

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

CHURCH AND STATE. By Count Leo Tolstoi. Boston: Tucker; Toronto: Williamson. 1891. Price \$1.00.

Count Tolstoi is a man of genius, and even in his dotage or delirium he is sure to say a good many things which are true and profound and striking. Yet we cannot honestly recommend anyone to read this volume; nor can we justify this judgment by quotations or references, because we should then be doing the very thing which we should wish to prevent. It is the duty of literary men to read many books that they may warn others away from them; and we counsel all men and women, young and not young, to give some attention to the advice which is offered on these subjects. A recent book of Count Tolstoi's was prohibited in the United States, and we fear that the prohibition tended to increase its circulation. We do not name it here lest we should do similar mischief. But we will advise our readers to have nothing to do with any of the later works of Count Tolstoi, until he shall be able to show a clean bill of health, certified by competent authority.

THE WORLD OF FAITH THE EVERYDAY WORLD: as Displayed in the Footsteps of Abraham. By Otto Funcke. Price 7s. 6d. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark; Toronto: McAlinsh. 1891.

There is no grander figure in ancient history than that of the Father of the Faithful; and there are few to which the devout heart turns back with greater pleasure, and sense of help and stimulus. Every one is, in some sense, walking in the footsteps of Abraham, going forth, not knowing whither he goeth. The volume before us is intended to show that the life of Abraham is a type of every life which is lived in faith; and the work is done in a very superior manner. The discourses are devout, but never feeble in thought and expression, the author avoiding the dryness which is often thought to characterize "intellectual" sermons, and the weakness of thought which is sometimes connected with subjective and emotional discourses. Through twenty-one chapters he traces the career of the Friend of God from the first consecration of the life to the day of his departure; and no part of the journey is without interest or instruction. It is an excellent volume for devotional reading; and the clergy may find help from it in their homiletic work.

MEMORABILIA OF GEORGE B. CHEEVER, D. D., AND OF HIS WIFE. E. W. Cheever, in Verse and Prose. New York: Wiley; Toronto: Williamson. 1890.

It is possible that the name of Dr. Cheever may be unknown to many of our readers; and it is a very long time since we first made acquaintance with his writings, especially with his "Wanderings of a Pilgrim." This, like his other works, was written with a good deal of vivacity and picturesque effect, although, we are bound to add, in a style somewhat too florid for our taste. There are in the present volume a good many specimens of the author's poetical effusions, many of them being hymns. If they cannot claim the highest place among such compositions, they are all of them respectable. But the real interest of the volume consists in its bringing before us a man and a woman of genuine and elevated Christian character, and of deep devotion to their religious work. Besides the poems, the principal part of the volume consists of a memorial offering in which Dr. Cheever gives a touching account of his wife, and relates many incidents in their lives. An appendix containing many of Mrs. Cheever's letters, and some from her friends, has one from Longfellow, acknowledging Cheever's photograph, which, he said, resembled Dr. Channing and Mr. Ruskin, persons, said the poet, "whom one may not be ashamed to resemble." The photographs and other illustrations to this volume are very good.

FRA LIPPO LIPPI: a Romance by Margaret Vere Farrington. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Toronto: Williamson. 1890.

This is in every way a beautiful book. We are immediately attracted by the exquisite taste of the binding. We open the volume, and the paper and printing are sumptuous. The photogravure illustrations, fourteen in number, are of various degrees of merit, but most of them are extremely beautiful. We might specify the portrait of the Abbess, the copy of the Madonna della Stella of Fra Angelico, and several Madonnas by Lippi. When we add that the story which is sent forth with all these accessories is in no way unworthy of them, we have said much, but no more than is fit to be said of one of the prettiest books we have had in our hands for many a day. The story, as told here, follows substantially the account given by Vasari. Our readers are probably aware that Vasari was something of an "old woman," and great doubts have been thrown upon many parts of his "Lives of the Painters." Some recent discoveries of documents are said to disprove the stories generally circulated and believed to the discredit of Lippi. Of these new lights no notice is taken by the authoress of this "romance"; whilst at the same time she softens the ordinary story, so as to remove most of its repulsive features. The result is a very charming novelette, charmingly written, enlisting the sympathies of the reader at once, and maintaining his interest to the end. We must not further let our readers into the secret of the

story; and we will only add that if any one should wish to get a volume suitable for presentation, a prettier than this one could hardly be found.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: A Biblical Exposition of its Origin, Nature and Use. By the Rev. J. P. Lilley, M.A. Price 5s. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark; Toronto: McAlinsh. 1891.

