

specialists, devoted his earlier studies chiefly to Irish, and was recognized as one of the foremost authorities on Irish historical grammar before he undertook the extensive treatment of Welsh linguistics. The present volume was put together with great rapidity during the last months of his life, and bears here and there marks of incompleteness. But it presents a systematic survey of early Welsh grammar, the first to be published since the "Grammatica Celtica" of Zeuss; and Celtic scholars are fortunate in receiving so important a work from the hands of an acknowledged master. The texts which accompany the grammar were selected chiefly to give practice in reading, but they include some hitherto unprinted manuscript material, and they are admirably edited. The glossary is a welcome addition to the scanty lexicographical resources of students of mediæval Welsh. The whole work has been brought out under the supervision of Prof. Kuno Meyer, who has discharged his part, it need hardly be said, with the competence of a scholar and the fidelity of a friend.

Mr. Wade-Evans's book is chiefly of value as supplying students of Welsh literature and institutions with a scrupulously careful text and translation of one of the law-books of the code ascribed to Howel Dda. In the older edition of the "Ancient Laws," by Aneurin Owen, the text was an amalgamation derived from several versions. But the present editor has adhered to a single manuscript tradition, that of MS. Harl. 4533, which is, according to the excellent authority of Mr. Gwenogfryn Evans, the oldest and most important representative of the so-called "Book of Cyfnerth," or Gwentian Code. It is to be hoped that the other books, or local codes, may be made similarly accessible. Mr. Wade-Evans's translation, as he himself says, is necessarily tentative in many places. His introduction contains a careful account of the various manuscripts of the different law-books and a brief sketch of Welsh history from the departure of the Romans down to the reign of Howell the Good. The historical doctrines presented are, some of them, to say the least, heterodox, and should be received with caution. For fuller arguments in defence of views which depart from received opinion, and which are rather dogmatically set forth in the present volume, readers should consult Mr. Wade-Evans's articles in the *Celtic Review* (Edinburgh) for 1905.

The Christian Doctrine of God. By William Newton Clarke, D.D. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$2.50 net.

Something over twenty years ago, after a period of long barrenness in the field of systematic theology in both Great Britain and America, there was discovered a privately printed volume

of outlines of Christian doctrine, which surprised and delighted by its originality and force, its discerning insight and gentle persuasiveness. The author was found to be a Baptist clergyman, then past middle life, who had been impressed into the service of a theological school as temporary instructor in dogmatic theology during the illness of the regular incumbent. These outlines were seized upon by teachers who felt that Hodge, Shedd, and Strong were woefully out of touch with the times, and yet who had no comprehensive treatise, alive to modern difficulties, to put in their place. Here at last was a systematic theologian capable of doing thorough justice to every phase of orthodox doctrine, yet a man of the present age, aware of the necessity of reconstructing nearly every chapter of the church's working creed.

Of course, such a book could not be hid. Expanded and revised for general use, it was published under the title "Outlines of Christian Theology," and immediately fell into high favor among moderate men of all communions, both at home and in Great Britain. One who chanced to be travelling in Wales the summer after it was published found it even in the bookstores of remote villages. It is safe to say that no work concerning Christian doctrine of the last twenty years has had a wider or more wholesome influence. There is no book which can be put into the hands of one inquiring about any phase of Christian belief with better prospect that he will find his difficulties met, in the form in which he sees them, with a spirit of honest candor, and with no small portion of clear, resolute thinking.

Dr. Clarke was not released from his *pro tempore* professorship. Until the last year or two he has taught continuously at Colgate, and lectured both in England and America. His best work, however, is done by the pen, and his occasional lesser volumes, such as "The Use of the Scriptures in Theology," "Can We Believe in God the Father?" have performed useful service. It has long been known that he was engaged in the preparation of a work on "The Christian Doctrine of God" for the International Theological Library, and high expectations have been held as to the character and value of the work. These hopes are now justified. The book in hand is easily Dr. Clarke's *magnum opus*. The theme gave him a great opportunity, suited to his temperament and to the particular quality of his personal faith. The time is ripe, as many have been saying, for constructive work in theology. The religious life, of which doctrine is the outgrowth, is notably richer, sweeter, and saner than that out of which the older theologies had their rise. Criticism has exposed a thousand errors, and made it

easier to avoid unfounded presuppositions. Sensitive to the good in both the old and the new, and responsive to the needs of the present, avoiding haste in preparation, Dr. Clarke has contributed to Christian thought an eminently reverent, thorough, and wise presentation of the best Christianity has to offer as conviction concerning God and His relations to the universe and to men.

