

brave acknowledgments and wise conclusions, this chronicle of handiwork by "the winding white road" to "serve the footsteps of my fellows"; and we, reading it, may be proud of the kinship of taste, for we delight in it, too, and may count ourselves for the moment as on something of a plane with Ruskin, perhaps an inclined plane, but appreciation may surely exalt to a certain level. "I have attained my ideal," the first chapter begins. "I am a road-mender." And the value of the fact is pressed home in all the pages; in the outpourings and observations of a free spirit living close to Nature. "Seen better days?" enquires a fellow-worker, on his way to his job—a man who hates his work as our road-mender loves it. "'Never,' I said emphatically." Then follow thoughts, and the conviction that "stone-breaking should be allotted to minor poets or vagrant children of nature like myself." Of the men and beasts who pass upon the road, of the stories of life, and the beauties, the small book is full. Later come other chapters; "Out of the Shadow," telling of the enforced end of the road-mending, and of men and things seen from a town window, heard from a town room, but still fresh with the healthy thought of the same courageous nature. In "At the White Gate," a return is made to the country—not to the active work of road-mending, but of passive waiting, recalling, and gently thinking. The scheme of the book is simple; but there are deep thoughts in it, and attractive new lights thrown on old truths. For the rest, few could have told of the joys of road-mending, the meanings in the shadows, and the rest at the White Gate, more tenderly and impressively than Mr. Fairless; by reason of which our volume already falls open readily at favourite pages. The saddest thought that assails the reader now lies in the knowledge that the writer—brave, as his work had already convinced—died, full of youth and promise, before his last paper appeared in print.

EARLY CHRISTIANITY AND PAGANISM, TO THE PEACE OF THE CHURCH IN THE FOURTH CENTURY. By Donald M. Spence, D.D., Dean of Gloucester. 18s. net. (Cassell and Co., Ltd.)

The idea which Dean Spence carries out in this volume is a good one. It is to give an account of the life of the Church or of the Christians in so far as they were confronted by Paganism and related to a Pagan Empire. This state of things may be said to have been terminated when, under Constantine, the Imperial throne was Christianised. In 313 A.D. Christianity was declared a lawful religion, although not till the end of the fourth century was paganism made illegal. Perhaps it was to the advantage of Christianity that for so long a period it was the object of persecution, and that its adherents were liable to become the objects of the mob's unreasoning fury, or of an emperor's caprice or mistaken prudence. The period of struggle by which any society asserts its right of existence and obstinately refuses to be extinguished is always interesting, and few histories, if any, contain more inspiring instances than this of heroism, of devotion to a cause, of sacrifice, and of hope. It is largely with the records of martyrdom Dean Spence takes to do; and additional interest is lent to his volume by his dependence upon and citation of the original, contemporary records. The advantage of this method is conspicuous in the chapters on the revival of paganism and the catacombs. The photographs are excellently reproduced, and many have never before been published.

A. W. KINGLAKE. A Biographical and Literary Study. By the Rev. W. Tuckwell. 4s. 6d. net. (George Bell and Sons.)

This little book purports to be an attempt to rescue the personality of the brilliant author of "Eothen" from oblivion. In point of fact it is for the greater part a critical synopsis of Kinglake's literary labours, and one misses the glimpse into the inner life of the man of letters which forms

the chief attraction in biographies of this nature. It would, however, be unfair to blame Mr. Tuckwell for this omission, for the bulk of Kinglake's private correspondence, from which alone the arcana of his life could have been extracted, was at his death destroyed by his special request. Kinglake—apart from his great literary gifts—does not appear to have been a very attractive personality. His cynicism was at times almost revolting, and his outlook on public affairs was narrow and coloured by his prejudices. The same fastidiousness and excessive polish which constitute the chief, if not the only, blemishes in his writings, are also to the fore in his public life, and were in all probability the causes which led to his failure as a politician. In the circle of his family and among his friends he may have been different, but it is precisely this side of his character which is screened from us. Mr. Tuckwell has nevertheless compiled a biography which is characterised by much of the Attic salt which he so modestly disclaims, as well as by Roman brevity, and has done the best possible with the somewhat scanty materials at his command. The result is a dainty little volume which will commend itself to all admirers of Kinglake's genius.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF VENICE. By F. C. Hodgson, M.A., Fellow of King's College. 7s. 6d. (George Allen.)

The need for a handy and compact volume on the early history of Venice at a reasonable price has long been felt. There are few who have the time or the patience to struggle through the many learned and ponderous tomes which Continental scholars have written on this subject—most of which are on such a portentous scale as to suggest the labours of a Methuselah. Mr. Hodgson has written a very attractive narrative in which he treats a fascinating subject in a most craftsmanlike manner. The less ambitious student will find all he wishes to know in these pages, and the footnotes will be found to furnish valuable and useful hints to those who are desirous of pursuing the subject further.