This volume may be reviewed from a literary or from a theological point of view. The former is our business, the latter is not. When an author deals with a subject so much controverted as the great Christian Sacrament, he cannot please every one, or perhaps a great many. But very few will have a right to be positively displeased with the present volume. It is a well-written book, dealing thoughtfully and reverently with the contents of Holy Scripture, first, in reference to the Hebrew Passover, and next in reference to the Lord's Supper and its connection with the ancient institution. In regard to the author's own point of view, it is better that we should let him speak for himself. Referring to the view of the "Free Churches"—that is English Nonconformists generally, that the two Ordinances of the Christian Church are "not causes of grace, not in themselves vehicles of grace"—expressions, by the way, which could be taken with many shades of meaning, Mr. Lilley remarks: "In the rebound from the manifest errors of Romanism and Ritualism, Protestantism here takes up a position that is in itself alike weak and indefensible. For in no sense is this a new view. It is, indeed, only an approach to what was held by Socinus and his followers long ago, and is held by Unitarians still. But it is none the less a very imperfect explanation of the teaching of Jesus and His disciples on the Supper. Very specially does it come short of giving due prominence to the close connection betwixt the symbols and the living Lord who distributes them. . . . This Holy Supper was far more than a sensible representation of a figure of speech."

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES IN HISTORICAL SUCCESSION. By Franz Delitzsch. Translated by S. J. Curtiss. Price 5s. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark; Toronto: McAlinsh. 1891.

It is not necessary to recommend to students of the Old Testament a new work from the pen of the late Dr. Franz Delitzsch, the first or among the first of European Hebrew scholars. The volume now before us represents his latest and most mature work, as he corrected the proof sheets during his last illness and dictated the preface five days before his death. The subject of the volume is of unceasing and unfailing interest to all students of history; but it is much more than this to the believers in the Christian Revelation. Those indeed, who have received in faith what Delitzsch elsewhere calls the Easter Message will be little troubled by the controversies which have arisen about the origin and composition of the Old Testament; yet it is of no slight importance to follow intelligently the historical development of the ancient prophecies in their bearing upon the Messianic hopes of Israel. No one could be a better guide in such an undertaking than Dr. Delitzsch; and his book has the great advantage of not being loaded with unnecessary or extrinsic matter. It should be noted that the volume, giving the groundwork of the late Professor's lectures to his students at Leipzig is prepared for those who have some knowledge of the Hebrew language, but most people will be able to find their way through it. It is a matter of some surprise that the translator should have made no reference to a previous volume, bearing the same title, by the same author and translator. We have remarked only one reference to the earlier volume in a note. We will, however, inform our readers that the volumes have very little in common, except in the arrangement of the historical matter; and here there are considerable alterations. For example, the comments on the Song of Deborah are omitted, a passage on Job and the Goel appears for the first time. The exposition of Shiloh is expanded from a brief note to a lengthened excursus, and the same may be said of the Wisdom in Proverbs. If we did not know that the author of the two books was the same, we should hardly discover it from the contents.

CANADIANS IN THE IMPERIAL SERVICE. By J. Hampden Burnham, M.A. Toronto: Williamson and Company; London: W. H. Allen and Company.

In this work the author has gathered together a great deal of valuable information relating to Canadians who have entered the Imperial Army or Navy, and have served their Sovereign in all parts of the world. The work has evidently been one of great difficulty, and great labour; the author says that he has travelled over twelve thousand miles in searching out the material obtained. This is we believe the first attempt to bring out a book on the subject, and it is therefore not as complete or as perfect in its details as so important a portion of the history of our Canadian people deserves to be. The author has experienced all the difficulties and obstacles which are always met with, by one who breaks the first path through a wilderness or an unknown country. Those who follow after in the same line will find the path blazed, and can easily widen, improve and perfect it.

