

Books of the Week

This report of current literature is supplemented by fuller reviews of such books as in the judgment of the editors are of special importance to our readers. Any of these books will be sent by the publishers of The Outlook, postpaid, to any address on receipt of the published price.

All Things New: A Message to New Converts. By G. Campbell Morgan. The Fleming H. Revell Co., New York. 4×6½ in. 30 pages. 10c.

Bird Watching. By Edmund Selous. Illustrated. The Macmillan Co., New York. 5¼×8 in. 347 pages. \$3.

In the rush of works concerning the life and habits of wild birds sent forth from the press of late, it is not easy to select any one as of paramount interest either in substance or treatment—so many good points are visible in all. The present work has the charm of a good literary style and leisurely observation, brought to play upon an intimate study of the wild birds that most frequent the English coast. Among the birds dealt with are plovers, red-shanks, peewits, oyster-catchers, ravens, curlews, eider ducks, shags, guillemots, rooks, blackbirds, nightingales, sand-martins, etc. The author displays deep sympathy with his subject. In the descriptions of his patient watching of the nest-building and love-making of the birds, there is refinement and poetic insight. Describing a scene between a pair of cormorants in their wild, wave-bound home he adds: "Here was love unmistakable between so strange a pair in so wild a spot—to them the sweetest of bowers. How snug, how cozy they were in that great wet heap of brown seaweed, just in the dark jaws of that gloom-filled cavern, with the frowning precipice above and the sullen heaving sea beneath. Here in this gloom, this wildness, this stupendousness of sea and shore, in the chilling air—here was peace, comfort, conjugal love, domestic bliss, the same flame burning in such strange, gargoyle-shaped forms amidst all the shagginess of nature."

Commentary on the Old Testament. Vol. VIII. Ezekiel and Daniel. Illustrated. By Camden M. Cobern, D.D. Eaton & Mains, New York. 5×7¼ in. 415 pages. \$2.

Nearly one-third of this volume is devoted to elaborate critical introductions to the study of the two books whose interpretation it is concerned with. Dr. Cobern brings large qualifications to his task, in discharging which he takes the positions of "the middle school" of evangelical scholarship. Unreservedly accepting the modern methods of Biblical criticism, he is disinclined to its forward movement any further than incontestable facts compel.

Complete Works of C. S. Calverley: Biographical Notice by Sir Walter J. Sendall, G. C. M. G. The Macmillan Co., New York. 5×7½ in. 514 pages. \$2.

The ability to combine whimsical humor with exquisite taste and with thorough knowledge of classical and modern literature has been given to few poets. Calverley was scholar as well as jester, and his touch was

sure as well as light. Moreover, his mastery of the science of versification was indisputable. Here in one volume of moderate compass and agreeable form are the best of his verses. One turns first to the parodies, which are probably the very best parodies ever written. "The Cock and the Bull" certainly is unequaled in its spontaneous fun and exactness of imitation in manner. But apart from the parodies the body of verse-production is choice as well as varied, ranging from the lightest trifles to a serious and well-executed translation of passages from the "Iliad." The editor's biographical notice is sympathetic and contains anecdotes which will be new to most readers.

Crankisms. By Lisle de Vaux Matthewman. Pictured by Clare Victor Dwiggins. Henry T. Coates & Co., Philadelphia. 5×6½ in. 99 pages. \$1.

Drone and a Dreamer (A). By Nelson Lloyd. Illustrated. The J. F. Taylor Co., New York. 5×8 in. 259 pages. \$1.50.

This is an interesting story, capitally told. There is nothing deep about it; no problem of any sort to be solved. It is just what its sub-title says, "An American Love Story." A group of young men from one of our large cities go for vacation into a Pennsylvania village, where they meet with several odd and entertaining people. The love entanglements are all inspired by an attractive young maiden of the place, who captivates several men by her brightness and unconventionality. The manner in which the denouement is brought about is most ingenious and laughter-provoking. The whole story is rich in humor and shrewd touches of human nature.

