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Mrs. Blackwell's Scientific Method in Biology—also from Stock—is a plea for justice to the lower creation in the matter of physiological research. We are in cordial sympathy with every attempt to delegalize the practice of vivisection, believing that the secrets of nature are not meant to be wrung out through the anguish and blood of hecatombs of innocent beasts. We commend Mrs. E. Blackwell's book as a temperate presentation of the whole case in its moral aspect.

PITHY POINTS, by James Sprunt (Stoneman), is a useful little manual

for furthering the intelligent study of the Bible.

Yet another volume of sermons!—this time by a Canadian divine, Rev. J. de Soyres (Cambridge: Deighton Bell). There is much here which commands our earnest sympathy, and something, too, from which we dissent; but the volume is distinctly above the average. Still, we doubt if it will positively increase the high reputation which Mr. de Soyres has won among scholars by his previous works—his study of Montanism in the second century, for instance.

We are unable to criticise in this place the Rev. F. Potts' FREE RHYTHM PSALTER (Oxford University Press); but the method applied seems to us complicated, and not likely to supersede existing methods. The book bears evidence, however, of immense labour and exact know-

ledge.

The Month.

THE ontlook in France is more critical than ever. It would be unsafe to hazard any conjectures as to the probable turn of events, for France has a peculiar way of falsifying all forecasts as to her future; but we cannot hide from ourselves any longer that Revolution is nearer than it has been for more than a century. It may be averted, but at present it is difficult to see how. The bureaucracy of France is corrupt to the core. Possibly a diversion may be attempted by the military factions, which would be more than half disposed to declare war against England, if the opportunity presented itself, in order to take the nation's thoughts off from internal troubles. And we fear that recent events in connection with the Fashoda incident, and more lately with the Newfoundland dispute, have an ugly look. We hope for the best; meanwhile the country is bound to prepare for any eventualities.

The controversy over the present crisis in the Church of England, so far from quieting down, is growing daily more acute. Sir William Harcourt's letters to the *Times* (since reprinted as a pamphlet), by indicating the temper of a considerable section of the clergy, have simply voiced the discontent of the laity, which, though steadily repressed, has been felt for a long time past. Either the Bishops must face the situation in all its gravity, and draw the line between English and Latin Catholicism, as they alone can hope to do, or the knell of Disestablishment will have been rung—which would be the signal for the disruption of the National Church.

We regret to announce the retirement of the Rev. Dr. Waller from the Principalship of St. John's, Highbury, owing to breakdown in health. He has been Principal since the death of Dr. Boultbee in 1884. Bishop Welldon, the newly-appointed Bishop of Calcutta, left England on January 11. The scene at Victoria Station was a striking testimony to the regard felt by English people for the new Bishop, and to the extreme interest aroused by his appointment.

On Wednesday evening, January 6, Dr. Barnardo held his twenty-fourth annual supper for London "waifs and strays." Only the neediest were admitted. During 1898 Dr. Barnardo's Homes have dealt with 12,688 separate cases of destitution, wretchedness, and ill-usage.

The Islington Meeting, held on January 10th, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Barlow, was very remarkable. In 1850 there were only forty clergy present; in 1899 there were over a thousand. The one subject for consideration was "The Teaching of the Church of England respecting the Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion." Among the papers read on this occasion must be mentioned those by Revs. Dr. Wace, H. C. G. Moule, D.D., Principal Drury, and Canon Girdlestone. A full report is given in the *Record* of January 15, and this report has since been issued in pamphlet form.

A Protestant demonstration (organized by the National Protestant Church Union) took place at the Church House, Westminster, on January 11. It was fully attended, and deep interest was displayed throughout the proceedings. Lord Midleton took the chair. Resolutions were moved by Lord Kinnaird, J. W. Mellor, Q.C., M.P., and Sir John Kennaway, Bart., M.P. At the close of Sir John's speech the chair was vacated by Lord Midleton, and occupied by Prebendary Webb-Peploe.

It is officially announced that at the meeting of Bishops held at Lambeth Palace on Tuesday, January 17, at which all the Bishops were present, it was resolved that a Bill for the reform of the Ecclesiastical Courts, drawn on the lines laid down by the Royal Commission in 1883, should be submitted to the Convocations on February 8 and 9.

