

and many extra charity appeals, which made it difficult to obtain help for Canadian Church work. Notwithstanding this, his special work has been very successful. The months of January and February were passed in Oxford, his headquarters, taking duty in several of the city parishes and making arrangements for future appeals on behalf of St. Alban's. March and April were occupied by a seven weeks' locum tenency of the parish of Bursledon, Winchester Diocese, during which two hundred dollars were collected for the cathedral fund. May and June were taken up with parochial work as assistant priest, during term at St. Margaret's church, Oxford, with occasional Sunday duty at Claydon, Buckinghamshire. During the month of July he was in charge of the English chaplaincy at Berisal, Switzerland, a favourite place of resort on the Simplon, that famous mountain pass constructed by Napoleon for the passage of his armies into Italy. Returning to England, the Canon was appointed locum tenens, for six weeks, of the church at Bridge of Allan, Scotland, where he succeeded in collecting five hundred and fifty dollars for St. Alban's. From September until Christmas he has been engaged in preaching and lecturing in over a hundred parishes on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and in this work has had a good opportunity of bringing before our fellow-subjects at home the conditions of Church life and work in Canada, and judging from newspaper reports of his lectures and sermons, he bears strong witness to the loyalty of Canadians in days gone by, as also to the spirit of imperialism which inspires the Canadian of to-day to stand as loyally as of old for the unity of the British Empire. English people are as a rule greatly interested in Dominion affairs, especially since the Jubilee gathering at which Canadians were so well represented and so heartily received, and any information they can obtain regarding the advancement of the national life and the undoubted progress of Canadian Church work tends to strengthen the bonds that unite us to the Mother Country. We understand that the S.P.G. has already bespoken the services of the Canon Missioner for the best part of next year, should his leave of absence be so far extended, and the remainder of his time in England will be employed in preaching on behalf of St. Alban's cathedral, wherever he is permitted to make an appeal.

#### THE APOSTOLIC AGE.\*

This is a new volume of the valuable International Theological Library, and in many respects it is quite worthy of a place in that excellent series. It is indeed a book of which we should be glad to say nothing but good, if that were possible, since it is the work of a man of great learning and ability, and who has very considerable power of expression. We can say, then, that this is a book that will amply repay perusal, which, perhaps, it may be even a duty with our learned theologians to take account of; but which in our judgment departs further from the traditional views of

\*History of Christianity in the Apostolic Age: By Dr. A. C. McGiffert. Price 12s 6d. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark; Toronto: Revell Co., 1897.

the Christian Church than was necessary, and this without giving sufficient reason for doing so. In making these remarks we do not call in question the general views of the Church in the first age set forth by the writer. It is of importance to point out the different tendencies in the way of doctrine, life, and government which were found in the early Church and blended in the Church of later times; but we think that the Pauline doctrine is by no means all of St. Paul, and that it sounds almost ludicrous to hear of the first Epistle of St. Peter being very Pauline. But these are small matters. We will offer some specimens of the conclusions in this book to which we demur. At p. 33 the author says: "there is no indication in the sources that Jesus thought of the coming of the Spirit as instituting a new stage in the Kingdom of God." We decidedly think there is. Of the same day he says (p. 49) "its importance is not that which is ordinarily ascribed to it." Is it not! We do not believe (p. 52) that the author of the Acts thought the "tongues" were "foreign." He finds it difficult to believe that the Trinitarian formula was used at baptism in the first age. Certainly Dr. McGiffert does not lack the courage of his opinions.

At p. 206 he says that Peter's conduct at Antioch was not necessarily due to fear of the Jewish Christians. Now here, with all respect to the author, we prefer to follow St. Paul. In regard to the dates of some of the Pauline epistles we disagree with him, but that is a small matter. In regard to the pastoral epistles, he says there is grave reason to doubt whether they are St. Paul's. He might have mentioned that later criticism seems to be returning to the older opinion. His view as to the readers to whom the Epistle to the Hebrews was addressed, comes with a kind of shock, but we must look further into it.

