

"Cardinal Newman and His Influence on Religious Life and Thought." By Charles Sarolea, Ph.D., D.Litt. University of Edinburgh. \$1.25. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

This is one of the series of the world's epoch makers, edited by Oliphant Smeaton. This essay is more concerned with the theologian and the thinker than with the man and the artist. "That the same man should have appeared in succession as a Jesuitic casuist, as an 'angel of the school,' as a sceptic, as a liberal and as a heretic, that he should have assumed so many varied and contradictory aspects, this fact alone is sufficient to show the enigmatic nature of his personality." Two views are customary in assigning a reason why Newman entered the Roman fold. One is that Newman delivered up his soul to a debasing superstition. Another is that Newman became con-

verted because he was touched by Divine grace and could find truth only in the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church. Our author, however, claims that a third view brings us nearer the fact, viz.: that the conversion of Newman is a psychological rather than a theological problem; in other words, that there was a pre-established harmony between his character and Catholicism. If the reader wishes to know how Professor Sarolea works out this problem we refer him to the essay itself.

"Towards Social Reform." By Canon and Mrs. S. A. Barnett. \$1.50 net. The Macmillan Co.

This little book from across the water has much that will be of service in this country. Faith in social progress is faith in men, hope for men, and charity for men. With this as a motto the Canon and his wife take up nearly all the problems presented in modern society and deal with them in an interesting and helpful way. The book is divided into five parts, with numerous topics under each except the last. Part first deals with social reformers followed by poverty, education, recreation and housing. Under education we have a chapter on "The Beginnings of Toynbee Hall," and another on "A Retrospect of Toynbee Hall." "Toynbee Hall is really a club and the various activities have their root and their life in the individuality of its members." There is no paper on religion in the volume but underlying all is the faith that in the service of God may be found the best security for the service of men.

"A Lincoln Conscript." By Homer Greene. \$1.50. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., New York.

It is difficult to imagine how a much better book for lads could be given, from the point of view either of the lad's interest, or of the lad's father and teacher, or of literature, unless you should put a great genius at the task. The Pennsylvania boy of seventeen, whose father was a "copperhead," and technically a deserter from the army by his own brave, manly action sets in motion a train of events that redeem the family. The father's interview with President Lincoln has a great effect upon the future of them all, and the scenes of camp and battle and victory bring our friends back to their Pennsylvania home and to a conclusion that could not be better.

"Faith—Its Nature and Its Work." By Handley G. C. Moule, Bishop of Durham. Cassell & Co., London and New York.

This may well be called a rewarding book. Bishop Moule is an evangelical in the best sense and he is a diligent student of Scripture. But his style is far from being limpid and one must read with both eyes and with concentrated attention. If he does he will be amply repaid, he will be rewarded. We hope many preachers will sit at the feet of Handley Durham, as he signs his name. Not preachers alone, but all lovers of the Word will be thankful for this new book from the zealous orthodox English

scholar. We are especially glad to find here a portrait of Bishop Moule—a noble, thoughtful, illuminated face.

"Mr. Opp." By Alice Hegan Rice. \$1. The Century Co., New York.

The author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," and other books, has made this little story an extraordinary study of a type of character, that it may be feared, is only too common; a man of limited abilities, not to say stupid, but of vast ambitions, who tries to pose before the world as a vast success when he is a constant failure; but the sub-stratum of his character is a good heart and sincere nobility, which constantly interfere with his efforts to put up bluffs on the world, and in all critical cases lead to decisions which must melt the hearts of angels with sympathetic admiration. The work is quite perfectly done and the story, which will amuse the careless, will edify the thoughtful.

"Expositions of Holy Scripture." By Alexander Maclaren, D.D. Fourth series of six volumes. \$7.50 net. A. C. Armstrong & Son.

Those who have read Dr. Maclaren's commentaries on the books of the Bible in the three earlier series of six volumes each, will welcome this fourth series which takes up the Psalms, Luke's Gospel, Ezekiel, Daniel, and the minor prophets, together with the entire Epistle to the Romans. Dr. Maclaren's remarkable style, the excellence of his thought and the value of his expositions are well known. The commentary of the entire Bible is to be completed in thirty volumes.

"The Music Master." By Charles Klein. Novelized from the play as produced by David Belasco. Illustrated. \$1.50. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York.

This is a good story. It may seem a little mechanical here and there, but on the whole it is a strong production. The music master of Leipzig, forsaken by his wife and child, seeks them in America. His saddening experiences of disappointment and poverty down in Houston street and the sweet and noble spirit that carries him safely through them all, and the happy outcome of his search after twenty years, these things are told with constant interest.

"The Bachelor and the Baby." By Margaret Cameron. Illustrated. 50 cents. Harper & Brothers, New York and London.

A highly amusing sketch portraying the difficulties and dismay of a young and inexperienced bachelor who by a strange turn of circumstances finds a crying, inappeasable infant left on his hands for temporary care. For a time his anxiety and perplexity are great, even insupportable, but it all comes out well in the end—and the end is but a beginning for the stalwart bachelor of a more delightful and normal kind of existence.

"Gypsy Breynton." By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. \$1.00. Sturgis & Walton Co., New York.

This new edition of an old favorite is the first volume of a projected series to be entitled "Familiar Friends." Gypsy is a strong character, and the story of her girlhood is told in a way to hold the heart of a girl and of older people, too. It is a reprint of one of the strongest and finest of Miss Phelps' books and well de-

serves its reappearance and introduction to the generation that has come upon the stage since it was written. It is strong and wholesome and very bright and pleasing.

"The Whips of Time." By Arabella Kenedy. \$1.50. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

This story is built on the foundation often used in fiction, of two babies exchanged in babyhood without the knowledge of the parents and growing up in ignorance of the fact. The mystery of it is exceedingly complicated and the solution of that mystery does not suggest itself until just at the end, being skillfully handled. The characterizations are good, but the reader suffers from a quite unnecessary amount of unimportant description and statement.

"Oh! Christina!" By J. J. Bell. 60 cents net. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York.

The author's "Wee Macgregor" is said to have made 250,000 people laugh. His recent "Whither Thou Goest," a tender and stirring piece of fiction, has reached its third edition. Now comes this small book of great pathos and humor. A little orphan girl from Glasgow slums, with character and individuality, in the home of an old maid aunt in a little Scotch town, is the engaging heroine. There is one criticism to be made of it, in which every reader will join,—there is not enough of it!

"A Bride on Trust: Romance." By Henry Curtiss. \$1.50. Dana Estes & Co.

What does the improbability of a story matter if it be told by a writer who makes it all seem probable? Have such things ever happened in London? They might happen. The story moves with the greatest rapidity, is filled with striking and tragic incidents, and on the whole, is about as wholesome as that kind of story of adventure can be. It is a thriller.