

their habits. He finds that, as regards hearing, they are totally insensible to aerial vibrations, but very sensitive to those of solid bodies with which they may be in contact, as seen by placing flower-pots containing their burrows on a piano, when on striking a single note they instantly retreated. Their smell seems cognisant of food only, for while they speedily scented out pieces of cabbage or of onions buried near them, they were quite indifferent to petroleum or tobacco-juice. If not engaged in feeding they are extremely sensitive to light, though the rudimentary structure of their eyes precludes the possibility of vision.

They draw leaves into their burrows, partly for food, smearing them with a secretion powerfully digestive both of starch and protoplasm, the only case of extra-gastric digestion in the animal kingdom, but strictly analogous to that of the carnivorous plants, *Dionæa*, *Drosera*, and the Pitcher plants demonstrated by Darwin himself, E. Ray Lankester, and others; partly to close their holes against the access of birds; and partly, he believes, to protect themselves from the contact with the cold night air. In this operation they generally seize the leaf by its apex, as the more suited to their purpose, avoiding the leaf-stalk, but choosing that end by preference when it happened to be the narrower. The same selective faculty (intelligence?) was shown when triangular pieces of paper were substituted for leaves, though, on the hypothesis of chance alone, they must at least as often have taken hold of one of the obtuser angles. When, as on gravel walks, there are no leaves, they close the mouths of their holes with heaps of small stones; and a lady, who had repeatedly swept these away, found one night, on going out with a lantern, the worms with their tails fixed in their burrows dragging with their mouths such stones as they could reach. One of these weighed two ounces.

Our space forbids our giving more, but we heartily recommend this study of the work of worms to those of our country friends who take an interest in the humblest creature that breathes as the handiwork of the Almighty.

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## Short Notices.

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*Swiss Letters and Alpine Poems.* By the late FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL. Edited by her sister, J. MIRIAM CRANE. Pp. 340. J. Nisbet & Co.

In a prefatory note by Mrs. Crane we read:—"The world-wide interest excited by the writings and 'Memorials' of my lamented sister, Frances Ridley Havergal, has led her family to think that such of her letters as I have been able to collect, written to her home circle from Switzerland, will be acceptable to her many admirers. Some will feel pleasure in mentally revisiting the sublime scenery she describes with such vigour and simplicity; and others will be interested in observing how unconsciously these letters indicate her enthusiastic nature, her practical ability, and her ardent desire that every one should share her earthly pleasures and her heavenly aspirations." The frontispiece—a pleasing picture—is "Pension Wengen," with the Alps in the background; here, in 1876, Miss Havergal wrote "A Song in the Night," which begins,

I take this pain, Lord Jesus,  
From Thine own hand:  
The strength to bear it bravely,  
Thou wilt command.

I am too weak for effort,  
So let me rest,  
In trust of sweet submission  
On Thine own breast.

For many of those to whom a good book at Christmas is a welcome present, this delightful selection of Swiss Letters, full of soothing songs without music, will prove a real help. The volume, it may be remarked, has a tasteful cover.

*Old Proverbs with New Pictures.* Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co.

This is one of the choicest children's books of the season. It contains sixty coloured plates, from original designs "by Lizzie Lawson," with verses to correspond. Of the artistic excellence, even a critic who has no children at his elbow, may write warmly; we ourselves have heard—we may say, and seen—delighted and decided praise. The picture of little folks leading a wooden horse to a brook, with the proverb, "You may lead a horse to the water . . ." is, perhaps, the prettiest; a little girl's face, as, perplexed, she sighs over the horse's perversity, is "a study." Paper, type, cover, &c., all are of the best.

*Gipsy Mike. Firm as a Rock.* Pp. 220. J. F. Shaw & Co.

This is a really clever story, with touching passages, and a thread of interest from the first page to the very last. Many readers will be sorry that "Mike," a lad on H.M.S. *Endeavour*, died, but the plot is well developed. In all Messrs. Shaw & Co.'s gift-books, the literary merit is at least of the average order, while the tone is good, and there is some sound religious teaching. These wholesome tales are suited for parish libraries as well as for fireside reading.

