

## THE BOOK PAGE

**From Apostle to Priest;** a study of Early Church Organization. By James W. Falconer, M.A., B.D. T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, 292 pages, price: \$1.00.

Mr. Falconer, who is the minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Truro, Nova Scotia, has found time, in the midst of a busy pastorate, to make a thorough and charming study of the formative stages of the Church's life. What is the Scriptural form of Church government? What claim have bishop and priest to peculiar endowments and rights? These and the kindred questions are discussed in the light of the original authorities of the first three centuries, but in a style so delightfully transparent and direct that the ordinary reader follows easily. The author's spirit is irenic. It is for the sake of no mere barren victory that the episcopate is shown to be simply a human institution, and apostolic succession and sacerdotalism impertinences under the New Testament dispensation. It is that each member of the Church may realize his full privileges as a member of the body of Christ, and that all who love the Lord Jesus may come into the living and abiding union of common faith and love and service.

As a model in style and spirit, and as a modern and masterly presentation of a period of perennial interest, Mr. Falconer's book is to be commended.

**Our Bird Friends:** A book for all boys and girls. By Richard Kearton, F.Z.S., with 100 original illustrations from photographs by C. Kearton. Cassell & Company, London and New York. 215 pages, with index. Price \$1.50.

One hardly knows which to admire most—the illustrations or the letter-press which they illuminate. The writer and the photographer have both wrought at first hand, the one studying the birds with eye and ear, the other by long patience and many a strange device making actual photographs of them as they are in their nests, or on the wing. The titles of the chapters will set the children's teeth watering—"At Breakfast, Dinner, Tea and Supper," "Some Remarkable Nests and Eggs," "Young: How They are Fed and Protected," "The Wonders of Feathers and Flight," "Wonderful Calls and Song-notes." It would be hard to find a more attractive little volume.

**The Siege in Peking:** China Against the World. By an eye-witness, W. A. P. Martin, D.D., LL.D., President of the Chinese Imperial University. Fleming H. Revell Co., Toronto. 190 pages, with maps and many illustrations. Price \$1.00.

The siege in Peking is so very recent that this solid and finished book upon it comes as a surprise. And yet it is no hasty or ill-digested account. Dr. Martin has spent well-nigh fifty

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