

Book Notices.

The Lord's Prayer. Sermons preached in Westminster Abbey by F. W. FARRAR, D.D., F.R.S., Archdeacon of Westminster. New York: Thomas Whittaker. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 279. Price, \$1.50.

In this volume Archdeacon Farrar, in a series of admirable discourses, brings out clause by clause the profound, we may say fathomless, depth of meaning of the Matchless Prayer. The book is characterized by all the felicity of diction, all the wealth of illustration, all the earnest spirit by which the sermons of this great preacher are marked. It is a cause for devout thankfulness that in the venerable abbey, which more than any other building in the world represents the historic continuity of the English race, such clear, strong, prophet-like utterances ring forth as those of Frederick W. Farrar. He belongs not to one Church, but to all the Churches. His catholicity is as broad as Christendom.

"All Christians," says Archbishop Leighton, "are God's clergy." "All Christians," says St. Peter, "are a royal priesthood." "All Christians," says St. John, the beloved disciple, "are kings and priests." "Alas!" adds Dr. Farrar, "most Christians have forgotten—they have been fatally taught to forget—what Christ and the apostles taught: that there are in the Christian Church no priests except in so far as all are priests; that our presbyters are purely representative, and in no sense vicarious; that the veil of partition is rent asunder from the top throughout: and that the very humblest may have free, unimpeded, personal access direct, and with no need for any intermediary but Christ, into the immediate presence, into the inmost audience-chamber, into the very holy of holies of the eternal God."

The thoughtful pondering of this

book cannot fail to give a depth, a breath, an earnestness to our own prayers which they have never had before.

Russia and Turkey in the Nineteenth Century. By ELIZABETH WORMLEY LATIMER. Octavo, pp. 413. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$2.50.

It is much easier to obtain a history of the dead and buried empires of Assyria, Greece, Rome, Carthage, than to procure one of this living, breathing nineteenth century. Many persons are better informed concerning the remote past than concerning the events of their own lifetime. Mrs. Latimer has done much to supply the lack of an intelligent and compendious recent history. A few months ago we reviewed her admirable book on "France in the Nineteenth Century." We have no less pleasure in calling attention to the present volume.

South-eastern Europe has been for over four hundred years the battleground between Islam and Christianity. Again and again the Moslem cavalry have swept up to the very gates of Vienna. But the Turkish power has been steadily forced back, almost to the gates of Constantinople. Mrs. Latimer gives a lucid and even luminous account of the development of the Russian and Ottoman powers, and of the later acts of this great conflict. The work is admirably done. It is no dry-as-dust chronicle, or mere record of battles and treaties, but it is lit up with countless womanly touches respecting the social aspects of the times, and with clever character-studies of the principal actors in this great world-drama.

We need, for instance, the following on the relations of the Emperor Alexander I. of Russia and Madam