

TALKS ABOUT BOOKS.

The Fleming H. Revell Company of New York, Chicago and Toronto, have sent three books to the Journal. The largest of these is an Introduction to Theology, by Alfred Cave, B.A., D.D., Principal and Professor of Theology of Hackney College. It is published by Messrs. T. & T. Clark of Edinburgh, has 610 pages, and sells for four dollars. Principal Cave, like Dr. Paton Gloag, is an old B. and F. Evangelical Review man, and, for an independent or congregationalist, he is very conservative. His book now under review is a second edition, largely rewritten. In the preface, the author says, "Upon its first appearance in 1886, a unanimous chorus of approval greeted this manual because of its lists of books." Dr. Cave is very fortunate in having his work greeted with a unanimous chorus of approval, and is, perhaps modest in ascribing it to the lists of books his Introduction sets forth. Most of the books he mentions are found in the libraries of Hackney College, and he has carefully examined them all. As they amount to several thousands, in a great many languages, ancient and modern, this must have been no slight task. That Dr. Cave has carefully read them all, Bible versions and rabbins, fathers and scholastics, reformers and puritans, ethnic scriptures, neologians, reformers and modern divines, is simply impossible, and he lays no claim to omniscience. Yet a true student can get through a great many books in from twenty-five to forty years. Even the Talker has read a great many works that have no place in the author's lists, yet he dare not charge the Hackney principal with incompleteness, since he says, "Obsolete books have been weeded out; new books have been inserted." Nevertheless, the principle on which the selection and weeding out have been made is hard to find. Dr. Cave accepts Luther on Galatians, but rejects his commentary on Genesis; and similarly discards Schroeder on the