The book is not an essay in theism. It is not a philosophical discourse on the grounds of theistic belief and defence of its reasonableness. It is not a summary of biblical teaching concerning God, nor a criticism of the classical Christian symbols in so far as they attempt to define the divine attributes. One is struck by the absence of reference to other writers in a work of such large compass, which handles the favorite theme of numberless theologians and philosophers. After a careful reading Paley is the only author whose name one remembers to have seen in the entire discussion. It is evident that the work is not controversial—the spirit as well as the form is irenic, and one would as soon think of quarrelling with the first Epistle of St. John as with Dr. Clarke's essay. "We shall encounter views of God that we cannot accept," he declares; "we may leave them, but we need not stay to slay them. The views of him that we accept should be borne in upon our souls by the tide of a mighty peace, and received in a calmness that has small place for controversy. The doctrine of God will fight its own battles, and the best that we can do for it is to set it forth."

It is a fair review of Dr. Clarke's volume to say that he sets forth the Christian doctrine of God in this devout and gracious spirit. By that doctrine he means the conception of God for which Christianity now stands, that view of Him which "Christian faith and thought propose for the present time, in view of the Bible, and of the history, and of all sound knowledge and experience, interpreted in the light of Christ the revealer." He sets forth the sources of this idea of the divine being, in the ancient ethical conception of the Hebrew prophets, in the life and teaching of Jesus, and in the growth of Christian thought and experience. He is bold enough to maintain that much that is truly Christian has come to light and full force since the Galilean life and the days of the Apostles. He sets aside, without rancor but with firmness, much that has maintained itself as Christian with high authority. He does not argue, he is at no great pains to defend: he declares with the beauty of simplicity the sublime faith in the beneficent ruler of the universe to which heroic souls have been led under the mastery of him who taught the world to pray "Our Father."

The Hand-Book of Alaska: Its Resources, Products, and Attractions. By Major-Gen. A. W. Greely, U. S. A. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$2.

Alaska has been so remote, and in many parts so inaccessible, that to the present day trustworthy data as to what it really is and contains have been hard to obtain. At the time of its acquisition it was generally believed to be an ice-bound uninhabitable waste. Some enthusiastic writers now paint it as a veritable Garden of Eden in its beauty and productiveness. Between these extremes have come representations of the most varied character as to its availability for human uses. To the too often untrustworthy Alaskan literature Gen. Greely's book is a welcome contribution. One of the most accomplished and experienced officers of the army, he has had extraordinary opportunities for becoming acquainted with far Northern conditions. He has been head of the signal service, twice military commander in Alaska, a frequent visitor almost since the date of its cession by the Russians, not only a most intelligent observer, but an efficient agent in the country's development.

The book presents usually only facts and statistics, devoid of glamour. What wealth has been amassed by miners, farmers, fur-hunters, fishermen, and traders, is stated in figures taken from official documents. "Moderately successful" is a frequent phrase applied to enterprises in all the various fields. Though millions have been gained, much of the effort hitherto put forth in Alaska has ended in disappointment. But while Alaska, as compared with many other areas of the United States, has a heavy handicap, it possesses unmistakably vast resources. As to one thing only does Gen. Greely allow himself superlatives—the magnificence of the scenery: for this he holds that the world elsewhere has no parallel. Modestly disclaiming for himself the power to describe, he quotes many glowing passages from others, endorsing as simply correct portrayals what the world has been disposed to think extravagant.

We have read with especial interest Gen. Greely's account of the native population, among whom the Eskimos and the Aleutian Islanders are rude races unusually endowed with capacity and attractive qualities. It is painful to know that up to the present, white men have sought them mainly "for exploitation and debauchery"—a contact under which their numbers have dwindled and their character deteriorated. The land and sea animals upon which they depended for subsistence have been pursued by the newcomers almost to extermination, while liquor and licentiousness have done among them the usual devil's work. Gen. Greely speaks cordially,

however, of the work of the missionaries, of the educational work of some of the commercial companies, and gives a consoling picture of how the government, by successfully introducing the reindeer, is to some extent making good the destruction of the whale, walrus, and the seal.

Notes.

"The Short Story in English," by Prof. Henry Seidal Canby of Yale, now in press, is intended to be a critical guide and an historical account. The publishers, Henry Holt & Co., also announce for publication this autumn "Masters of the English Novel," by Richard Burton, professor of English literature at the University of Minnesota.

John Davis's "Travels of Four Years and a Half in the United States of America (1798-1802)," which will be published next month by Henry Holt & Co., has been described as the only book of the period written by a traveller in the United States, the object of which is not so much statistics as pure narrative. This is not so remarkable when we remember that Davis was a novelist and a friend of Brockden Brown. The travels described extend from New York to South Carolina. This is the narrative of which Trevelyan wrote in his "American Revolution": "An exquisitely absurd book, which the world, to the diminution of its gayety, has forgotten."

