations and a map.



"Open-Air Nature Books" has a very pleasing sound. But such is the title of a new series of books which will attempt to render the study of natural history attractive and interesting to the young mind. Messrs. Dent are inaugurating the series at a popular price, and the first volume was entitled "The Hedge I Know." There was certainly a wealth of good material in so pleasant a title, and, as was a natural sequence, it met with success. The two following books are to come out at once, or in the near future: "The Pond I Know," and "The Wood I Know." These volumes are written in a clear and readable style, so that the little people may grasp the writer's points, and their usefulness and charm are decidedly increased by the inclusion of a number of rich coloured pictures.



A distinct service has been rendered to present-day readers in Messrs. Constable's new series, "Philosophies, Ancient and Modern." Each volume, in compact form and concise manner, gives an outline of the master-thinkers who in past and present times have moulded the thoughts of men. The writers are those who have made lifelong study of their subjects, and are thus enabled to convey the results of their studies in simple language. Two volumes are in active preparation. Schopenhauer has been entrusted to Mr. T. W. Whitaker, and Father Tyrrell will deal with Bergson, a French thinker of some reputation.



Mr. Stock has recently issued, or is about to issue, several books of much interest to readers of *THE CHURCHMAN*. There is Canon Walpole's "The Kingdom of Heaven," which is to be uniform with the writer's earlier works; "Vital Religion," and "Personality and Power"; a cheap edition of the Rev. H. J. Dixon's book "Have Miracles Happened?" which met with so good a reception last year; "The Dawn of Christianity in Continental Europe, and The Planting of the Order of Knights of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England," by Miss S. F. A. Caulfeild, who is a "Lady of Grace" of the Order; "The History of Pembrokeshire," by the Rev. James Phillips; a little collection of stories by the Rev. Zachary Mather, descriptive of Welsh life and character, entitled "Tales from the Welsh Hills"; a new work by M. A. Faber, "The Life Indeed: Jesus Christ the Saviour of the World"; and a work which has for its title "Growls from Uganda." The author of this last chooses to remain anonymous. He writes from his grass-hut in Uganda, reviews and records his recollections of commercial life in England, and also devotes a chapter to an interesting account of a search for gold in British Columbia.



The Bishop of California is publishing, through Mr. Fisher Unwin, his lectures to divinity students at the Pacific Theological School. The title of the book is "Apt and Meet." It is a timely series of talks appealing to the devout, the heroic, and the practical. Mr. Unwin also recently issued two new American theological works, "Christ and the Eastern Soul: The Witness of the Oriental Consciousness to Jesus Christ," by Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, late President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York;

and "The Teaching of Jesus about the Future," by Dr. Henry Burton Sharman, Instructor of New Testament History and Literature in the University of Chicago.



It is certainly good news to learn that the National Church League, in conjunction with Messrs. Longmans, are issuing a new edition, at the very cheap price of 2s. 6d. net, of the Rev. G. R. Balleine's "A History of the Evangelical Party in the Church of England." This, as we pointed out in our review, is a very valuable and useful book. It begins with the Evangelical Revival of the eighteenth century, and carries the story of Evangelicalism to the present day. Those who are seeking to extend the principles of Evangelical Churchmanship cannot afford to be without Mr. Balleine's volume.



Notices of Books.

LUKE THE PHYSICIAN: And other Studies in the History of Religion. By W. M. Ramsay, Kt., Hon. D.C.L. London: *Hodder and Stoughton*. Price 12s.

Professor Ramsay's work on matters connected with the New Testament is of such importance to every student that one has but to chronicle the appearance of a fresh book from his pen to insure it an attentive hearing. This is all the more noteworthy, as the standpoint of the author in respect to New Testament criticism is conservative. His conservatism, unlike the conservatism of men who are guided merely by prejudice or habit, is based on a profound knowledge of ancient literature and ancient history. More than that: this knowledge has not been acquired only in the silence of the study or of a great library; for Ramsay has travelled all over Asia Minor; has seen the places that to most of us are but names; has followed the very footsteps of St. Paul; and so has gained—what the mere student can never gain—a sense of local colour; has imbibed—what the student can but imperfectly imbibe—the spirit of each place. Hence, in all Ramsay's work we get a feeling of first-hand knowledge, which most books sadly lack.

The present book does not differ materially, in method or in manner, from the author's previous volumes. It is made up of a number of papers, of which the longest and—we think—by far the most important to students of the New Testament is that which gives a title to the book as a whole. Sir William Ramsay has rarely done a better or a more necessary piece of work than in this paper, "Luke the Physician." Harnack has told us that all the faults made in New Testament criticism are gathered to a focus in the criticism of the *Acts*. That, perhaps, is hardly overstating the case; and Ramsay deserves the thanks of all students for re-setting the criticism of the *Acts* on the basis of common-sense. For, as he most truly says, "When a real piece of living literature has to be examined, it is a false method to treat it as a corpse and cut it to pieces; only a mess can result."