Ellen; or, The Whisperings of an Old Pine. By Joseph Battell. Illustrated. The American Publishing Co., Middlebury, Vt. 6½×9¼ in. 471 pages. \$1.50.

The conversations of Ellen with the Old Pine, as herein reported, are a vehicle for Mr. Battell's criticisms of modern scientific theories. These, extended to some eight hundred pages, are quite elaborate. The first half deals with the Creation, the second with the Undulatory Theories. Suffice it to say that Mr. Battell sets aside the generally received conclusions of science regarding evolution, gravitation, the ether, sound, etc., and does not hesitate to pronounce, for instance, the theory of sound, as expounded by Tyndall, "full of folly and nonsense." Those who are repelled by such an attitude, and those who may lack patience to follow the argument for it, will find strong attraction in the copious illustrations which are introduced. Seventy-two full-page photographs of the mountain scenery of Vermont in the varying seasons of the year constitute a feature of this elegantly printed volume which all will agree to admire.

English Church (The): From the Norman Conquest to the Accession of Edward I. 1066-1272. By W. R. W. Stephens, B.D., F.S.A. The Macmillan Co., New York. 5x7½ in. 351 pages. \$2.

Among several works that have recently appeared on this subject, the history of which the present volume is the second in a series of seven holds the first rank, as a complete account, based on study of the original authorities and review of the best recent and ancient writers. The two centuries which it covers are among the more important in the development of the English Church and State, and the plan of the work is sufficiently ample for a full presentation both of political and ecclesiastical movements in their correlation and interaction. These two centuries were particularly distinguished by the number and personal qualities of great churchmen, such as Anselm and Langton, who were frequently in conflict with unscrupulous sovereigns. In the commemoration of such and of similar men a large biographical interest attaches to this volume.

Eothen. By Alexander William Kinglake. (The Temple Classics.) The Macmillan Co., New York. 4x6 in. 310 pages. 50c.

A charming pocket edition of a book of Eastern travel which might well be slipped into the pocket for out-of-door reading. "Eothen" is in a way a classic, and it preserves its freshness remarkably well.

Farm Poultry. By George C. Watson, M.S. (The Rural Science Series. Edited by L. H. Bailey.) Illustrated. The Macmillan Co., New York. 4½x7 in. 341 pages. \$1.25.

A series of popular life-sketches of domestic fowls, touching upon their histories, pedigrees, introduction into America, mixing of breeds, relative value in egg-laying, food properties, etc. The text is not hard reading; it is not even dry, taken altogether; the interesting things told of one of the most familiar of domestic animals saves it from that. Tabulated results are given of the various processes of preserving eggs, the reading of which will prove of value not only to the producer but also to the consumer curious to know about the food he eats.

Feeding of Animals (The). By Whitman Howard Jordan. (The Rural Science Series. Edited by L. H. Bailey.) The Macmillan Co., New York. 4½x7 in. 450 pages. \$1.25.

This work, the result of knowledge and large experience, will prove of great use to farmers as well as to amateur enthusiasts on cattle and farm culture. Among the themes dealt with are soil, fertility, spraying of plants, fertilizers, milk products, principles of fruit-growing, vegetable gardening, farm poultry, feeding of animals, rural wealth and welfare in general. The work is not one of formulas; there is no dogmatic insistence upon rules. The author shows plainly that the data, even of experiment, must perforce be often incomplete and conflicting. The most claimed for the work is aid and suggestion drawn from tried and tested experiment and comparative results. The book is convincing and stands with reason.

Her Royal Highness Woman and His Majesty—Cupid. By Max O'Rell. The Abbey Press, New York. 5x8 in. 311 pages.