*Over the Wall.* By ISMAY THORN. London: J. F. Shaw & Co.

Some graphic sketches of child life. Two families come to know each other: the children, six of one family and four of the other, the eldest, a boy, being thirteen years of age, make friends over a garden wall. The tale is told with a pleasant naturalness, and is sure to give satisfaction to young readers. This is an attractive book, with some charming illustrations.

*All Among the Daisies.* By Mrs. Stanley Leathes, Author of  
"On the Doorsteps." J. F. Shaw & Co.

We are much pleased with this story; unaffected, and winning, its good taste is as conspicuous as its religious aim and temper. "Pearl" is a pearl; and Granny and Will (whose voyage and adventures are well described) are sure to become favourites.

*The Leisure Hour.* 1881.

*The Sunday at Home.* 1881. R. T. S., Paternoster Row.

These handsome Annuals are always welcome. We read the Magazines each month, and we read out some portions to others. From personal acquaintance, therefore, the present writer can cordially commend these volumes, as sound and good, full of useful and interesting information upon many subjects. For a parish or lending library, we are not acquainted with any works, taking the volumes as a whole, so likely to be really useful; so likely to be well read and to do good. The subjects are well varied, and the treatment is judicious. Some of the papers show ability of no mean order; and there is nothing poor or dull. Young persons, we find, are always pleased to get the work to read, and elders of this or that class and type give their verdict of warm approval. The better educated youths of a country parish, for instance, prefer the

*Leisure Hour* to everything else; with this, no doubt, the illustrations have much to do. The special features of the volumes have from time to time been mentioned in the *CHURCHMAN*. We congratulate the editor on the felicitous completion of another portion of his important labours, and, if we may venture so to do, wish him, with the Divine blessing, health and vigour for the duties of a New Year. The power of the religious press, we are persuaded, is even now not sufficiently appreciated by a large proportion of the public.

*Church Music. A Popular Sketch. Being a Glance at its Origin, Development, and Present Use. With Illustrations.* By the Rev. EDWARD HICKS, B.A., Vicar of Kidsgrove, Staffordshire. Pp. 80. London: John Heywood. 1881.

This is likely to prove "a popular sketch." In its way, it is the best little book we know of. We quite agree with the author that, in a musical point of view, the west gallery is best adapted for the choir.

*Early Days in Christian Life. Kindly Words to the Young in their Christian Course.* By the Rev. JOHN RICHARDSON, M.A., Vicar of Camden.

*Mothers' Meetings: How to Form and Conduct them.* With hints for carrying out the agencies which may be usefully employed in connection with them. By the Rev. W. H. PEERS, M.A., Vicar of All Saints, Harrow Weald. Elliot Stock.

These two little books form part of an excellent series now being published by Mr. Stock. . . . "Small books on Important Subjects," written by such able and representative men as Dr. Flavel Cook, Canon Stowell, Mr. Gordon Calthrop, Mr. Boyd Carpenter, and Dr. Bell; cheap and well printed. Canon Richardson's "Kindly Words" are just what we should expect from a hard-working clergyman of ability and good judgment, who has taken a special interest in the young; so good a work of the kind we have seldom seen. For Mr. Peers' practical manual an introduction has been written by Mr. Boyd Carpenter. The advice given by Mr. Peers is thoroughly good. We think his list of books suitable for a lending library may, in a second edition, be improved; in a country parish, and even in an average country-town parish, the books must, as we think, be very simple; and the religious writings should be of the style of Mr. Power and Mr. Bourdillon.

*From Log-Cabin to White House. The Story of President Garfield's Life.* By W. M. THAYER. Sixth edition, completing twentieth thousand. Pp. 349. Hodder & Stoughton.

