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Short Notices.

Medieval Missions. By THOMAS SMITH, D.D. Edinburgh. Pp. 280.
T. & T. Clark. 1880.

The Duff Missionary Lectureship was instituted under the provisions of the will of the late Dr. Alexander Duff; a course of lectures "on some department of Foreign Missions or cognate subjects" is to be delivered once in every four years in Edinburgh or Glasgow. Dr. Thomas Smith, associated with Dr. Duff in mission-work in Bengal, and afterwards in the home management of the Missions of the Free Church of Scotland, during a long period—a friend, in fact, of forty years' standing—was appointed as the first holder of the lectureship; and although we confess we are somewhat surprised at his choice of a subject, the Biographical Lectures before us form an interesting addition, we think, with a value of their own, to our store of missionary volumes. The second lecture, "On the Early British Church," is very readable, and has many good points; but we cannot agree with the esteemed lecturer that St. Patrick was "not an episcopalian!" In the third lecture, it may be here mentioned, after giving the statement of Gallus, "I cannot be your bishop; I am a foreigner"—a statement, surely, plain enough—Dr. Smith remarks with an amusing *naïveté*: "It has occurred to me, as a very probable thing, that the reason why Gallus declined to be consecrated was, that being a presbyter, he held that he was already a bishop!"

Critical and Exegetical Handbook of the Gospels of Mark and Luke. By HEINRICH A. W. MEYER, Th.D. Two vols. T. & T. Clark. 1880.

To those who know how to use Meyer's Commentary it is of singular value; in some respects, indeed, it stands alone. The volumes before us, the thirteenth and fourteenth volumes of the series—a notice of which should have appeared in an earlier number—are translated from the fifth edition, the last issued during Dr. Meyer's lifetime, by special arrangement with the German publishers. The learned editor, Dr. Dickson, Professor of Divinity in the University of Glasgow, points out that the sixth edition, "worked up anew" by Dr. B. Weiss, is so changed in form of substance that it can no longer be regarded as the proper work of Meyer. Dr. Dickson has deemed it his duty to present to the English reader the last form of the book as it came from the great master of exegesis. What we have here, in fact, is Meyer, faithfully rendered, and nothing but Meyer.

As regards St. Mark xvi. 9-20, Meyer's remarks may be compared with Dean Burgon's. The Dean's work remains, in our judgment, unanswered.

The Cup of Consolation. Bright Messages for the Sick-bed, from the two great volumes of Nature and Revelation. By AN INVALID. With an Introduction by J. R. MACDUFF, D.D. Pp. 290. Hodder & Stoughton. 1880.

An interesting book. The extracts, as a rule, are well chosen, and well set: prose and verse.

Modern Anglican Theology. Chapters on Coleridge, Hare, Maurice, Kingsley, and Jowett. Third edition revised; to which is prefixed a Memoir of Canon Kingsley, with Personal Reminiscences. By the Rev. JAMES H. RIGG, D.D. Pp. 560. London: Wesleyan Conference Office. 1880.

Dr. Rigg is well known as one of the most eminent among the honoured leaders of the Wesleyans; an able, vigorous, and independent writer, an

administrator of no mean order. The chapters on "Modern Anglican Theology," in the interesting book before us, were written and published some five-and-twenty years ago. The first two editions sold quickly, and the book has now for many years been out of print. Dr. Rigg waited and waited, as many authors do, in the hope of getting leisure to recast the book so as to keep it abreast of the times; but he has not been able to do this; and he therefore sends out his work as a third edition, almost untouched. He has added, however, a very interesting Memoir of Charles Kingsley, originally published in the *Wesleyan Magazine*. The errors of Maurice are brought out clearly and faithfully; and Dr. Rigg shows the changes through which Kingsley passed, tending in an evangelical direction, or at all events becoming much more conservative. The chapter on Professor Jowett's "semi-panteism," and the chapter on the unscriptural Maurician theories of the Atonement are as fresh to-day as when they were written.

Messianic Prophecies. Lectures by FRANZ DELITZSCH, Professor of Theology, Leipzig. Pp. 120. T. & T. Clark. 1880.

For theological students a very helpful volume; brief, but full and firm. The Lectures are translated by Professor Curtiss.

Modern Scepticism. Christian Evidence Lectures in 1871. Hodder & Stoughton. Christian Evidence Society, 13, Buckingham Street. 1880.

