

always be borne in mind that the decision in each case was that of a majority in a considerable body of scholars, and that in no case could a variation from the text of the Authorized Version be admitted without the consent of two-thirds of those who were present. It must also be borne in mind that, from the nature of the case, no authoritative explanation of the grounds of the actual decisions can be given, while, at the same time, the result will be exposed to the most searching criticism of all competent critics outside of the Revision Company.¹

But our examination, as illustrated in the instances which we have selected, will serve to shew that in every case the weight of the documentary evidence has been fully estimated, and that the arguments from internal evidence have been cautiously received; while it was in strict accordance with the rules originally laid down, that no unnecessary change should be made. Every variation, therefore, which is found either in the text or in the margin will suggest important questions and lines of inquiry. We cannot but express our hope that one result of this work will be (see Bishop Ellicott's Preface to his "Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians") to familiarize the uneducated eye with these perplexing, yet deeply interesting particulars, and to induce younger students to acquire, at least in outline, a knowledge of the history and details of sacred criticism." If this part of the labour of the Revisers serves to stimulate the reverent search for, and study of, the pure word of God, they will have accomplished a result hardly less important than the actual and immediate fruit of their labours.

J. F. FENN.



ART. III.—"COLONEL GORDON IN CENTRAL AFRICA."

Colonel Gordon in Central Africa, 1874-1879. With a Portrait, and Map of the Country prepared under Colonel Gordon's supervision. From Original Letters and Documents. Edited by GEORGE BIRKBECK HILL, D.C.L., Author of "The Life of Sir Rowland Hill, K.C.B.," &c. 450 pp. London: Thomas De la Rue & Co. 1881.

COLONEL GORDON is well known, and this book about his five years' work in Africa, written almost entirely by himself, has a peculiar interest, and is likely to be well read. From a brief Memoir, which serves as a Preface to the volume, we

¹ The publication of the Introduction and Appendix by Drs. Westcott and Hort will be of great value, and is indeed almost indispensable to this examination.

learn that Charles George Gordon, a son of General Gordon of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, was born at Woolwich, in 1833. When he was not yet fifteen years old, he entered the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich; and in 1852 he received his commission as second lieutenant in the Royal Engineers. In 1854 he joined the army before Sebastopol, and he did there gallant service. In 1857-58 he acted as Commissioner in determining the Asiatic frontiers of Russia and Turkey. In 1860, holding the rank of captain, he joined the army before Peking, and was present at the surrender of that town. For his services he received his brevet promotion to the rank of Major.

In 1862, Major Gordon left for Shanghai. At the very time that England and France had been at war with China, that Empire was suffering from a vast and most cruel rebellion. The Taipings were laying waste whole provinces. While the English and French forces were marching on Peking, two Chinese Governor-Generals prayed for their aid against the rebels, who, having sacked Soochow and Hangchow, were threatening Shanghai. The attack was beaten off in August, 1860:—

Shortly before this some of the wealthy Chinese merchants of Shanghai had undertaken to provide the necessary funds, if the Governor of the province would enlist a force of foreigners to defend their city against the Taipings. Some troops, accordingly, had been raised and placed under the command of an American of the name of Ward. From this band grew the force which, later on, bore the swelling title of the "ever-victorious army." The allies did their best to keep as clear as possible of the Civil War. The seat of their factories they would defend, but if that were not troubled, they were content to watch the fray. However, in January, 1862, the rebels threatened a second attack on Shanghai. One of their leaders, who bore the title of the Faithful King, put forth a proclamation, in which he said, "Shanghai is a little place. We have nothing to fear from it; we must take it to complete our dominions." Thereupon, the English and French commanders resolved to clear the country from the Taipings for thirty miles around that town. They were supported in this by an Imperial army, and by Ward's force, which now mustered nearly one thousand natives, under the command of Europeans. There was a good deal of heavy fighting. The English Admiral was wounded. The French Admiral was shot dead. In all these actions Major Gordon bore his part. In the autumn of this year Ward fell in an attack on a town, and was succeeded by a worthless adventurer, named Burgevine. Of this man, Li Hung-Chang, who had lately been made Governor of the Province, became so distrustful that he begged General Staveley to displace him, and to appoint an English officer in his stead. A scheme was thereupon drawn up by the General for the remodelling of the force, and was accepted by the Chinese Governor. It received the sanction of Sir Frederick Bruce, the British Minister, and in February, 1864, Burgevine's troops were placed under Major

Gordon. He held the command till May, 1864, when the neck of the rebellion had been broken, and the "ever-victorious army," having done its work, was disbanded.