The author of this very interesting Story prepared a book for boys, some sixteen years ago, upon the early life of Abraham Lincoln, entitled "The Pioneer Boy, and how he became President." That work had a large circulation; and it is probable that the present volume may prove as successful. The author was impressed, he says, by the resemblance of General Garfield's early obscurity and struggles, as well as the triumphs of his manhood, to those of Mr. Lincoln. Both statesmen were born in log-cabins, built by their fathers, in the wilderness, for family houses: both were very poor; both were born with talents of the highest order; neither enjoyed early advantages of schools and teachers. At eight years of age Lincoln lost his mother; and when Garfield was eighteen months old he lost his father. Both worked on a farm, chopped wood, and did whatever else was needful for a livelihood, when eight years of age. Both improved every leisure moment in study and reading.

*The Clergyman's and Church Worker's Visiting List.* A General Register and Complete Record of Church Work and Workers for 1882. Edited by the Rev. F. A. CAVE BROWN CAVE, M.A., Vicar of Longridge. With a Preface by the Bishop of MANCHESTER. London: John Smith & Co., 52, Long Acre.

Of this Register, edited by a clergyman of his diocese, of much energy and experience, the Bishop of Manchester says:—"It is admirably adapted to the purposes which it proposes to serve, and the clergyman who uses it will always have close at hand and ready for reference a succinct but clear conspectus of his parish." We give the "contents," as follows:—Almanack, &c., &c.—Visiting List and Journal—Offertory Memoranda—Sunday and Day School Teachers—Baptismal, Marriage, and Death Registers—Parish Workers—Communicants' Register—Persons Unbaptized—Persons Unconfirmed—Special Preachers Wanted—Addresses of Subscribers—Sermons Preached—Confirmation Class, &c. &c.

*The Search for Franklin.* A Narrative of the American Expedition under Lieutenant Schwatka, 1878 to 1880. Pp. 120. Nelson & Son.

A pleasing little gift book; well illustrated and very readable.

*The Two Voyages; or, Morning and Daylight.* By W. H. G. KINGSTON. Pp. 310. R. T. S.

The story of these "two voyages" shows what the natives were before and after the gospel was preached in the Islands of the Pacific. Interesting and informing, an attractive addition to any juvenile library, this book is tastefully got up, with gilt edges. It is a good companion to "The Golden Grasshopper," written by Mr. Kingston.

*China as a Mission Field.* By the Rev. A. E. MOULE, B.D. Pp. 74. C. M. House, Salisbury Square.

A readable pamphlet; with statistics clearly set forth, a good map and chronological table. May its appeal stir many hearts!

*Cobwebs and Cables.* By HESBA STRETTON, Author of "Jessica's First Prayer," &c. Pp. 364. The Religious Tract Society.

"Sins are at first like cobwebs, at last like cables:" this is the motto of the ably written and thoughtful tale before us.

*From the Beginning.* Stories from Genesis, for Little Children. By Mrs. G. E. MORTON, Author of "The Story of Jesus," &c. Pp. 230. Hatchards.

A year or two ago was commended in these columns Mrs. Morton's admirable book, "The Story of Jesus for Little Children." The volume before us is a worthy companion. Mrs. Morton has kept as much as possible to the words of the original: in arrangement and exposition she has shown reverent tact and skill. There are some illustrations and a map.

*Beneath the Surface.* Physical Truths, especially Geological, shown to be latent in many parts of the Holy Scriptures. By EDWARD DUKE, M.A., F.G.S. Pp. 275. Hatchards.

A thoughtful and truly reverent work.

*Without a Reference.* A Christmas Story. By BRENDA. Hatchards.

The author of "Froggy's Little Brothers," "Nothing to Nobody," and other well-known tales, is a pleasing and effective writer. Things were at a low ebb with John when his wife pawned his dress coat; but he and she were taught and trained in the surest school for many of us.

*Precious Jewels for Daily Use.* Arranged by Dr. E. J. WARING, pp. 365. Partridge & Co.

A small volume of short, suggestive, and sound meditations; it is printed in clear type.

*Our Folks: John Churchill's Letters Home.* By AGNES GIBERNE. Hand and Heart Publishing Office.

An amusing book, not without instruction. Our Bailiff, our Druggist, our Grocer, and so forth, are illustrated with pen and pencil.

*The Lyon's Den, and its Eight Young Lyons.* By Y. OSBORN, Author of "Jack," &c. Shaw & Co.

