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God and man on this account was the first missionary problem of the gospel. St. Paul accepted the new delimitation, and stood as a debtor to the whole world. It was foolish and disobedient for the servant to ignore where the Master of all had recognized, or to maintain hostility after He had spoken the word of reconciliation.

Apart from the Bible, Oriental religious thought has given expression to a state of things in which family affection and duty to God would unite to

form a universal religion. One of its aphorisms says, 'Creation is the family of God, and God's most beloved are those who most benefit His family.' But the common practice runs on the lines of the common proverb, 'My brother and I against my cousin; my cousin and I against the stranger.' The result of 'God's unspeakable gift' has been not merely to give a new and larger idea, but to introduce the power that can effect its fulfilment.

## At the Literary Table.

### THE BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

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THE PALESTINIAN SYRIAC VERSION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES. BY G. MARGOLIOUTH, M.A. <i>Soc. of Bibl. Arch.</i>			THE CHRISTIAN INTERPRETATION OF LIFE. BY W. T. DAVISON, M.A., D.D. <i>Kelly.</i>	4	6
THE PRÉPARATION AND DELIVERY OF SERMONS. BY J. A. BROADUS, D.D., LL.D. <i>Hodder &amp; Stoughton.</i>	10	6	THOUGHTS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER. BY ELIZABETH WORDSWORTH. <i>Longmans.</i>	4	6
THE BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATOR. I, II, III JOHN, JUDE. BY J. S. EXELL, M.A. <i>Nisbet.</i>	7	6	THE PSALMS AT WORK. New and Enlarged Edition. BY C. L. MARSON. <i>Stock.</i>		
A STUDY OF ETHICAL PRINCIPLES. BY JAMES SETH, M.A. <i>Blackwood.</i>	7	6	BROWNE'S RELIGIO MEDICI, AND OTHER ESSAYS. EDITED BY D. LLOYD ROBERTS, M.D., F.R.C.P. <i>Smith, Elder, &amp; Co.</i> Net	3	6
THE MESSIAH: SERMONS ON OUR LORD'S NAMES, TITLES, AND ATTRIBUTES. BY C. H. SPURGEON. <i>Passmore &amp; Alabaster.</i>	7	0	THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS. BY CHARLES GORE, M.A., D.D. <i>Murray.</i>	3	6
ERAS OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. THE AGE OF CHARLEMAGNE. BY CHARLES L. WELLS, PH.D. <i>T. &amp; T. Clark.</i>	6	0	STUDIES IN TEXTS. BY JOSEPH PARKER, D.D. <i>H. Marshall.</i>	3	6
THE SPRING OF THE DAY. BY HUGH MACMILLAN D.D., LL.D., F.R.S.E. <i>Isbister.</i>	5	0	THE GENTLENESS OF JESUS. BY MARK GUY PEARSE. <i>H. Marshall.</i>	3	6
JESUS AND THE RESURRECTION. BY THE REV. A. G. MORTIMER, D.D. <i>Longmans.</i>	5	0	THE BURDENS OF LIFE. BY ALFRED ROWLAND, LL.B., B.A. <i>H. Marshall.</i>	3	6
SERMONS ON SOME WORDS OF ST. PAUL. BY H. P. LIDDON, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D. <i>Longmans.</i>	5	0	GENESIS AND SCIENCE. BY JOHN SMYTH. <i>Burns &amp; Oates.</i>	3	6
THE INVESTMENT OF INFLUENCE. BY N. DWIGHT HILLIS. <i>Oliphant.</i>	5	0	LIGHT AND LEADING. VOL. II. EDITED BY H. W. HORWILL, M.A. <i>Allenson.</i>	3	0
THE HOLY BIBLE. VOL. VI. EDITED BY J. W. MACKAIL. <i>Macmillan.</i>	5	0	GOD'S MEASURE, AND OTHER SERMONS. BY THE REV. J. T. FORBES, M.A. <i>Oliphant.</i>	2	6
THE CHRISTIAN PICTORIAL. VOL. X. <i>Alexander &amp; Shephard.</i>	4	6	COMPANIONS OF THE SORROWFUL WAY. BY JOHN WATSON, D.D. <i>Hodder &amp; Stoughton.</i>	2	6
			THE CHILDREN OF WISDOM, AND OTHER SERMONS. BY THE REV. JOHN DE SOYNES, M.A. <i>Toronto: Briggs.</i>		

