

liver cells. All four changes are examples of hydration (the addition of water), and all four are brought about by the activity of glands.

With regard to the effect of snake's venom on the blood, the result appears to depend on the quantity of the fluid injected. Large quantities cause increased disposition of the blood to clot, and this culminates in the clotting of the blood in the vessels. Injected in small quantities, the effect of the poison is, at first, to increase the coagulability of the blood, but after the lapse of two minutes this phase is succeeded by one in which the blood, even when drawn from the body, coagulates only after standing for several hours, or, in some cases, not at all.

Reviews.

THE CHRISTIAN WORLD PULPIT.*

What is Literature? is a question as difficult to answer as What is Poetry?, but we venture to say that no inconsiderable part of the volume before us deserves a high place among the slight modicum of Literature, using the word in its best sense, that is to be found among the tons of printed matter issued yearly from the press. A good sermon like a good lecture is not too common. But only the sermons of orators or of men who have something to say to the world are admitted into the *Christian World Pulpit*. Nor is its scope narrow. The discourses of men of every shade of religious feeling, with the exception of Roman Catholics, have found their way within the two covers. Only those who have sat beneath the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, or under the arches of Westminster Abbey, or say in Spurgeon's Tabernacle, and heard the thrilling eloquence of some of the foremost preachers and speakers of the day, can realise what a boon it is to be able to have in black and white a record of what was then spoken. With such men Christianity is made to bear upon the life of to-day, and upon the social problems that everywhere confront the reformer and philanthropist. In turning over a few pages we alight upon a sermon of Canon Scott Holland's, and immediately catch the echo of Canon Scott Holland's voice as he strains every nerve to carry home to the hearts of the hundreds and even thousands who crowd to listen to him, the duty of social service, the duty of hope and happiness, the duty of honesty on week days as well as Sundays, as a member of a huge commercial company as well as in an individual capacity. One might go far indeed to find more beautiful language and poetic prose than that of this Progressive and High Church ecclesiastic. We turn over a few pages and glance down a sermon of Archdeacon Farrar, and the rhetoric, and grace of style flashes before the eye, Westminster Abbey packed even in the aisles with a cosmopolitan

crowd listening with bated breath to every word of the author of the famous "Life of Christ." There he stands upright and motionless pouring forth scathing denunciations of luxurious selfishness, and hypocrisy in high places; and then withal breaking forth into praise of the beauty of holiness, and the spontaneous joyousness of nature: enriching all he utters with the fruits of deep and wide study of the greatest writers and thinkers of all ages and all countries. The crown, however, of the present volume is the set of sermons or rather lectures, which were delivered in connection with the Christian Social Union at St Edmund's, Lombard Street throughout Lent. Day after day at lunch time the Church was crowded, people pressing even into the choir, and up the pulpit steps, out into the street. And those who attended were among the pick of hard headed, keen City merchants. This volume of the *Christian World Pulpit* contains a few of the remarkable sermons then delivered, and which attracted such wide interest. Amongst others might be mentioned the democratic Dean of Ely's sermon on Christ the King of Labour, in which he concludes with his Social Creed, the simplicity and grandeur of which must not tempt us to linger. Then there is the Sermon—Academic dissertation one might rather say—on Wages by the Rev. Dr. Cunningham, Professor of Political Economy at Cambridge; and a retrospective Lecture on the subject of Crime and Criminals by the Rev. J. W. Horsley, late Chaplain of Holloway Gaol; and, later, Canon Scott Holland's eloquent Essay on the Marriage Law and all it involves to the man, to the woman, to the State. But we can only sincerely hope that Nurses will have an opportunity of reading some of these things for themselves.

Inventions, Preparations, &c.

TEA IN TABLOIDS.

Amongst the many useful improvements which Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have introduced, in the form of tabloids, the most original and by no means the least generally useful, is to be found in their most recent production. They now manufacture Tea in the form of tabloids, and they claim with apparently good reason, that they thereby secure certain marked and valuable advantages. *Purity*, seeing that the tea employed is made from the finest Ceylon and Indian leaves, and that the useless and uncured part of the leaf which is well-known to be injurious is completely removed, all the valuable properties being retained in concentrated form which accounts indeed for the compressed quality of the tabloids. *Economy* and

* "The Christian World Pulpit." Vol. xiv. (James Clarke & Co., London.)

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