THE PROPHETS OF ISRAEL. By the late W. Robertson Smith, LL.D. (Black. Post 8vo, pp. lvi + 446. ios. 6d.) For years Professor Robertson Smith's Prophets has been unprocuring. He knew that it was sold out, and that old copies were passing from hand to hand at a ransom. But he would not allow it to be reprinted as it stood, and he could find no health to revise it. So he died. And then the publishers gave it into Canon Cheyne's hands. Canon Cheyne knew that it was only a revised edition Dr. Robertson Smith would allow to be issued. His revision consists of an Introduction, some minor alterations on ten separate pages, and some additions to the Notes at the end. Professor Robertson Smith would probably have been far more thoroughgoing, as he certainly was in the revision of his Old Testament in the Jewish Church. That Canon Cheyne could have made more and more thorough changes than he has done, we know; that he held his hand with difficulty we easily believe. Still it seems better that he did hold his hand. For, however near he might have been able to come to what Dr. Robertson Smith himself would have done, we in this country will scarcely allow one author to tamper with another, and his labour would have been out of all proportion to our thankfulness.

So practically it is Robertson Smith's own book. The Introduction, highly characteristic of the editor, neither gives nor takes to any serious extent. The Notes are rarely out of touch, and often add just that reference to recent literature or that sketch of recent discussion which it was possible for Canon Cheyne and for very few besides to give us. It is Robertson Smith's own book, but the new edition supersedes the old.

THE REIGN OF ANTONINUS PIUS. By E. E. Bryant, B.A. (Cambridge: At the University Press. Crown 8vo, pp. xv + 216. 3s. 6d.) This is the latest issue of the 'Cambridge Historical Essays.' It is the Thirlwall Dissertation of 1894. But for once the Thirlwall Dissertation is a work of widest interest and deepest worth. Mr. Bryant has manifestly made as good use of his choice as the choice was itself so excellent. And of the student of Christianity, whom it touches closely, Mr. Bryant has been especially mindful. One long chapter is called 'Religion.' It is, and Mr. Bryant knows it is, out of proportion. But so fresh is his treatment, and so special his knowledge, that no one will grudge the extended space it occupies. To the early history of Christianity, Mr. Bryant has made an actual contribution.

THE SCHOOL AND HOME LIBRARY. (Blackie. Crown 8vo, pp. 192, 192. 1s. 4d. each.) The volumes for the month are What Katy Did and The Wreck of the Wager, the one a fine toned American tale for girls by Susan Coolidge; the other a stirring tale of adventure for boys by John Byron.
they are, but also where their solution lies? It demands but little charity on our part, the book is so fresh and stimulating to ourselves.

**LONDON CITY CHURCHES.** By **A. E. Daniell.** (Constable. Crown 8vo, pp. x + 394-68.) To describe the London City Churches competently, to illustrate the description adequately, and to publish the volume at a moderate price, was a right worthy ambition on the part of any publisher; and right worthily have Messrs. Constable carried it through. Mr. Daniell started with the requisite architectural and historical knowledge, and then spared neither the churchwardens nor himself. The illustrations, for which Mr. Leonard Martin is responsible, are chiefly from photographs, and neither the photographer nor the engraver has scamped the work he had to do. In a few instances it is thoroughly and memorably artistic work. Finally, the publishers have lent their resources to the production of a volume externally in keeping with all this internal wealth of worth.

**SERMONS AND HOMILETICAL EXPOSITIONS.** By **Thomas Davies, M.A., Ph.D.** (Dickinson. Crown 8vo, pp. x + 479.) There are preachers who would rejoice if they knew that they preached acceptably to a single congregation; Dr. Davies is able to preach acceptably to a thousand congregations. For he preaches to the preachers, and through them to all the congregations. This is Dr. Davies' peculiar gift; he is a preacher to preachers. He hunts for no hidden texts, and he hankers after no eccentric treatment. Great is the commonplace and inexhaustible its resources here. So there is no preacher but may use this volume to profit, and if he is an honest preacher, honestly.

**EXPOSITIONS ON THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS.** By **Thomas Davies, M.A., Ph.D.** (Dickinson. Crown 8vo, pp. xx + 540.) Besides a complete exposition of the Epistle to the Philippians in forty-five ‘lectures,’ this moderately-sized volume contains twenty-four full sermons and twelve ‘sermonettes.’ And all this matter is as accessible, being clearly printed and sufficiently spaced, as it is worth having. Dr. Davies is an old expository hand. He knows what less gifted men want, and he does not rise above it. He knows also what will be good for their people, and he does not sink below it. Good, sound expository work, well-divided discourses, straightforward application—that is the volume from beginning to end.

