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A table of contents for The Churchman can be found here:

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occupied sixteen months. His caravan consisted of five or six camels, three servants, and a colporteur. Had his object been a North or South Pole, the same experiences had filled long columns of many newspapers. He found the people hospitable but ignorant. A great opportunity was the schools, which are private ventures. The teachers have no Mongolian school-books, so he made a special effort to circulate Gospels among them and their pupils. These form their primers, and are the only printed books within reach of these Mongolian schools. Under such circumstances, the 12,500 Gospels distributed during the tour mean not only a remarkable achievement, but certain preparation for a day to come.



Literary Motes.

T T is right that we should call the reader's attention to an excellent annual, entitled "The Odd Volume," seeing that it concerns the world This "Odd Volume" was published for the first time last year, and met with a gratifying success, although it is hoped that the new issue will have even a greater success. It certainly deserves to be very popular. Its first editor-and a very capable one he proved to be-was Mr. Matz, the well-known Dickens authority, and editor of that excellent little monthly, The Dickensian. It is always a thankless task to inaugurate a magazine, but Mr. Matz was highly successful. The editor of this year's volume is Mr. John G. Wilson, who hails from over the Border, and knows most of the things worth knowing about books. He has now joined the well-known City booksellers, Messrs. Jones and Evans. Previous to that he had been connected with the publishing house of Constable, and was for many years also connected with the well-known Glasgow firm of publishers and booksellers, Messrs. J. Smith and Son. "The Odd Volume" has an object—a distinct and worthy one. It is issued on behalf of the funds of the National Book Trade Provident Society, which represents the booksellers throughout the British Isles. It was issued a day or two back. The literary contents are made up of original stories and poems by many of the leading younger writers of the day, with here and there something from the pen of a master hand. The list is an imposing one; but then there are also many beautiful pictures in colour and in black and white. It should commend itself to every book-lover, especially in view of the fact that the net profits are paid into the society mentioned above. The price is one shilling net.

From Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton comes an interesting and important diary of travelling experiences by Professor Sir William Ramsay, entitled "Constantinople and Turkey, 1909." There is a charm about Sir William's writings which distinguishes them from many of our modern books, and his subject-matter is usually intensely interesting. The author, accompanied by his wife and their eldest daughter, went to Constantinople in company with the advance guard of the Army of Liberty. They lived in the capital for

seventeen days, until the siege was ended and the new Government established. They took some interesting photographs, and they travelled for two months on the edge of the region of massacre, over much of the central parts of Asiatic Turkey, whose loyalty to the new Government was a matter of great uncertainty.

The same house is starting a new series of their famous "Little Books on Religion," edited by Sir William Robertson Nicoll, LL.D., with a number of new volumes, the principal of which are "The Church and the Kingdom," by the Rev. Professor J. Denney, D.D.; "The Book of the Kindly Light," by Dr. Zielie; "St. John's Portrait of Christ," by the Rev. George Matheson, D.D.; "The Literal Interpretation of the Sermon on the Mount," by the Rev. Marcus Dods, D.D., the Rev. Professor James Denney, D.D., and the Rev. James Moffatt, D.D.; "Prayer," by Dora Greenwell, with an Introductory Note by the editor of the series; and "The Mystery of Pain," by James Hinton.

The Principal of the Clergy School at Leeds, the Rev. Dr. Simpson, has written a new book entitled "Christus Crucifixus." The author is a very interesting and suggestive writer, and always strikes a fine, bold, individual note. The new work consists of two sermons preached at the University of Oxford, together with three series of addresses on the Epistle to the Hebrews, the Words from the Cross, and the Prodigal Son.

We have just received from Messrs. Morgan and Scott their latest catalogue. It makes most interesting reading. There is a little foreword, a general review of their publications, divided into intelligible sections, several excellent collotype illustrations, and a number of photogravure pictures of the various heads of the firm at different periods. Of course the "items" in the list are of a character likely to appeal to the readers of the Churchman, and as there are many books which have just been published, or are about to appear, it would be worth while sending for a copy. Their address is 12, Paternoster Buildings, E.C.

"Modern Substitutes for Christianity," by the Rev. Pearson McAdam Muir, D.D., Minister of Glasgow Cathedral, is a new Hodder and Stoughton book. The author holds that the systems and tendencies glanced at in this volume owe their vitality to the faith which they are held to supersede. They are, in so far as they are good, either tending towards Christianity or borrowing from it. Some of the subjects dealt with are "Modern Substitutes for Christianity," "Morality without Religion," "The Religion of Humanity," "Theism without Religion," and "The Tribute of Criticism to Christ."

