Review

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in Ireland would know this book by name only were it not for such description and portrayal as the present paper gives. The five plates reproduced from photographs enable the reader to compare both decoration and letter with other masterpieces of Celtic illumination. The art motives are common to all, but each has a well-marked individuality. The striking note of MacRegol's Gospels is the extravagant elongation of the capital letters used in the initial pages. Canon Hemphill brings the details of ornament under the reader's notice, but his use of the expression "Chinese puzzle" is doubtfully wise, as the unlearned may mistake this as a note of origin rather than as a note of similarity of pattern. Again, it is likely that when Dr. Gwynn's edition of the Book of Armagh is published—long hoped for, soon expected—it will no longer be possible to describe the Book of Durrow as of "equal textual merit" with other Irish Gospels. There is reason to think that its place will be on a pedestal alone far above the other books as an authority for the Vulgate text. The present paper has an importance beyond its interest for Birr. Such facsimilies will be of use in the general review of the Irish Latin Gospels which is undoubtedly approaching. New material is accumulating. We have the superb reproductions in S. F. H. Robinson's *Celtic Illuminative Art*, we have Prof. Lindsay's textual study in "Irish Minuscule," and from America the sumptuous "Golden Gospels" of H. C. Hoskier, who promises a study of the genesis of the Irish Latin text. Experiments in colour reproduction are being made which open up new fields, and a general examination of early decorated MSS. in Europe is being undertaken from Vienna. A. DE B.

PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY OF DUBLIN. Vol. VIII.—
DERRY CATHEDRAL (ST. COLUMB'S), PARISH OF
TEMPLEMORE, LONDONDERRY. 1642-1703. With
Preface by Canon R. Hayes, B.D.

The eighth volume of this Society in no way falls short either in editing or in printing of the high standard set by the preceding volumes. Two very interesting periods are covered by the records, viz., the Cromwellian régime and the memorable siege, though for the latter, naturally enough, the entries are not very numerous. There are several instances of banns being published, as the Commonwealth Act directed, either before the congregation on three several Lord's days, or on three market days in the market-place. Civil marriages before a Justice of the Peace are also recorded, but from December, 1657, these were solemnized by George Holland, "minister," who was settled as such in Derry in or before 1654 at a yearly salary of £100, which was increased to £140 in the following year. Like many other "ministers of the Gospel," he had either been previously ordained, or else took Orders after the Restoration, as he afterwards became Dean of Derry. The introduction contains much interesting historical and antiquarian matter, but we believe there is a slight slip on page v. Surely the Bishop who came to Derry and was instituted on March 15th, 1661, was George Wilde, not Bramhall. The latter was translated to Armagh

in that year. We are glad to see that the useful work of this Society is becoming more widely recognized, of which we have evidence in the fact that the list of subscribers for 1910 is at least fifty per cent. larger than that for 1907. St. J. D. S.

ALCUIN CLUB COLLECTIONS XIV.—VISITATION ARTICLES AND INJUNCTIONS OF THE PERIOD OF THE REFORMATION. Edited by Walter Howard Frere, D.D., with the assistance (in vol. ii.) of William McClure Kennedy, M.A. 3 vols. £4.

This great collection of documents is of the highest value for students of the English Reformation. It is, in fact, indispensable to all who desire to base their knowledge on original sources. It includes no less than 131 separate sets of Articles or Injunctions extending from 1536 to 1575. The series begins with the First Royal Injunctions of Henry VIII., which, as Dr. Frere reminds us, inaugurated a new period in the history of religion in England, in which the relation between Church and State was absolutely without precedent. The Sovereign assumed to himself the right to hold ecclesiastical visitations, the jurisdiction of the Ordinaries being suspended so long as the regal visitation continued. In other words, he claimed and exercised an authority which in earlier ages had been conceived as belonging to the Pope alone. This was the natural outcome of the Reformation; and so the precedent set by Henry was followed by Edward and Elizabeth. And even Mary herself, with a very different aim, it is true, in the first year of her reign issued a similar set of Articles. The Injunctions of 1536 are the basal document of the whole series printed in these volumes, and rightly hold the first place. The last place is not less fitly given to Archbishop Parker's Articles for Winchester Diocese, issued a few weeks before his death, 17 May, 1575. In the work of visitation under Elizabeth, as Dr. Frere writes,

"Parker throughout sets the lead; and it is pathetic to see him sinking into his grave, dispirited and harassed, as well he might be, in view of the difficulties,—the unworthiness of many of his colleagues, the continual opposition of some among the most powerful, the irresolute and unhelpful attitude of the Queen, the half-repressed and very active force of presbyterianism, the incipient signs that nonconformity was going to lead to separation,—but keeping up bravely to the last, and filling his last two months with the active proceedings of visitation in the willing diocese of Winchester and the ever recalcitrant diocese of Norwich. It is the fitting conclusion of this stage of the subject."

The importance of such a series of documents as Dr. Frere has edited is obvious. It will give some notion of the immense amount of labour which the work of bringing them together has involved if we observe that more than half of them have never before been printed correctly since their first issue. These are taken from manuscript sources or contemporary prints. The remainder are re-printed from various works, most of them not easily accessible. And all are illustrated by valuable notes from the pen of the editor.