Whoever opens this book expecting to find

this author at his old and witty best is not likely to be disappointed. The book is from cover to cover an ingenious, worldly wise, semi-cynical mingling of man-of-the-world sense and sportive nonsense. If it occasionally suggest something uncomplimentary to the sex it treats of, the author at once takes a mental summersault with some *bon mot* that relieves him of all serious responsibility for previous utterances. Women will do well to read the book, for it will give some of them valuable hints on how to preserve their personal reserve even in matrimony. Max O'Rell betrays some of the secrets that make the women of his own country so fascinating even when plain. He pokes a lot of quiet but inimitable fun at British inconsistencies, praises American women as the most bright, best educated, and best dressed among women, notes Hungarian women as the most generally beautiful, and incidentally mentions his own preference for the fine, tall brunette with dark-blue eyes and the delicate, fine white skin of a blonde, and adds, "If you want to see the latter go to Ireland; you will see her there in plenty."

History of the United States for Junior Classes (A). By Francis Newton Thorpe, A.M., Ph.D. Illustrated. Eldredge & Bro., Philadelphia. 5¼x7½ in. 301 pages. 90c.

It is hard to speak with praise of a work intended as a text-book for schools without seeming to set it above others already in use. Taken as a whole this volume deserves high praise for the much it tells in a simple, intelligent, and unprejudiced manner. It would be unfair, however, to say that on the whole it is better than the school history by McMaster, for instance. Mr. Thorpe's work dwells more fully on certain points in our early colonial history, and in our subsequent history notes a few minor things omitted by Mr. McMaster. The latter, on the other hand, makes intelligible certain points apparently undervalued by Mr. Thorpe. Our public-school pupils being of ever-increasing strains of cosmopolitan blood and varied religious training, everything of possible interest to all ought to be clearly and succinctly mentioned. Both these writers of juvenile history dwell adequately on the settlements of Virginia and Massachusetts, and make clear the Puritan revolt and the nature of the persecutions they suffered at home. Mr. McMaster goes further, and in writing of the settlement of Maryland by Lord Baltimore—the first to grant religious liberty on a large scale on this continent—he describes the injustice and social handicaps endured by Roman Catholics in England under the first two Stuart kings. This is being as fair to early Roman Catholic settlers as to early Puritans. Mr. Thorpe omits all this and dismisses in a few words the very important Maryland settlement, pausing only to say that dissension arose there, too, and not adding a word about the fomentor of this dissension—the Puritan Claybourn. Other minor omissions occur also, which make one feel how difficult it is to write a rounded history of our country for children. The proofreader, too, has not been careful in his work; so important a man as the statesman Burke is

entitled to the Norman form of his name, Edmund, instead of the English Edward, as given here.

House of Romance (The). By Agnes and Egerton Castle. The Frederick A. Stokes Co., New York. 5x7½ in. 275 pages. \$1.50.

Capital examples of the romance in varied form are to be found here—some of the sword and spur type, some of pure love tales, some tragic, and some disagreeably gruesome. Two or three only are so inferior as to suggest early work. Even better than the best of the stories is the lively dissertation on the romance as literary art which precedes the collection of tales. It is written with acumen, and is infused with wit and clever distinctions.

Insect Book (The). By Leland O. Howard, Ph.D. Illustrated. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. 7¼x10 in. 429 pages. \$3.

Dr. L. O. Howard's timely and exhaustive work on the mosquito, which gives so much valuable information and has awakened so much comment, is closely followed by this, a still more extensive work, on insects of all other kinds and varieties. This work, by one of the foremost living entomologists, cannot fail of awakening wide interest at a time when nature studies in general have come actively to the front. Grasshoppers, wasps, bees, flies, bugs, every sort of insect known to North America, whether native or imported, are minutely brought before us, and their habits, degrees of intelligence, modes of propagation, and uses in helping preserve the balance in nature are fully given. The book is written in a style sufficiently popular to quicken and keep alive our interest in the wonders of this myriad world which surrounds man, and of whose life-work man knows so little, closely as it is linked with his own well being and with the economy of the universe. It is copiously illustrated, having sixteen colored plates, thirty-two black-and-white full-page pictures, and three hundred text cuts. To peruse the book is to learn many unsuspected facts, strange uses, and still stranger superstitions which the accretions of time have built about these small inhabitants of our planet.