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HYMNS AND VERSES. BY LOUIS F. BENSON. <i>Westminster Press.</i>			FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH. BY J. H. JOWETT, M.A. <i>Hodder &amp; Stoughton.</i>	1	6
LEGENDS OF THE APOSTLES. BY VIKTOR RYDBERG. <i>Stock.</i>			HYMNS FROM EAST AND WEST. BY THE REV. JOHN BROWNLIE. <i>Nisbet.</i>	1	6
LIFE ON HIGH LEVELS. BY MARGARET E. SANGSTER. <i>Kelly.</i>	2	6	THE PREPARATION FOR CHRISTIANITY. BY R. M. WENLEY, SC.D., D.PH. <i>R. &amp; R. Clark.</i>	1	6
MILTON'S PARADISE REGAINED. BY A. J. WYATT, M.A. <i>Clive.</i>	2	6	THE MISSIONARY EXPANSION OF THE REFORMED CHURCHES. BY THE REV. J. A. GRAHAM, M.A. <i>R. &amp; R. Clark.</i>	1	6
THE NEW ORDER OF NOBILITY. BY FRED. A. REES. <i>Stockwell.</i>	2	0	THE EARLY DAYS OF CHRISTIANITY. BY F. W. FARRAR, D.D., F.R.S. <i>Cassell.</i>	1	6
MODERN READER'S BIBLE. ST. MATTHEW, ST. MARK, AND THE GENERAL EPISTLES. BY R. G. MOULTON, M.A., PH.D. <i>Macmillan.</i>	2	6	THE BIBLE FOR HOME AND SCHOOL. PART VII. BY E. T. BARTLETT, M.A., and J. P. PETERS, PH.D. <i>Clarke.</i>	1	0
THE VITALITY OF CHRISTIAN DOGMAS. BY A. SABATIER, D.D. <i>Black.</i>	1	6	THE MUMMY'S DREAM. BY H. B. PROCTOR. <i>Simkin.</i>	2	0
MUNGO PARK. BY T. BANKS MACLACHLAN. <i>Oliphant.</i>	1	6			

DR. DALE of Birmingham advised the preacher to read every volume on preaching he could lay his hands upon, and we know preachers who joyfully follow the advice. These preachers have read Dr. Broadus already. For Dr. Broadus is the class-book of Homiletic in America, and is long since known to the student of Homiletic in England. The edition just published by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton is the twenty-third. But so skilfully and so conscientiously has Professor Dargan, the successor of Dr. Broadus in the Chair of Homiletic in Louisville, revised the book, that this twenty-third edition is practically new; and the great text-book will set out on a new career of homiletical instruction. Its only serious rival now is Christlieb.

Though an indifferent conception, *The Biblical Illustrator* is a great performance. The sermon literature of the last thirty years is ransacked from shore to shore, and all that is useful is remorselessly extracted from it, packed into the smallest possible compass, and presented at the price of a single ordinary volume.

The proposal has sometimes been made and often practised to separate theology from ethics. It is the belief of our day and generation that an unethical theology is, in the apostle's pointed

phrase, 'devilish,' not a doctrine of God at all, but a doctrine of the Satan of God. And so ethics has become a recognized part of the theologian's training, as it is a necessary part of his practice, and the study of ethics has become fashionable and fascinating. Hence Professor James Seth's *Study of Ethical Principles* has rapidly passed into a third and enlarged edition; for it is a clear and capable introduction to the subject.

