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works are in many directions imperfect; but Charlotte and Emily stand, nevertheless, two among the greatest writers not of their century alone, but of the world. A French essayist has rendered them this tribute: "C'était une famille qui, possédant le plus bel attribut de la nature, la passion, avait su le soumettre au plus bel attribut de l'âme, la conscience."

"At the end of all," as Charlotte writes of the sisters who had passed from her ken, "exists the great Hope—Eternal Life is theirs for ever."

I have found it so impossible to analyze the religious beliefs of the three sisters, that I have abstained from the attempt. Anne's was distinctly the most naturally pious mind. She died with the earnest words of faith and hope upon her lips: "Soon all will be well through the merits of our Redeemer," but the melancholy of her religious life was unfortunate. Charlotte, through seasons of despair, clung to her faith with characteristic tenacity; but her changing moods render futile any attempt accurately to gauge her position. We only know that she looked and trusted to God through all. Emily was and remains a very Sphinx. She sought God diligently; we can judge of the result only by her last verses, which are capable of very various interpretations. I have therefore purposely avoided the dilemma, recollecting the merciful injunction, "Judge not that ye be not judged."

ALBINA BRODRICK.

Short Notices.

The English Church in the Eighteenth Century. By C. J. ABBEY and JOHN H. OVERTON. A new edition, revised and abridged. Pp. 495. Longmans, Green and Co.

This valuable work was reviewed in *THE CHURCHMAN* by Canon Garbett as soon as it was published. We have pleasure in inviting attention to the edition now before us, judiciously condensed, and cheap. It ought to have a large circulation, for it is very readable and very full. We may add that it is a handy volume, pleasing as to cover, paper, and type.

Charge delivered to the Clergy and Churchwardens of the Archdeaconry of Winchester. By the Venerable GEORGE HENRY SUMNER, D.D., Archdeacon and Canon of Winchester, and Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury. Winchester: Jacob and Johnson.

Several Charges lie before us, and each has an interest of its own. But at present we can only give a line of notice to Dr. Sumner's, a Charge which we can easily understand was "published by request."

Outside the Pulpit. Some thoughts as to everyday duties. By the Hon. FREDERICA PLUNKET. With a Preface by the ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN. Pp. 160. S.P.C.K.

Charity, Faith, Worship, and Praise are some of the chapters in this edifying little work. We cannot refrain from quoting from the Archbishop's touching preface :

The following is a posthumous work. While it was still in manuscript the writer was suddenly called to her rest. The summons came without warning, but her lamp was alight. While ministering to the poor—in that spirit of unselfish, unostentatious "service" so forcibly described in the last chapter of her book—she contracted the fatal illness which resulted in her death.

Righteousness and Life. Readings from the Romans. By J. G. HOARE, M.A., Vicar of St. Dunstan's, Canterbury. Pp. 128. Seeley and Co.

A little book full of good stuff : simple and strong.

Cook's Tourist's Handbook for Holland, Belgium, and the Rhine. London : T. Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus, E.C. 1887.

The first edition of this cheap and handy little volume appeared in 1874. Comparing it with the present one, we see that, instead of 179, there are now 304 pages, and the additional information makes this guide quite full enough for ordinary tourists. Well printed, the book has good maps.

Our Bird Allies. By THEODORE WOOD. Author of "Our Insect Allies," etc. S.P.C.K.

This is a very pleasing little volume, likely to be warmly welcomed. A capital gift-book or prize ; every parish library, too, should have a copy. The author's descriptions of Shrikes, and Rooks, and Hawks, and other "Allies," are excellent.

The Apology of Al Kindy. By Sir WILLIAM MUIR, K.C.S.I., LL.D., D.C.L. Second edition. Pp. 120. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The first edition of this curious and interesting book was published five years ago. In his preface to that edition, Sir William Muir mentions that his attention was first directed to the "Apology"—an ancient defence of Christianity against Islam—by the Turkish Mission Aid Society.