**THE PREACHER AND HIS PLACE.** By **the Rev. David H. Greer, D.D.** (Dickinson. Crown 8vo, pp. 263.) It has always seemed a singular circumstance that when able men were called to deliver the Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching, they spent so much of their time on the mere fashion of preaching that passes away, making themselves as it were homiletical tailors for the time. Even Dr. Greer, who delivered these lectures in February last, and has now got them issued very pleasantly in this country, spends some pages on the burning problem of ‘Notes or no Notes,’ although he knows quite well that there are just two things needed to the successful preaching of the gospel—a message, and a man to deliver it. He knows and emphasizes that, and so his book, except these few pages of it, is profitable and stimulating beyond most. But Dr. Phillips Brooks was the only man who rose clean above the fashion-book, and so his lectures, with all their limits, will live when the rest have passed away.

**THE HIGHER CRITICISM OF THE PENTATEUCH.** By **W. H. Green, D.D., LL.D.** (Dickinson. Post 8vo, pp. 184.) ‘There is now but one Old Testament scholar who rejects the results of criticism.’ So said a Higher Critic recently; and he named the scholar—Professor Green of Princeton. The statement was too severe on some other men, but not too complimentary to Professor Green. For he is a scholar; they who resent his attitude most hotly, admit it most readily. He is therefore in every way competent to present the other side; and in this volume he does present it competently. He weakens his argument by no compromise or admission. The Pentateuch, the whole Pentateuch, and nothing but the Pentateuch—that is Dr. Green’s battle-flag.

**OUR BIBLE AND THE ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS.** By **F. G. Kenyon, M.A., D.Litt.** (Eyre & Spottiswoode. Post 8vo, pp. xii + 255. 58.) There must be many persons who love to read about the Bible, its text and its translations, for many books are published on the subject, and
they all do well. It would be wise, however, if those who are so interested would consider before they buy, that they may not be misled. For there have been books about the English Bible of late that were quite unworthy. Of the smaller books, the best is, no doubt, Mr. Milligan's in the Guild Text-Books of Messrs. Black. This is as surely the best of the larger. Beautifully printed and illustrated, it is also written with scholarship and grace.

THE BOOK OF THE SECRETS OF ENOCH. Translated from the Slavonic by W. R. Morfill, M.A., and edited by R. H. Charles, M.A. (Oxford: At the Clarendon Press. 8vo, pp. xlvi, 100. 7s. 6d.) For more than twelve hundred years 'The Book of the Secrets of Enoch' has been known in Russia and unknown elsewhere. When it did become known in Germany in 1892 it was described as a Slavonic version of the Ethiopic Book of Enoch. But Mr. Morfill speedily proved that it was not so, but a distinct and valuable pseudepigraph. So Mr. Charles tells us; and then introduces this valuable pseudepigraph in the thorough and loving way he is wont to handle pseudographia. It is an Introduction, indeed, whose interest is only less surprising than the interest of the Notes. For the Book itself, we shall certainly hear of it again when the Assyriologists have had time to look at it. The Delegates of the University Press may never reap their reward in pence, but of patient well-doing they have reaped the reward already.

THE UTOPIA OF SIR THOMAS MORE. By J. H. Lupton, B.D. (Oxford: At the Clarendon Press. 8vo, pp. c+347. 10s. 6d. net.) At last a magnificent edition of the Utopia, fit in every respect to stand beside the best editions of the Greek and Latin classics which English scholarship has overwhelmed us with. Why so many men should spend themselves on Latin Horace, and so few on the English and incomparably greater More, it is hard to understand. Nevertheless, the deluge of Latin and Greek classics has done good. It has set an ideal of what an edition of a classical work should be. And Mr. Lupton has taken full advantage. All the apparatus are here—Introduction, Notes, Appendix, Glossary, Index—and all bear the finger-marks of the severely-trained and highly-accomplished scholar. An ideal edition of an English classic, from which and to which all other editors may now work. And is it not well that it should be More's Utopia? No doubt More was mountains above his own Utopia; but this book gives us More as well as the Utopia, and the Utopia is worth a thousand Odes of Horace.

