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it is with the abounding of the sufferings so also is it with the comforts. The life of Christ abounded in consolations. He had no small mercies to be thankful for. They were all great mercies, following Him all the days of His life below. Nathanael's faith, Mary's devotion, voices in the heavens, the perpetual inward voice, the Father's 'well-done,' the assurance of His uninterrupted love,—these strewed the thorny path of suffering with fragrant flowers of consolation. If devils tempted Him, angels came and ministered to Him. And these consolations have had an abounding quality about them, a spiritual increase more wonderful than any natural increase you can think of. The Spirit of Christ dwelling in us has opened our eyes to 'things that are for us and make our crosses seem as gay garlands displayed on festal days. The Christian who dwells on the sufferings

and magnifies them, and forgets that they were accompanied with consolations, which make us—as they made Him—love the weight we have to bear, is surely yet but an infant crying in the night, who knows not that the Father's soothing voice and helping hand are near.

And the sinner, whose sin is ever before him, and who reflects, as reflect he must, that he is but one of millions of his kind and his sin but one of transgressions that are as the stars for multitude, may well turn away in despair even from Calvary until we show him the abounding quality which God, whose thoughts, blessed be His name, are not as our thoughts nor His ways as ours, imparts to them. Without this the Cross is a rock of offence; with this it is the power of God and the wisdom of God to everyone that believeth.

At the Literary Table.

THE BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

Uniform with the delightful edition recently issued of the 'Horae Subsecivae,' Messrs. A. & C. Black have published a new edition of *Dr. John Brown and his Sisters*, by Miss E. T. M'Laren (2s. net). It is the sixth edition, and it supersedes all others by virtue of an Introductory Note which Professor Crum Brown contributes.

Dr. M'Adam Muir of Glasgow has written an account of the life and works of the chief *Religious Writers of England* enough to make a volume of the 'Guild Library' (A. & C. Black, crown 8vo, pp. 213, 1s. 6d.). No desire for originality, no determination to reverse the popular judgment has led Dr. M'Adam Muir away from his practical purpose of making the lives of these great good men remind the young men of to-day that they too can make their lives sublime.

IMMORTALITY, AND OTHER SERMONS. BY THE REV. A. W. MOMERIE, D.Sc., LL.D. (*Blackwood*. Crown 8vo, pp. 317. 5s.)

Mrs. Momerie has prepared this volume for the press. It contains the chief sermons of the last four years. They mostly treat of the things concerning the End. They treat of these things

unfettered by considerations of system or conformity. Perhaps the deepest interest in the sermons lies in their candid revelation of Dr. Momerie's own hopes and fears as to the things that are behind the veil. For he has as little hesitation in contradicting our cherished notions as in gainsaying the teaching of Scripture and the Church. They read as if they were the sermons of a layman, and in that unwonted aspect they are of much value, the more salutary perhaps the less comforting they are.

THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE REDEEMER. (*Cassell*. Crown 8vo, pp. 384. 6s.)

The editor of the *Quiver* selected twelve men and set them the task of writing the Life of our Lord. Each writer had one period or one set of incidents to write about. The result is both more homogeneous and more edifying than even the editor of the *Quiver* could have expected. For recent study of the origins of Christianity, though it has much disturbed the minds of the unwary, has brought evangelical students of the Life of Christ into closer fellowship, and eliminated much fruitless idiosyncrasy. Each of these studies is

the writer's own, but an agreeable harmony of conception is carried throughout the volume. It is notable in itself, and it is notable as a tribute to scientific exposition. Some modern paintings, beautifully reproduced, increase the volume's value.