In the school-room of the Rev. William Lyon's house, one very wet afternoon, there was a very surprising calm. The cook and the one other servant of the household, who was housekeeper, nurse, housemaid, and general helper and director, wondering at this, resolved that an unwontedly early entrance with the tea was expedient. There were eight young Lyons in the den; what were they about? When the good old nurse entered, she raised her hands in dismay, and gave vent to a cry of wrath and reproach; for this is what she saw:—

A blazing fire in the July grate, so neatly adorned with shavings by her own hands during the summer months; eight apples reposing at intervals upon and between different bars, and eight young Lyons watching the progress of their cooking operations with more or less interest.

"Well, I never!" exclaimed nurse, wrathfully; "I felt sure you must be in mischief to keep as quiet as you have done, but I never would have looked for this!"

And so the talk goes on. There are grave and touching, as well as amusing, passages. The characters are well drawn; the tone is good, nor is the best of all things lacking. We cordially recommend this natural and very pleasing story. As a gift-book, it has a tasteful cover.

*The Little Folks' Sunday Book.* By CHRISTIAN REDFORD. Pp. 220. Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co.

Miss Redford has given us a very attractive and a very useful book. By experience, no doubt, as a Christian Worker, she has found out what style is suitable for little folks; and her subjects run upon "daily round and common task" lines. Her idea is capital; and she has worked it out well. A leading thought, with a chat upon it, text, verse of a hymn, prayer, &c., with two or three illustrative pictures.

*Bible Light for Truth Seekers.* Pp. 235. Haughton & Co.

This is the annual volume, apparently, of a cheap periodical. We have read some of the articles, e.g., "The Fountain of Living Water," p. 202; "A Present Salvation," by the Rev. S. C. Morgan, and "Light in the Lord," p. 23; and we have found them sound and good.

*Fun and Fairies.* By GRACE STEBBING, Author of "Brave Geordie," "Silverdale Rectory," &c. John F. Shaw & Co.

Having a high opinion of "Silverdale Rectory," we were prepared to be pleased with the author's fairy tales, and we have not been disappointed. The "four little girls" were very happy, we make sure, to hear such deftly woven stories, and to see such pretty picture illustrations.

*Russia, Past and Present.* Adapted from the German of Lanckenau and Oelnitz. By HENRIETTA M. CHESTER. With Map and Illustrations. Pp. 430. S. P. C. K.

This book supplies a want. It is full of interesting information, clear, and very readable. We may add that it is well printed.

*Cassell's Old and New Edinburgh.* Its History, its People, and its Places. By JAMES GRANT, Author of "Memorials of the Castle of Edinburgh," &c. Vol. I. Pp. 380. Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co.

We are greatly pleased with this work. It is full, readable, and trust-worthy. There is an illustration on almost every page, so that the general reader has no difficulty in following the Author's lead; nor is he likely to find it tedious if he has any fondness for historical and antiquarian information. It is more than twenty years ago since the writer of this notice, in the company of a well-informed antiquarian, a connection of Sir Walter Scott, sought the many curious nooks and corners of the old town.

*Every Boy's Annual.* Edited by EDMUND ROUTLEDGE, F.R.G.S.

*Every Girl's Annual.* Edited by Miss ALICIA L. LEITH.  
George Routledge & Sons.

Once more we have the pleasure of noticing these favourite yearly volumes of our boys and girls. The Annual for Boys, ably edited, contains stories and narratives of voyages and journeys of research, by well-known writers. "Adventures in Australia" was written by Mr. W. H. G. Kingston; the Rev. H. C. Adams has contributed "Travellers' Tales;" a paper by Colonel Drayson shows the pleasures and perils of Tiger Shooting. Several of the articles appear informing as well as interesting. The Annual for Girls seems as attractive, and is—a juvenile critic assures us—as good as usual. It contains a certain proportion of really useful matter. Both volumes are well illustrated, and some of the pictures are very pretty.

*Little Wide Awake.* An Illustrated Magazine for Good Children.  
Edited by Mrs. SALE BARKER. George Routledge & Sons.

