

gold and silver coin in France, instead of gold and silver bullion in London, the fluctuation of 1 per cent. or 2 per cent. to which he refers would seem an insignificant evil compared with the fluctuation of nearly 30 per cent. in the value of the gold unit which he admits to have taken place since 1873.

The essays, or literary talks, by Mr. Edmund Gosse, which have been collected under the general title, *Questions at Issue*, are pleasant reading, though they cannot be said to evince the purely critical faculty in a remarkably close or high degree. They are rather the chat of an extremely well-informed literary man of good taste, talking to a general audience in a popular way. Several of the articles have appeared in this country in magazine form. Many readers will particularly remember Mr. Gosse's answer to the question, Has America Produced a Poet? This is certainly not one of the most valuable papers in the book, although thanks are due to it because it called out as a sequel the following article, "What is a Great Poet?" which is very well worth reading indeed. Mr. Gosse in these two papers follows the usual course of English critics in placing Poe above Longfellow and Bryant. Mr. Gosse's talks upon novel writing and novel reading are always entertaining; we quote a single passage: "What are these novelists going to do? They were set down to farm the one hundred acres of an estate called Life, and because one corner of it—the two or three acres hedged about, and called the kitchen-garden of Love—offered peculiar attractions, and was very easy to cultivate, they have neglected the other ninety-seven acres. The result is that by over-pressing their garden, and forcing crop after crop out of it, it is well-nigh exhausted, and will soon refuse to respond to the incessant hoe and spade: while, all the time, the rest of the estate, rich and almost virgin soil, is left to cover itself with the weeds of newspaper police-reports." The reader should not overlook the last and best essay in the book, which Mr. Gosse calls "An Election at the English Academy," and which is one of the most delicate and genuinely humorous bits of mild satire we have seen for many a day. (D. Appleton & Co., New York.)

A handsomely printed and bound volume of over five hundred pages, illustrated by something like two hundred engravings made from photographs and drawings, contains the record of Mr. Frederick Ober's travels and explorations, *In the Wake of Columbus*. Mr. Ober was sent out as a special commissioner by the World's Columbian Exposition to visit the West Indies, and the adjacent islands and countries. He sought diligently for all records or relics of Columbus's famous voyages, and was the means of bringing to Chicago many of the most interesting exhibits now to be found in the reproduced Convent of Rabida. In the course of his travels Mr. Ober visited Spain, San Salvador, Cuba, the Bahamas, nearly all the islands of the West Indies, and several of the countries of South and Central America. His conclusion as to Columbus's land-fall is that the first land discovered was the Key now known as Watling's Island. In this conclusion he agrees with the most recent opinions of special students of the subject, although it must be admitted that there are historical objections which may be brought against accepting absolutely any one of the several solutions of the problem. In style, Mr. Ober's narrative is unconventional and agreeable. At times one feels that it might be condensed to advantage, and that it would be the better for the omission of some details of merely personal interest; but, as a rule, the book is readable, and it certainly contains much matter which cannot be found elsewhere. (D. Lothrop Co., Boston.)

Messrs. Fords, Howard & Hurlbut of this city have published in substantial form *The Original Plymouth Pulpit*. The sermons here included were preached between September, 1868, and September, 1872, and the three volumes now put forth therefore precede in order of time the four volumes of Mr. Beecher's sermons heretofore published by this firm. The reports are the stenographic work of Mr. T. J. Ellinwood. As time goes on the demand for the sermons of Henry Ward Beecher, in printed form, seems to increase rather than to diminish. The number of inquiries we have ourselves received for information as to where these sermons may be obtained leads us to believe that the books now before us will meet with a wide recognition. As to the quality and substance of Mr. Beecher's sermons, it is not necessary for us to speak at this time. Many of these sermons originally appeared in the pages of this paper.

Several years ago, when the first edition of *The Road and the Roadside*, by Burton W. Potter, appeared, we commended it as a carefully prepared and thoroughly exhaustive compendium of all matters relating to the law of roads. A new edition has just been issued in which are included seven additional chapters, besides extensive additions to the old sections. The book covers such topics as the public use of highways, construction, boundaries, street railways, the maintenance of good roads, and many

others of equal importance. Nowhere else can there be found collected into convenient and non-technical form the matter which is here presented. Mr. Potter writes clearly and graphically, and is thoroughly familiar with his subject in all its aspects. (Little, Brown & Co., Boston.)

