

A Christmas Wish.

A Happy Christmas to you !

For the Light of Life is born,

And His coming is the sunshine

Of the dark and wintry morn.

The grandest Orient glow must pale,

The loveliest Western gleam must fail,

But His great light,

So full, so bright,

Ariseth for thy heart to-day ;

His shadow-conquering beams shall never pass away.

A happy Christmas to you !

For the Prince of Peace is come,

And His reign is full of blessings,

Their very crown and sum.

No earthly calm can ever last,

'Tis but the lull before the blast ;

But His great peace

Shall still increase

In mighty, all-rejoicing sway ;

His kingdom in thy heart can never pass away.

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL.

Book Notices.

Baptism. How? and for whom? By REV. W. W. COLPITTS. Toronto: William Briggs. Montreal: C. W. Coates. Halifax: S. F. Huestis.

This is a brightly written pamphlet in dialogue style which maintains strongly and clearly the scriptural character of our Methodist usages in baptism. Where any of our friends are troubled with discussions of this matter they had better put in circulation Mr. Colpitts' excellent pamphlet.

Illustrative Notes: A Guide to the Study of the International Sunday-school Lessons, with Original and Selected Comments, Methods of Teaching, Illustrative Stories, Practical Applications, Notes on Eastern Life, Library References, Maps, Tables, Pictures and Diagrams. By JESSE LYMAN HURLBUT and ROBERT REMINGTON DOHERTY. New York: Eaton & Main. Toronto, Montreal and Halifax: Methodist Book Rooms Price, \$1.25.

This is one of the very best of the Sunday-school helps that we know. Drs. Hurlbut and Doherty have the large experience of many years in Sunday-school work. Each volume of their Commentary seems better than its predecessor. All the resources of the great Methodist publishing house is at their service. The book is splendidly illustrated and has four colored maps. It gleams from scores of the best writers and commentators on the subject

of the lessons. With this book and the lesson notes in the BANNER, any teacher may consider himself equipped with the best popular apparatus for his weekly work. How this book of 376 closely printed octavo pages can be furnished for \$1.25 is surprising. Only a very large sale would make it possible.

A Greek-English Lexicon to the New Testament. Revised and enlarged by THOMAS SHELDON GREEN, M.A., with a preface by H. L. HASTINGS, Editor of the *Christian*, Boston, U.S.A. Boston: H. L. Hastings, 47 Cornhill. 1896.

This is the neatest and cheapest dictionary of Greek-English Lexicon we know. It gives all the words of the New Testament with their English meaning and a reference to the places where they occur. All this is condensed into 216 pages. The Greek letters are easily learned, and with this book one who knows little of Greek may spell his way through the New Testament in the original.

A Bag of Holes; and other Addresses to Children. By JAMES AITCHISON. Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, 50 cents.

The art of addressing "the bairns"—as the Scotch people have it—with interest and profit is not an easy one to acquire. The little folk do not like to be patronized or talked down to, yet it is easy to shoot over their heads. There is no book in the world which furnishes such grand themes and attractive stories for even the youngest comprehension as the Bible. This little book gives some splendid examples of clear, straight, strong talk that arouse the interest and hold the attention of the young folk. The very titles are suggestive: *A Bag with Holes*, *Four Little Preachers*, *Ships on the Sea*, *The Little Captive Maid*, *True to the Core*, *Seeking for Jesus*, *A Safe Stronghold*, *Running to Win*, *A Crown of Righteousness*. This book is worthy to join the "Golden Nails" and "Lamps and Pitchers," by Geo. Milligan, which have reached respectively their fifth and sixth thousand.

The Social Law of Service. By RICHARD T. ELY, Ph.D., LL.D. New York: Eaton & Main. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, 90 cents.

"No Man Liveth to Himself," saith the Word of God. Selfishness is the root from which spring many of the evils of the body politic. The reproach too often has been brought against Christians that they have been too other-worldly, but Christ teaches us to pray, "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." The Divine spirit of unselfishness, or altruism as the modern phrase is, will do much to solve the social problems of