Of Major Gordon's brilliant services an account is given in Mr. Wilson's record of the "Chinese Campaign." The Chinese Government made him a Mandarin of a very high order, and gave him the rank of Ti-Tu, the highest in their army,

In 1872 he met Nubar Pasha, the famous Egyptian Minister, at the British Embassy in Constantinople; and at the close of the following year he went to Egypt, succeeding Sir Samuel Baker as Governor of the Tribes which inhabit the Nile Basin.

The Khedive's final instructions to Colonel Gordon were dated Feb. 16, 1874.

Cairo is scarcely farther from St. Petersburg than from the southern borders of the Khedive's dominions. Khartoum is the last Egyptian town towards the South. Gondokoro, the seat of Government of the provinces of the Equator, was nothing but a miserable station. Yet Khartoum is about as far from Gondokoro as London is from Turin. By the grassy barrier that from time to time forms in the upper reaches of the Nile, Khartoum and Gondokoro are cut off from each other, often for months together. In February, 1870, Sir Samuel Baker started up the stream from the former town, but he did not arrive at the latter till April, 1871. His Excellency General Gordon (Governor-General of the Provinces of the Equator) made a rapid ascent.

For an account of "His Excellency's" labours during five years—how he was baffled by intrigues at Cairo, how he persevered in his noble efforts to put down slavery and protect the poor natives, with what heroic vigour, self-denial, and statesman-like wisdom he ruled over an immense territory, we must refer our readers to his own letters, edited and arranged by Dr. Hill.

In December, 1876, he returned to England. In February, 1877, the Khedive, recalling the great services already rendered, appointed him Governor-General over a province 1,640 miles in length, the Soudan, Darfour, and the provinces of the Equator being brought into one great province. It was to the eastern border of his government, in connection with Abyssinia, that Colonel Gordon's duty first led him. The letters relating to Abyssinia will interest many.

In July, 1879, he paid a visit to the new Khedive. At the end of the year he returned to England. In Egyptian territory his work was done.¹

¹ Concerning the religious element in the gallant Colonel's Correspondence, we have found it difficult to express an opinion. Here and there appears a remark which is exceedingly "Broad;" and sometimes his

The editor of his Correspondence aptly quotes from Spenser (the opening lines of canto iv. Book V.), "The Faërie Queene":—

Whoso upon himsele will take the skill
 True iustice unto people to divide,
 Had need have mightie hands for to fulfill
 That which he doth with righteous doome decide,
 And for to maister wrong and puissant pride:
 For vaine it is to deeme of things aright,
 And makes wrong doers iustice to deride,
 Unlesse it be perform'd with dreadlesse might:
 For Powre is the right hand of Iustice truely hight.

Gordon Pasha was, indeed, a Knight "of great emprise."

The following extracts from his Correspondence in 1879 will be read with interest:—

SHAKA, April 7.—I arrived at this den of iniquity at 7.30 A.M.; the grief of the slave-dealers, of whom there are some hundred, on hearing that they were to clear out, was great. The heat is terrible.

SHAKA, April 11.—Last night, Gessi sent word that he wanted no more troops or ammunition, and so those *en route* are recalled to Dara. I hope to go there in ten days, at the furthest, and then work for the capture of Haroun.

When one thinks of the enormous number of slaves which have passed into Egypt from these parts in the last few years, one can

statements are flavoured with Fatalism. One must admire his self-denying zeal, his strong submissiveness, his devotion to duty, as following out the will of God; but true Christian contentment is cheerful; we should praise God, as Dr. Hamilton once said, with the doxology of a shining countenance. The believer is *not* "a machine" (p. 152); as a wise servant of the Supreme, constrained by the love of Christ crucified, he works, "understanding what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. v. 17). He strives to *prove* that will (Rom. xii. 2), doing his "duty" heartily (Eph. vi. 7), even as a *friend* (p. 193) of Jesus. Where the truth of the Atonement is a possession, poor Cowper's verses—

"God moves in a mysterious way . . ."

are a reality (John xiii. 7). Again: it is no doubt true, sadly true, that of those who "profess much," often attend "prayer meetings," and seek a "religious notoriety," many are *worldly*, self-indulgent, narrow-minded, Pharisaic, and so forth. But it is well to discriminate; and a prudent charity avoids sweeping judgments. After all, of "serious people" in England, to quote the gallant Colonel's expression, a by no means small proportion are really in earnest, and bring forth fruit to God's glory somewhat more than thirty-fold.