Two parts have been published of the seventh volume of the 'Cambridge Texts and Studies.' The first part is *The Meaning of Homo-ousios in the 'Constantinopolitan' Creed*. The author is the Rev. J. F. Bethune-Baker, B.D. (Cambridge: At the University Press, 8vo, pp. 90, 3s. net). The second part is *St. Ephraim's Quotations from the Gospel*. The author is Mr. F. Crawford Burkitt, M.A. (8vo, pp. 101, 3s. net). Both works are of the very finest workmanship, their accomplished writers' enthusiasm expressing itself in freshness of thought and in patience of investigation. Nor are they so confined in interest as their titles may suggest. Mr. Burkitt is of no little value to the exegete and critic; Mr. Bethune-Baker compels the attention of the Church historian and theologian.

THE WORLD'S EPOCH-MAKERS: ORIGEN AND GREEK PATRISTIC THEOLOGY. BY THE REV. W. FAIRWEATHER, M.A. (*T. & T. Clark*. Crown 8vo, pp. 282. 3s.)

The present generation is said to be less conversant with the Fathers than the generation of Newman and Pusey was. It seems to us, on the contrary, that the acquaintance is closer and more critical. There may be less quotation (from convenient Ante-Nicene libraries and the like), but when editions appear they are morescientific, and when lives are published they are more progressive. The editions of Origen recently issued by the Cambridge University Press and the life of Origen now in our hands are sufficient to bear this out. Mr. Fairweather's work is as pleasant to read as though it were a purely popular compilation, it is as scholarly as though it were to be sat upon by patristic experts. That is the consummation these 'Epoch-Makers' seek to reach, and there is no reason why they should not all reach it.

THE WORLD'S EPOCH-MAKERS: MUHAMMAD AND HIS POWER. BY P. DE LACY JOHNSTONE, M.A., M.R.A.S. (*T. & T. Clark*. Crown 8vo, pp. 256. 3s.)

It is not the epoch-maker alone but the epoch

he makes that this series seeks to describe. Muhammad we know at least a little; his epoch, his whole wonderful vital movement, we do not know so well. It is difficult to know. Literature perhaps cannot reveal it. We must reside among Muhammadans and know them before we can hope to know Muhammad. This is what Mr. Johnstone has done, and every page of his brilliant confident narrative reveals the man who knows. His manner of writing seems fitted to his subject. We are swept into the current of his copious Eastern vocabulary. We are helped to know by being made to feel. The book is small enough to be read at a sitting, and at a sitting it is likely to be read. We are glad that Mr. Johnstone has given us the great prophet with sympathy.

A cheap edition of Mr. Frederick C. Spurr's *Four Last Things* has been published at the Drummond Tract Depot, Stirling (1s.).

THE TEMPLE BIBLE: GENESIS. BY A. H. SAYCE, LL.D., D.D. (*Dent*. 12mo.)

Messrs. Dent have undertaken the publication of a new series of commentaries, which they call the 'Temple Bible.' They are to be quite original in many ways. Outwardly the volumes are as charming as possible,—their leather binding being at the money quite a luxury,—and that is originality enough in commentaries. But that is not all. The text (it is the Authorized Version) is printed in paragraphs without chapter (except an asterisk) or verse division, and the page is divided off into lines, five at a time. The first volume, Genesis, being edited by Professor Sayce, its notes are mainly archæological. They are extremely useful and well expressed. The introduction is a résumé of what has been discovered about Genesis in our day. And there is a list at the end of English works which have borrowed materials from Genesis.

THE NEW TESTAMENT IN BRAID SCOTS. BY THE REV. W. WYE SMITH. (*Gardner*. 8vo. 6s. net.)

Mr. Smith is a Canadian, and from Canada you see the whole of Scotland at a glance, so that his Scots is not the Scots of a single county. It is less provincial and less difficult to read than even the Scots of Burns. No Scotsman, no man of Scottish descent, should have any difficulty with it, and even for the occasional Englishman who may

seek nourishment in the volume there is a glossary of the most un-English words. There is no denying the pathos or even the power of the New Testament in braid Scots. It is more perhaps to the Scotsman, and especially to the Scotsman in a foreign land, than his native Hebrew tongue was to St. Paul, for it is less a literary language, more the language of the mother and the home.