L'Enfant Espion and Other Stories. Edited by Reginald R. Goodell, M.A. The American Book Co., New York. 5x7 in. 142 pages. 45c.

Mormon Monster (The); or, The Story of Mormonism. By Edgar E. Folk, A.M., D.D. Introduction by George A. Lofton, D.D. Illustrated. The Fleming H. Revell Co., New York. 5¾x8½ in. 372 pages.

The aim and character of this book are indicated by its title. It is issued with the indorsement of ministers of some of the principal Christian churches in Utah. Its compend of the history, doctrines, and practices of Mormonism needs to be supplemented by reading Dr. C. B. Spahr's chapter on the Mormons in his book on "America's Working People." It agrees, however, with his conclusions, that sexual morality is lower in Utah than elsewhere in America.

Outline of the Neo-Hebraic Apocalyptic Literature. By Moses Bottenwieser, Ph.D. Jennings & Pye, Cincinnati. 6x9½ in. 44 pages. 50c.

Poems by a Cowboy. By Arthur G. Clark. Published by the Author. 5½x8 in. 48 pages. 25c.

Practical Life Work of Henry Drummond (The). By Cuthbert Lennox. Introduction by Hamilton W. Mabie. James Pott & Co., New York. 5x7¾ in. 244 pages. \$1.

So many-sided, captivating, and influential a character as Henry Drummond's demands more than one biography. To those who have read Professor George Adam Smith's standard memoir and to those who have not this briefer work will be equally welcome, especially as its author has been fortunate in discovering much that has not hitherto been published. The phase of evangelical revival, known as the "Students' Movement," now attracting interest by its growing momentum, owes its genesis to Drummond, and his relation to it is here brought into special prominence.

Road to Ridgeby's (The). By Frank Burlingame Harris. Small, Maynard & Co., Boston. 5x7½ in. 334 pages. \$1.50.

Like the author of "David Harum," Mr. Harris did not live to hear his story praised. Praise it certainly deserves, for it has kindly and simple humor, honest but not oppressive realism, and a genuine faculty for character realization. There are half a dozen men and women in this romance of farm life who "ring true."

Sister Teresa. By George Moore. The J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia. 5x7¾ in. 378 pages.

This is really the conclusion of Mr. Moore's "Evelyn Innes." The two novels together form an elaborate life-history of a girl with the artistic temperament, and also with true art-power as a singer, whose moral nature is in conflict between impulses of sensualism and impulses of renunciation. There is much that is repellent, and not a few passages which are distinctly objectionable, if the books are considered not merely as psychological studies but as fiction for indiscriminate reading. Apart from this, Mr. Moore's great failing is in total absence of fancy, imagination, or humor. He interests undoubtedly, but he does not arouse sympathy or stir the emotions. In "Evelyn Innes" the elaborate description of convent life has the appearance of exactness, and the attempt to follow the inner life of various types of nuns and novices is often convincing and always cleverly thought out. There seems, however, to be no real aim or purpose in the telling of this life-history, and one feels that great intellectual strength has been expended with little positive result.

Story of Bruges (The). By Ernest Gilliat-Smith. Illustrated. The Macmillan Co., New York. 4½x7 in. 418 pages. \$2.

As the story of Bruges is less well known to readers generally than those of the towns treated in other volumes of this series, so it is with the greater pleasure that one finds how much there is of dramatic episode, of heroic endeavor, and of picturesque feudalism to be found in this record. The book is distinctly readable, and it is also well proportioned. The drawings are by Mr. Herbert Railton, and make one long for more of such fine pen-and-ink work in place of the over-frequent "half-toned" photographs.

Tennyson. By Morton Luce. (The Temple Primers.) The Macmillan Co., New York. 4x6 in. 166 pages. 40c.