Under the circumstances Mr. Burnham deserves every credit for the good work he has done in preserving the memory of the great deeds done by so many of our fellow countrymen both by sea and land. The list contains many

most distinguished names, such as Sir Wm. Fenwick Williams, of Kars; Sir John Inglis, the heroic defender of Lucknow; Admiral Sir Provo Wallis, now over 100 years of age, who commanded the *Shannon* at the conclusion of the fight with the *Chesapeake*, besides a large number of other Generals and Admirals. Nova Scotia has certainly produced the most distinguished men, probably on account of Halifax being a great Imperial station so many Nova Scotians entered the service in days gone by. There is a sketch of the formation of the 100th Regiment in 1858, with a list of the officers in that year, which must certainly be incomplete, as names of officers who raised companies for the regiment do not appear in it.

Mr. Burnham asks for information and in all probability the publication of this book, and this request, will bring to him a vast amount of information which can be included in a future edition. Canadians should encourage this not only by forwarding to Mr. Burnham any particulars they may have, but by procuring a copy of the work which will be found pleasant reading by the natives of this country.

CANADA FIRST: A Memorial of the late William A. Foster, Q.C. With Introduction by Goldwin Smith, D.C.L. Toronto: Hunter, Rose and Company. 1890.

This is a volume, small indeed in bulk, but most interesting and precious in its contents. Most of us will remember the grief, deep and widespread, which was stirred not much more than two years ago by the news of the death of Mr. Foster, caused in large measure by his great labour in winding up the affairs of "the unfortunate Central Bank"; and those who had not the privilege of knowing him will be enabled by the perusal of the present volume to understand how great was our loss in Mr. Foster's death. The Introduction, from the cultivated and graceful pen of Mr. Goldwin Smith, is a fitting introduction to the speeches and essays—all too few—which form the bulk of the volume. It would be wrong to complain that Mr. Foster gave so much of his time to the duties of his profession that he could exercise so little his great literary gifts. We have little in Canada to give encouragement to literary men. But no one can read these products of the deceased gentleman's pen without seeing that he was, in this respect, highly gifted, and that he might have made valuable contributions to the literary monument which we are here slowly raising. The papers before us are: Canada First, a speech or essay, an address to the Canadian National Association, Party versus Principle, the Canadian Confederacy, the Canadian Confederation and the Reciprocal Treaty, and Down the St. Lawrence on a Raft. There is an appendix containing tributes to the author from some of our best known writers—that by Mr. Mercer Adam, of THE WEEK, standing first. Of principal interest, undoubtedly, is the first of these papers. It was published as "a brochure," we are told, in 1871; although the internal evidence would lead us to suppose that it had been delivered as a speech. We can hardly imagine any one, much less any Canadian, whether by birth or by adoption, reading this eloquent discourse without deep emotion. The author comments with great point and propriety upon some of the ignorant and silly remarks of English papers on Canadian affairs; and he says out plainly and manfully what Canadians expect. "Young as we are, we are too old to be abused without retort; weak as we may be, we are too strong to be bullied with impunity. What we demand from English writers is fair play; and should the hour of peril come, we may venture to ask from England, without sinking our self-respect, a quantum of assistance proportioned rightly to the part we play in attack or defence. No decorations lavishly distributed, no baronetcies generously conferred, can or will answer as a substitute for respect and kindness or a mutual interchange of affection." The whole volume may be commended to the notice of Young Canada. Not of least mark is the charming "Down the St. Lawrence on a Raft," so justly praised by Dr. Goldwin Smith.

RICHARD HENRY DANA. By Charles Francis Adams. In two volumes. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Company.

These volumes contain a biography of a well-known United States' lawyer and politician. And it is a singular fact that though he would have preferred to have gained fame and distinction in either or both of these capacities, inexorable fate decreed it otherwise, and the laurel wreath which she has placed upon his brow is woven from the pages of that unique and imperishable book, "Two Years before the Mast." How well we remember its fascination and the marvellously clear, graphic and striking presentation of the minute details of the daily round of the young sailor's life, and of the toil, hardship and adventure of his memorable voyage in the thirties, round "The Horn," and up the Californian coast. In these two very interesting volumes, Mr. Adams, who was a junior law partner of Mr. Dana, has proved himself a competent and exhaustive biographer. The advantage which personal contact and intimate knowledge give has proved a great aid to him and though for the most part Mr. Dana speaks to us in his diary and letters, yet Mr. Adams has used his material with judgment and skill. It may be said that we are presented not only with a clear and well-drawn picture of the life work and personality of Mr. Dana but there come and go upon the scene many important personages and many eventful incidents that figured conspicuously in the