To their 'Complete Library' Messrs. Gowans & Gray of Glasgow are in the way of adding the whole of *Cervantes' Works*. Four of the twelve volumes, containing and completing Don Quixote, have already appeared. The translation is Ormsby's with his latest corrections and additions; the editor is Mr. James Fitzmaurice-Kelly. Are these names nothing to you? Then you are the 'general reader' for whom these complete editions are being prepared. Take to the reading of Don Quixote in this translation and with this editor. The four handsome volumes will cost you but four shillings.

Mr. Philip Green has just published new editions of the two famous volumes of sermons by John Hamilton Thom, entitled *Laws of Life after the Mind of Christ* (crown 8vo, pp. 406, 429, 2s. 6d. net each). The sermons, as we know, are Unitarian, and of the finest modern type. One meets of course an occasional statement that seems needless if not unwarranted. In the fourth sermon of the second series, for example, we read: 'Faith in immortality with the Martyr Stephen, sees the heavens opened and the Son of Man, *Mankind imaged in the Son of man*, on the right hand of the throne of God.' But for the most part these sermons are as elevated in thought as they are rich in expression.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton have begun to publish a series of 'Christian Study Manuals' at 1s. net each. The general editor is the Rev. R. E. Welsh, M.A. Three volumes have been published: *The Early Church*, by Professor Orr; *Ruling Ideas of Our Lord*, by Dr. D'Arcy; and *Protestant Principles*, by Dr. Monro Gibson.

APOSTOLIC OPTIMISM. BY THE REV. J. H. JOWETT, M.A. (Hodder & Stoughton. Crown 8vo, pp. 285, 6s.)

Optimism is an unsatisfactory word. It argues a good digestion, or at least a sunny temperament,

and there are those who say that temperament is all that there is in Christianity. But Mr. Jowett's magnificent first sermon puts it all right. The optimistic apostle is St. Paul, and three reasons are given for his victorious optimism. There is, first, his vivid sense of the reality of the redemptive work of Christ; next, his living sense of the reality and greatness of his present resources, that is to say, that he is not only 'by Christ redeemed' but also 'in Christ restored'; and, finally, his impressive sense of the reality of future glory. Clearly these things do not depend on temperament, but on the reception of Christ. The sermons are all of the same character, strong statements of evangelical doctrine, to be turned into energetic impulses of life.

A HISTORY OF THE PLYMOUTH BRETHREN. BY W. B. NEATBY, M.A. (Hodder & Stoughton. Crown 8vo, pp. 360. 6s.)

Twelve years ago Dr. Alexander, the present Primate of Ireland, described the warfare of his own Church in the following remarkable terms: 'The hill up which our little host must march is steep, and the hail beats in our faces. We hear the steady tramp of the serried ranks of Rome round us; the shout of the marauders of Plymouth rises as they, ever and anon, cut off a few stragglers. We draw close, and grip our muskets harder.' Mr. Neatby begins his history of the Plymouth Brethren by quoting those words. He sees in those words a tribute to the importance of the 'marauders of Plymouth.' He has himself a yet higher estimate of their power and persistence. He undertakes his subject with a sense that it is a task worthy of the best that a historian can give to it, and he refuses to degrade it either by flattery or by vituperation. This apparently has never been done before. Here for the first time Plymouth Brethrenism is treated according to the laws of historical science, and as a portion of the history of the Church.

The latest volume of the 'Century Bible' contains the *General Epistles*, edited by Professor Bennett of Hackney College (Jack, 2s. net). We know Professor Bennett best as an Old Testament student, and are not surprised to find that the originality of this commentary consists in the richness with which the General Epistles of James, Peter, John, and Jude illustrate, and are them-

selves illustrated by the Old Testament Scriptures. There is much else that is worthy in the little book, but this is the most distinct and valuable service it has rendered.

Messrs. Longmans have published a new edition of Dr. Vance Smith's well-known manifesto, *The Bible and its Theology* (crown 8vo, pp. 347, 3s. 6d. net). The book has been largely rewritten. It is less polemical now, it is more useful.

