

itself. His obscurities are those of depth, not of dimness or confusion; the obscurities of a mind profoundly sensible of the complexities of life and thought and sensitive to their varying hues, their crossing lights and shadows,—of a man who, with all he knows, is conscious that he only 'knows in part.' If we must speak of defects, they are the defects of a teacher who is too full of the grandeur of the truth he utters, and too much absorbed in the divine work of his calling, to make words and style his care. 'If I am rude in speech,' he gently says, 'yet not in knowledge,' (2 Cor. xi. 6). In this, as in his other infirmities, well might the Apostle glory."

The several Epistles are taken up seriatim; their date, occasion, connections, character and affinity are given and an analysis of their contents. The book will be an important aid to the better comprehension of these important Christian documents. A separate treatise is given to the Epistle to the Hebrews which, however, the writer does not think to be of Pauline origin. The author seems to incline to the theory that the author was possibly Silas or Barnabas, excluding the theory that it was probably written by Luke. Our ignorance of the person of the writer in no way diminishes the value of this book, but rather, as Bishop Westcott says, 'enlarges our sense of the spiritual wealth of the apostolic age.'

Witnesses for Christ and Memorials of Church Life from the Fourth to the Thirteenth Century. By EDWARD BACKHOUSE and CHARLES TYLOR. Second edition. LONDON: Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. ix-440.

We reviewed not long since, in these pages, Mr. Tylor's interesting and instructive volume on "The Camisards." In the book under notice we have another volume of admirable historical studies, chiefly from his pen, his co-labourer in the preparation of the material having passed away before it was complete. This is not a consecutive history,

for the field is too great, and the number of actors too many, to receive minute and consecutive treatment. It consists of a series of brilliant studies of the great leaders of the Christian Church and of the great religious movements for nine hundred years from the death of Constantine.

Among the grand historical characters who pass before us in these pages are the indomitable Athanasius; the great Apostle of the North, Ulfilas; Martin of Tours, the dauntless Ambrose, the golden-mouthed Chrysostom, the great Roman fathers Jerome and Augustine; the ambitious Gregory the Great; the Venerable Bede, the Apostle of Northumbria; St. Boniface, and the British missionaries to the German nations, and many others. An admirable chapter discusses the development of Roman Catholic doctrine and worship under the early Christian emperors, the growth of monachism, the Nestorian strife, Christian art and Mary-worship, and the like. The monastic life of the middle ages, as illustrated at Clugny, Cîteaux and Clairvaux, and especially illustrated in the persons of Benedict and Bernard, form a series of interesting chapters. The story of the Reformers before the Reformation, of the early Waldensian Church, and the Crusade against the Albigenses, complete a volume of special value to students of Church history. A score of etchings and woodcuts enhance the value of the volume.

A Veteran of 1812. The Life of James FitzGibbon. By MARY AGNES FITZGIBBON. Toronto: William Briggs. Methodist Book Rooms, Montreal and Halifax. Price \$1.00.

The return of another anniversary of the natal day of our Dominion should be a matter of grateful recognition of every true patriot, who may well exclaim, in the words of Israel's King: "the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places, yea, we have a goodly heritage." If any people on the face of the earth may use these patriotic words of Holy Scripture, surely Canadians may do so.