Glad, indeed, will be the "good children" to whom this handsome volume is presented. It contains charming coloured pictures; fairy tales (by Lord Brabourne); the memoirs of a terrier, with illustrations by Harrison Weir: odds and ends—grave and gay.

Among the volumes received by us too late for a worthy review-notice in the January CHURCHMAN (which is issued on an early day) is a splendid gift-book from Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin, *The Holy Land*. This is a re-issue of an admirable work; the well-known drawings by Mr. ROBERTS, with descriptions by Dr. CROLY. Without delay we gladly invite attention to this edition; Division I. "Jerusalem and Galilee."

We observe, without surprise, that a second edition of the October *Quarterly Review* (Murray) has been called for. The article on the New Greek Text, to which we called attention in the November CHURCHMAN, has been read with interest in many a lay and clerical study in every part of the country. A friendly critic in the *John Bull*, when noticing our remarks upon it, hints that we have somewhat changed our mind in regard to the R. V. But our good friend in the *John Bull* is mistaken. The brilliant article in the *Quarterly*, written by one of the most eminent of our divines, to whose scholarship and dogmatic (and, let us add, Protestant) backbone we gladly give honour, has not in the least modified our views of the value of the R. V. As to the volumes of Drs. WESTCOTT and HORT, we have expressed, as yet, no opinion. In the December *Contemporary Review*, Dr. Sanday, defending them, writes with literary skill and considerable power: it is an exceedingly interesting article. For our-

selves, while we agree to some extent with the "Conservative" dignitary in the *Quarterly Review*, we cannot refrain from paying a tribute of respect to the labours of thirty years.

We are much pleased with *Hilda*, a tale for girls, the motto of which is "Seeketh not her own," written by CATHARINE SHAW. Its lessons of fireside duties and the ministrations of home are pleasing, and likely to profit. "*Hilda*" was a doctor's wife, a devoted Christian. We may mention that *Nellie Arundel* and *In the Sunlight and Out of It*, are by the same author. (Messrs. J. F. Shaw & Co.)

The author of *Elsie Gordon*, *Rough the Terrier*, and other good stories, has written *Uncle Fred's Shilling, its Travels and Adventures* (J. F. Shaw & Co.), a capital gift-book for any boy or girl at this season. The story is amusing.

*The Fireside* for 1881 (*Home Words* Publishing Office) is as welcome as ever; a handsome volume, full of sound and readable articles. The enterprising editor, Mr. BULLOCK, has done much for the spread of pure and wholesome literature; whether he has been supported in anything like due measure we have some doubts. *The Fireside* and other useful Magazines, which for several years he has edited, are decidedly Evangelical on the lines of the Church of England. This Annual may be recommended with fullest confidence.

One of the R. T. S. large type series, *Old Blind Ned*; or, *The Lord will Provide*; *The Oldest of Seven*, a shilling smaller size volume; *Two of England's Wars*; or, *Theodore and Coffee*, and *Abyssinia and Ashantee*; and *The Children's King*, "stories for the little ones;" we have great pleasure in commending. The last named, a gilt-edged volume, has a very tasteful cover. All are bright, illustrated, and good.

We have pleasure in recommending *Only a Tramp*, uniform with that well written story, "*Silverdale Rectory*," also by GRACE STEBBING (J. F. Shaw & Co.) Many boys and girls will be glad to hear again of Mr. Charles Wynn, the Tramp.

We can thoroughly recommend the *Day of Days Annual* (1, Paternoster Buildings, E.C.), a magazine for Sunday reading, edited by the Rev. C. BULLOCK, B.D. Among the illustrations we notice one of Mr. Eugene Stock, with a very interesting biographical sketch.

*A Lighthouse Keeper*, *The Two Brothers*, *The Little Australian Girl*. (Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier), are simple stories with winsome bits of Scotch; very cheap, with a pretty cover.