The Rev. S. J. Stone, M.A., Rector of All Hallows, London Wall, is about to adopt the novel and useful expedient of opening his church from 6.30 to 8 o'clock each morning, in order that working girls and women who are compelled to travel to town by early workmen's trains may have a place of shelter and rest until the various factories, shops, and warehouses open. A brief service is to be held at 7 a.m., and books, not only religious in character, but also of general interest, are to be provided.

The Bishop of Wakefield has received from an anonymous sonrce the handsome donation of £3,000 towards the fund for enlarging Wakefield Cathedral as a memorial to the late Bishop How, the first Bishop of the diocese. The gift has been prompted by what the present Bishop has said on several occasions to the effect that the object of providing a mother church worthy of the name was of paramount importance to the work of the diocese. A total of £11,000 has now been promised towards the first section of the work, which will cost £14,700.

The new Bishop of Bangor is to be consecrated at Westminster Abbey on Thursday, February 2, the Primate officiating. Bishop Williams will do homage to the Queen at Osborne a few days later, and his enthrone-

ment in Bangor Cathedral is to take place during the following week, so that he will be able to get to work in his diocese at the beginning of Lent.

The Council of the South-Eastern College, Ramsgate, has just appointed Mr. C. Morris to be headmaster, in the place of the Rev. F. W. Tracy, who has recently resigned. Mr. Tracy has been headmaster since 1892, and during his tenure of office the numbers have risen from about sixty-two to nearly two hundred. Mr. Morris has for some years been headmaster of the South-Eastern College junior school.

Mr. Harry Lloyd has given £100 in answer to the appeal of the Church House Council for funds for the second portion of the permanent buildings, to be commenced next June. £10,000 is still required for the completion of this portion of the Church House.

The Emperor of Russia has sent, through the Russian Ambassador in London, as a Christmas gift to the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, a donation of £50.

A great sensation has been created in the art circles of Italy by the unexpected discovery of a magnificent Madonna by the celebrated painter Cima de Conegrano (1460-1518).

According to the *Italie*, a wealthy Englishman has offered Signor Baccelli, the Minister of Public Instruction, to undertake at his own expense the excavations in the Forum, and the partial reconstruction of the ancient monuments, the work of reconstruction to be done under the direction of a commission of archæologists of different countries.

£20,000 has been subscribed during the past year for the East London Church Fund. The Bishop of Stepney, speaking at a meeting at Bournemouth in January, said that this was a record sum for one year's collection.

A course of eight lectures on physical health and recreation is to be given at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., during the next few weeks, under the auspices of various bodies interested in charitable work. A lecture will be given every Thursday at 4 p.m. The first was given on January 26, when Dr. G. B. Longstaff, L.C.C., took the chair. These lectures have been planned so as to be of real service to those who are trying to improve social conditions, and to help the poor and distressed from day to day personally. They will be based on actual experience of such work, and will be simple and practical.

APPEAL.

The Bethnal Green Free Library Committee appeal for £700 to make up £2,000 asked for at the beginning of the year. There has been an exceptional outlay of some £250 for the renovation and repairing of the building, the clock-tower being in a dangerous condition. The clock was the gift of the late Sir James Tyler, a trustee. A stone platform has been erected on one of the staircases. The free lending department has met with signal success, no fewer than between 1,100 and 1,200 persons becoming borrowers, whilst the spacious reading-room is crowded to excess night after night. Altogether upwards of 50,000 persons were benefited during the past year, bringing up the total since the opening, nearly twenty-three years ago, to 900,000.

The institution is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, and

takes the character of a polytechnic with its evening classes for technical instruction.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Bevan, 54, Lombard Street, E.C.; Barclay and Co., bankers, same address; or to the Secretary and Librarian at the Bethnal Green Free Library.

JEWS' SOCIETY.—The annual prayer meeting of the London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews was held at Exeter Hall, Strand, on Friday, the 20th inst. The proceedings, which were associated with a commemoration of the Jubilee of Christ Church, Jerusalem, were of an exceptionally interesting character. The chair was taken by Bishop Hellmuth.

Church Missionary Society.—A preliminary programme of the arrangements for the celebration of the C.M.S. centenary—so far as regards London—has been issued by the society. The great event is fixed to take place during the second week in April, from Sunday, the 9th, to Sunday, the 16th. The anniversary service and meetings in May will be held as usual. They are not to be superseded by the centenary commemoration. Most of the larger centres in the provinces have arranged the dates of their local commemorations, of which the names of more than ninety are given in the current number of the *Intelligencer*. The London celebration will be on a vast scale.