Not a few expressions concerning religious matters in the volume before us make us regret that Colonel Gordon did not see his letters in print before they were published.

scarcely conceive what has become of them. There must have been thousands on thousands of them; and then, again, where do they all come from? for the lands of the natives which I have seen are not densely peopled. . . . We must have caught 2,000 in less than nine months, and I expect we did not catch one-fifth of the caravans. Again, how many died *en route*? The slaves are most undemonstrative. They make no sign of joy at being released. I suppose the long marches have taken all the life out of them. . . . I doubt much the liberation of the slaves in the twelve years. There now remain nine years. Who will do it? The Government of the Egyptians in these far-off countries is nothing else but one of brigandage of the very worst description. It is so bad that all hope of ameliorating it is hopeless; so I do the only thing possible—that is, vacate them. I have even given up blaming the Governors, for it is useless; so I send them to Cairo. One thing is certain, that the Egyptian should never be allowed out of his own country. You know that I have withdrawn from more than half the country which we held at the Equator, and 300 miles will separate us from Mtesa. If they made the telegraph through Africa, each station would be a nest of robbers, in the shape of slave-dealers.

April 16.—I have telegraphed to H. H. to send up the son of Sultan Ibrahim, in order to reinstate the Sultan's family in Darfour. With my thievish employés I see that it is hopeless to expect quiet or just government. The only hope is to restore the old *régime* as soon as possible. . . . The slave-dealers have departed from Shaka, and this place is clear of them, I hope for ever. The heat still continues terrible, and it is difficult to exist, far more to do any work. In a month the rains will begin, and, although it will be less healthy, it will be cooler.

SHAKA, *April 17.*—All the neighbouring nations of Central Africa will hear of the fall of Sebehr's gang, for they had pushed their expeditions for miles into the interior. They will also know why he was crushed—*i.e.*, on account of the slave trade, and by whom—*i.e.*, the Christians. . . . Last night four of the clerks, and other employés of Sebehr's son came in here, having escaped from Gessi. I have captured them, and am only waiting for a little before I shoot them. They had been sent down by Sebehr's son to make out that he had never wavered in his allegiance to H. H. He has, however, tried this trick too often to be successful, and he will now suffer for it. . . . You know the budget, the debts and receipts of the Soudan. Well, they write to me from Cairo to send them down £12,000! Now, the men in camp here are fifteen months to two years in arrears of pay: it is very fortunate there are only black ladies here, for the poor wretches are not clad. So I answered—"When the nakedness of my troops is partially covered, I may talk to you; in the meantime, send me up at once the £12,000 you unfairly took in customs on goods in transit to the Soudan." I do not care what I say, for I feel very confident that the way I could pay these people off best, would be to leave the post, for no one would keep the incendiary materials of the Soudan quiet until he had been here some years, and it would end in the Cairo finance

having to meet the Soudan deficit. It is only by hard camel riding¹ that I hold my position among the people.

SHAKA, *April 20.*—If the liberation of slaves takes place in 1884 [in Egypt proper], and the present system of Government goes on, there cannot fail to be a revolt of the whole country; but our Government will have to act à l'improviste. If you had read the account of the tremendous debates which took place in 1833 on the liberation of the West Indian slaves, even on payment of £20,000,000, you would have some idea how owners of slaves (even Christians) hold to their property. . . . It is rather amusing to think that the people of Cairo are quite oblivious that in 1884 their revenue will fall to one-half, and that the country will need many more troops to keep it quiet. Seven-eighths of the population of the Soudan are slaves, and the loss of revenue in 1889 (the date fixed for the liberation of slaves in Egypt's outlying territories) will be more than two-thirds, if it is ever carried out. Truly, in a small way, the Egyptian problem is a very thorny one, if you look at it beyond your nose. The 25,000 black troops I have here are either captured slaves or bought slaves. How are we to recruit if the slave trade ceases?

SHAKA, *April 25.*—Remember that no one is ever obliged to enter the service of one of these States, and that if he does he has to blame himself, and not the Oriental State. If the Oriental State is well governed, then it is very sure he will never be wanted. The rottenness of the State is his *raison d'être*, and it is absurd for him to be surprised at things not being as they ought to be, according to his ideas. He ought to be surprised that they are not more rotten. I admire the Khedive exceedingly; he is the perfect type of his people, thoroughly consistent to all their principles—a splendid leopard! Look at the numberless cages out of which he has broken his way when it seemed impossible for him to do so. Nubar once summed him up thus: "He is a man of no principle, but capable of very chivalrous impulses; and if he was with a better *entourage*, he would do well." They tried to drive him; but leopards will not be driven. What I have written is from my own experience, and from constant conversations with intelligent Arabs, who endorse every word. My black waiter's eyes twinkle with delight when I portray what I think are the Arab ideas. Europe wants to wash them; they do not want to be washed. Li Hung Chang had just the same ideas. He granted the advantage of Europeans; but he counted the *moral* cost, and found it too expensive. It is a very depressing feeling to be convinced that, do all you can, you are not liked, but the reverse; that everything you order will be cancelled when you leave, if it in any way galls them. The mass of Europeans at Cairo think they know Egypt, as the people at Shanghai think they know China. They know painted or varnished Egypt, and no further. . . . I hope you will understand that, though

¹ In 1879 Colonel Gordon rode 2,230 miles through the deserts on camels, and 800 miles in Abyssinia on mules.