We have received the volume for 1881 of *Cassell's Family Magazine* (Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co.), a handsomely bound, well illustrated gift-book for Christmas and the New Year. The stories, a friend tells us, are well written: and the songs are of a high class. With the papers which we ourselves have read we are much pleased. The Household Papers, e.g., are exceedingly good: practical hints, sound, sensible advice in small compass. Under the head of "*The Gatherer*," many paragraphs are interesting and informing. The *Family Magazine* for week-day reading, and the *Quiver* for the sacred day of rest, are ably edited and useful magazines.

*Parish of —. Parochial Offertory*, A.D. 1882. Published by the S. P. C. K. An admirable idea: just the thing for Vestry use.

From Messrs. T. & T. Clark, the eminent Edinburgh publishers, we have received Dr. HUTHER's *Commentary on the Epp. of Peter and Jude*; also his work on the Pastoral Epistles (German, fourth edition). We have received the third volume of *Hagenbach's History of Doctrines*, and the first volume of Bishop MARTENSEN's *Christian Ethics*: the second issue for the present year of "*Clark's Foreign Theological Library*."

From Mr. Stock (62, Paternoster Row) we have received the concluding

volume of *The Biblical Museum*, vol. x., of the Old Testament, "Daniel and the Minor Prophets." Mr. GRAY'S comprehensive work—fifteen volumes—which, so far as we know, is unique, has more than once been recommended in these columns; it is a store-house—really a *Museum*—of hints and illustrations, a practical, "popular" Commentary.

We have much pleasure in recommending *The Wonderland of Work*. (Cassell), by C. L. MATÉAUX. An excellent book for boys: knives, whips, clocks, leather, gloves, chains, and so forth. There are many woodcuts, small and large. So good a book of the kind we have never seen.

The charming Cards for Christmas and New Year, published by Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, Her Majesty's Printers (Great New Street, E.C.), were warmly commended in the *CHURCHMAN* last year. Their issue for this season is perhaps rather better; and this is saying a great deal. In looking over the series of specimens, one's difficulty is to apportion praise. There are many varieties, new and old; all are choice and good, and many are exquisite art-productions. Those from designs of their own special artists, Mr. E. Maurice, Mr. H. Arnold, and Miss Steel, deserve the highest praise.

Messrs. Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co. have published a "popular edition" of Dr. FARRAR'S *Life of Christ*: a handy volume (460 pages) well printed, and well got up.

*Peter Parley's Annual for 1882*, with numerous illustrations and coloured plates (Cassell). "*The 41st year!*" Such a book has a reputation. We well remember, a good many years ago it is now, prizing a "Peter Parley" very highly for leisure half-hours. Of late years we have not seen our old friend. Doubtless in the hands of its present proprietors the *Annual* will flourish. The stories are very good.

Messrs R. & A. Suttaby (Amen Corner, Paternoster Row) have sent us their *Christmas Remembrancer for 1882*: an excellent pocket-book.

*Chatterbox for 1881* (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.) is, as usual, bright and usual; a capital gift-volume.

*Peter Trawl; or, The Adventures of a Whaler*, is one of the best of the good stories written by the late Mr. KINGSTON (Hodder & Stoughton).

We have received from Messrs. Seeley, Jackson, & Halliday, too late for fitting notice in the present number, *Benwonuta*, a tale by that able and admirable story-writer, Mrs. MARSHALL: *Under the Shield*, a story by the author of that excellent book, "The Nest of Sparrows:" *The World's Foundations; or, Geology for Beginners*, by AGNES GIBERNE, whose "Sun, Moon, and Stars," a charming book of Astronomy for beginners (also published by Messrs Seeley) was warmly recommended in *THE CHURCHMAN* a year ago; it is an attractive volume, with coloured illustrations. From the same firm we have received *Chirps for the Chicks*, a delightful book for little folks, by M. E. WINCHESTER, Author of "A Nest of Sparrows." The opening lines are:—

Sing a song of sixpence,  
A pocket full of rye,

and the old, old nursery favourites follow in due order. *Chirps for the Chicks* is, in fact, very nearly at the head of children's books this season. There are thirty capital illustrations.

We have received a selection of the Cards published by Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co. for the season of 1881-2. Those we received from this firm last year were exceedingly good. The issue for the present season is even better.