On one point, we must express our strong disagreement with the author. More than once he speaks of the Apostles as having no official position or authority in the early Church. It is a subject too long to argue; but we see signs of authority alike in their commission, in their conduct, and in the attitude of the churches. With Dr. Ramsay he places I. St. Peter very late, and assigns it to another writer than the Apostle, quoting Harnack as on his side. We do not believe that Harnack is now of that opinion, and Ramsay's opinion as to there being no persecution in St. Peter's time sufficient to account for the contents of the epistle, seems to us inadequate. If, however, I. St. Peter must be given up, is not the chief argument against II. St. Peter gone? We entirely disagree with his statement that St. John could not have written the Apocalypse, and we still hold that he wrote the fourth Gospel. These are serious disagreements. Yet for those who will read with thought and care, this is a valuable book. We may mention that it is generally free from Americanisms. We have noticed only two or three.

#### REVIEWS.

His Grace of Osmonde. By Frances Hodgson Burnet. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co., 1897.

When we take up a new story by the author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," our expectations are apt to be high, and we do not think they will be disappointed in the present case. In the first place, the story is extremely well written, so that, as mere reading, it is very pleasant. In the second place, the plot is by no means a common one; for although one crisis of importance must be anticipated by the thoughtful reader, there are others which come upon us a surprise. The hero, the son of parents who almost transcend the possibilities of human perfection, is himself, if not perfect, yet heroic. He becomes the intimate friend of the great Duke of Marlborough. The heroine, beginning as one of the wildest of her sex, becomes one of the sweetest, as she is one of the most beautiful. How they meet, when apparently too late, and how they are again brought together—these incidents constitute a large part of the interest of the story. One episode we could wish to have been different; but the story is interesting and well told.

The New Testament, with two hundred illustrations. London: Thomas Nelson. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co., 1897.

This is a very handsome book, quite on a level with the pictorial Bible which we commended some six or eight months ago. The views are all of real, natural objects, and, although small, are carefully executed and effective. It is a great help, especially in the historical books, to have the scenes made thus more real to the reader.

The Naval Cadet: A Story of Adventure on Land and Sea. By Gordon Stables, M.D. London: Blackie, 1898.

An excellent, wholesome, and stimulating story, full of incident and adventure. The hero is a brave Highland boy, and there is also a heroine belonging to the same locality. The hero experiences many dangers and difficulties in many different parts of the world—in Africa, for example, and also in Corea, during the war between China and Japan. He has the highest opinion of the Japs, and a much lower opinion of the Chinese. As we have said, the book contains a great deal of adventure, but it also conveys a good deal of information. For both of these reasons, and for its general excellence of tone, it is a capital book for boys.

Magazines.—The Expository Times for December prepares us for the new Dictionary of the Bible, which Messrs. Clark, of Edinburgh, have for some time announced. Vol. I. is to appear in February. It will represent the high-water mark of Biblical knowledge and research. An interesting notice is furnished by Dr. Salmond of the late Dr. David Brown of Aberdeen, a member of the New Testament Revision Company, and the Nestor of Scottish divines. Dr. Wells' study of "Grace" is brief, but excellent. The great text illustrated is St. John xiv. 15-17. Among the books noticed Dillmann's great commentary on Genesis, the new edition of Driver's Introduction to the Old Testament, and Nowack's Lesser Prophets.

The Penny Poets, published at the office of the Review of Reviews in London, and by A. H. Gibbard in Toronto, is a most valuable series, containing nearly all the best poems of the greatest poets. Even those who have the complete works of these writers—Milton, Dryden, Pope, Spencer, Byron, Moore, Browning, Shakespeare, Scott, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Chaucer, Cowper, Southey, etc., etc., will find these little pamphlet editions handy and useful. But—that which is more important—anyone who will familiarize him with the contents of this remarkable series will have a better knowledge of English poetry than the