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“directed silence”—all this was so welcome at Edinburgh that it is desired again. It bears directly upon the prospect of spiritual results.

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Next month we propose to consider certain matters which emerged at Edinburgh concerning Educational Missions, and also to discuss the difference in the Home Appeal for Missions between old paths and old ruts.

G.



Literary Notes.

MESSRS. BLACKIE AND SONS have sent us a number of their well printed, beautifully bound and interestingly written books for young people. “The Red Knight,” by G. I. Whitham (price 2s. 6d.), is a story of the days of Edward III. and the Black Prince, full of exciting interest and mysterious happenings. “A New England Maid,” by Eliza F. Pollard (price 3s. 6d.), is the story of a Puritan maid in the days of the War of Independence. Her brother is the Governor of Philadelphia, but Hannah is the real heroine of the story, and her bravery saves her brother. Miss Pollard retains the interest of her readers to the end. “A Middy of the Slave Squadron,” by Harry Collingwood (price 3s. 6d.), is a thrilling story of the slave trade. Dick the Middy, after many exciting adventures, falls into the hands of the slave traders, but soon escapes, and his escape leads to the capture of the slavers. The story will appeal to old and young alike. “Two Dover Boys,” by Gertrude Hollis (price 2s. 6d.), is the story of two boys who fell into the hands of Corsairs, passed through many adventures, and finally escaped. “Maori and Settler,” by G. A. Henty (price 3s. 6d.), is a new edition of one of Mr. Henty’s well-known books, telling the story of a family who emigrated to New Zealand, and after many vicissitudes settled happily in the land of their adoption. “Ronald Bannerman’s Boyhood,” by George Macdonald (price 3s. 6d.), is a beautifully illustrated edition of Mr. Macdonald’s well-known book. “The Great Aeroplane,” by Captain F. S. Brereton (price 6s.), carries the new art of flying into the region of the romantic. An Englishman invents the perfect aeroplane, but finds it difficult to protect it from the malicious. He gathers a curiously assorted crew, proceeds on a long and exciting voyage, and finally brings the aeroplane back to England, where it still lies, so the story tells, ready for use in England’s hour of need. We can cordially commend all these books, and we are grateful to the publishers for maintaining in these difficult days their reputation for clean, wholesome literature, fit to be placed in any hands, and exciting enough for the most exigent, whether schoolboy or maiden, or children of older growth.



Messrs. Nelson still continue to issue volume after volume in their two series. In the Sevenpenny Library "The Invisible Man," by Mr. H. G. Wells, "The Call from the Past," by Leonard Merrick, and "Mr. Clutterbuck's Election," provide exciting and light, not to say somewhat gruesome, literature. In the Shilling Series, Mr. Booker T. Washington, the American coloured gentleman, of high intellectual distinction, tells the story of his life in "Up from Slavery."



A new volume of sermons by Canon J. M. Wilson, to be published immediately by Messrs. Macmillan and Co., deals with "The Origins and Aims of the Four Gospels." The book contains two short courses of sermons which were delivered this year in Worcester Cathedral. They do not attempt to describe the method, or to analyze the results of textual criticism, but aim rather at giving the effect of accepting such general results of the critics' way of looking at the Gospels. The sermons were attended by the senior boys of the King's Cathedral School, and the Canon had this section of his congregation specially in mind when planning and writing them.



"The Ascended Christ," by Professor H. B. Swete, will be published by the same firm shortly. The book is a sequel to an earlier work by the same author on the "Appearances of our Lord after the Passion," and, like that volume, it has grown out of a course of lectures given to candidates for Holy Orders. Dr. Swete hopes the book will be of service to the younger clergy, and to Church workers among the laity.



"Douglas Jerrold and *Punch*," by Mr. Walter Jerrold, has just been published by the same house. The book is of considerable literary interest, for Douglas Jerrold was one of the most constant and voluminous of the original band of contributors to *Punch*, and was the first writer whose personality was popularly identified with the paper; he was also the main political force—"Prime Minister in *Punch's* Cabinet"—in those early years when the Fleet Street jester was wont to hit out with the vigorous indignation of youth. "Mrs. Caudle's Curtain Lectures"—one of the most successful works of nineteenth-century humour—and "The Story of a Feather"—Douglas Jerrold's most popular novel—appeared serially in *Punch*, but he was the author of much else in the journal scarcely less notable. In this new book Mr. Walter Jerrold tells the story of his grandfather's connection with *Punch* and the *Punch* men, prefacing it with some account of Douglas Jerrold's earlier *Punch in London*—short-lived prototype of the *Punch*—giving some particulars of his hitherto unidentified contributions, and reproducing some striking fresh material, including "Our Honeymoon," a work full of the humour and observation which made the fortunes of Mrs. Caudle.



We have received from the S.P.C.K. the "Churchman's Almanac" for 1911 in its various forms, adapted for the pocket, the desk, the vestry, and

the Church. The different almanacs are as usual excellently got up, and will continue to meet the need which they have supplied for so many years.



The Rev. G. H. Morrison contributes a preface to a new work by the Rev. W. D. M. Sutherland entitled, "Ideals for the Christian Life." In a number of brisk and stimulating essays, the author sets out ideals which cannot fail to stand the reader in good stead in the making of all that is noble in character and personality. Mr. Robert Scott announces the volume for immediate publication.



The Books of Chronicles.¹

By HAROLD M. WIENER, M.A., LL.B.,

Of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law.

FIFTEEN years have now elapsed since the appearance of the first instalment of the International Critical Commentary. Three books of the Old Testament have been treated by British writers, and eight by American commentators. If the present rate of progress is maintained, those of us who live till 1945 may hope to see the completion of the British portion of this leisurely undertaking, for seven more works on the Old Testament are assigned in the advertisement to English and Scotch editors.

It is a natural result of this method of publication that a new book in this commentary should appear to those who are abreast of the times as something like an anachronism. The volume on Chronicles has been delayed by causes which every reader must regret, for its principal author, Professor Curtis, has suffered from illness followed by partial loss of vision, and it is probably for this reason that the book seems to represent more truly what was believed in certain circles some years back, than what is generally believed to-day. Or perhaps it might be more accurate to say that the beliefs it mirrors were and are those of certain limited circles, but in the interval that has elapsed since Professor Curtis began his task the views of other circles have been powerfully reinforced by new arguments and facts, and have found fresh and influential support, with the result that current opinion on the Old Testament is taking a direction never contemplated by our author. I do not know that I can illustrate this better than by quoting a few sentences from the volume, and then placing in juxtaposition with them extracts from a recent utterance by a Harvard critic who has also contributed a volume to this series, Professor C. H. Toy. I draw especial attention to the great difference of *tone* between the two writers, which

¹ "The International Critical Commentary": "A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Books of Chronicles." By Edward Lewis Curtis, Ph.D., D.D., Professor of the Hebrew Language and Literature in the Divinity School of Yale University; and Albert Alonzo Madsen, Ph.D., Pastor of the First Congregational Church at Newburgh, N.Y. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark. 1910.