The New Books of the Month.

FEBRUARY 15TH TO MARCH 15TH, 1902.

THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY.

- ALEXANDER, W. MENZIES.—Demonic Possession in the New Testament, 5/- *T. & T. Clark*
[Traces origins, and draws parallels, and treats of demonic possession historically, theologically, and medically. A genuine piece of research.]
- ASKWITH, E. H., B.D.—An Introduction to the Thessalonian Epistles, 4/- net *Macmillan*
- BENSON, EDWARD WHITE, Late Archbishop of Canterbury.—Addresses on the Acts of the Apostles, 21/- net ... *Macmillan*
- BLACK, REV. JAMES, M.A., A.T.S.—Building in Silence, 2/- *A. H. Stockwell*
[The silent building of Solomon's Temple is used by Mr. Black to illustrate the need and the force of work perfected quietly in the mind, silently resolved, before being brought to action.]
- BUCHAN, REV. JOHN.—The First Things, 5/- *Blackwood*
Century Bible, The. Hebrews. Edited by A. S. Peake, M.A. *T. C. & E. C. Jack*
[A good commentary. The author leans to Harnack's view of the authorship.]
- CHESTERTON, W. RIDLEY.—Talks with Young Christians, 1/- net *A. H. Stockwell*
[A small book, written with an earnest desire to help the young; its counsel is wise, and its lessons are simply set forth.]
- FINNEY, REV. CHARLES G.—Sermons on Gospel Themes, 3/6 net *Robinson, Manchester*
[Twenty-four sermons, full of spiritual power, courage, and suggestion.]
- GILBERT, GEORGE HOLLEY, Ph.D., D.D.—A Primer of the Christian Religion, 4/6 net *Macmillan*
[Deals with the facts of Christ's life, by question and answer, in simple, everyday language. Well adapted for use in schools and families.]
- NOBLE, REV. FREDERICK A., D.D.—Discourses on Philipians, 3/6 net *Robinson, Manchester*
[A many-sided book of teachings on, and lessons drawn from, St. Paul's Epistle. The author appreciates the richness of the material with which he deals, and writes in an illuminating manner.]
- PEARCE, REV. JOSEPH.—The Alabaster Box, and Other Addresses, 2/6 net *A. H. Stockwell*
[Nearly a dozen Addresses, enforcing the teaching of the gospel, in strong, bracing language.]

COUPON.

YOUNG AUTHORS' PAGE.

APRIL, 1902.

- WENDT, DR. HANS HINRICH.—The Gospel According to St. John. Translated by Edward Lummis, M.A. 7/6 *T. & T. Clark*
[An enquiry into the source and historical value of the Fourth Gospel.]
- WESTCOTT, BROOKE FOSS, D.D., D.C.L., sometime Bishop of Durham.—Words of Faith and Hope, 4/6 *Macmillan*
[A collection of sermons and addresses, including the bishop's last public words, addressed to the miners in Durham Cathedral. They are marked, as was all his teaching, by courageous optimism.]
- NEW EDITIONS.
- KIRKPATRICK, A. F., D.D.—The Book of Psalms. With Introduction and Notes. 6/- net *Camb. Univ. Press*
- WILLIAMS, REV. T. RHONDDA.—Shall We Understand the Bible? 1/- net *A. & C. Black*

FICTION.