A new and cheap edition of the Christian Evidence Lectures, we are glad to know, is now to be published; the volume before us, first of the series, contains Lectures by the Archbishop of York, Dr. Rigg, Dr. Leathes, Dean Payne Smith, and other eminent men.

Sketches of the Women of Christendom. Dedicated to the Women of India. By the Author of "Chronicles of the Schönberg-Cotta Family." Pp. 360. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. 1880.

Another volume of the "Home Library." The "Sketches," a prefatory note tells us, were originally undertaken at the request of a member of the Cambridge University Mission at Delhi, with the hope of giving our fellow-subjects, the women of India, some conception of what Christianity has done for the women of Christendom. One hundred and eight pages are occupied with women of the Gospels and of the Acts. Blandina, Monica, the Abbess Hilda, Joan of Arc, the Mother of the Wesleys, Catherine Tait and others, together with Hannah More and Mrs. Fry, complete the list.

Some Heroes of Travel. Chapters from the History of Geographical Discovery and Enterprise. By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. Pp. 400. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. 1880.

The "heroes" of this attractive book are Marco Polo, G. F. Ruxton (Rocky Mountains), Dr. Barth, Alexina Tinné (Soudan), MacGahan (Campaigning on the Oxus), Major Burnaby, Sir Samuel Baker, and others. The narratives of these great travellers are well summarized, and the book, as a whole, is remarkably interesting, with a good deal of useful information.

Wrecked Lives; or, Men who have Failed. By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. First Series. Second Series. Published under the Direction of the Committee of General Literature and Education. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. 1880.

In the preface to the first volume appears an explanation of the title-page and stand-point of this interesting work. The author says:—

"Failure" from the Christian moralist's point of view, and failure from the point of view of the man of the world, is a widely different thing. The sole conception of success possible to the mind of the latter is a coarse and material one; power, rank, influence, wealth, and social favour—these are his "prizes," and he who gains them he pronounces "successful." He rejects with scorn the idea that a man can succeed in his career of ambition, can attain to the enjoyment of a large measure of prosperity, can raise himself from a low to a high position, and yet can be said to have "failed." But the thoughtful observer knows how frequently the seeming triumph conceals a severe defeat, how often a Ligny involves a Waterloo, and that a man is oftenmost in need of pity when the world is lavishing upon him its loudest applause. The true success is that which in its far consequences reaches beyond the limit of our "little lives;" the true failure is that of a man whose success is based wholly upon material conditions. If a man has been endowed with rare gifts of intellect and imagination, of which he makes an imperfect use, or which he recklessly throws away, or willfully misuses, that man's life is surely a failure. If he be provided with opportunities of self culture, or of promoting the cause of truth and freedom, and neglect to avail himself of them—if he live for himself alone—he must be included among the Men who have Failed.

The Lives in the first volume are Rienzi, the last of the Roman Tribunes, Wolsey, Dean Swift, Savage, and Chatterton; in the second volume are Robespierre, Burns, Haydon, Heine, E. A. Poe, and Kosciusko. The insertion of the life of Kosciusko in such a work as the present the author seems to admit is a mistake. Kosciusko had no cause to reproach himself for his failure. We heartily recommend these well-written and very suggestive volumes.

Earl Hubert's Daughter; or, The Polishing of the Pearl. A Tale of the Thirteenth Century. By EMILY SARAH HOLT, Author of "Mistress Margery," "Sister Rose," &c. London: John F. Shaw & Co., 48, Paternoster Row.

In the preface to this attractive and very interesting book appear the following remarks:—

The thirteenth century was one of rapid and terrible incidents, tumultuous politics, and in religious matters of low and degrading superstition. Transubstantiation had just been formally adopted as a dogma of the Church, accompanied, as it always is, by sacramental confession, and quickly followed by the elevation of the host and the invention of the pix. Various orders of monks were flocking into England. The Pope was doing his best, aided by the Roman clergy—and, to their shame be it said, by some of the English—to fix his iron yoke on the neck of the Church of England. The doctrine of human merit was at its highest pitch; the doctrine of justification by faith was absolutely *unknown*. Amid this thick darkness a very small number of true-hearted Heaven-taught men bore aloft the torch of truth—that is, of so much truth as they knew. One of such men as these I have sketched in Father Bruno. And if, possibly, the portrait is slightly overcharged for the date—if he be represented as a shade more than at that time he could well be—I trust that the anachronism will be pardoned for the sake of those eternal verities which otherwise have been left wanting.

The character of Father Bruno is admirably drawn. The story is well told from beginning to end, and is full of information. We heartily recommend it.