PURGATORY; THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED; THE INVOCATION OF SAINTS. BY A. J. MASON, D.D. (*Longmans*. Crown 8vo, pp. 187. 3s. 6d. net.)

Dr. Mason chose these subjects for his lectures because they are greatly exercising the minds of not a few in the Church of England at the present time. He is peculiarly well fitted to speak upon them, for he has made himself master of the whole range of their literature, and he has the mind of Christ.

Messrs. Macmillan have published Bishop Lightfoot's celebrated essay on *The Christian Ministry* in a separate convenient form (crown 8vo, pp. 148, 3s. net). The volume also contains illustrative extracts chosen by himself from the Bishop's other writings, for he felt that an unfair use had been made of some statements in the essay.

JOHANNINE PROBLEMS AND MODERN NEEDS. BY THE REV. H. T. PURCHAS, M.A. (*Macmillan*. Crown 8vo, pp. 132. 3s. net.)

This is too small a book to deal satisfactorily with all the great problems it touches, but Mr. Purchas is a student and knows exactly where lies the pith of these problems. If we find little settled for us, we at least are put on the right track and stimulated to further pursuit. A chapter of exceptional interest is that on the true idea of the apostolate.

ESSAYS FROM THE 'GUARDIAN.' BY WALTER PATER. (*Macmillan*. 8vo, pp. 149. 8s. 6d. net.)

This volume, which will be gladly added to Walter Pater's previous works, contains nine essays which were contributed anonymously to the *Guardian*. Their subjects are English literature, Amiel's *Journal Intime*, Browning, *Robert Elsmere*, their Majesties' Servants, Wordsworth, Mr. Gosse's Poems, Ferdinand Fabre, *Les Contes* of M.

Augustin Filon. They range in date from 1886 to 1890. They are very short, but Walter Pater was very intimate with these subjects, and wastes no words. We read them for their English style, for what he says of Wordsworth is true of his own essays: 'He constantly endeavours to bring his language nearer to the real language of men, not on the dead level of their ordinary intercourse, but in certain select moments of vivid sensation, when this language is winnowed and enobled by sentiment.' But the language is not everything, even the twelve pages on Wordsworth give us that which abides when the words are forgotten.

Mr. Melrose has published the story of the life of President M'Kinley, by David Williamson (1s. net).

Mr. Melrose has also published *The Endeavour Greeting*, a manual of information and suggestion for new members (1s.). The author is Amos R. Wells.

Mr. Melrose has further published a new edition of *Henry Drummond*, by Cuthbert Lennox (crown 8vo, pp. xxviii, 250, 2s. 6d. net). It contains a new preface, full of new facts, most frankly stated.

Again, Mr. Melrose has published a volume entitled *How to Promote and Conduct a Successful Revival* (crown 8vo, pp. 336, 3s. 6d.). It contains papers on all the phases of revival work by leading American and other evangelists, a large number of condensed sermons as suggestions for speakers at revival meetings, and a smaller number of 'topics and texts.' Why should revival speakers need so many hints and helps? If revival work is a good thing, send the best preachers to it.

THE CHRISTIAN'S GREAT INTEREST. BY WILLIAM GUTHRIE. (*Melrose*. Crown 8vo, pp. 1x, 251. 2s. 6d.)

Have you made acquaintance yet with Mr. Smellie's 'Books for the Heart'? You have other editions of them all perhaps—*The Journal of John Woolman*, Pulsford's *Quiet Hours*, Jonathan Edwards' *Religious Affections*, and the rest. Nevertheless you will find that this edition excelleth them all. Its strength is in its introductions. For these introductions, in spite of their almost

pedantic accuracy, so subtly exhale the right literary fragrance that they seem to have been handed down from the past as an inseparable part of the book they introduce to us. This is a most rare gift, and makes a man an editor indeed. The volume before us is the latest addition to the series. It has all the outward beauty and inward permanence.

