

with truth and accuracy. All the bright spots of light in contrast are made by the faithful, pure, unselfish love of Stepan and his folk. A strong story whose brief sentences and short chapters carry strength and conviction because of their very simplicity.

From T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, comes, **The Gospel History and Its Transmission**, by F. C. Burkitt, M.A., Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge (360 pages, \$2.00). This is just the kind of book we should have expected from a scholar of Professor Burkitt's ability and insight. The examination of the Synoptic Gospels is very thorough and very instructive. A specially interesting section is that which deals with the sayings of our Lord common to Mark and the other source believed to be used by Matthew and Luke. After a careful investigation of the characteristics of each Gospel separately, he concludes: "Morally, ethically, spiritually, they are all in the same plane—we cannot doubt that the common impression which they present of the way in which our Lord spoke, the style of His utterance, the manner of His discourse to rich and poor, to learned and unlearned, is based on true historical reminiscence." The least satisfactory chapter is that on the Fourth Gospel, which Burkitt assigns, on utterly inadequate ground, to a Jew of Jerusalem, who had once been a Sadducee and a priest. It is surely going far beyond the facts to say that "the Christ of the Fourth Gospel is not the Christ of history, but the Christ of Christian experience."

Mr. Tudor Jenks has added to his series of *Lives of Great Writers*, a new volume, **In the Days of**

Goldsmith (A. S. Barnes and Company, New York, 275 pages, \$1.00 net). In this biography, we see Goldsmith, not through the eyes of Boswell, as an oddity who amused his literary companions, but in his real character, as one who, on account both of the genuine goodness of his heart and the sterling qualities of his works, enjoyed the hearty respect of such men as Johnson and Sir Joshua Reynolds and Burke. Mr. Jenks has given us not only a portrait in words of Goldsmith himself, but also a vivid picture of his times—and all in a style of unflinching charm and interest.

A Cornish story by Joseph Hocking is apt to be good reading, and **A Strong Man's Vow** is no exception to the rule. (The Copp Clark Company, Toronto, 344 pages, four illustrations, \$1.25.) The vow of the rough, ignorant, apparently almost simple peasant boy, led him even farther than he devised—until "the half-baked, droozle-head", as he had been called in the parlance of the country side, became the great engineer, the master of intricate problems, and the master, too, of himself.

The Priest, by Harold Begbie (William Briggs, Toronto, 430 pages, \$1.25) is not a pleasant story. Nor is the theme pleasant,—the workings of a Jesuit society, whose members, though professed clergymen and laymen in the Church of England, yet had for their object so to permeate that church with the doctrines and practices of the Church of Rome, that it would presently come to be a unit with the Romish Church.

Ten chapters, stating in simple, untechnical language the writer's views as to the cardinal doctrines



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