

Miscellaneous.

Church or Chapel (1) is an Eirenicon addressed to Non-conformists, with the laudable intention of showing them what the Church of England really is and what it teaches, and in the hope that some of them may be enabled to find their way back again. The promotion of the unity of Christendom must ever be a praiseworthy endeavour; the great and ever-increasing number of sects, all more or less antagonistic, is not only a scandal, but surely a hindrance to the progress of true religion; and therefore Mr. Hammond's work must be greatly commended, at any rate for its intention. Some people may desire reformation in many particulars regarding the doctrine and usages of the Church, and Mr. Hammond is not altogether averse from amendments; but, as he says, what is most needed is *information*, and this he addresses himself to supply in a concise and attractive form. The Eirenicon consists of two parts; in the first are stated the positive arguments in favour of the Church; in the second the objections to its rites, doctrines, services, and pretensions are considered. Mr. Hammond conducts his advocacy in a broad and liberal spirit; and we cordially hope that his book will be widely read by Churchmen and Nonconformists alike, and that the result the author so earnestly desires will be largely achieved.

Mr. H. H. Snell has printed, for public use, a little volume on the *Inspiration and Divine Authority of the Holy Scriptures*, (2) which contains the substance of lectures delivered in Montgomery Hall, Sheffield, "with the view of meeting the flood of infidelity as to the inspiration and Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, which has of late been overflowing Christendom." In the introduction Mr. Snell traverses the pretensions of Romish or Anglican Churches to be the appointed custodians of the Scriptures, and maintains that the decisions of their councils to give them this authority is as gratuitous and unfounded as anything can be. He therefore upholds the right of private judgment aided by the Holy Spirit. Mr. Snell's proofs for inspiration are taken mostly from the Bible itself, and he certainly shows an extensive acquaintance with its contents. We cannot say that his treatment of the alleged inaccuracies is all that could be desired, but, on the whole, we believe that the volume is calculated to do good, and we trust it may be read widely and thoughtfully.

The Great Day of the Lord (3) is a commentary on the Revelation of St. John; and the work is issued for this very sufficient reason, "The author believes that the commonly accepted doctrines on 'Last Things' have been long and ably enough discussed to show