

MR. WHITZEL ON THE RESURRECTION.

In publishing Mr. Frank R. Whitzel's suggestion entitled "Possible Origin of the Resurrection Story," I wish to say that he certainly does not underrate the significance of the part which Joseph of Arimathæa plays in the disposal of the body of Christ, and he points out that this mysterious figure disappears suddenly and definitely from view. It is improbable, however, that this rich man should have followed a clear plan with a purpose that indicates a deep foresight of a great movement such as actually took place in the origin of Christianity and the foundation of the church. But there is another possibility, suggested some years ago by Dr. Paul Schwartzkopff of Wernigerode, who asked himself the question, what can have been the motive of Joseph of Arimathæa in demanding the body of Jesus from Pontius Pilate? Joseph is regarded in tradition as a disciple, but it is neither probable that he had met Jesus before the crucifixion nor that he joined the Nazarenes afterwards. We would most certainly have been informed of it in the Acts of the Apostles. It is probable therefore that he was an outsider, and his motive for procuring the body of Jesus was not because he was a believer. Schwartzkopff calls attention to the superstition prevalent in ancient times, verifying it by quotations, that a violent death conveys magical powers. The nail used in crucifixion, the wood of the cross, the ropes with which a criminal has been hanged, etc., can be used and have been used for exorcism. The bodies of men who died an unnatural death were believed to be a protection against demons or evil spirits. Such remains would therefore be thought of value to safeguard a tomb; and it would thus seem probable that Joseph had some such thought in mind, and that, being afraid lest some one else might steal the body, he took it out of the tomb and hid it in a secret place. The resurrection story of Mark closes with the statement that the women found the grave empty; and, following this abrupt conclusion, there is appended the concluding portion of Mark, which is drawn from another source.

P. C.

SOME RECENT FRENCH BOOKS ON THE GREAT WAR.

BY THEODORE STANTON.

The Paris press, like those of most other countries, has been teeming, during the past year, with books and pamphlets on the great war. I propose, in this article, to touch briefly on some of these publications, all of which, of course, present events from the pro-Allies standpoint.

Six mois de guerre (Paris, Hachette, 3 frs. 50), by the veteran Paris journalist, M. Gaston Jollivet, is excellently planned and covers the period extending from August, 1914, to February, 1915. It consists of the official reports issued by the French general headquarters and the chief ones given out by the German headquarters; of the principal political and diplomatic events which have happened among the warring and neutral nations; of extracts from official documents, speeches of prominent public men, articles from leading reviews and newspapers, etc.; of side-lights on the conflict, such as matters concerning hospitals, prisoners, heroic actions, etc. The book contains plans and maps, and is a real *vade-mecum* for the present war. It will probably be followed by several other similar volumes. In fact the second of the series is now being prepared.

M. Jollivet's book of facts is well supplemented and completed by *L'Alle-*

magne contre l'Europe (Paris, Perrin, 3 frs. 50), which is more the philosophy of the contest. This highly instructive volume from the pen of M. Francis Charmes, of the French Academy, is made up of the political *chroniques* which appear every fortnight at the end of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, of which M. Charmes is the editor. Divided up into chapters, with proper headings, they form a connected, very readable and exceedingly instructive whole. When it is remembered that M. Charmes, besides being an academician, is a senator and has held very high office in the French Foreign Office, it will be seen that he speaks with more than ordinary authority in these pages, which are perhaps the weightiest contribution from the French side to the contemporary literature of the war.

These two volumes are still further supplemented and completed by *Les causes et les conséquences de la guerre* (Paris, Félix Alcan, 3 frs. 50), by M. Yves Guyot, formerly Minister of Public Works and now editor of the *Journal des Economistes*. This veteran French free trader, by a political and economical study of the causes, both recent and remote of the war, aims in this book at an examination of the conditions which must be observed for the preparation of lasting peace. M. Guyot considers that it is indispensable that the public mind should be drawn to the consideration of these questions in such manner that the fate of Europe may not be abandoned to esoteric diplomacy. He sets forth some of the errors committed by such diplomacy, as for instance in 1815 and in 1878, errors which are the origin of the present war. The book contains five parts: the political causes of the war; the economical causes of the war; the historical causes: constitution of the German empire; the historical causes: the Austro-Hungarian monarchy; the consequences. M. Guyot examines theories as to race and nationality, the claims and falsehoods of historical law, and he criticizes certain traditional phrases used in the vocabulary of international law. He points out, according to Bentham's conception, the necessity of a utilitarian policy. This book is a manual for statesmen who may be called upon to settle the conditions of peace.

