

for many an hour which the author will help the reader to spend very happily.

In a little book entitled *Father Damien* (4), Mr. Edward Clifford relates how, being much attracted by the accounts of the character and work of that devoted missionary, he made a journey all the way from Cashmere to Molokai to see him. He gives us a charming account of the Hawaii Islands, and especially of that whereon Father Damien worked and died amongst the lepers who are segregated there by the Government; and draws a vivid picture of the missionary and his surroundings. Mr. Clifford gives all honour to Father Damien, as showing the true spirit of Christian devotion. He goes further, and expresses his conviction that the Roman Church can produce men of saintly lives and life-long testimony of their faith; but he also alleges five very sufficient reasons why he himself will never become a Romanist. We will only say that these reasons are powerful deterrents, sufficient if they stood alone, which they do not; and we are also quite convinced that it is not the Roman Church only that can produce saints and men and women of the most exalted devotion.

Under the title of *Life's Stages* (5), Mr. Stark has furnished a series of essays or addresses upon the various states and conditions of life, or rather of home life; for he has not, like Fuller, gone beyond the limits of home, nor has he treated the subject with the quaint terseness which has made the Holy and Profane States so famous. There are many things worth remembering in Mr. Stark's chapters, and the volume will form a pleasant companion for a quiet hour. In the first essay the author gives his view on Original Sin thus: "What is exactly meant by that familiar theological phrase? That every child shares in the guilt, the moral blame of Adam's transgression? If that be original sin, common sense as well as common justice should most vehemently protest against such a monstrous and God dishonouring doctrine. Is it not a metaphysical contradiction to affirm that guilt as well as evil can be transmitted? . . . If by original sin is meant a liability to go wrong which every human being has inherited from the past, we have both Scripture and observation to support that doctrine." Mr. Stark is more of a moralist than a theologian.

(1) *Moses and his Recent Critics*. Edited by Talbot W. Chambers. London and New York: Funk & Wagnalls. 1889. Price 6s.

(2) *Essays, chiefly Literary and Critical*. By Aubrey de Vere, LL.D. London: Macmillan & Co. 1889.

(3) *Reminiscences of a Literary and Clerical Life*. By the author of "Three Cornered Essays," &c. London: Ward & Downey. 2 vols. 1889. Price £1 1s.

(4) *Father Damien*. By Edward Clifford. London: Macmillan & Co. 1889.

(5) *Life's Stages*. By James Stark. Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. 1889.