The Hasselaers. A Tale of Courage and Endurance. By E. E. COOPER. S.P.C.K.

A tale, well told, of the siege of Haarlem, 1572. It took the Spaniards seven months, with the loss of twelve thousand men, to reduce the weakest city in Holland. This "tale of courage and endurance" is a pleasing little gift-book.

Counsel and Might. Prayers and Meditations, adapted from Sermons by the Very Rev. C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D., Dean of Llandaff, Master of the Temple. Compiled by R. N. C. Second edition. Nisbet & Co.

This interesting little volume of some eighty pages, tastefully got up, has already been recommended in our columns; wise selections from Dr. Vaughan's writings. We are pleased to call attention to a second edition.

The Boys' Own Annual. Religious Tract Society.

We cordially commend this most attractive and useful "Annual," the second volume of that excellent publication, which has attained an immense circulation—well merited—the *Boys' Own Paper*. The first volume was warmly praised in these columns a year ago; and, so far as we have examined the volume before us, we see no symptoms of falling-off in any way whatever. A juvenile critic, whom we have consulted, gives it as his opinion that the second volume is rather better than the first. Tales, pastimes, travel, adventure, happily intermingled with instructive matter, supply a rare feast for boys. There are coloured illustrations and many woodcuts.

The Union Jack. A Magazine of Healthy, Stirring Tales of Adventure by Land and Sea, for Boys. Vol. I. Griffith & Farran. 1880.

Opposite the title-page of this handsome volume appears a good likeness of the late Mr. W. H. G. Kingston. The first portion of the volume was edited by Mr. Kingston, the well-known writer of tales for boys—a sincere Christian, holding firmly evangelical principles, to whom we are pleased to write an *In Memoriam* line of respect. So far as we have read, *The Union Jack* gives wholesome, attractive stories, sound as well as spirited. There is rather too much "soldiering" for our own taste; but boys, as a rule, like the Captain Marryat style, and stories of Red Indians. The great point is, after all, a good healthy tone; in the sickly hothouse air of some stories smuggled into schoolrooms there is much mischief.

Hand and Heart: The Church Herald and Review. An Illustrated Weekly Journal, conducted by the Rev. CHARLES BULLOCK, B.D. Volume V. *Hand and Heart* Publishing Office, 1, Paternoster Buildings, E.C.

We most heartily recommend the fifth volume of Mr. Bullock's excellent paper. His efforts to supply a cheap illustrated Church newspaper of the highest class are to a great extent appreciated; but unless we are mistaken—and we confess we have no knowledge on the point—the circulation of *Hand and Heart* is not nearly so large as it might be, and as it ought to be. In a sphere where work was undoubtedly greatly needed, Mr. Bullock has been labouring, now for many years, with persevering zeal, tact and energy; and in supporting him Evangelical Churchmen will do much to spread throughout the country those truths which are to them so dear. The volume before us contains a mass of interesting and valuable matter. We should be pleased to know that a copy was placed on the table of every working-men's and parochial reading-room.

The Divine Authority and Perpetual Obligation of the Lord's Day. By DANIEL WILSON, D.D., Bishop of Calcutta. Fourth edition. Pp. 180. Lord's Day Observance Society. 1880.

In a brief preface to the present (the fourth) edition of Bishop Wilson's sermons on the Lord's Day, the venerated Vicar of Islington remarks that the sermons—seven in number—were preached in the year 1830. "They were largely circulated at the time, and contributed, I believe mainly, to the formation, in the following year, of the present Society for

Promoting the Due Observance of the Lord's Day." Prebendary Wilson adds that it will be a cause for thankfulness if the republication of these sermons should assist the strenuous efforts which are now being made to maintain the strict observance of the sacred Day of Rest. "The principles here maintained are drawn from the immutable Word of God, which admits of no change or modification." The volume has an interest and a value of its own.

Elsie Gordon; or, Through Thorny Paths. By EMILY BRODIE. London: John F. Shaw & Co. 1880.

A fresh, pleasing tale, inculcating many useful lessons of Christian living. Specially bearing on the necessity of "patience under suffering," it tells the story of a clergyman's family suddenly left desolate by the death of its head, and thus finds many opportunities for laying down Christian duties.

Every Boy's Annual. Edited by Edmund Routledge, F.R.G.S.
George Routledge & Sons. 1880.

