

Book Notices.

"The Knowledge of God and Its Historical Development." By Henry Melvill Gwatkin, M.A. 2 Vols. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. xi-308, v-334. Price, \$3.50 net.

The imprint of T. & T. Clark upon a book gives it a stamp of theological importance and merit. These two goodly volumes represent the Gifford Lectures delivered at Edinburgh, 1901 and 1905. While the form and vivacity of the spoken discourse are retained, solid learning and scholastic treatment are not wanting. Some of the lectures have been very much expanded in putting them in permanent form. When discussing the knowledge of God, the revelation in nature and the revelation in man are first considered. Two chapters are devoted to general considerations, then is treated the subject of inspiration, prophecy and miracle. Possibly methods of revelation are also treated, then primitive religions of mankind and the classic nature worship and interpretation of Greece which have so moulded thought and literature of all the ages.

The second volume takes up consecutively the revelation of God in both the Old and New Testament to the early Church and the Nicene period; then the great conflict between Christianity and paganism for the conquest of the world, the wonderful transition from Rome pagan to Rome Christian. The development of Christian thought in Reformation times, and in the more modern period are also treated. In conclusion the author drops a thought into the future, as men drop pebbles into deep wells to see what answer they return. The writer is not a blind worshipper of authority. "There is a deeper scepticism," he says, "in the return to authority than in the broad results, however sceptical, reached by those who seek for truth in philosophy, in science, or criticism. We sin the sin of sins only when we turn our back on truth as we do when we make authority our refuge and the first duty of reasoning men." There is a sustained and lofty eloquence in these volumes which make them fascinating reading.

"Padri Elliot of Faizabad." A Memorial chiefly autobiographical. Edited by Rev. A. W. Newbould. London: Chas. H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. vii-350.

This is a biography of a man who has spent nearly half a century as boy and man in the mission fields in India. A thrilling chapter is that entitled "Through Fire and Sword in the Indian Mutiny." The book gives a vivid picture of Indian mission life, showing the trials and triumphs of the Gospel amid the arduous conditions of the great Indian dependency. Here Britain has before her the most stupendous missionary problem of the times, because she is here supreme ruler, not, as in China and other countries, an outsider, and is responsible before God and man for the moral and spiritual outlook and uplift of the people committed in the providence of God to her care.

"Made in His Image." By Guy Thorne. Author of "When It Was Dark," etc., etc. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Company. Pp. viii-360. Price, \$1.20.

The author of "When It Was Dark" achieved a wide vogue by describing what the world would be if the resurrection of Christ had never taken place. A worse than Egyptian darkness, one that might be felt, crept over and around the universe. In this story he describes an eclipse of faith in Britain and the awful social consequences to the realm. Of all the places in the world it was at the ancient religious foundation of Oxford, the High Church university, that this eclipse of faith began. One of its most learned dons had written a philosophical and anti-Christian book which had completely overthrown the "sentimentalists," with their belief in Christianity.

Its most brilliant student became Prime Minister of England, and in grappling with the problem of the poor, the most exigent of the times, he attempted to solve it on the principles of a Christless creed. The poor who could not or would not work must be crushed, segregated, doomed to a living death. For these a British Siberia was prepared in the