Those who have read Miss Kate Sanborn's book entitled "Adopting an Abandoned Farm," will look to her new volume, *A Truthful Woman in Southern California*, for vivacity and cheerful comment. They will not be disappointed, for the little book is readable from cover to cover. It gives all desirable information about the climate, the productions, the good and bad points of the different resorts and cities of Southern California. Besides all this, it furnishes in abundance clever and witty comment on the daily life in that section of the country, the whims and absurdities of some health-seekers, and the truth as to what may and what may not be fairly expected by those whose chief object in visiting the Western coast is health. (D. Appleton & Co., New York.)

A useful little pocket guide for the visitor to the World's Fair is entitled *The Best Things to See and How to Find Them*. (White City Publishing Company, Chicago. 25 cts.) Salient points of the great show are sharply brought out, there are blank pages for memoranda, routes for one, three, and six-day visitors, a map of the grounds, etc., etc. The book is convenient and suggestive, and is aptly denominated a "time-saver."

Literary Notes

—A volume of sermons by the Rev. Dr. Arthur Brooks, with the title "The Life of Christ in the World," will be published soon by Thomas Whitaker.

—Beckford's romance of "Vathek" has been reprinted in the original French in which Beckford wrote it, with a preface by by Stéphane Millarné. Millarné maintains that Beckford was more French than English.

—Tolstoi hopes to live long enough to complete one more novel, which will be named "God in the Man," and will deal with society under present conditions. Literary gossip says that it will be very Socialistic and Communistic in its sympathies.

The long novel which the author of "The Story of an African Farm" is now engaged upon is said to have been named "From Man to Man." It is described as a study in the comparative ethics of men's treatment of men, and their treatment of women.

—Through a misapprehension on the part of the reviewer, in our laudatory notice of the book entitled "A Review of the System of Ethics Founded on the Theory of Evolution" (The Outlook, August 12) the author was spoken of throughout as "Mr. Williams." The book was, in fact, written by Miss Cora M. Williams, Smith College, '83.

—The Rev. W. Garrett Horder, author of the article entitled "Ten Years of Hymnody in England," printed in the number of this journal dated July 29, asks us to state that in line nine of that article the word "new" should be "their," and "Ring" should be "King;" in line sixty-six the word "star" should be "man," and in lines 149 and 150 the word "divinity" should be "diversity." It is only fair to our compositors to add that the "copy" was unusually difficult to decipher. Mr. Horder also asks that we state that the initials D.D. were incorrectly placed after his name at the head of the article.

Books Received

- D. APPLETON & CO., NEW YORK
 Grey, Maxwell. An Innocent Impostor.
 Coppée, François. True Riches.
 GINN & CO., BOSTON
 Gayley, Charles Mills. The Classic Myths in English Literature. \$1.65
 HARPER & BROS., NEW YORK
 Grail, Stephen. The Nameless City. 50 cts.
 Pool, Marie Louise. "Dally." 50 cts.
 James, Henry. The Private Life. \$1.
 Early Prose and Verse. Edited by Alice Morse Earle and Emily Ellsworth Ford. \$1.
 Bonner, John. A Child's History of France. \$2.
 Besant, Walter. The Rebel Queen. \$1.50
 D. LOTHROP CO., BOSTON
 Ober, Frederick A. In the Wake of Columbus. \$2.50.
 Lovejoy, Mary I. The Interstate Third Reader.
 MACMILLAN & CO., NEW YORK
 Davies, William. The Literary Works of James Smetham. \$1.50.
 Selections from the Verse of Augusta Webster. \$1.50.
 Memories of Dean Hole. \$2.25.
 Hales, John W., M.A. Folia Litteraria. \$1.75.
 Bradley, F. H., LL.D. Appearance and Reality. \$2.75.
 THE OPEN COURT PUBLISHING CO., CHICAGO
 Mach, Dr. Ernst. The Science of Mechanics. Translated. \$2.50.
 WILLIAM J. FELL, NEW YORK
 Ward, Hon. C. J., C. M. S., World's Fair. Jamaica at Chicago.
 PUTNAM'S SONS, NEW YORK
 Shakespeare, William. Ariel Edition. 7 Vols. 75 cents each.
 THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO., CINCINNATI
 Morrell, Charles B., M.D. Bible Lamps for Little Feet. \$2.00.
 McCauley, W. F. "How." 50 cts.