When a man's sermons have reached a volume for every week in the year it is time to make selections from them. The publishers of Spurgeon's Sermons are still issuing the yearly volume, but they have begun to present us with new volumes of selections. The latest contains the sermons that gather round the names and titles of the Messiah. It is certainly more attractive, and it is probably more useful, than a single yearly volume of the Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit.

The historical series entitled 'Eras of the Christian Church' deserves the welcome it has received. In every series there is variety—where would its colour be if there were not? In this series the average level is distinctly high, and some of the volumes are memorable. The latest is *The Age of Charlemagne*, by Dr. Charles L. Wells. It is at once critical and popular. The debatable

incidents are searched with care and a judgment according to the available evidence is impartially pronounced upon them. But the proportion is well preserved, and the style is becoming. Dr. Wells has probably given us the best monograph on this significant era that we have yet received.

The man who masters one department of the world's work, who does one thing better than it has been done before him, is of more use than the innumerable multitude of men who are no better than their fathers in anything. Dr. Macmillan's department is preaching to children. It is one of the most difficult as it is one of the noblest duties in life. Dr. Macmillan has mastered it; he is an authority upon it; he is in fact the President of its Royal Academy; he has taught us that greater things can be made of it than ever were made before. One of the things he has taught us is that the subjects of Children's Sermons are inexhaustible. They are as inexhaustible as Nature, as inexhaustible as the word of God. The new volume has all the freshness of a new country, all the charm and inspiration of a new book of Scripture.

'While the supply of devotional reading for Lent is so abundant there are but few books which treat of Easter and the great Forty Days.' So said a friend to Dr. Mortimer, of St. Mark's, Philadelphia; and the remark produced a most reverent thoughtful volume of Easter addresses.

A new volume of sermons by Liddon is a wonder and a rejoicing. It stands as fellow to the volume on *Some Words of Christ*.

About a year ago Messrs. Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier published a book by an American author under the title of *A Man's Value to Society*. It was recognized as an able and sympathetic persuasive to Christian Socialism, and men who care for other men were glad to accept Mr. Dwight Hillis into their brotherhood. A new book has just come from the same author. Its title is *The Investment of Influence*, a title which has a selfish sound, but covers a book that provokes to love and to good works.

For a gift—handsome and useful and cheap—try the yearly volume of *The Christian Pictorial*.

Professor Davison of Birmingham has admitted that he is the author of certain articles in the *London Quarterly Review* which lately attracted notice and awakened curiosity. He has made the admission by gathering them into a volume and putting his name to it. But the first essay in the volume has not appeared in the *London Quarterly* or anywhere else. It is a new and strong apologetic. Its argument is that Christianity is fit to receive every revelation and every honest revolution, whether in science or philosophy, and be itself. For Christianity has its own interpretation of life; and that interpretation has been found to fit the facts of life whatever they be, however sudden their discovery, however terrifying their first appearance.

Miss Wordsworth wonders if there is room for another book on the Lord's Prayer. Yes, for hundreds more. When the 'quiet eye' comes to the Lord's Prayer and reaps a 'harvest' like this there is very much room and a very grateful welcome. Whatever volumes on the Lord's Prayer your shelves carry, add this.

Messrs. Smith, Elder, & Co. have secured an editor who has a passion for Sir Thomas Browne, an editor who works among the editions till he produces a better text than any edition extant, who includes in his volume just all we need to read now; and who introduces the whole by a biographical introduction which makes Sir Thomas Browne live before us.

'The favourable reception accorded to an exposition of the Sermon on the Mount has encouraged me to attempt another practical explanation of a portion of the New Testament, in the interest of such readers as are intelligent indeed, but neither are nor hope to be critical scholars.' Thus Canon Gore introduces his 'Practical Exposition' of the Epistle to the Ephesians. It is a volume he has written with joy, for the Epistle to the Ephesians is his favourite among the books of the New Testament. It will be read with joy by many, with displeasure by some. For there are views here which we all know to be Canon Gore's, but will not all admit to be St. Paul's.