ROYAL MANHOOD. BY THE REV. JAMES I. VANCE, D.D. (*Methuen*. Crown 8vo, pp. 251, 3s. 6d.)

American sermons seem to run after types more closely than ours do. There is the doctrinal like Shedd's, the philosophical like Bushnell's, and the anecdotal like Talmage's. This volume is of the anecdotal type.

'My father called me to him. "John," said he, very kindly, "I wish you would get the hammer." "Yes, sir." "Now a nail and a piece of pine board from the wood shed." "Here they are." "Will you drive the nail into the board?" It was done. "Please pull it out again." "That's easy." "Now, John," and my father's voice dropped to a lower, sadder key, "pull out the nail hole."

That is one of its anecdotes. It has not only point in itself, but receives point from its place in the sermon. For this is one of the best volumes of the anecdotal type.

THE OLD TESTAMENT AND THE NEW SCHOLARSHIP. BY JOHN P. PETERS, PH.D., SC.D., D.D. (*Methuen*. Crown 8vo, pp. 333. 6s.)

Messrs. Methuen's books have a strong tendency to run into series. But an active mind can keep the various series and their editors separate. This book belongs to the 'Churchman's Library,' of which the editor is the Rev. J. H. Burn, B.D. Now the 'Churchman's Library' contains books of the utmost variety both of subject and accomplishment, and it is quite evident that Dr. Peters got liberty to write his book in his own way. He has written about the Higher Criticism of the Old Testament. But as that is a large subject now, he has wisely given a general exposition of its methods and results, and only gone into any fulness of detail in the case of Daniel and the Psalms. Dr. Peters is not what would be called an extreme higher critic, but he firmly believes in the divine mission of criticism. Not counting it his business to hold a brief for God, he lets

methods work out their results, whatever their tendency may be. But he is most careful to check the results of a mere literary criticism by the findings of the monuments.

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. BY R. B. RACKHAM, M.A. (*Methuen*. 8vo, pp. cxvi, 52s. 12s. 6d.)

This commentary, printed on thin light paper, and pleasantly bound, catches the attention first of all by its outward attractive appearance. The moment it is opened, however, it arrests the attention more completely by the singularity of its method. It belongs to the series of 'Oxford Commentaries,' edited by Professor Walter Lock. The first volume of the series was Gibson's *Job*, and it followed the accustomed manner, the text in large type at the top of the page, the commentary in double columns and smaller type below. This is the second volume, and its plan is wholly different. The notes are given in the form of a straightforward narrative, to be read just as the Book of Acts itself is read; and the text, which is that of the Revised Version, comes in when it is wanted. There are frequent discussions, sometimes learned enough, but no Greek word is allowed to arrest the English reader's interest. The footnotes are mostly what we call 'marginal references,' but occasionally they refer to some book, and they always contain the marginal notes of the Revised Version.

Mr. Rackham's general aim seems to be to translate the Acts into modern language. In order to do this, in order to put us, as it were, by the side of the original readers, his paraphrase has to explain many allusions, and that makes it far longer than the original Book of Acts. But the immense mass of accurate information which his book contains, not to speak of its interest, makes one only wish that it had been longer.

Elsewhere will be found a note touching a point of scholarship in the book. It is enough for the present to say that both the Introduction and the Commentary prove Mr. Rackham's capacity for Scripture exposition of the highest order, and, in particular, his thorough grasp of the problems and whole situation involved in the Book of Acts. His indirect dedication of his book to Bishop Gore and Dr. Moberly is an indication that his theological position is moderate High Churchmanship.

FOUNDATION TRUTHS OF THE GOSPEL. (*Morgan & Scott*. Post 8vo, pp. 184. 3s. 6d.)