Young Plants and Polished Corners. Nature in the Light of the Bible. By C. H. NASH, M.A., St. Mathew's, Croydon. Nisbet.

Mr. Nash quotes the Psalmist (P. Book) "the young plants" and "the polished corners," and places upon his title-page, "A book for our sons and daughters." It is a good book for them, and we can confidently commend it to parents for themselves.

A first-rate book for the tourist's portmanteau is Mr. Oliphant's *Episodes in a Life of Adventure* (W. Blackwood and Sons). It is very readable from beginning to end, full of incident and informing withal. The able and accomplished writer's *Haifa* was lately commended in these pages.

To the "Men of the Bible" series belongs *Solomon : His Life and Times*, by Archdeacon Farrar (Nisbet and Co.). It is in all respects what one would have expected. The Archdeacon is always interesting. Here is a quotation from the chapter on Solomon's Commerce :

"The word rendered 'apes' is *kophim*, and is connected with the Sanskrit *kapi*, in the Tamil form of it. The apes meant are perhaps the long-tailed variety common in various parts of India. Apes are mentioned here alone in the Bible. That these apes did not come, as some have conjectured, from Gibraltar, seems clear from the fact that the Phœnician vessels might long ago have made them familiar in Palestine if they had been brought from Calpe. They may have been brought in the course of the three years' voyage from South India, or even from Ceylon.

"Peacocks are called *tukkiim*.¹ The word has been understood to mean Numidian birds, delicacies from *Tucca* in Mauretania, or another species of monkey. There is now no doubt that it means the peacock, which in old classic Tamil still bears the name *tōkei*, dialectically pronounced *tōgei*, a name still used on the coasts of Malabar.² In modern Tamil *tōkei* only means the peacock's tail. Ivory and apes and gold might come from other countries, but the peacock is indigenous in India alone.

"Almug-trees, or, as the Book of Chronicles calls them, algum-trees,³ have been sometimes taken for the trees which supply the thyine or citron-wood of North Africa, which was so much in use among the luxurious Romans;⁴ but they are now believed to be the red sandal-wood which is peculiar to India, and of which the temple doors of India are often made.⁵ The wood would serve well for the frames of harps and psalteries, though hardly for pillars, as it has no strength.⁶ In Sanskrit the sandal-wood tree is called *valguka*, and is chiefly found on the coast of Malabar."

The new *Quarterly Review* contains two or three articles of special interest and importance. From lack of time we can only name them: "Great Men and Evolution"; "The Tithe Question"; and "The Latest Attack on Christianity" (a vigorous review of Mr. Morison's "Service of Man"). The article on Tithe should be read by everybody who takes an interest in the subject; and we hope to recur to it. Other articles in the *Quarterly*, a good number, are very readable.

Hazell's Annual Cyclopædia, 1887, is not a mere reprint of last year's edition: it contains much new matter, and the remainder has been revised. This is a most convenient book (Hazell, Watson and Viney, 52, Long Acre).

¹ Omitted by the LXX. Josephus says that the fleets brought home "ivory and Ethiopians, and apes."

² "It has been derived from the Sanskrit word *sikhin*, meaning, furnished with a crest" (Max Müller).

³ 2 Chron. ii. 8, "Send me algum trees out of Lebanon." If it grew on Lebanon it must be cypress.

⁴ Vulg., *Thyina*; LXX., *πέκινα, πελεκητά*—

"Their sumptuous gluttonies and gorgeous feasts
On citron table or Atlantic stone." ("Par. Regained," iv.).

⁵ In Rabbinical writings *almug* is coral. Josephus, like the LXX., calls it "pine-timber," but says it is whiter and more glittering than the wood of the fir-tree ("Antiq.," viii. 7, § 7).

⁶ 1 Kings x. 12. Perhaps the word rendered "pillars" should be "railings," as in the margin of the Revised Version. In 2 Chron. ix. 11, "stairs" seems to be meant (margin of Authorised Version).