THE RIVER AND THE CITY. By George Mitchell Philips, B.D. (Paisley: Gardener. Crown 8vo, pp. 31.) 'Bring me the Book,' said Sir Walter Scott; he did not need to define it. 'The River and the City,' says Mr. Philips; he does not need to define them. And it is true that Bunyan more even than St. John has made the phrase familiar. Once more Mr. Philips has found Bunyan entrancing, and made him entrancing to us. For this scene, the last and best, touches us all so closely, and it does us good when a comforter comes to us and speaks so hopefully, yet so faithfully, as Mr. Philips speaks here of the River and the City.

ST. PAUL THE TRAVELLER. By W. M. Ramsay, D.C.L., LL.D. (Hodder & Stoughton. 8vo, pp. xvi + 394. 10s. 6d.) In his latest work Professor Ramsay has thrown together two courses of lectures, one of which was delivered in America, the other in Oxford. He has thrown these lectures together? No, the word is conventional, but not always applicable. It is not applicable here. Professor Ramsay has worked these lectures through his own mind again; he has let others work them through their minds; he has spared neither himself nor his friends nor the lectures; he has given us what is no longer a course of lectures but a book, a book done decently and in order.

Nevertheless, it is not because he has given us a new book on St. Paul's travels that Professor Ramsay is so supremely welcome. Many of us could write a new book on St. Paul that would be readable and right. Nor is it because he knows his subject supremely well. Many of you know the subject as well as he, and some of you know it better. But there are some things about the subject which no one knows so well as he does. And though it were only a jot here and a little there, when a man comes and proves to us that he has gathered the jot and the tittle himself and that they are new to the subject, then it is that his book is supremely welcome.
When Dr. Fairbairn invited Professor Ramsay to deliver a course of lectures in Mansfield College on St. Paul as a Traveller, this imaginary conversation took place: Dr. Fairbairn, 'You have traced the apostle's footsteps through Asia Minor and Greece?' Professor Ramsay, 'No man more.' Dr. Fairbairn, 'But you have read little of all that theologians have written upon the travels of the Apostle Paul?' Professor Ramsay, 'No man less.' Dr. Fairbairn, 'Then you will come and lecture at Mansfield on St. Paul the Traveller.'

It is an imaginary conversation; nevertheless, that is the intention and that is the equipment with which Professor Ramsay appeared before his delighted audience. And that is the explanation of the supremely hearty welcome we give to his new book.

LITTLE BOOKS ON RELIGION. Edited by W. Robertson Nicoll, LL.D. (Hodder & Stoughton. Small 8vo, 1s. 6d. each.) Of this new enterprise, four volumes are already issued: 1. Christ and the Future Life, by the late R. W. Dale, LL.D.; 2. The Visions of a Prophet, by Marcus Dods, D.D.; 3. The Seven Words from the Cross, by W. Robertson Nicoll, LL.D.; and 4. The Four Temperaments, by Alexander Whyte, D.D. Now we know these men, and the work they can do. And they know that we know it. They dare not lower their flag or risk their reputation. Little books, certainly, but filled with the finest of the wheat, and in this form as accessible and enticing as books can be.

THE PERMANENT MESSAGE OF THE EXODUS. By the Rev. John Smith, D.D. (Hodder & Stoughton. Crown 8vo, pp. ix + 306. 3s. 6d.) Great as is the man Moses, and stirring the incidents of the Exodus, there are few commentaries worth reading upon them. Genesis is rich in expository and homiletical literature, Exodus is surprisingly poor. So it is with very unusual pleasure we receive such a volume as this. For Dr. John Smith of Edinburgh has the expositor's and the preacher's gifts in unowned combination. He knows what to say, and he can say it with effect. These 'lectures' have cost their author trouble. The gifts of mind and heart were there already, but the knowledge and the beauty of expression are the fruit of loving and conscientious labour.

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THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH. By Joseph Halsey. (Allenson. Crown 8vo, pp. 320. 5s.) Though it is falsely said, it might be true, that books are reviewed out of their prefaces. A book might even be reviewed from its title. For a man who has the skill to devise a good title, has the skill, we may believe, to write a good book. Have
not the most popular authors had this gift in excellence? Mr. Halsey has it also. He published recently a volume of sermons for which he chose the name of *The Beauty of the Lord*. Not less felicitous is the title of the new book, and not less commendable are the sermons it contains.

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