MORAVIAN MISSIONS.—We are glad to state that the deficit of £12,653 which lately existed in connection with the Moravian Foreign Missions, has been reduced to about £7,000. The value and soundness of these old-established and economically conducted missions furnish a strong claim on the support of all Christians, and we trust that the balance above-named will be speedily contributed.

British and Foreign Bible Society.—The January number of the Bible Society Reporter contains a letter from Mr. Robert Cust, who raises the question whether Archbishop Ussher's chronology and the "headings" to the chapters should be retained by the society in its editions of the English Bible. The Archbishop first published his chronology in 1650-54, under the title "Annales Veteris et Novi Testamenti." His dates were afterwards interpolated by some unknown authority into the margins of reference editions of the Authorised Version. It is of interest to note that the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society have recently resolved: "That, in view of the confessed erroneousness of many of these dates," all of them shall hereafter be omitted from the society's new editions.

MISS WESTON'S WORK.—During the past month H.I.M. the Empress Frederick paid a visit to the Sailors' Rest at Portsmouth. The Empress was received on landing by the Commander-in-Chief of the Port, Admiral Sir M. Culme-Seymour. During the course of her Imperial Majesty's visit Miss Weston made a careful statement respecting her work, which has extended over a quarter of a century.

SOME NEW BOOKS, ETC.

Gregorovius' History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages. Translated from the German. London: G. Bell and Sons. Vol. vi., in two parts. Price 4s. 6d. each (net).

Works of Bishop Berkeley. Vol. iii. Edited by G. Sampson. (Bohn's

Library.) G. Bell and Sons. 58.

The American Revolution. Part I., 1766-1776. By Sir G. Otto Trevelyan, Bart. Longmans. 16s.

Democracy and Liberty. By W. E. H. LECKY. New edition (in 2 vols., crown 8vo). 12s.

Blackwood's Magazine will reach its thousandth number in February, and the publishers are making preparations for a special double number to celebrate the event. The magazine was first published in 1817, and we were lately reminded of the number of books that it has contributed to the permanent literature of the country.

Her Majesty, who recently accepted the dedication of the Oxford Vulgate, and has now received a copy of the first volume, has forwarded her best thanks to the delegates of the Oxford University Press, and to

the editors of this important work.

Obituary.

WE deeply regret to announce the death of the Rev. Joseph William Reynolds, Rector of St. Anne and St. Agnes, Gresham Street, and Prebendary of St. Paul's, in which his son holds also a Prebend. He was ordained by the Bishop of London (Dr. Blomfield) in 1849. Prebendary Reynolds was the author of the well-known book, "The Supernatural in Nature," as well as of other works of a kindred nature.

The Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Price, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, died at Oxford after a long illness, aged eighty years. He was the son of the late Rev. William Price, Rector of Coln St. Denis, Gloucestershire; was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford, and graduated B.A. in 1840, taking first-class honours in mathematics. Mr. Price was ordained in 1841, and from 1844 to 1892 was a Fellow of his college, being elected Master in the latter year, when he was also given a stall in Gloucester Cathedral. He was appointed Sedleian Professor of Natural Philosophy at Oxford in 1853, and was a member of the Hebdomadal Council, a delegate of the Clarendon Press, Fellow of the Royal Society, a Curator of the Bodleian Library, an honorary Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, a member of the governing body of Winchester College, and a visitor of Greenwich Observatory.

"The death took place at South Stoke Hall, Bath, on January 10, of the Rev. William Acworth, sometime Vicar of Rothley, and a magistrate for the county of Leicester. Mr. Acworth, who was in his ninety-sixth year, was from 1836 to 1875 Vicar of Rothley, Leicestershire, and of Plumstead, and then Rector of West Walton-with-Talbenny. His last preferment was the vicarage of South Stoke, Somerset, which Mr. Acworth held from 1875 to 1884. He was a thorough Protestant, and took a great interest in all Evangelical movements."—Record.

From Montreal (January 16) the death is announced of Father Chiniquy, the well-known ex-Roman Catholic priest. He rejected all attempts made by the Roman Catholic Archbishop to reconcile him with his former Church, and died in the Protestant faith.