

in all its forms. Probably no living man is more familiar with the modern movement known as Reformed Hinduism than is Mr. Bose. "Brahmoism" is an intelligent and succinct history of the Reformed Hindu faith with which Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen's name is associated, from its incipency in 1830 to the present time. The various phases of development through which it has passed, the sects into which it has split, and the dogmas and principles it has from time to time promulgated, are all treated of by the author with remarkable skill and ability. The scope and character of the work are indicated by the titles of the leading chapters. The Introduction gives a historical view and philosophical analysis of Mormonism as a religious system, and of Auguste Comte's religious faith, and then points out the immense superiority of the religion of the Brahmo Somaj in many essential features. The second chapter, "The Adi Somaj," traces the origin, progress, constitution and present status of the Parent Association or Reformed Hinduism. 3. The Progressive Somaj. 4. The Affirmations and Negations of Brahmoism. 5 and 6. The New Dispensation. 7. The Sadharan Brahmo Somaj. 8. Religious Aspirations of Young India. 9. Rajah Ram Mohun Roy (the founder of Brahmoism), as Hymnologist. Short biographical sketches of the prominent actors in the movement, and a fuller sketch of Chunder Sen are also given, and their views are mostly stated in their own words. Ram Chandra Bose has done important service to the Church in this work, as it gives a complete view (and the only one we know of) of this wonderful movement, and that (for the first time) from a strictly orthodox standpoint.—"Chinese" Gordon: a Succinct Record of his Life," by Archibald Forbes. Same publishers. Standard Library. Price 25 cents. There is no man living upon whom is concentrated so wide and intense an interest at the present time as the subject of this brief sketch. This little volume claims to be only a compilation and abridgment. But, notwithstanding, it gives one a pretty vivid idea of this wonderful man—of his heroic confidence, his calm and perfect trust in God at all times, and of the truly romantic and almost supernatural elements and events which enter into his extraordinary career.

The Century Co. "Laudes Domini: a Selection of Spiritual Songs, Ancient and Modern." Dr. Robinson's "Spiritual Songs," series has met with universal favor, and this work, which has been for several years in preparation, is now given to the public in the hope that it may share in the approval which has been accorded to those which have preceded it. It deserves it. It seems to us, in its mechanical, literary and musical qualities, the very perfection of hymnology. It is especially rich in hymns of praise to Christ our Lord, as its name implies. It is designed to lead the taste of congregations and choirs toward a higher class of lyrics and mu-

sic than now prevails. To this end, a large selection from the great wealth of newer hymns and modern American, English and German choral music, has been included with the best of the old and familiar hymns and standard tunes in common use.

Periodicals.

TRANSITION PERIODS IN RELIGIOUS THOUGHT. By T. M. Post, D.D. *Andover Review* (June), 18 pp. Few can take exception to the statements of this ably written article; none to its spirit. Both the advocates and the opponents of the "New Theology" may read it to advantage. He does not enter into the discussion of its merits or demerits, nor indicate in what it consists; but he dwells upon the historic fact, that "transition periods" have been frequent in the past, and, in the light of present movements, whose character and tendency may be regarded as yet indeterminate, he aims to point out the dangers and difficulties and opportunities of such a period. The trend of the paper leaves no doubt as to where the sympathies of the writer are. All will agree with him in his closing words, understood as expressing a general truth, and not as characterizing the present tendency to a broad theology: "The transition that lifts up Christ and sets the face of the Church toward Him, that enthrones Him in the centre of its theologic system, and makes Him the supreme and ultimate self-expression of God to the world, overruling all others, and conforming them to itself, and testing by itself the genuineness and degree of all inspiration—such a transition movement we feel could not bear very widely from the truth, nor, while thus centralizing, need it be regarded greatly with alarm."

THE USE AND ABUSE OF PARTIES. By Rev. Washington Gladden. *The Century* (June); 5 pp. This brief paper is timely and sensible. The time has been when party names stood for principles, fundamental and sharply defined, and a distinctive policy. But it is not so to-day in the United States. Two facts stand out in bold relief: the dearth of principles, and the strife for patronage. It would be impossible to define either the principles or the policy of either of the parties now clamoring for the votes of fifty million freemen. Look at their "platforms," and tell, if you can, which is which, or what ideas or grand truths either represents. Has not the time come for a new departure? Are there not interests at stake infinitely more vital and important than the maintenance of existing party names and party organizations?

THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPTION OF MAN. By Prof. Lewis F. Stearns, *Andover Review* (May), 12 pp. The object of this article is to show that in the idea of *sonship revealed by Christ* are to be found the distinctive features of the Christian conception of man. The incarnate Son is the perfect revelation. As in Him God is revealed in His true character, so that He could say, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father," so humility is revealed in Him in its true meaning. To know Christ is to know man in his perfection; it is to catch the divine secret of His essential being. This idea is applied to the several relations and conditions of man. The paper is thoughtful and sensible, as well as truthful and suggestive.