Among other new titles from the same publishing house is a volume of sermons by the late Dr. Marcus Dods, entitled "Christ and Man." It may not be possibly known to all that Dr. Dods once remarked, "Every sermon ought to leave men with a higher thought of God"; and the saying was always true of his own preaching. Dr. J. R. Miller, the popular author of

the "Silent Times" series, is at work upon a series of devotional readings which will cover the whole Bible in eight volumes. The title of the series is "Devotional Hours with the Bible." Two volumes, so far, are ready. There is a profusely illustrated English edition of a successful American book, entitled "Lessons from China," by Mrs. Sarah Pike Conger, wife of the late United States Minister to China. The book gives a wonderful account of Chinese life and the story of the Boxer outbreak. The Rev. Principal W. B. Selbie has published his first book since he succeeded Dr. Fairbairn as Principal of Mansfield College, Oxford. It is called "Aspects of Christ." The general subject of the volume is "The Christ of History and Experience," and the author's aim is to give a sketch of modern views on Christology in a popular form.

Lord Balcarres, M.P., has prepared for publication an important work entitled "The Evolution of Italian Sculpture." It deals with the whole basis of plastic art in Italy, recording the essential stages of progress, and analyzing the methods, theories and ideals of the various schools. Particular stress is therefore laid upon actual sculpture and its ethical development, without entering on biographical details or problems of authenticity, which have received such careful scrutiny during the last twenty years. There are to be 120 illustrations. They have been arranged in such a manner as to form a series of groups, giving at a single glance the survey of some particular subject, thus affording an easy opportunity of comparison between different styles and treatment. This volume is to be published by Mr. Murray. He also has down for early publication "The Correspondence of Priscilla, Countess of Westmorland," edited by her daughter, Lady Rose Weigall. Two new volumes are being included in the "Wisdom of the East" series: "The Master Singers of Japan," by Miss Clara A. Walsh, and "The Path of Light," translated for the first time into English from the Bodhi-Charyāvātara of Śānti-Deva. A manual of Mahā-Yāna Buddhism. By Dr. L. D. Barnett. Volumes III. and IV. of "Old Testament History," in five periods—Volumes I., II. and V. have already appeared—by the Rev. J. M. Hardwick, M.A., and the Rev. H. Costley-White, M.A. "The Religious Life of William Ewart Gladstone," by D. C. Lathbury, in two volumes, which has now been in preparation for some time, is included in Mr. Murray's announcements.

Last month Mr. Unwin published a valuable work on "The Far Eastern Question," by Mr. Thomas F. Millard, who has spent nearly ten years in the Far East. His book is very comprehensive and exact in detail. Mr. Unwin also issued Miss Maud F. Davies' "Life in an English Village." Other books from the same publisher are popular editions of Mr. Harry de Windt's "Through Savage Europe," and Professor Thorold Rogers' "Industrial and Commercial History of England."

"The Craftsman's Plant-Book; or, Figures of Plants selected from the Old Herbals," is a new and interesting work to be published by Mr. Heinemann. The author is Richard G. Hatton, and the volume will include

numerous illustrations in colour and black and white, arranged with notes and additional drawings, and an essay on the use of plants in decorated design.

Two new books announced by Mr. Stock are: "A Treasury of Thoughts on Prayer derived from Famous Men of the Past Nineteen Centuries," by Henry T. Wroth, and "Clubs and Club-Work," by the Rev. C. W. Steffins, dealing with clubs for lads and men, and giving practical hints as to their formation and conduct, with suggested rules and a full bibliographical list of books on the subject.

Messrs. Longmans are bringing out "Rules and Instructions for a Devotional Life," by Robert Leighton, Archbishop of Glasgow, edited by the Rev. James Dinwoodie, with a prefatory note by the Right Rev. H. C. G. Moule, D.D., Bishop of Durham.

From Professor Deissmann comes a volume concerning the language, literature, and religious history of the Early Christian Church, entitled "Light from Anatolia." The Rev. D. Macmillan, D.D., gives us a work on "The Aberdeen Doctors." "The Thousand and One Churches" of the Kara Dagh, the "Black Mountain," near Iconium, have aroused considerable interest in recent years. A new book is appearing which is the outcome of a careful examination of the whole site, and which resulted in the discovery of many unknown monuments, together with important Hittite inscriptions. Professor Sir W. M. Ramsay describes the history of society and religion during seven successive centuries in the "Black Mountain," and Miss Gertrude L. Bell describes the churches and monasteries. Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton are the publishers of "The Thousand and One Churches," and also the other two books mentioned in this paragraph.

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Motices of Books.

A New History of Methodism. By W. J. Townsend, D.D., H. B. Workman, D.Litt., and George Eayrs, F.R.H.S. Two volumes. London: Hodder and Stoughton. Price 30s.

These two handsome volumes worthily sustain the claim of the title and preface. They provide us with a history of Methodism which utilizes "the results of recent studies upon the origins of the Methodist Churches, manifests the sense of their oneness which all feel increasingly, and sets forth worldwide Methodism as a branch of the Church Catholic with its own notes and an essential unity underlying its several forms in many lands" (p. v). In view of the articles on Christian Reunion which have been appearing in our columns, the work will be read with special interest, and in particular we would commend to our readers the Introductory Essay by Dr. Workman on "The Place of Methodism in the Life and Thought of the Christian Church."