These papers, by various evangelical writers, were originally contributed to the *Christian*. Sketchy though they are, they were worth gathering together. For the one balances the other, and together they form a fairly complete round of doctrine. Amongst the writers are Mr. F. B. Meyer, who grapples with the thorny but salutary doctrine of the Fall; Dr. Monro Gibson, who writes tersely on Faith; and Dr. Moule, who touches (would he had had space to go deeper) the most momentous of all things, the doctrine of Regeneration.

THE WORKS OF JOHN BUNYAN. (*Nelson*. Fcap. 8vo, pp. 331, 289, 128. 3s. 6d. net., in leather.)

Messrs. Nelson have added the *Pilgrim's Progress*, the *Holy War*, and *Grace Abounding* to their thin paper editions of the great English Classics. Paged separately, the three books are bound in one volume, which nevertheless is not too thick to be carried with comfort in the pocket. It is a good large type and well spaced, inviting even to aged eyes, while the binding is suitable for presentation. In beauty and convenience there is no edition of Bunyan that can for a moment compete with it.

The Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles of Paul, arranged in the form of a continuous history, by Thomas Morrison, M.A., LL.D. Few books are more familiar to students of the Bible in Scotland. This is the third edition (*Oliphant*, crown 8vo, pp. 191, 1s. 6d.). But if a copy had been bought every time that the book was read, it would have passed by this time into more than three times three editions.

Under the title of *Two Hebrew Idylls*, the Rev. G. B. Macnaughtan, M.A., B.D., of Ardoch, has published some lectures on the Book of Ruth and the Book of Jonah (*Oliphant*, crown 8vo, pp. 185, 2s. 6d.). Clearly and handsomely printed, the lectures make very agreeable reading, and the author justly claims that the two books which he has brought together deal with the same great lesson which Israel was so slow to learn, the lesson that she was called out of the world in order to be a blessing to the world.

NINETEEN CENTURIES OF MISSIONS. BY MRS. W. W. SCUDDER. (*Oliphant*. Crown 8vo, pp. 250. 3s. 6d.)

The time is at hand, it appears, when the subject of missions will be included in the 'Leaving Certificate.' So Mrs. Scudder has prepared the text-book. It is admirably adapted for cramming, the prominent matters in it being dates and districts, while every chapter ends with a set of examination questions. Teachers of missions all the world over will find it their readiest handbook.

BIBLE CHARACTERS: STEPHEN TO TIMOTHY. BY ALEXANDER WHYTE, D.D. (*Oliphant*. Crown 8vo, pp. 304. 3s. 6d.)

They must be near the end. This is the fifth volume. When the end does come, there will be lamentation and weeping, for these 'Bible Characters' have through the religious press formed the Sabbath afternoon reading of innumerable Christians in Scotland for a long time. But the volumes will remain, and we can go over them again, and again and again, as indeed we have been doing with the earlier volumes all this while. And not only so, but we all believe that Dr. Whyte will discover other topics for his daring discerning tongue and pen.

WITH THE THIBETANS IN TENT AND TEMPLE. BY SUSIE CARSON RIJNHART, M.D. (*Oliphant*. Crown 8vo, pp. 406. 6s.)

There are foreign missionaries who never leave their native land. Messrs. *Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier* are of the number. By their missionary literature they make known the work that foreign missions are accomplishing, and thus, though they go not abroad themselves, they send into the foreign field both men and money. They carry us all abroad indeed, and give us a personal interest in the lands to which the gospel has been brought, as well as in the men and women who have brought it. This new volume has the double charm of a missionary of genius and a land of mystery. The writing is extremely simple, much after the manner of a picturesque diary,—the genius is not in that. But the woman who passed through all that Mrs. Rijnhart did, is a genius as a missionary; and the picturesque simplicity of the language, by the very clearness and truthfulness of its information, does not dispel but deepens the religious mystery of the strange land of Thibet.

OUTLINE OF A HISTORY OF PROTESTANT MISSIONS. BY GUSTAV WARNECK. (*Oliphant*. 8vo, pp. 379. 10s. 6d.)