Mr. Luce's "Handbook to Tennyson" is well known and highly esteemed by students and teachers of English literature. The purpose of this booklet is the same as of the larger work. Its main subject is not the man but his works, of which an epidictic and critical survey is presented in brief outlines, with a few pages added in review of the poems that first appeared in the poet's memoir by his son.

Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous. By George Berkeley. Reprint Edition. The Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago. 5x7½ in. 136 pages. 25c.

Tim, Tam, and Tom: Settling the Tariff-Trust Question. By Roswell A. Benedict, A.M. Rohde & Haskins, New York. 5½x8 in. 117 pages. 25c.

Une Ville Flottante. By Jules Verne. Edited by C. Fontaine, B.ès L., L. en D. Henry Holt & Co., New York. 4½x6¾ in. 181 pages. 40c.

Wayfarings. By George Herbert Clarke. Illustrated. Windsor & Kenfield Publishing Co., Chicago. 5½x8¾ in. 94 pages. \$1.

Mr. Clarke has good metrical sense and a facile pen, whose products are here collected

from various journals in which they first appeared in fugitive form.

Works of Shakespeare. Edited by Edward Dowden. Vol. I. *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*. Vol. II. *The Tragedy of Hamlet*. The Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis. 6x3¾ in. \$1.25 per volume.

The appearance of an edition of Shakespeare edited by so competent a critic and *litterateur* as Mr. Dowden is an event of real importance in the book world. Later on we shall take occasion to speak of the work more fully. At present it may suffice to say of these two plays that their *format* is that of a rather large and rather thin octavo convenient to the hand; that the typography is clear and large, and that in all externals the volumes, one of which will be devoted to each play, are comely and satisfying. The method of the edition is to present, together with a desirable reading-text of the play, annotations and a comparative survey of the early readings, page by page, so that reference to appendices will not be needed. This plan is carried out with discretion and with well-determined moderation as to the quantity of the two classes of notes.

Correspondence

The Divinity of Christ

To the Editors of *The Outlook*:

Your editorial on the divinity of Jesus Christ, in *The Outlook* of June 29, is a somewhat remarkable one, inasmuch as your conception seems to be chiefly theoretical and strangely independent of all historical testimony.

As a question of choice in what we may personally prefer to accept or reject in New Testament history there is, of course, no governing rule; but as a question of authority, not even the most searching investigation has yet disclosed any proof that the story of the Virgin birth is simply a myth that was tacked onto the Gospels and has succeeded in making fools of the brightest and noblest Christians during the centuries that are gone. With all the evidence that the higher critics have been able to secure, this record still remains irrefragable, and with us it is merely optional as to whether we shall believe or disbelieve it. Neither is there any more authority for our statement that we are the sons of God than there is for Christ's statement to those who refused to believe in his deity that they were "of their father the devil."

Speaking of Christ, you say, "It may be that he is neither God nor a good man richly endowed by God, but a man in

whom God so dwelt that in him the world beholds the express image of God's person." Had this been the message of the Christ, which the early apostles and the early Church brought to the world, would Christianity ever have become the thrilling, earth-transforming power that it has? Would any man-worship ever have brought about such marvelous results in the lives and hearts of sinful humanity? Would God's richest spiritual blessings have been poured out upon a people who, in their ignorance and superstition, were falsely worshipping a mere man as God? Whatever may be the claims of present-day liberalism, the fact forever remains that it was a belief in the deity of Jesus Christ and a worship of him as a supernatural being that have made Christianity the dynamic force that it is in the world.

I think you will admit that we have no greater authority on this subject than Jesus Christ himself, yet is there a verse in the entire New Testament where he is recorded as giving his sanction to any belief in himself other than that of the supreme son of God, in a sense not shared by our common humanity? That this difference was of a metaphysical nature seems, as your correspondent suggested, practically incontrovertible.

Probably one of the most familiar argu-