Mr. Frederick A. Atkins has undertaken to edit, and Messrs. Horace Marshall to publish, a new

series of sermons. Each volume is to contain a portrait of its author, and the whole style and manner is to be attractive. The first volume contains sermons by Mr. Mark Guy Pearse, the second by Mr. Alfred Rowland. Both are highly characteristic, Mr. Pearse's reflecting his indifference to the sinner, his gentle insistence that the saint might do better yet; and Mr. Rowland's passing, as is his wont, from the Happiness of God to the Pope's Supremacy, from the Drink Curse of England to the Fruition of the Fuller Life.

The same publishers have commenced a series of volumes by Dr. Parker, to which he gives the title of *Studies in Texts*. He gives that title. You would not give it; because you would not think of study, but of sudden flash in connexion with these sermons and notes of sermons. And on the whole you prefer the flash to the study—from Dr. Parker. The series will run to six volumes. It would not trouble Dr. Parker to make it run to sixty; and it would not trouble us.

Most of us have passed away from our efforts to 'reconcile Genesis with Geology.' We are now comparing Genesis with Babylonian Cosmogony. But Messrs. Burns & Oates have just published another attempt at the former task, by John Smyth. It is splendidly illustrated and quite persuasive. So that once more the question rises, How is it if Genesis is all wrong that it is so easy to show it all right?

The volume of *Light and Leading* for the past year is rich in material for the student and teacher of the Bible. Its future editor is to be the Rev. G. Currie Martin, B.D., and much is expected from him.

Sermons in series, not in stones—that is the order of the day. Messrs. Oliphant Anderson & Ferrier's series is as yet unnamed, but it is going to be Scotch, and it is going to be good. The second volume is by an Edinburgh minister, the Rev. J. T. Forbes, M.A., its title *God's Measure*, its contents thoughtful and even masterly.

It is not given to one man in a thousand, even of our successful writers, to write devotion; it is not given to Dr. John Watson. Attractive as his *Companions of the Sorrowful Way* is outwardly,

inwardly it wants *that*, as the famous painter said, and wanting *that* it wants everything.

If you need a book to give to a girl who is leaving home, try *Life on High Levels*, published by Mr. Kelly.

Is Milton's *Paradise Regained* read as much as it is readable? Mr. Wyatt's is the edition to get for it—the best text, the most useful notes and introduction.

Are there Scotsmen living to whom the story of Mungo Park is unknown? We envy their ignorance as they stumble upon the new volume in the "Famous Scots" Library. And yet we have read it ourselves with a new interest, even a rapture of expectation, that is scarcely less delightful than our first acquaintance with *Mungo Park's Travels*. For our joy then was always slightly dashed with the doubt, But is it really all true? Now we know it is true, and that almost makes up for the loss of a first impression. Mr. Maclachlan has a hero, and he has made him look heroic.

Two new volumes have been issued of "The Guild Library," which is so watchfully edited by Professor Charteris and Dr. M'Clymont. The one is *The Preparation for Christianity*, by Professor R. M. Wenley; the other is entitled *The Missionary Expansion of the Reformed Churches*, and is written by the Rev. J. A. Graham of Kalimpong. The latter is richly illustrated. Notice that the 'Guild Library' is now published by Messrs. R. & R. Clark, and notice that that firm is wholly distinct from the firm of Messrs. T. & T. Clark of the same city.

The cheapest theological book yet published! Farrar's *Early Days of Christianity*, in cloth for 1s. 6d.

Having books we must have something to hold them. There is a clever and convenient device which it will not be out of place to mention here. Its title is the Wernicke System; and its merit is the ease with which the bookcase may be enlarged as the books accumulate. One shelf of ten books is a complete bookcase. To that may be added more shelves, the bookcase being always complete and sightly, till it holds 10,000 books.