Dr. George Robson introduces this new edition of Dr. Warneck's well-known *Outline*. He says: 'Of all existing histories of Protestant Missions, I have no hesitation in characterizing Dr. Warneck's as by far the best, not only in respect of the completeness and orderliness of its survey, but also in respect of insight into historical development and enlightened sobriety of judgment.' And Dr. Robson knows. His word may be received without reserve. The new edition is a new book, a far larger, fuller, richer book. Of course much new material comes to the hand of the historian of missions every year, and Dr. Warneck seems to miss nothing. But besides that, the whole field has been surveyed anew, and the former conclusions have been mercilessly tested and revised. The translation makes it an English book, and the occasional notes which the editor has added, supplying fuller information about Scotch and English missions, serve the same welcome purpose. The maps are too full of matter for ordinary readers, but they who are interested in the book will take the trouble to master its maps. Most cordially do we thank author, translators, editor, and publishers for the best history of missions in existence.

Only a Prayer-Meeting is the title his publishers have given to a volume of forty addresses by the late C. H. Spurgeon (Passmore & Alabaster, crown 8vo, pp. 366, 3s. 6d.). It is Spurgeon at his best, and Spurgeon at his worst was better than most of us.

New volumes by C. H. Spurgeon still frequently appear. For there is not only a great opportunity in his published writings for selection and arrangement, but there are also many unpublished manuscripts still. The latest issue is entitled *Good Tidings of Great Joy* (Passmore & Alabaster, crown 8vo, pp. 152, 1s. 6d.). It is a series of experimental chapters on the Incarnation.

THE ROMANCE OF RELIGION. BY OLIVE VIVIAN and HERBERT VIVIAN, M.A. (*Pearson*. Crown 8vo, pp. 320. With Illustrations. 6s.)

What mirthful and also what monstrous things are done in the name of religion! This book is a repository of both. But it is more than that. For

its authors are not content to record occasional curious phenomena, they trace causes and effects. Their book is scientific, as well as entertaining. They range for their strange subjects over many centuries and many lands. Their style is highly picturesque. With whatever expectation their book is opened, it will immediately secure the attention, and it will not be laid aside until it is read through. The illustrations, taken from life, are in keeping with its wonderful contents.

THY HEART'S DESIRE. EDITED BY THE REV. R. LOVETT, M.A. (*R.T.S.* Crown 8vo, pp. 280. 6s.)

This is a book of family prayer. The prayers are contributed by Dr. G. S. Barrett, Mr. G. E. Asker, Mr. W. Roberts, and Mr. W. T. Rowley. They are for morning and evening, and they cover thirteen weeks. There are also passages of Scripture suggested. The book is both handsome and appropriate. And the prayers—well, it is simply impossible to read prayers with a paper-knife in hand. And yet the one criticism that we would venture upon them is that they seem written to be read.

ROMAN LAW AND HISTORY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. BY THE REV. SEPTIMUS BUSS, LL.B. (*Rivingtons*. Crown 8vo, pp. 480. 6s. net.)

The object which Mr. Buss has set before him is to run through the New Testament and lay his finger on all the signs it bears of the presence and power of the Romans. In some parts these signs are quite numerous, as when our Lord was tried before Pilate and St. Paul before Festus. These scenes are much more lifelike when we clearly understand the Roman customs to which reference is made, and which Mr. Buss fully, even elaborately, explains. Even the words that have any Roman flavour about them receive a separate paragraph of explanation. It was an excellent idea to gather out of the complex many-coloured life of Palestine at the beginning of our era this one influential element, and Mr. Buss has all the scholarship and patience to realize his idea. Consequently we not only see the Roman element itself and are surprised at its fulness, but we are then able to see more clearly the Greek and Jewish elements that remain. A service has been rendered to the interpretation of the New Testament by this book, which it is surprising was never rendered before.

THE CRIMINAL. BY HAVELOCK ELLIS. (*Walter Scott*. Crown 8vo, pp. 441. 6s.)