- BALFOUR, ANDREW.—Cashiered, and Other War Tales, 6/- *Nisbet*
- BELL, L.—The Expatriates, 6/- *Hutchinson*
[Over four hundred close pages, filled for the most part with slander of French society, a fact that is somewhat discounted by the patent folly and vulgarity of the Americans who judge the Parisians and suffer from them.]
- BENSON, E. F.—Scarlet and Hyssop, 6/- *Heinemann*
- BLAIR, TORIN.—Epauettes, 1/- *Bousfield & Co.*
[A brightly written little volume descriptive of "Service" types; very true to life, with a slight story blended to reveal the several characters clearly. A readable collection.]
- CAPES, BERNARD.—Plots, 6/- *Methuen*
- CLEEVE, LUCAS.—Woman and Moses, 6/- *Hurst & Blackett*
- COLLINS, MABEL (MRS. COOK).—The Star Sapphire, 2/5
Anthony Treherne
[For serious domestic reasons Philip Tempest calls on Canon Winterby, the great temperance man, in the first chapter, and signs the pledge; after which this story moves forward on lines of very realisable discomfort. "The Star Sapphire" is a society novel with a "temperance" motive; the difficulties and needs of which are not glossed over.]
- DANA, FRANCIS.—The Decoy, 6/- *John Lane*
- DENNY, CHARLES E.—The Romance of Upheld Manor, 6/- *Methuen*
- DAVIDSON, LILLIAS CAMPBELL.—The Confessions of a Match-Making Mother, 2/- *Fisher Unwin*
[When Mrs. Bracebridge was left a widow with eight unmarried daughters, her heart, quite naturally, "for one brief moment died within her." It might, quite naturally, have died for a moment which was not brief. But Mrs. Bracebridge possessed energy. With tact and skill, by action and effacement, by positive and negative measures she married those eight girls to the very right men, and concluded by marrying herself to a Governor in Australia, "the kindest and nicest of men." The book is amusing; the talent, we are given to understand, has not been inherited by the eight brides. A point which seems to be worth noting.]
- DE COULEVAIN, PIERRE.—Eve Triumphant. Translated by Alys Hallard, 6/- *Hutchinson*
- DODSWORTH, FRANCIS.—A True Sportsman, 1/- net *Treherne*
[A sporting novel, in which an over-head-and-ears-in-debt son defies his father, and becomes a "professional backer," and—most unusual fate—proves successful. The story ends with a race, and "the King, with that tact which has always distinguished him, sent for Wright" [the hero], "and congratulated him on his win, saying that he was indeed 'A True Sportsman.'" *Ipse dixit!*
- DODSWORTH, FRANCIS.—Thoroughbred, 2/6 *Anthony Treherne*
[A capital tale of a fine horse, possessor of the gifts of beauty, breeding, and even speech. From his birth to his death the narrative continues with love and sport to call out all the animal's traits.]
- FITZGERALD, G. BERESFORD.—Dear Paul, 6/- *Digby, Long*
[There is delicacy of touch in some of Mr. Fitzgerald's work. In "Dear Paul" he gives us fighting, crime, religion, and socialist troubles; but in addition to the generous measure of incident, he gives also some pretty pictures of women and scenery, love and luxury, and life in various conditions.]
- FLETCHER, J. S.—Bonds of Steel, 6/- *Digby, Long*
- GILCHRIST, R. MURRAY.—The Labyrinth, 6/- *Grant Richards*
- GORKY, MAXIM.—Twenty-Six Men and a Girl. Translated by Emily Jakowleff and Dora B. Montefiore. Introduction by Edward Garnett. 1/6 and 2/- net *Duckworth*
- GOWING, MRS. AYLME.—As Cæsar's Wife, 6/- *John Long*
- GRAHAM, JOHN.—The Great God Success, 4/- *Heinemann*
- HOLMES, ELEANOR.—To-Day and To-Morrow, 6/- *Digby, Long*
[Affairs matrimonial occupy the major portion of Miss Holmes's novel. Uncle, nephew, niece, friend—everyone's love-story seems to be going on at the same time, and yet to be individually important, and to some extent woven into the others. This indicates some cleverness on the author's part; and indeed there is much attraction in the book, and very sincere feeling.]
- HOWARTH, ANNA.—Nora Lester, 6/- *Smith, Elder*
- HUME, FERGUS.—The Pagan's Cup, 6/- *Digby, Long*
[Mr. Hume gives us herc a country story, with legend and superstition to set it off. There is a terrible amount of villany in it, and secrets, and trials. But, as Mr. Morven said with, perhaps, more applicability than novelty, "After the storm comes the calm." The wedding is in the last chapter.]
- HUME, FERGUS.—Woman: The Sphinx, 6/- *John Long*
[A lurid tale, told in Mr. Fergus Hume's well-known graphic style, with mystery as one of its chief interests.]
- HYNE, C. J. CUTCLIFFE.—Mr. Horrocks: Purser, 6/- *Methuen*

