

with advantage be awarded to the one who answers most intelligently questions suggested by the readings. This last suggestion seems to us very important, because the offer of a prize would lead many to pursue the subject in their own homes, whereby other members of the family would be led to take more or less interest in the proceedings.

Our unshaken belief is that the Disestablishment of the National Church of England rests, not with outsiders, but with Churchmen themselves, and this view is shared by Mr. Chamberlain, M.P. (*vide* letter in *The Standard*, September 1). No outside combination of forces alone, we believe, is able to accomplish so stupendous, so national a catastrophe. Let us, then, unite during the ensuing winter in this great work, first by learning ourselves all that we can about the grand old Church of our forefathers, and then by imparting such knowledge to others. Once the people fully realize that they are asked to give over to the would-be spoilers, not a political or state-paid institution, but *their own Church*, that Church which their forefathers built with their own substance, that Church, which these same forefathers dedicated in all humility to the glory of God and the use of man in the ages which should follow them—once they realize all this, and much else beside, concerning the Church of England, and we are bold to say that Disestablishment and Disendowment will vanish as a dream, as a nightmare, and the nation will know it no more.

G. H. F. NYE.

Short Notices.

The Expository Times, Vol. III. Edinburgh : T. and T. Clark.

AS usual, this vigorous periodical is marked by a wide catholicity both of subject and treatment. Some of its contents are almost too scrappy and superficial to be of permanent use, perhaps, but there are very few students and preachers who would not find much that was useful.

Hill-a-hoy-o. By a Country Cousin. London : Alex. Gardner.

A singularly fresh and pleasant volume of verse. The author to a great extent touches ground that has been little trodden of late, and has entirely avoided that fatal characteristic of most modern poetasters—the spirit of commonplace. The impression that is left on one's mind after reading these poems is similar to that which would be left by a peep into the Lowland country—clear air, ringing burns, heathery hills, and all the honest homely signs of an old-fashioned agricultural district. Some of

this may be due to the quaint Scottish doric in which many of the poems are couched, but far more to their own merit. Evidences of wide reading and careful thought are very manifest. The old advice, "Polissez, et repolissez sans cesse," advice that dates back to Horace, has plainly been followed here—indeed, in parts the thought is so compressed as to be a trifle intricate, but even this is always preferable to mere word-spinning. We shall look with interest for another volume from the same pen.

Witnesses of these Things. By A. B. Tucker. London: Griffith and Farran.

This little book contains a preface by the Bishop of Durham, expressing a wish that the reading of its pages may increase the attention that is paid to missionary work. We quote from his remarks: "Missionary work is not an addition to our normal activity, or an offering of overflowing energy, or a peculiar form of personal zeal. It is of the essence of the life itself." The same spirit breathes through the author's unpretending pages.

The Church in Relation to Sceptics. By the Rev. A. J. Harrison. Longmans and Green.

This is a conversational guide to evidential work, consisting, according to the author, of answers he has from time to time given to evidential questions put to him by the clergy. It has both the advantages and defects of the conversational method in a marked degree. Yet on the whole it ought to be of extreme value to the parish priest. Mr. Harrison's books are now well known and appreciated, and his habit of never under-estimating a difficulty or over-estimating the reply to it makes all that he writes sound and useful. Mr. Harrison's personal experiences, with which he closes this volume, would prove interesting to even a casual reader. The book is dedicated to Dean Pigou.

Messages from the Cross to the World. By the Rev. E. H. Taylor. London: Griffith and Farran.

A manual of addresses on the Seven Sayings; spiritual, though here and there somewhat visionary and mystic.

England's Greatest National Sin. By the Rev. H. H. T. Cleiffe. London: Elliot Stock.

In the author's opinion this is the Asiatic opium traffic. Whether or no, he certainly recapitulates in a very telling form the arguments against what is undeniably a blot on our fame.

In *Notes on the History of the Early Church*, Archdeacon John Pryce has reprinted some valuable lectures. (S.P.C.K.)

We are glad to call attention to a second edition of the Rev. R. W. Kennion's *Unity and Order*. (London: Seeley and Co.)

In *Work for the Blind in China* (Gilbert and Rivington), Miss C. F. Gordon Cumming has collected a great deal of interesting information. The number of blind in China is estimated at half a million.

Blackwood is as good as usual. An "Experiment in Holidays" and "Titles" are very readable articles; "Love and Crime in India" is a clever sketch.

Cornhill is hardly up to the mark. Neither of the two serial stories seems to us to pay the debt which the *Cornhill's* reputation owes. The account of the English salt country is very useful.