

collection of his prose writings was to me a revelation. Their eloquence is of that magnetic character which only a great cause can inspire and only in a great mind. But underneath the burning periods, behind the grave reflections, one can discern the spirit of the man. Lofty purpose, noble thought, magnificent ideals greet the imagination on every page, but everywhere is evident the careful planning of great schemes, the giant-like working out of the business of the moment. Davis was a tribune of the press; he was also a far-seeing statesman. No one knew him so well or appreciated his work at its value so truly as Duffy. For this reason an interest attaches to the little green covered Irish publication edited and prefaced by Sir Charles Gavan Duffy which is lacking in the perhaps better printed work edited by Mr. Rolleston. But one of them every Irishman, "unto the third and fourth generation" should possess.

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*A Catholic who is almost constantly in the company of persons not of his faith, is often at a loss for an explanation of some one of the many vagaries of history that are offered as arguments against the Church. The Dark Ages, The Inquisition, St Bartholomew's Day, have only to be mentioned and he is put to the blush. A little book has just been published by Benziger Bros., which within small space contains a valuable compend of arguments. The Church's defence, mainly gleaned from Protestant writers, is set forth in clear terms. There is a general tendency to place a false estimate upon the importance of an historical fact. Oftener

*Mooted Questions of History. H. J. Desmond, A.M. New York, Benziger Bros.; Toronto, D. & J. Sadlier. Cloth 75c.

than otherwise we can only guess and will quite probably guess wrongly, the motives of the men who made the times. Cardinal Gibbons struck straight at this tendency of admitting too much in his remark concerning the Popes. "We have forty-three virtuous, to one bad Pope, while there was a Judas Iscariot among the twelve Apostles."

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WM. W. CAMPBELL.

*When there comes a pause in reading new meanings into the text of Shakespeare; when we have sufficiently settled it that he knew everything and anticipated the discoveries of science, some wise or fortunate people will turn to Thackeray to see what ingenuity can make of him. When that august master of fifty generous attributes of the heart and sometime slave of one ill quality of the tongue (for both of which he is forevermore beloved) set out to construct a

*Wolfe. By A. G. Bradley. MacMillan & Co. English Men of Action Series. Wm. Tyrrell & Co., Toronto. 90c.