- JAMESON, EVA.—When the Dream is Past, 6/- *Nisbet*
- KNIGHT, ALFRED E.—Under Cloister Stones, 3/6 *Hurst & Blackett*
[A thrilling, sensational tale of buried treasure in the seventeenth century. The romance is ingenious, and is dedicated to Mr. Watts-Dunton.]
- LEES, ROBERT JAMES.—Through the Mists, 6/- *John Long*
- LINN, JAMES WEBER.—The Second Generation, 6/- *Macmillan*
[A novel of journalistic life in Chicago; illuminating as to journalistic and financial methods, but warning as to their results.]
- LODGE, MRS.—The Rector's Temptation, 6/- *Digby, Long*
[The cleric again appears as hero, a mere human, attracted by false metal, and buffeted by circumstance. We see him, however, calm, and certain of his heart in the last chapter; and as regards the true metal, "it is enough to relate the fact that Bella at length gave her hand to the Rev. Peter Hawksley [the buffeted hero], on whom she had bestowed the pure, unselfish love of her guileless heart long before." So that was all right.]
- MELVILLE, LEWIS.—In the World of Mimes, 6/- *Greening*
[A pleasantly written story of theatrical life; vivacious and life-like by reason of its spirited characters and professional details. It is shrewdly observed, and the world and the stage are both described with facility.]
- NELSON, H. ARNOLD.—Green Barley. Illustrated. 3/6
Ward, Lock
[Mr. Nelson has a weakness for wrapping up his meaning in many words when he gives himself time; as, for instance, "In his despotic mind the autocrat, democrat, plutocrat, king, and high-priest of Glen Lurgan, and all absolute power and authority wielded therein, were intensely analogous to the ninth letter of the alphabet, and in the very quintessence of oligarchy that ninth letter represented Mr. Baird." That means that Mr. Baird thought a good deal of himself and his power, and acted accordingly. When, however, the author has to give his attention to quickly moving events, he uses more direct language, and tells a racy and realistic Australian story with spirit and plenty of colour.]
- PEMBERTON, MAX.—I Crown Thee King, 6/- *Methuen*
- RANGER-GULL, C.—The Adventures of Ulysses, 6d. *Greening*
[A concise rendering in simple English of the story of the Odyssey, dedicated to the "Ulysses" of Her Majesty's Theatre.]
- SACON, AMYOT.—Dick Dashwood. Illustrated. 3/6 *Ward, Lock*
[The author knows his duty. He recognises that there must be thrills and wild moments in the chronicle of a boy squatter, and he gives them. "The heavy thud of many hoofs shook the earth, and awoke the deathly stillness of the scrub." "No fear! sleep well! To-morrow you will awake to find yourself master of the Bulloomong station, which your son, Dick Dashwood, the boy squatter, has kept in order for you all these years." That is the style! Entirely correct.]
- SATCHEL, WILLIAM.—The Land of the Lost, 6/- *Methuen*
- SERGEANT, ADELINE.—The Master of Beechwood, 6/- *Methuen*
[One day, when even John Effingham's hope was almost gone, he threw his pickaxe from him on that desolate Australian land, and found it embedded in gold. Then events followed swiftly, including an inheritance in England and a mistake in love. Miss Sergeant may be confidently trusted to make the most of her rich material.]
- SIENKIEWICZ, HENRYK.—The Knights of the Cross, 3/6 *Sands*
- SPEIGHT, T. W.—As It Was Written, 6/- *Chatto*
[A story with a real plot and plenty of incident, which begins with a shoemaker, Karl Schenkel, who discovers one day that he has long been suffering wrongs, and feels it incumbent on him to shoot a very harmless and amiable Grand Duke. The story ends after many vicissitudes, with the building of a hospital, with the money of, and in memory of, this same "crack-brained fanatic." The author displays his accustomed facility in weaving his romance.]
- STOCKTON, FRANK R.—Kate Bonnet, 6/- *Cassell*
- SUTCLIFFE, HALLIWELL.—Mistress Barbara Cunliffe, 6/-
Fisher Unwin
- SUTRO, ALFRED.—Women in Love, 6/- *George Allen*
- TYTLER, SARAH.—Atonement by Proxy, 6/- *Digby, Long*
[The story of a girl who inherited great wealth from her father, a harsh, hard banker, and then attempted restitution for the old man's plunderings. The history of the attempts are sometimes pathetic, sometimes humorous. In the end Miss Holt, an old friend and schoolmistress, sums up the matter: "This is what Oliver Latimer has made of her life; she has given half her substance away, and she is going to marry a man whom the world will never cease to brand. What a wedding for me to dance my last at! But . . . when she comes to lie on her dying bed . . . there may be a smite on her lips, for surely she has saved a soul from death and covered a multitude of sins."]
- VAN DYKE, HENRY.—A Lover of Music, 6/- *Newnes*
- VOGEL, HARRY B.—Gentleman Garnet, 6/- *Smith, Elder*
- VON HUTTEN, BARONESS.—Miss Carmichael's Conscience, 2/6
Pearson
[Miss Carmichael's conscience was a very little one, but there was enough of it to prevent her being entirely treacherous to her friend. Yet why this fact should be recorded concerning a very ordinary kind of flirt we have failed to find out.]
- WESTALL, W.—The Old Bank, 6/- *Chatto*
[The story here is quite good enough for the ordinary purposes of fiction, but it seems a pity that a writer of Mr. Westall's reputation should grow so careless of workmanship, as he shows himself here, or be content with such commonplace reading of character. He has better work behind this.]