

thropogenian Ages, four Epistemonian Ages, four Anagrian Ages, four Agathian Ages, four Ajltanian Ages, and one Sajanian Age, all included as divisions of the Kalpa Cycle, which approximates 8,640,000,000 earth years. We are told that "the spirit of man is elected to an endless chain of cycles of individual consciousness. During each of these cycles it is afforded opportunity for an earthly incarnation, and for a period of restoration to its spiritual inheritance in the ultimate heaven; whence, in due course, it turns back as a latent or unconscious ego for re-birth and the beginning of a new cycle of existences." One hears plenty of this nonsense among the Hindu sages of India, but why any one should bring it out before the Christian public of America and expect them to part with honest dollars for its useless mystifications, we cannot see.

**The New Canaan; or, The Golden Age Restored.** Chiefly Drawn from the Spiritual Sense of the First Seven Chapters of the Book of Joshua. By B. Edmiston, pastor of the Society of the New Church of Riverside, Cal. Published for the author by the Swedenborg Publishing Association.

As the book is written for Swedenborgians, in the technical style peculiar to that class of literature, and filled with quotations from the works of the founder of that faith, it can have but little interest for people of other denominations. There is no end to the spiritual senses that may be read into the Hexateuch, or any other book for that matter, and many, no doubt, find great profit in the operation; but, for our part, we think it healthier to stick to the plain literal sense disclosed by grammar and lexicon, and evidently intended by the historian. When that is once departed from, save as matter of illustration, there is no place to pause legitimately short of the wildest and most fanatical vagaries.

**Advent and Ascension; or, How Jesus Came and How He Left Us.** By D. W. Faunce, D. D. Eaton & Mains; New York. Price, 75 cents.

That the president of Brown University, and a prominent Baptist clergyman, seeks a Methodist publishing house, is proof enough that the volume before us deals only with the great fundamentals of Christianity common to all branches of the church. What can be more fundamental than the Incarnation and the Resurrection? These are the main topics here discussed with fullness of information, clearness of statement, and orthodoxy of teaching. The trustworthiness of the witnesses is also examined, and various minor questions connected with our Lord's coming and going are satisfactorily treated.

**Joliffe: Incidents of Peculiar Beliefs in Meridional France.** By Maxwell Sommerville, Professor of Glyptology, University of Pennsylvania. Drexel Middle; Philadelphia.

There is no particular appropriateness in naming this book Joliffe, after a horse which the writer did not even own, but only met in his travels; nor is there any particular importance of any kind to the incidental mention of certain "beliefs" which he ran across. The author spent a little time, on returning from India in 1898, sojourning at Nice, Grasse, and a few other places in the south of France, and writes of some very commonplace experiences in those parts.

**Teachings of the Lord Jesus.** By Prof. W. B. Bean, D. D. Presbyterian Board of Publication; Philadelphia. Price, 40 cents, net.

Without entering upon any critical questions, the author endeavors so to arrange the essential teachings of the Lord as to bring them most closely home to the heart and understanding of believers. The design is to aid Christians in drawing nearer to their Lord and grasping His teaching more firmly. Seven general topics are taken up: "God," "Man," "Jesus Himself," "The Holy Spirit," "Salvation," "The Kingdom of God," "The Citizens of

the Kingdom." It is an excellent manual in brief compass.

**Shall I Unite with the Church?** By Rev. William Bryant. Presbyterian Board of Publication; Philadelphia. Price, 5 cents, net.

This little brochure of 26 pages, though published by the Presbyterians, has nothing denominational in it, and is admirably adapted to young converts of all churches. It is not devoted entirely to answering the question of the title, but has a large variety of excellent counsels for those young in religious experience.

**The Christian Science Delusion.** By Rev. A. C. Dixon, D. D. W. H. Smith; 25 Stanhope St., Boston. Price, 10 cents.

This is No. 4 of the monthly issues of "Dixon's Sermons," and contains apparently three discourses on this timely topic — "Twenty-one Facts about Christian Science," "The Christian Science Apostasy," and "How Christian Science Wrests the Scriptures." It is an admirable tract to put into the hands of those who have not yet been hypnotized by the fallacious claims of this marvelous humbug; for, as the preacher well remarks: "Its devotees have so declared their independence of facts and reason that it is scarcely possible to argue with them." For those who have not yet passed entirely out of the region of common-sense, this tract will serve an excellent purpose. We know of nothing better, and wish it the widest circulation.

**Notes on Epworth League Devotional Meeting Topics.** By Dan H. Brummitt, A. M., B. D. Eaton & Mains; New York. Price, 15 cents.

The six months from July to December are covered. Under each topic are five subdivisions for convenience of treatment — "The Word," "The Theme," "It Is Like," "Guidposts," "Interrogation Points." If all the first vice-presidents of our Leagues buy this book — as they would do well to do, for its valuable aid in making their department efficient — it will have a large sale.

**The Teachings of the Lord Jesus.** By Prof. W. B. Bean, D. D. Presbyterian Board of Publication; Philadelphia. Price, 40 cents, net.

Christ's teachings concerning God, Man, Himself, the Holy Spirit, Salvation, the Kingdom, and the Citizens of the Kingdom, are gathered in brief compass with appropriate explanation and application. No effort is made to enter on critical ques-

**The Sacrifice of the Shannon.** By W. Albert Hodman. P. A. Stokes & Co.; New York. Price, \$1.50.

No one, we think, will regret beginning this book. He will be sure to read it through, and like it better and better as it goes along. It commences with two dashing boat-races, and finishes with two very gratifying weddings. It is a story of Nova Scotia and the Strait of Northumberland and the Gulf of St. Lawrence; a story of the ice-crushing steamers and a magnificent rescue accomplished by one of them called the "Shannon," which was sacrificed or destroyed in the endeavor. The hero and heroine are built on the noblest kind of models, and there are some other fascinating characters. The descriptions of the grandeur of a northern winter and the tremendous impression made on the mind by the wonderful silence and the sense of resistless power in the ice of those latitudes are very well done indeed. On the whole, one does not often find a more satisfactory book.

**Divinity and Man. An Interpretation of Spiritual Law in its Relation to Mundane Phenomena and to the Pulling Incentives and Moral Duties of Man, Together with an Allegory Dealing with Cosmic Evolution and Certain Social and Religious Problems.** By W. K. Roberts. G. P. Putnam's Sons; New York and London.

The preface is signed at Hankow, China, but the author is evidently not a missionary. A crazier book we have not seen for many a day. A glance at the table of contents and at the "doctrinal argument in brief," will be all that any one ordinarily constituted will care to take. He will there see that the discussion is about ten Methe-

tions. Practical profit is sought for and conveyed. The devout reader cannot fail to be helped.

**The Church in Thy House.** Daily Family Prayers, for Morning and Evening. By Rev. Rufus W. Clark, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's Church, Detroit. Fourth Edition. Thomas Whittaker: New York. Price, 60 cents.

A convenient manual for the householder or parent who may be diffident or unskilled in phrasing the needs of the family. We should prefer something a little more personal and immediately adapted to the special circumstances, even if not so elegantly worded. But family prayers are far too much neglected among us, and this way of conducting them is certainly better than nothing.

**The Bible Punchers.** By E. O. Rundle Woolcock. The Union Press: Philadelphia.

An account of religious work among soldiers in England. There is much need of more of this sort of Christian care being given to the American soldiers, and this book is issued here by the American S. S. Union in hope that it will stimulate good people to provide safe places of resort for the members of the army, fire companies, police, and other such exposed classes. The book is in the form of a story, with plenty of incident and conversation, and is sure to do good.