

the record. Then come cathedral churches built on the Benedictine model, as Chichester and Southwell. In the Transitional Style which followed, the birth of Gothic art stood revealed. It coincided with the foundation of the reformed monastic orders—Wells and Ripon being examples. Then came the Early English Salisbury and Lincoln. So we proceed to the Decorated Style—Exeter, for instance—characteristic of the romantic and aristocratic sentiment of the fourteenth century; then to the more practical fifteenth century, with its expansion of civil and commercial ideals; then to the stoppage of cathedral building with the Dissolution, and then to its renaissance at a later epoch, as shown in St. Paul's, for example. An orderly exposition of all this is contained in Mr. Edward S. Prior's "The Cathedral Builders of England," a good account, with interesting illustration, of English ecclesiastical architecture from 1066 to the present time. (E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. \$2, net.)

*A Child's
Garden of Verses*

An attractive and well-made edition of Stevenson's delightful poems about children or for children, bound in brown flexible leather, printed from clear type on a good page; one of the most attractive forms in which this most delightful book about children has appeared. (H. B. Turner, Boston. \$1.50.)

*Florentine Palaces
and their Stories*

The latest work by Janet Ross turns out to be a guide-book. For such a purpose, however, the publishers have put forth the volume in at least one size too large for the ordinary pocket. Some of the book's thickness, too, could have been obviated by suppressing the illustration—at least by making the pictures much smaller. The palaces are arranged alphabetically and hence practically. The author describes about eighty palaces, whether public buildings or great private residences. She gives to us surprisingly scant information concerning architecture, but a great deal about the important events which happened within the buildings she describes or in connection with them. (E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. \$2, net.)

Friedrich Schiller

This adequately illustrated and tastefully bound volume by Mr. Paul Carus is an admirable memorial of the recent Schiller centenary. In addition to a biographical sketch we have two thoughtful essays by Dr. Carus on Schiller as a philosophical poet and on Schiller's poetry. Both have well-chosen selections of considerable extent, and it was a good idea to present these illustrative excerpts in both German and English.

(The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago.)

*Guide to the
Lives of Christ*

Works on the life of Christ are adapted to the demands of different classes of readers no less diversely than a business directory as compared with the catalogue of an art gallery. Professor William Bancroft Hill, who has the Chair of Biblical Literature at Vassar College, has prepared this little book as a reader's directory to the sort of work that will give him just what he wishes to find on the subject named. For this it is very serviceable to the uninformed. (Edwin S. Gorham, New York.)

*In the Name of
the Bodleian*

A collection of short essays on a great variety of subjects by a writer who is, by nature and training, a spectator and commentator of the school though not of the genius of Charles Lamb. Mr. Augustine Birrell has the light touch, the sense of humor, the feeling for human things, and the knowledge which equip a wise observer and a witty and entertaining writer, and he has more than once shown critical gifts of high quality. This volume is more fragmentary and discursive than the earlier books from the same hand, and the papers are, on the whole, less valuable; though one or two of them, especially that on his father-in-law, the author of "London Lyrics," is not only very interesting, but valuable as a personal impression and interpretation. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. \$1, net.)

Land Ho

This is a volume of sea tales written with the accurate knowledge of the life of the sailor which characterizes all of Morgan Robertson's work. Several of the stories describe the marvelous experiences of an old salt who has descended to a berth on a scow in New York Harbor, but whose adventures lead him once more on to the high seas. Other stories narrate supposititious incidents of the Russo-Japanese war on board submarines and torpedo craft. The tales are remarkable rather for ingenuity than for any convincing quality. (Harper & Brothers, New York. \$1.25.)

*Outside the
Law*

In this book James Barnes has written a detective story with the detective left out. A gentleman of wealth has undertaken as a hobby, entirely for his own delectation, the engraving of imitations of old and valuable prints. He finds that his assistant has used the secret process, which he has taught him, to make counterfeit plates of bank notes. The plates fall into his hands, and are promptly stolen. Complications result which are intricate and mysterious enough to keep the

reader in suspense to the end. (D. Appleton & Co., New York. \$1.50.)

The Philosophy of Religion

If religion be, as it is well termed here, "the great psychic uplift of the race," none but a master in psychology is competent to undertake a soundly reasoned philosophy of religion. This essential qualification Professor George Trumbull Ladd, of Yale, possesses. In the first of these two volumes he presents an instructive study, historical and psychological, of the phenomena of religion in its historical development, in man as a religious being, and in religion as a life. The data thus found for a philosophy of the facts present the problems to which the second volume is devoted: whether the religious conception of God as perfect Ethical Spirit is reconcilable with modern science and philosophy; then, as to the relations of the individual and the race to the Universe; lastly, what is it all for? what is to come of it? Fundamental to Professor Ladd's course of thought is his contention that the ideals which spring from the constitution of human nature, and are found existing throughout the history of man, are no merely subjective ideas, but are grounded in objective reality, and that religion thus stands on as firm footing as science. Were it not so, it could furnish no field for philosophy, whose concern is not with fancy but with fact. On the other hand, man himself is in a long evolutionary process of becoming. While his experience is incomplete it cannot be completely understood. The aim of philosophy is accordingly limited to a progressive strengthening of the grounds of a rational religious faith: "rationality is the ultimate test of the values of religion." Religion, says Professor Ladd, begins as a naïve and crude theory of an unseen superhuman reality behind the face of nature. As man's ethical development advances his ideal of the superhuman power is progressively ethicized till the limit of rational thought is reached in the conception of the ultimate reality as an infinitely varied and active, self-conscious, ethical Life. Anthropomorphism is necessitated here by human inability to conceive of superhuman excel-

lence except in terms of the human. The rationality of the conclusion reached through elaborately critical investigation of the various problems involved is in its giving the one explanatory principle which best satisfies the intellectual, affective, and practical needs of humanity. The dictum that rationality is the test of values has regard above all to ethical values, for what is ethical is real. In the comparison of religions which sound philosophy involves, ethical values are supremely decisive. Here Christianity is shown to excel, at least in one respect, its nearest competitor, Buddhism, in its ideal of a perfected social life—"the Kingdom of God." Here, as the "path" of Buddhism does not, it opens a "way of salvation" practicable for all men. Here it best satisfies the demand of the modern world with its rising social ideal of democracy. Here also, as Professor Ladd warns us, its practice falls far behind its ideal, in closer conformity to which he sees the coming test of a standing or falling Church. The foregoing is but a meager account of a massive work, admirable both in analysis and synthesis, candid in its recognition of difficulties remaining to be solved, and modestly professing to be "at the most an effort to contribute to the better understanding and higher appreciation of the ultimate meaning and supreme value of the religious experience and religious development of man." (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. \$7 per set, net.)

Romances of Mission Days Under the title "Romances of the California Mission Days," Elizabeth Gore Miller has written a collection of gentle and prettily told stories, illustrated aptly by pictures of the missions. The intention is to provide a literary souvenir for the visitor to California, as well as an acceptable and unambitious work of romance and historic sentiment for the general reader. (Lefavor-Tower Company, Portland, Maine. 75c.)

Two in Italy A charming volume of Italian impressions in the form of stories by Maud Howe, the author of "Roma Beata." Whether the stories are true or not, the impressions evidently are. (Little, Brown & Co., Boston. \$2, net.)