Prof. W. J. Ashley as editor, the Messrs. Longman, Green & Co. as publishers, promise a new edition of Mill's "Principles of Political Economy" in which will be indicated, with their dates, all changes in the text reflective of variation or development in Mill's opinions.

The Putnams announce a new study of "Fernando Cortes and His Conquest of Mexico," by Francis A. MacNutt. The same publishers are preparing, under the editorship of Katharine N. Birdsall, "The Young People's Book Shelf," which is to contain some twenty volumes of verse and prose adapted to the understanding of the young, and intended to stimulate as well as to entertain.

B. W. Huebsch announces for publication this autumn a number of works dealing with the question of socialism. Thus, we are promised John Spargo's "The Substance of Socialism" and "Karl Marx," as well as Edward Bernstein's "Evolutionary Socialism: A Criticism and Affirmation," translated by Edith C. Harvey.

The issue of a second edition of Dr. George Burman Foster's "The Finality of the Christian Religion" (University of Chicago Press) gives the publishers the opportunity to announce that the second part of this work will be ready before the end of the year, and it has enabled the writer to correct typographical errors, and to restate, in a brief preface, his belief in a "free religion."

On September 18 Houghton Mifflin Company will issue the following list of books: "Robinson Crusoe," illustrated by E. Boyd Smith; "The Oath of Allegiance, and Other Stories," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps; "The

New Golfer's Almanac," by W. L. Stoddard; "Oliver Wendell Holmes," by Samuel M. Crothers; De Cesare's "Last Days of Papal Rome," translated by Helen Zimmern, and with an introductory chapter by G. M. Trevelyan; "The Elements of Military Hygiene," by Major Percy M. Ashburn.

The publishers of *Las Novedades*, a weekly newspaper of some years' standing, announce that on October 1 they will begin publication of the first Spanish daily newspaper to be issued in New York city. The name of the new newspaper will be the *Diario de las Novedades*.

Among the books to be published this month by Charles Scribner's Sons are: "The Narratives of New Netherland, 1609-1664," a new volume in the series of Original Narratives of Early American History, edited by Dr. J. F. Jameson, general editor of the series; "The First George in Hanover and in England," by Lewis Melville; "Famous Women of Florence," by Edgcombe Staley; "Society and Politics in Ancient Rome," by Frank F. Abbott; "Universities of Ancient Greece," by J. W. H. Walden; "The Problem of Human Life," by Rudolph Eucken; "Church Unity," by Dr. C. A. Briggs; "The Mystery of Education," by Barrett Wendell; "The American of the Future," by Brander Matthews. Some of the illustrated books to be published by Scribners are an edition of "The Arabian Nights: Their Best Tales," illustrated by Maxfield Parrish; W. H. Wright's "The Grizzly Bear"; C. W. Murlong's "The Gateway to the Sahara"; and, for younger readers, "The Story of Rustem, and Other Persian Hero Tales," by Elizabeth Renninger; "The Boy's Catlin," and Dan Beard's "The Boy Pioneers."

Students of Swift will appreciate "The Battle of the Books," edited by A. Guthkelch (London: Chatto & Windus; in the King's Classics). In the introduction the editor ranges over the battlefield of the quarrel between the ancients and the moderns, from Perrault and Fontenelle to Swift's "Apology," 1710. The appendix gives selections from Sir William Temple's "Essay," from Wotton's "Reflections" (both editions), from Boyle's "Phalaris," Bentley's "First Dissertation," Boyle's "Examination," and Bentley's "Second Dissertation." The notes are copious, and the bibliography seems to us exhaustive. In brief, we do not remember another English prose classic furnished with so generous an outfit. The reader has before him everything likely to throw light upon one of the most genial, yet at the same time most puzzling, of literary satires. Only at one point have we found the editor lacking. He has overlooked the interesting discovery, made twenty years ago by Feyerbrand, *Englische Studien*, XI, 487-491, that the end of the "Battle," the Bentley-Wotton episode, though printed by Swift as prose, is really for the most part in blank verse. One has only to read aloud to catch the rhythm. This metrical structure accounts for the ironical grandiloquence of the diction. The "Battle" thus anticipates Pope's "Rape of the Lock."

In condensing the narratives of Henry Hudson's biographers, Thomas A. Janvier ("Henry Hudson," Harper & Bros.) draws the conclusion that every important move in the explorer's life "of which we have record seems to have been a forced move, sometimes with a look of chance about it."