With Our Readers

I.—Correspondence

A Preacher Without Tools

To the Editors of The Outlook:

I have just seen a letter from a clergyman who is laboring in the mountainous regions of western North Carolina, of course, on a beggarly salary, and who has recently had the great misfortune to lose every book he had by fire. It is a great calamity when a workman loses all his tools, and has no money to replace them. It occurs to me that some of your readers would be willing and glad to spare each a volume or two from their book-shelves. Any books which would be serviceable to a clergyman, especially commentaries, would be a great help to this man. I should be glad to furnish his address.

H. R. MUNGER,
44 Broadway, New York.

An Ohio Populist's View

To the Editors of The Outlook:

I am pleased to note the evident fairness with which you seem disposed to treat the free-silver men: There is one point, however, as it seems to me, to which you have hardly given due weight. We are engaged in paying our National debt. The standard of value, the "dollar or unit," when that debt was contracted was a silver coin weighing 412½ grains and 9.10 fine. The least subtraction from the weight or fineness of that standard coin pending the liquidation of the debt is a fraud upon the creditor. The least addition to its weight or fineness is, on the other hand, a fraud upon the debtor. Any legal obstacle to the unrestricted coinage of the money metal into the standard unit, the dollar of the contract, produces by indirection the same result as adding to its weight—it makes the number of possible dollars less, and results in a relative "contraction of the currency that bankrupts debtors," to use your own felicitous expression. We do not propose to defraud the creditors; we propose to pay them in full in the dollars they bargained for. Neither do we propose, if we can help it, to be defrauded by our own agents in Congress and in the executive chair when they enter into collusion with our creditors to compel us to liquidate our debt in another and scarcer dollar, that costs twice as much wheat, corn, and cotton to buy—a dollar that they didn't bargain for, and we didn't agree to pay. Until every dollar of national indebtedness is paid, we insist that any alteration of the dollar of the contract is an impairment of the contract, and a fraud on the face of it. That dollar is to-day a legal tender for all debts not otherwise expressly stated in the contract. What we now protest against is the legal obstruction to the coinage of dollars, a restriction which prevents the expansion of the volume of the current coin to keep pace with the growth of population and business.

L. B. T.

A Reply

To the Editors of The Outlook:

Mr. Windmüller's article in The Outlook of August 5 proves too much for his own side. He says: "The bushel of wheat has lately brought about the same price as an ounce of silver. Neither article has ever been so cheap." Did it never occur to him that an ounce of silver and a bushel of wheat have for many years almost always brought "about" the same price, and that it is the price of gold that has changed, not the intrinsic value of either silver or wheat?

It seems to me that the whole trouble grows out of the fact that we do not look at this as a moral question.

Suppose we take a pound avoirdupois of standard silver and an ounce avoirdupois of standard gold. The two had the same value when both were admitted to coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1. Select some forty or fifty articles of common use and measure the purchasing power of the gold and the silver to-day as compared with 1873.

It will be found that the uniformity of the amounts purchasable by your pound of silver

metal will be a revelation to those who are in the habit of speaking of silver as *depreciated*, while the increased amount now possible to be obtained by the holder of the ounce of gold will be a startling commentary on the favored proposition that gold is the "one thing which never changes in value." Approximately the silver will not vary ten per cent., while gold will reach nearly one and a half its former self.

The trouble with our people, and with the times to-day, is that we are doing our measuring of values with a yard-stick four and a half feet long, and then we wonder why our houses are so small, our farms so shrunken in value.

Is this *right*? Is this justice to the mass of our people?

E. F. S.

Cadillac, Mich.

II.—Notes and Queries

Does Professor Briggs, in his assertion that the Church is a fountain of divine authority, mean the same thing as Professor Christlieb, of Bonn, in his expression "The Church is the world's Bible?" By that felicitous expression I suppose Professor Christlieb meant that the body of living believers manifest to the world the present operations of the divine spirit, and show a most conclusive proof of the power of Jesus Christ, and the value of his redemptive work. As Paul says to the Christians in Corinth, "Ye are our epistle, known and read of all men." And again: "Ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ, written not with ink, but with the spirit of the living God." Doubtless, in a certain way, real Christians are thus the strongest proof to an unbelieving world of the power and worth of the Gospel. Through them, as individuals, and more especially through the invisible Church which they compose, God speaks to men. He addresses their consciences. He appeals to their hearts. He reveals his truth and his will. And he often does it more effectively through the medium of these living epistles than through the written Word, which to many is a sealed book.

