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## Reviews.



*Eighteen Centuries of the Orthodox Greek Church.* By the Rev. A. H. HORE, Trinity College, Oxford. London and Oxford: James Parker and Co., 1899.

MR. HORE is already favourably known to the members of our Church by his brief but valuable histories of the Anglican Church, and of the Catholic Church at large. He has laid us under an additional burden of gratitude by his present book. It was not so long ago that our clergy knew very little indeed about that vast body of eighty millions of Christians who inhabit the East of Europe and parts of the West of Asia, and who, unfortunately, hold no communion with any portion of the Western Church. It is a question whether very much is known of our fellow-Christians in the East even now, but since the appearance of Mr. Hore's book ignorance of their history at least will be inexcusable. The chief defect in his book for the ordinary uninstructed reader is the absence of any information, except what may be gleaned by the way, about the rites and doctrines of the Orthodox Church. If Mr. Hore is fortunate enough to reach a second edition—and there seems no reason why he should not do so—he will doubtless supply that defect. Meanwhile, Mr. Blackmore, the translator of Mouravieff's "History of the Russian Church," has also translated its Catechisms into English, in a companion volume called "The Doctrine of the Russian Church," for anyone who needs information on the point.

General Kiréeff, a distinguished Russian layman who takes a deep interest in theological questions, especially those which refer to the reunion of the Churches, has, in a recent review of Mr. Hore's book in the *Revue Internationale de Théologie*, characterized it as the most important step toward the reunion of East and West which has taken place since their separation. And so it may prove, if English Churchmen will but familiarize themselves with its contents; for it does not, as the title would lead us to suppose, confine itself to the history of the *Greek* Orthodox Church, but gives a succinct and clear history of the Russian Church also. General Kiréeff remarks on the blessing it would be for humanity if those rival Powers, Russia and England, could be brought to a mutual understanding; and he points out how much an *entente cordiale* between the Churches would react on the political attitude of the two nations.

Mr. Hore also gives a brief sketch of the Nestorian and Jacobite offshoots from the Eastern Church, which, once so powerful, are now so down-trodden and oppressed; and, while he rightly regards reunion with the East as impossible as yet, he brings the history of the overtures toward more friendly relations between the Anglican and Orthodox Churches down to the year 1898. He has referred to the memorable Bonn Conference in 1875, in which a very great stride was made toward

reunion by the famous formula of concord drawn up by Dr. Von Döllinger, and accepted by the representatives of the various Churches there represented. He has, however, forgotten to mention the more recent Reunion Conferences, promoted by the Old Catholics, held in 1892, 1894 and 1897, at Lucerne, Rotterdam and Vienna, in which representatives of the Orthodox, Old Catholic and Anglican Churches were present. He has also neglected to mention the *Revue Internationale de Théologie*, a publication started after the Lucerne Conference in 1892, which is devoted to the cause of reunion, and which has inserted articles from members of the Orthodox and Anglican Churches, in the German, French and English languages, as well as many learned and valuable contributions from members of the Old Catholic bodies. It is obvious what a great opportunity such a publication affords for mutual discussion and explanation between members of the long-severed communities. Mr. Hore, however, has not failed to notice the important event of the consecration, in 1898, by the Bishop of Salisbury, of the Anglican Church at Jerusalem, attended by two delegates of the Œcumenical Patriarch, as well as by a vast crowd of persons of the most various nationalities, Eastern and Western alike. His failure to notice the other important facts of which mention has just been made is due, no doubt, to the unfortunate absence of interest in them which, until quite lately, has characterized our Church.

J. J. L.

*A History of Greece.* By Professor J. B. BURY, M.A., Litt.D., LL.D.  
With 210 illustrations and 7 separate maps. Macmillan. Pp. xxiii,  
909. Price 8s. 6d.

This brilliant and entirely satisfactory work will, if we mistake not, do for the history of Greece what Green's "Short History" has done for the history of our own land. It will practically supersede all other histories for ordinary purposes, though, of course, students must still have recourse to the standard works of Holm, Thirlwall and Grote for detailed information on special points. Professor Bury's work is not a compilation, but a serious contribution to our knowledge of the period with which it deals. The history is scientific in the best sense; it is based on first-hand acquaintance with the original authorities; it is written with an eye to historical perspective; and it eschews side-issues.

Despite the scientific character of this work, we have found that it is easier to pick up the book than to lay it aside. Professor Bury has not forgotten that for a history to be valuable it need not be dull. Literature and art, philosophy and religion, are only touched on when they directly illustrate, or come into close connection with, the political history. As specimens of Professor Bury's skill in dealing with such matters, his remarks on the Sophists, on the growth of the imperial idea under Pericles and its bearing on art, on Euripides and the comic drama, or on the Socratic method, may be consulted.

At the end of the book are arranged a number of illustrative notes.

These are arranged conveniently for immediate reference. The plan is a good one: we are thereby at once enabled to hunt up the sources of any statement made by the writer in the body of the work. An excellent index closes the work. We have said nothing of the numerous illustrations in the volume. Generally, they are good, though occasionally a clearer impression might have been looked for. The reproductions, however, of ancient coins are nearly always pleasing.

One omission we note in Professor Bury's book—that is, any just appreciation of the work done by that great scholar Bishop Thirlwall in his "History of Greece."

E. H. BLAKENEY.

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## Short Notices.

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*The White Robe of Churches.* By Dean SPENCE. Dent and Co. Pp. 348. Price 7s. 6d. net.

THIS is an account of the revival of ecclesiastical architecture in the eleventh century. The title is taken from a writer of that age, who says, "The world, startled from its death sleep, put on its white robe of churches." The Dean lives in the spirit of his exquisite cathedral, and in his own fascinating style has treated every phase of the building, and its characteristics and history. He has brought parallels, illustrations, and comparisons from many sources, and has made the whole subject live in a most interesting manner.

*The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah.* Dr. EDERSHEIM. Longman and Co. 2 vols. Pp. 695 and 826. Price 12s.

This is the tenth impression of the learned author's famous work. When first published the price was 2 guineas; it is now reduced to 12s. Dr. Edersheim speaks, of course, with special interest, as one who, once a Jew, is now an earnest Christian. The appendices are of great importance, dealing with such subjects as the pseudepigraphic writings, Philo of Alexandria, Jewish history from Alexander to Herod, and many other cognate subjects.

*The Romance of our Ancient Churches.* By SARAH WILSON. Constable and Co. Pp. 184. Price 6s.

This work treats of parish churches much in the same way as the Dean of Gloucester has treated the cathedral. It deals with lady chapels, galilees, lych-gates, preaching crosses, orientation, sundials, different styles of triforia, clerestories, piscinæ, aumbries, etc., crypts, brasses, and all other special features of church architecture. The illustrations, nearly two hundred in number, are by Alex. Ansted, and are of great beauty.