This is the third edition of the standard work on Criminology. It has been revised and enlarged. It contains forty pathetic or revolting illustrations. It is a book one must either have nothing to do with or devour. To read it for mere pastime is impossible. It is a book of science; its purpose is noble and ennobling. It reveals the working of God's great laws of moral and physical health, and their unerring retribution as disease. It tells us what has been done for criminals. It suggests the means by which their numbers may be reduced. It asks us earnestly what *we* have done for our fellow-criminal *for whom Christ died*.

LESSONS FROM THE PARABLES. BY MRS. W. J. TAIT. (*Elliot Stock*. Crown 8vo, pp. 216. 5s.)

The lessons are meant 'for home and school use.' It is only in the home and in the school that you can touch the parables. To the present generation, at least, they seem to be impossible in the pulpit. For their meaning is so plain that even the children never miss it, and you have only to set their minds to think. But their meaning is also so difficult that our deeper study drives us to despair. We can only hope that unborn generations will make more of them than we can do.

STONES FOR SERMON BUILDERS. BY THE REV. JOHN MITCHELL. (*Stockwell*. Crown 8vo, pp. 122. 2s.)

Here is not only the straw for the bricks, but the bricks themselves. He does not know his craft, and should betake himself to another, who cannot build with this.

AN EDITOR'S SERMONS. BY SIR EDWARD RUSSELL. (*Fisher Unwin*. Crown 8vo, pp. 267. 6s. net.)

Clergymen have little patience with sermons by a layman. It is not professional jealousy only. They have tried and found them wanting. But these sermons stand apart. They have the professional man's knowledge together with the layman's detachment. For Sir Edward Russell is not only a man of surpassing ability, but throughout his public life he has given himself to the interpretation of the great problems of morals and religion. The Bishop of Hereford writes an introduction to the volume, commending it especially to clergymen, not merely, however, because it lets us see ourselves as others see us, but because it also makes distinct contribution to the subjects of which it treats, such as the gift of prayer, high-mindedness, and the decay of experimental religion. If we were allowed a phrase in which to express our obligation to these sermons, we should say that they had urged us to be more spiritual in our thinking, more intellectual in our spirituality.

A New Uncial of the Gospels.

BY W. C. BRAITHWAITE, B.A., LL.B., BANBURY.

A YEAR ago Mr. J. Bevan Braithwaite of London procured from Macedonia an uncial MS. of the Gospels in Greek, which I have since had the opportunity of examining and collating. He proposes to call it the Codex Macedoniensis. I gave some particulars of the document when lecturing at the recent Friends' Settlement for Bible Study at Scarborough, but its interest justifies a wider publication.

When complete the MS. seems to have consisted of 42 quires of 8 folios each, and of one odd folio containing part of the κεφάλαια of Luke, making 674 pages in all, of which 66 pages, or 9.8 per cent., are missing, namely—

Mt 1¹ . . . Διατί μετὰ 9¹¹; 10³⁶ [Θυγατέρα . . . βλέπετε 11⁴; a folio with part of the κεφ. of Mark; Lk 1²⁰ eis

πόλιν . . . ἐν γῆ[ρα] 1²⁶; 15²⁶ πρεσβύτερος . . . προσκαλεσά-
[μενος] 16⁶; 23²² εἶρον . . . ἰμάτια αὐτοῦ 23²⁴; Jn 20²⁷
χείρας μου . . . ὁ Πέτρος 21¹⁷.

The MS. is on parchment leaves measuring 18.1 by 13.2 cm. in single-column writing, 11 by 7.5 cm., ruled 16 to 21 lines to a page. In the side margins stand the numbers of the Ammonian sections with the Eusebian canons, and in upper and lower margins, as the case may require, the τίτλοι of the κεφάλαια *majora* with their numbers, which are repeated on the side margins. All these, and also the initials in the margin at the opening of sections and the apparatus of lection notes in text and margin, are in bright carmine ink, except the initials occurring from Lk 1¹ to 11²⁶ (7 quires), which are in black.