This year's volume of our old favourite, *Every Boy's Magazine*, seems up to its usual standard. It contains a large amount of really good reading. Some of the tales are above, while others, again, are below the average. We may notice as a good serial story "School-days at Kingscourt," by the Rev. H. C. Adams. It is a very attractive volume.

Routledge's Every Girl's Annual. Edited by Miss ALICIA A. LETH.
George Routledge & Sons. 1880.

The illustrations of this handsome annual grow more tasteful at each succeeding issue. The frontispiece especially of this year's volume is a perfect gem. The tales, too, are exceedingly good. The translated fables of Laboulaye are interesting.

The Clergyman's Ready Reference Register: forming a Complete Record of Private and Parochial Information; containing Fourteen Registers, arranged for Ten Years, for Services, Occasional Offices, Confirmations, Churchwarden's Accounts, Collections, Summaries, Parish Meetings and Clubs, with Private and Miscellaneous Matter, on an Original Plan. By Rev. THEODORE JOHNSON, Curate of Warkton, Northamptonshire, Author of "Plea for Children's Services;" "Litanies;" "Manual of School Prayers;" "Geography and Atlas of British Empire;" "English History;" "Historical Poetry Book;" &c. &c. Bemrose & Sons, 10, Paternoster Buildings; and Irongate, Derby. We gladly recommend this novel and very useful work.

A Diocesan Map of Ireland, 1880, drawn and compiled by the Rev. DONALD J. MACKAY, B.A. Cantab., author of the "Diocesan Map of England and Wales," recently recommended in these columns, seems well done. The names and boundaries of every diocese are given in colour—the province of Armagh being coloured red, and the province of Dublin blue, for greater clearness. The Map gives the names and limits of counties; acreage; number of benefices; cathedrals; bishops' residences; and ancient see towns. *The Diocesan Map* is published by Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston, Geographers to the Queen, Edinburgh; and 6, Paternoster Buildings, London, E.C.

Little Wideawake for 1881, Edited by Mrs. SALE BARKER (published by Messrs. Routledge & Sons), is as attractive as usual. Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen (Lord Brabourne) again favours the little ones with some charming fairy tales, which are well illustrated by Ernest Griset. The volume will make a beautiful Christmas gift; it has gained, we happen to know, the cordial verdict of "better than ever" from certain critics.

We very gladly call attention to our old friend *The Quiver*, one of the best of our religious magazines. (Cassell, Petter & Galpin.) With the fifteenth volume, just published, we are much pleased.

From the Religious Tract Society we have received *The Girl's Own Annual*, being the first volume of that successful publication, *The Girl's Own Paper*. We are much pleased with this ably-edited book, and heartily recommend it. Well illustrated, it contains both interesting, or attractive, and really useful reading. Among gift-books for girls, or presents for girls' libraries, there are none better than this; few as good.

We understand that a new book of private devotions, entitled *Morning, Noon, and Night*, is to be published immediately by Mr. Elliot Stock. The work is contributed to by Bishop Perry, Bishop Ryan, the Dean of Ripon, Archdeacon Prest, the Revs. R. Allen, Canon Bell, Prebendary Cadman, Canon Clayton, E. K. Elliott, Canon Money, J. Welstead Powell, Canon Richardson, and it will be edited by Canon Garbett.

Messrs. T. & T. Clark, of Edinburgh, are about to issue the second volume of their Illustrated "Popular Commentary."



THE MONTH.

THE Naval Demonstration has been held, but Mr. Gladstone's coercion policy did not prove a success. The Sultan's Note, a very Vatican *non possumus*, brought about a deadlock, which would have been ludicrous if it had not been, unmistakably, full of danger. After friendly pressure, in secret, from some of the Powers, the Sultan gave way, and Dulcigno is to be surrendered to the Montenegrins. The Greek difficulty remains, and the language of King George is decidedly bellicose.

In France the influence of M. Gambetta is, probably, on the increase. The nation as a whole, however, sees that it needs quiet and peace.

The Right Hon. Sir Bartle Frere has returned from the Cape.

The condition of Ireland grows worse and worse. Outrages are of daily occurrence, and murder follows murder, apparently to the satisfaction of the peasantry in the disturbed districts. The Land League agitation continues, while no protest from the dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church comes for the protection of life and property. At an assembly in Dublin of the owners and agents of landed property the proceedings were necessarily kept private; but it is known that strong representations were made to Mr. Forster, whose promises probably failed to give satisfaction. Irish landowners have terribly good reasons for asking the Government for measures of coercion.

At the Oxford Diocesan Conference approval was given to the