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generally, there is also a considerable clearing of minds on the Irish problem itself. The first thing that stands out unmistakably clear is that unless we are prepared either to give the Irish Party a separation, or to put into their hands the machinery by which they may get it for themselves, we must abandon all hope of satisfying the Irish Party. Again, unless we make separate provision for Ulster, civil war will be the result of the establishment of an independent Irish Legislature. Lastly, whether we grant separation, or the means of separation, or reduce Ireland to the status of a colony, or give local self-government of a moderate kind, or content ourselves with subduing the National League and restoring the Queen's authority, we must not expect finality for many years to come. Eventual success will depend not so much upon which of these latter methods we try as upon our determination that Irish questions shall no longer be party questions; that the Irish vote shall no longer demoralize English statesmen; that our Irish policy, once deliberately adopted, shall be steadily maintained, and that our Irish fellow-subjects shall be impressed with the conviction that their persistent agitations, complaints, grievances, and whimperings are as much lost time as crying for the moon.

GILBERT VENABLES.

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## Short Notices.

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**WE** heartily recommend Mr. Bullock's charming and most timely little volume, *The Queen's Resolve*, a Jubilee Memorial.

*Our Island-Continent.* A Naturalist's Holiday in Australia. By Dr. J. E. TAYLOR, F.L.S., F.G.S. With map. S.P.C.K.

A capital little book; bright, instructive, and very cheap. The concluding words are timely: "When will our Statesmen learn that Australia is another part of England?"

*Our Father; or, the Lord's Prayer expanded in the Words of Holy Scripture.* A series of Morning and Evening Prayers, adapted from the Bible, for every day in the week, for private and for family use. Elliot Stock, 1886.

We are much pleased with this book, and gladly quote words from the recommendation given, in an Introduction, by the Rev. A. M. W. Christopher. The esteemed and honoured Rector of St. Aldate's, calling each series "admirable," says:

I feel very thankful that a brother clergyman has decided to publish these prayers, which are all in the very words of Scripture. The preparation of them was originally commenced by his late Bible-loving mother, for the use of her younger son. . . . The general conception of the prayers is excellent. . . . Each prayer seems to combine in due proportion the leading divisions of prayer.

*Heralds of the Cross; or, the Fulfilling of the Command.* Chapters on Missionary Work. By FRANCES ARNOLD - FORSTER. Illustrated edition. Hatchards.

"Heralds of the Cross" was warmly commended in these pages as soon as it appeared, and we have much pleasure in inviting attention to the present edition, large paper, illustrated. It is a singularly interesting book, and will long remain a general favourite. Its teaching power is great. A better "Missionary" present than this attractive volume there can hardly be.

The admirable article on "The Hour of Communion," by the Rev. N. DIMOCK (one of the most learned of our liturgicalists), which appeared in the *March Churchman*, has been published as a pamphlet by Mr. Elliot Stock.

The *Church Sunday School Magazine* contains a report of the proceedings at the forty-third Anniversary of the C.E.S.S. Institute; Conference, Annual Meeting, and Festival Service. The Archbishop of Dublin's sermon, and the addresses of the Bishops of Exeter and Bedford, the Dean of Gloucester, and others, will richly repay reading. If any one of our readers is unaware of the great good work being done by the Institute, he will do well to procure a copy of the Magazine for June.

In the June *Blackwood* appears a very readable paper, "French Examiners under the Civil Service." Another paper treats of Gwillim, about whom many readers of "Rob Roy" know—the extent of their knowledge—that Sir Hildebrand used to read that great authority on heraldry of a winter's evening. "Moral Degeneracy; who is its Author?" *Blackwood's* answer may be easily guessed. *Blackwood* says:

The history of the last six years, and Mr. Gladstone's figure in it, has been deeply impressed on the consciousness of us all. There can be, there is, no disagreement among us as to his attitude with regard to Home Rule up to last Christmas. If he were to protest on the subject (as perhaps it might be congenial for him to do) up to Christmas next, he could not induce a man, woman, or child to believe his report. It is perfectly well known how he has spoken of Home Rule and Home Rulers; it is fresh in our memories in what terms he was good enough to speak of an imaginary but dreaded coalition of Conservatives and Home Rulers; our ears ring still with the scream in which at the last election he besought the constituencies to give him a substantial majority to avert the calamitous drama which has now been produced at his own instance, and in which he monopolises all the chief parts, being Lion, Moonshine, Pyramus, and Wall. The force of what Mrs. Gamp called "bragian boldness," could hardly go beyond this!

A readable little book, with a good deal of information, is *Burma*, by Mr. J. G. SCOTT, "Shway Yoe." Few Englishmen know so much about Burma. His *France and Tong-King* was recommended in these pages a year or two ago. (Geo. Redway, York Street, Covent Garden.)

From the Religious Tract Society we have received: *The Life of Latimer*, *Olive's Story*, *Adventures in Mongolia*, and *Wit and Wisdom of Thomas Fuller*, neatly got up in cloth; specimens of the new "R.T.S. Library, illustrated," commended in the *June Churchman*.

We are much pleased with Messrs. Hatchards' new illustrated edition of the Prayer Book, *The Book of Common Prayer arranged as read in Churches*. As regards binding, type, and illustrations (photographs), this is a dainty volume. Designed mainly for young people, it is not a complete edition.

