

BOOK NOTICES.

Christian Creeds and Confessions. By G. A. GUMBLICH, Ph. D., translated from the German by L. A. WHEATLEY. New York, London, and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

This volume presents in brief, concise style the leading characteristics, or rather the leading differences, in the creeds of Christendom, including those of the smaller sects. Of course, the differences between Roman Catholics and the larger Protestant bodies receive much attention. The work does not discuss the various differences set forth, but simply presents them with their historical settings. The author, while evidently viewing matters largely from the point of view of his own church, preserves in great measure the attitude of an impartial writer. The volume will prove of interest to all who wish to learn briefly the distinguishing features of the many churches of Christendom.

Benedict's Stranger. London: The Religious Tract Society. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co., Ltd.

This is a short and simple story, well written, and calculated to interest young people.

Isabella of Castile. By MAJOR GEN. O. O. HOWARD, U. S. Army, with illustrations by F. A. Carter. New York, London and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

The revived interest in all that relates to Columbus and his associations makes the volume a most timely one. The author, Major General Howard, who has within the past few months resigned his official duties, amidst general expressions of regret by the press of the United States, has worthily dealt before with historical subjects. If his style is not so felicitous as that of several other historians of the day, it must be said that the broad human nature, the charity which makes allowance for the individual surroundings which bias the views and actions of darker ages than our own, and the enthusiasm with which the author enters into the history of his heroes and heroines, and the highly moral and religious vein which he shows in judging events, give his writing a flavor which the reader will appreciate. The subject matter of the volume, it need scarcely be said, is of remarkable interest. Isabella's wars with the Moors, and the final extinction of Saracen dominion in Spain, are described with the pen of a soldier. And fully does the author show his admiration for the noble queen's bravery and political aspirations, and for her constancy to Columbus in the tedious delays

and terrible discouragements which marked his attempts to achieve his great life purpose. The volume is well illustrated, not only in its full-page cuts, but in the beautiful marginal designs which give glimpses of life in Spain.

Oliver Goldsmith. A selection from his works, with introduction, by E. E. HALE. New York, London, and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

This book, which is well printed and well bound, will be appreciated by the many who know Oliver Goldsmith only through his two most famous productions "The Deserted Village," and "The Traveller." In moderate compass, and with good taste, a fuller glimpse is given of the versatility and grace of a writer who, perhaps more almost than any other of the writers of last century, has found a place in the affections of the English-speaking peoples.

Selected Essays of Joseph Addison. With an Introduction By Prof. T. WINCHESTER. New York, London, and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

"To read Addison's best papers is to take a lesson in good manners as well as in good literature," says Prof. Winchester in his introduction to these selections, and perhaps that is the best apology that could be made for this volume of less than 200 pages. When the *Spectator* is so common a work in private families, the making of a selection from its pages seems almost useless. Still, it must be said that the selections made in this little volume from the "Spectator," "Tatler" and "Guardian" are made with excellent judgment, though perhaps they will add little to a better knowledge of the inner life and of the elegant diction of Addison.

Ninety-Five. A Calendar with selections from Canadian writers, and drawings by members of the Toronto Art Students' League. Toronto: Toronto Art Students' League, 75 Adelaide St. East.

To those who love art, this little publication, which follows several other annual ones of like nature, will be welcome. The poetic selections, which are from W. W. Campbell, Bliss Carman, Duncan Campbell Scott, Pauline Johnson, Lampman, Roberts, and other Canadian writers, are chosen with reference to the particular seasons of the year, and are beautifully illustrated by etchings. The issue seems to be superior to previous ones, and is altogether most creditable to the League and to its President, under whose direction the calendar appears. In paper and printing too, the calendar is all that could be desired.