

which mysticism is so likely to plunge its adherents. "The Form of Perfect Living," "Ego dormio et cor meum vigilat," and "The Commandment of Love to God," are especially rich in spiritual suggestiveness. The book—which is a closely packed octavo of 444 pages—contains the variant readings and all essential *apparatus criticus*. The price seems merely nominal.

**LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF CHURCH LIFE.** By John Stoughton, D.D. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., 1895. Price \$2.00.

Dr. Stoughton has long been one of the most prominent figures in the church across the seas. He has been justly called "the Gladstone of Non-conformity." At the advanced age of 87 he has given us this beautiful book, interesting and profitable to both clergyman and layman, on the characteristics and growth of Christianity from the Sub-Apostolic age until the completion of the perilous union of the spiritual and the secular, of church and state, under Gregory the Great at the close of the sixth century. The felicity and luminousness with which he opens to view the usually hidden motive and movements of the church life in that age are as refreshing as they are surprising. The book will help the reader to clothe the dry bones to which church history has been reduced by the skeletonizing process—every student knows that they are "very dry"—with something of vital form and freshness.

**AN OUTLINE OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY,** by E. H. Johnson, D.D., AND OF ECCLESIOLOGY, by Henry G. Weston, D.D. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1895.

A convenient handbook of theological instruction, prepared by two well-known professors in Crozer Theological Seminary, following in the main the usual theological rubric. The subject of Ecclesiology is well presented from the Baptist point of view.

**SERMON STUFF.** Second Series. By S. D. McConnell, D.D. New York: Thomas Whitaker, 1895. Price \$1.00.

In this little book the brilliant Philadelphia rector—somewhat churchly in tone, but broad in sympathies—unfolds from sixty-five texts, apparently without effort, in this as in his former series, as many original and suggestive sermonic outlines, made up of concentrated groupings of truths,—which he compares to pemmican. The book will be of more service to the preacher who uses it as an object-lesson in modes of fruitful and inspiring textual treatment, for which it is admirably suited, than to the one who uses it—as the author suggests—as dry sermon material to be moistened and expanded for use.

**THE WORLD AND THE WRESTLERS.** Personality and Responsibility. By Hugh Miller Thompson, D.D., D.C.L. Bishop of Mississippi. New York: Thomas Whittaker; 1895. Price \$1.00.

We have been familiar with the author's messages to men from his early years. In the present volume of "Bohlen Lectures," he attempts, in connection with Jacob's wrestling at Peniel, not to discuss, much less to explain, but—as he modestly phrases it—"to call attention to, and make suggestions upon, the fact of personality, which is to me the most wonderful fact in my knowledge." He writes with a style of such abounding and rebounding elasticity that he makes men attend whether they agree with his teaching or not. Here is what he says of the rationalistic criticism now in vogue:

"It abides with me as one of the queer,

topsy-turvy puzzles that crop up outside the country of the Sphinx, that the term 'Higher Criticism' should have been arrogated for themselves, and conceded by others to gentlemen whose business upon a body of ancient literature begins and ends with criticizing its words and letters, and deriving thence its supposed dates and origins, and who have never set themselves, by one flash of intelligence, to deal with its meaning and purpose! And this literature, mind, the unspeakably most influential, formative, commanding, and controlling literature known since time began!"

**PUNISHMENT AND REFORMATION: An Historical Sketch of the Rise of the Penitentiary System.** By Frederick Howard Wines, LL.D., Special Agent of the Eleventh United States Census on Crime, Pauperism, and Benevolence; formerly Secretary to the State Commissioners of Public Charities for the State of Illinois, etc.

The principle of heredity has a good illustration in Dr. Wines, whose father was a great authority in the same department before him. To the minister, this book is easily the most valuable accessible on the subject of which it treats. Dr. Wines clearly states the scope of his book:

"This is not a book on prisons, much less on the organization and government of prisons. It is rather designed to be an aid to legislation, and to the formation of a correct public opinion, which must in the end control legislation. Its aim is to give the ordinary reader a clear and connected view of the change in the attitude of the law toward crime and criminals, during the century now drawing to its close, and of the honorable part which the United States has borne in the movement for a better recognition of the rights even of convicted criminals."

The book is the product of a life of study of the subject, combined with personal observation of, and contact with, prisons and prisoners. The author's thorough theological knowledge and training have prepared him to understand the ethical basis and bearings of his whole subject, and to avoid the shallow conclusions and endless vagaries of the materialistic criminologists and penologists, which just now threaten to destroy the very foundations of justice. The topics treated evidence the great importance and value of the work. They are as follows:

"The Question Stated; What Is Crime? Retribution for Crime; Early Judicial Procedure; Intimidation and Torture; Dawn of the Reaction; The Reformation of the Criminal; The Pennsylvania and Auburn Systems; Transportation and the Penitentiary System; The Elmira System; Criminal Anthropology; The Causes of Crime; The Theory of Punishment; The Prevention of Crime; The Outlook."

The book will be the authority on the subject of which it treats.

**THE HELPFUL SCIENCE.** By St. George Mivart, F.R.S. Harper and Brothers, New York.

We have just called the reader's attention to a recent article by this author in *The Nineteenth Century*. In this little book he attempts to present, for the use of the reader of average intelligence, the common-sense principles that underlie and shape all correct and natural philosophy, and to present them entirely divested of all technicalities. These principles are the foundation of knowledge and of morals, and are therefore supremely important. Mivart is easily a master in this department, and his books should command a place on the preacher's table. This one is addressed particularly to American readers.