Again, as to the revelation of the divine will to believers themselves, and the impartation of new truth which God may wish to teach them, is this theory which I have mentioned the one held by Professor Briggs? The Church has always held that believers are, individually and collectively, taught of God. For this we pray. We ask for divine illumination, direction, guidance. We believe that God answers prayer, and that "we have the thing that we ask of him" in faith. Now, if the will of God is revealed to a single individual who puts himself under the divine tuition, may not every Christian be regarded, in some sort, as a fountain, or medium, of divine authority? And if, through the imperfections of human nature, a single individual may not be regarded as an absolutely trustworthy guide, still may not the consensus of Christian experience, divinely illuminated and guided, be held to be trustworthy? It may be a help to others besides the writer if The Outlook will express its opinion as to whether the above is an adequate expression of the theory in question.

C. A. S.

So it seems to us. The Apostles themselves were members of the Church. Their apostolic testimony is part of the testimony of the Church, but not the whole of it. According to the New Testament the Church is "the body of Christ." The testimony of a faithful Church is the testimony of the Christ in it. In the Scriptures we hear the Spirit of Christ speaking in the past; in the faithful Church, or Christian, we hear the same Spirit speaking in the present. In each he speaks with a felt authority. So keenly is this authoritativeness felt in the present teaching of the Spirit, that the poet said:

Our dear Lord's best interpreters
Are faithful human souls;
The teaching of a life like theirs
Is more than creeds or scrolls.

I have a friend here, an old mountaineer and woodsman, who is a Biblical student. The Bible is his creed. He works on Sunday, and justifies it by the Bible. He says that all the commandments of the Decalogue, except the fourth, are reaffirmed in the New Testament. The fourth, he thinks, is abolished by the following passages: Rom. xiv. 5; Rom. v. 7, 6; Col. ii. 16-17; Gal. iv. 10-11. He also quotes Jesus as healing the sick on the Sabbath. That the Fourth Commandment is not reaffirmed in the New Testament he also holds as a strong point in his theory. My friend says that the Sabbath was given only to the Jewish nation for their observance, and only for a certain length of time.

B. C. O.

Your friend carries to an undue extreme the view which many Christians, so interpreting Paul, have taken, as did some of the Protestant Reformers, as to the abrogation of the Fourth Commandment. But its Jewish form is one thing; the principle at its core is quite another. This is what Paul seems to point out to the Colossians as "the body" which is "of Christ." The Christian principle is, that all days must be sanctified. But to make them so,

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the principle involved in the Commandment must be acted on. We must reserve seasons for rest from ordinary work, and care for that worship and communion which bring rest to the soul. Set times for necessary concerns are indispensable to any well-ordered life. The Lord's Day was used as such a time in the Apostolic age. (See Rev. i. 10.) One who is properly alive to its value for spiritual culture will not need any commandment to enforce the use of it as such. (See 1 Timothy, i. 9.)

1. What commentaries on the Old Testament contain the results of the latest archaeological researches and the most recent Biblical criticism? 2. Is there any such commentary which plainly indicates the different original sources of the Hexateuch, or must one search in the works of Driver, Briggs, and others for information as to the origin of particular passages? 3. Upon what books of the Bible has Dr. Lyman Abbott written commentaries?

C. A. B.

1. None of the so-called commentaries is up to date in these matters. 2. The latter alternative is your proper course. 2. The several Gospels, the Acts, and Romans.

Can you, through the columns of The Outlook, give the name and publisher of any book which treats of trapping small animals and curing the skins?

E. C.

W. T. Hornaday's book on "Taxidermy," published by Charles Scribner's Sons, of New York City, at \$2.50, would meet your wants in part, if not wholly.

1. Who is the author of the lines beginning—

"God of the granite and rose,
Soul of the sparrow and bee?"

and in what poem may they be found? 2. Who is the author of the lines beginning—

"A thread of law runs through our prayers,
Stronger than iron cable?"

and in what poem may they be found?

L. E. C.

Distress in the Stomach

And other symptoms of *Dyspepsia* troubled me for several years. The doctors did not succeed in giving me relief. I was troubled with heartburn and had to be careful about my diet. Sick headaches frequently seized me, and I could not ride in a carriage. Since I have been taking Hood's Sarsaparilla all this is changed. My dyspeptic trouble no longer bothers me. I do not have heartburn, and I am now free from sick headache spells. I have gained in

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flesh and feel better in every way." MRS. JOHN H. COOK, Martinsville, Ill. Get Hood's.

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