

The demand for a complete directory of the churches and church choirs of New York and Brooklyn has resulted in the issue of a neat volume containing much valuable information on these points. Besides giving a reliable list of the churches, and the names of those most prominently connected with them, the *Metropolitan Church and Choir Directory* for 1890 and '91 presents the names and addresses of the members of the music profession in New York and adjacent cities. It is printed in convenient form, and its contents are carefully indexed, with a handy alphabetical list of names. The book is issued by the Metropolitan Printing and Publishing Company, 19 East Fourteenth Street, New York. (\$1.50.)

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Mr. B. L. Farjeon is a novelist of invention rather than imagination, and it is probable that most critics would put him in the third rather than second class of English writers of fiction. But he knows his London thoroughly, and is at home in presenting the life and talk of the lower classes of the great city. Usually he writes with more or less of a moral or social purpose, but in *The Mystery of M. Felix* he tells a purely sensational story of crime and mystery. It is cleverly wrought out, though one grows impatient of the "padding" put into the conversation. (New York: J. W. Lovell & Co. 50 cents.)

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We think Mr. F. C. Cox's essay, *Protoplasm and Life*, in "Fact and Theory Papers," is to be commended to those who are not specialists, but desire to know the present results of scientific investigation into the bases of physical life. Mr. Cox gives a succinct history of the modifications of the theory of protoplasm and that of spontaneous generation, and he points out the weak spots in the hypotheses. He also discriminates incisively between speculation and discovery as regards protoplasm. (New York: N. D. C. Hodges. 75 cents.)

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The third volume of the "Adventure Series," published by Macmillan & Co., of this city, is the *Memoirs of the Extraordinary Military Career of John Shipp*, with an introduction by H. Manners Chichester. This Shipp served with great bravery in India and elsewhere, took part in almost numberless engagements, and met with all sorts of adventures by land and sea. He tells his story in a bluff, honest way, that holds the attention. A little condensation would not have hurt the book. (\$1.25.)

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A quaintly printed and handsomely illustrated book is *In the Far East*, consisting of letters from Geraldine Guinness, a missionary in China, to friends at home. They give in a simple way, with evidence of high and noble purpose, the record of missionary life in heathendom, with much incidental description of Chinese manners and customs. It has proved so acceptable a book that a "fifteenth thousand" edition is now printed. (New York: Fleming H. Revell.)

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We would call the attention of Bible class teachers to the series of Bible Class Primers put forth by Scribner & Welford, of this city. *The Life of Abraham*, by the Rev. Charles Anderson Scott, is before us, a continuous narrative broken at places by only suggestive questions. The book is somewhat conservative, without completely ignoring the results of recent criticism. (25 cents.)

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Over forty years ago Horace Maun delivered a lecture to young men, and to-day that lecture has lost nothing of its force, freshness, and inspiration. It is, therefore, a good thought to republish it, as has been done. *A Few Thoughts for a Young Man*, by Horace Maun. (New York: John B. Alden. 25 cents.)