In the three years 1877-8-9 he rode 8,490 miles on camels and mules. His average day's journey on camels was 32½ miles, and on mules 10 miles.

I estimate Asiatics as I do, I in no way advocate that our Government should submit to their tricks when a really Government matter is concerned; but let us keep clear of interfering with their internal affairs; let us leave reforms to them and their peoples. When the Government becomes outrageously bad, the peoples will slough them off. And let our Government abstain from being mixed up with the money affairs of the people here, who in morality differ very little from Asiatics. . . .

I see by the last two papers that two regiments have been defeated in Afghanistan. It is just as well that we have these lessons taught us *en petit*. We are a great deal too confident in ourselves, and despise ordinary precautions. The press is greatly answerable for this over-confidence. Men now risk dangers in the hope of paper distinction. However savage or despicable your enemy may be, you should never despise precautions which you would take against a European foe. . . . I like Nelson's signal—"England expects DURY." Now, the race is for honours, not honour, and newspaper praise. I hate all the boasting of our papers—the curious smallness of mind which cries out if A happens to be mentioned in the papers more than B, who was in command. What does it signify? Did not each owe their lives and duty to their country? C spikes a gun (some one says) before he was killed. His family should have a V.C.! and such-like trivialities.

After Colonel Gordon's return to England, he was strongly advised to abstain from all exciting work. "The advice was good," writes Dr. Hill, "but it was not easy to follow":—

None find it harder to take rest than those who need it most. The overwrought brain too often will not own to itself its own wants; and even if it does, too often it knows not how to set about the task of idleness. Colonel Gordon had more than once pictured to himself the life that he would lead when his retirement should at last come. He would lie in bed till noon; he would only take short strolls; he would only go on a railway journey, and never accept an invitation to dinner. He would have oysters for lunch. He had scarcely begun even to make trial of the life of an idle man, when, unhappily, fresh employment was offered him. "In a moment of weakness," he writes, "I took the appointment of Private Secretary to Lord Ripon, the new Governor-General of India. No sooner had I landed at Bombay than I saw that, in my irresponsible position, I could not hope to do anything really to the purpose in the face of the vested interests out there. Seeing this, and seeing, moreover, that my views were so diametrically opposed to those of the official classes, I resigned. Lord Ripon's position was certainly a great consideration with me. It was assumed by some that my views of the state of affairs were the Viceroy's, and thus I felt that I should do him harm by staying with him. We parted perfect friends. The brusqueness of my leaving was unavoidable, inasmuch as my stay would have put me into the possession of secrets of State, that—considering my decision eventually to leave—I ought not to know. Certainly, I might have stayed a month or two, had a pain in the hand, and gone quietly; but the whole duties were so

distasteful that I felt, being pretty callous as to what the world says, that it was better to go at once."

It was on June 3 that he resigned his appointment under Lord Ripon. News of his resignation appeared in the London papers of the following day, and was read, among other people, by Mr. J. D. Campbell, the agent in England of Mr. Hart, the Chinese Commissioner of Customs at Peking. This gentleman thereupon forwarded to Colonel Gordon a telegram which he had received from Mr. Hart.

Colonel Gordon at once accepted the invitation, and set out for China. In an interview with his old friend, the statesman Li Hung Chang, he learned the position of affairs; his counsel was, "Peace, not war;" and he left China with the knowledge that peace would be maintained between the Russian and Chinese Empires.

We may add that this volume is printed in large type, and contains a good map.



ART. IV.—THE SIXTH PETITION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER.

WE have received, from a valued correspondent, the following letter, which we print with pleasure. Our own opinion, as against the alteration introduced by the Revisers, would have been expressed more decidedly and fully if we had not heard that a reply to Canon Cook's pamphlet, from the pen of a most distinguished Reviser, was in preparation. The alterations in the Lord's Prayer will tend, we believe, above all things, to produce prejudice against a really noble work.

To the Editor of THE CHURCHMAN.

SIR,—I am induced by your notice of Canon Cook's *Protest against the Change in the Last Petition of the Lord's Prayer, adopted in the Revised Version*, to hope that you will permit me to offer a few thoughts on the same subject.

The question brings us face to face with a problem which, with the Origin of Evil itself, is perhaps the most subtle and mysterious on which the human mind can be exercised—the share, namely, to be assigned to the Personal Tempter, and the share belonging to the fallen heart of man, in evil thoughts developing themselves in evil actions. To define these limits accurately is, perhaps, beyond the keenest mortal ken, and the quest may only land us in metaphysical perplexities from which there is no solution. The practical answer is, perchance, the only one attainable—"Deliver us from evil whencesoever it may come."

The view of the petition which I venture to submit to the consideration of your readers explains, and even necessitates, the article before