Several of the points treated by M. Guyot are taken up in *La guerre* (Paris, Félix Alcan, 3 frs. 50), a volume of lectures delivered at the well-known School of Political Sciences in the Rue Saint Guillaume, Paris. Prof. Emile Bourgeois examines the question of the origin of the war, placing the blame on Germany; M. Louis Renault discusses international law in its bearing on the conflict; General Malleterre, who has just recovered from a severe wound, presents the French side of the battle of the Marne; M. Raphael G. Lévy treats of the financial questions which concern the belligerents, and M. Daniel Bellet goes into the bearing of modern industry on war.

One of the best authorities in France on Germany is unquestionably M. Georges Blondel, professor at this same School of Political Sciences. Before the war broke out he had written more than half a dozen volumes touching on different aspects of Germany, the most notable of which books is perhaps, considering what has since transpired, *Les embarras de l'Allemagne* (Paris, Plon, 3 frs. 50), which appeared just two years before the war broke out and which immediately went through six editions. It should be read by all those who would know the fundamental causes of the war in so far as Germany is concerned and from the French point of view. M. Blondel seems to have felt what was coming. Much that he says shows a friendliness for Germany and some of his criticisms would be accepted by all fair-minded Germans.

The volume to which we have just referred leads up to the author's recent one, fresh from the press, *La doctrine pangermaniste* (Paris, Chapelot, 1 fr.), which is a study of the more immediate cause of the war, the development of the idea of the superiority of Germany in the civilization of to-day and the consequences springing therefrom. The spirit of the book is found in the very last lines: "All those who have at heart the progress of civilization are convinced to-day that the destruction of the Pangermanist doctrines is necessary to insure the triumph of liberty over tyranny, respect for the feeble, the preservation of small nations and the victory of right."

Problèmes de politique et finances de guerre (Paris, Félix Alcan, 3 frs. 50) is also a collection of lectures delivered at one of the special schools of Paris,—that of Superior Social Studies. The lecturers were Professor Jèze, Barthélemy and Rist of the Paris Law School, and Professor Rolland of the Nancy Law School. The questions treated have to do with the financial, political, administrative and economic problems brought up for solution by the present struggle. The only one of these lectures touching directly on Germany is the last one, "How Germany Has Maintained its Economic Life During the War," by Professor Rist, who says that the success of her plan depended upon a short and victorious war, while a long and uncertain one may upset all her calculations.

In *D'Agadir à Sarajevo* (Paris, Félix Alcan, 2 frs. 50), the French publicist M. Pierre Albin, who has already published two volumes on Germany, traces in this new one the history of the military and political development of the empire during the past three or four years. All the facts, especially those concerning Germany, which led up to the present catastrophe, are here given in a clear and connected manner. An excellent chronological table at the end of the volume is of great use to the reader. This book is especially valuable in its presentation of the origin, scope and consequences of the various alliances, treaties and *ententes* which have characterized international politics during the past quarter of a century.

La guerre devant le Palais (Paris, Ollendorff, 2 frs.), by M. Gabriel Mourey, conservator of the State Palace at Compiègne, is one of the many admirable monographs on the war which are now beginning to appear in large numbers all over Europe. It is a well-told account, by a practiced writer, of what happened at Compiègne between the beginning of August and the middle of September, 1914, during the on-rush of the Germans from Belgium to Paris. Many curious details are given, all told in a language as delicate and artistic as it is full of feeling and ardent patriotism. Let us hope that the many monographs to come will be modeled after this one.

BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTES.

SOCRATES: MASTER OF LIFE. By *William Ellery Leonard*. Pages, 118. Cloth, \$1.00.

"Great men taken up in any way," Carlyle assures us, "are profitable company." But Carlyle was sure of his Yea and Nay, and what thoughtful man of the present is? Not long ago, it is true, we could prate of progress, efficiency, and what not? scorning to reply, or replying with a condescending smile, when asked whither we were progressing or for what we were efficient. Now, however, we have been sobered by the catastrophe which overtook the human family a year ago last August, and, like the man who would listen to