

Book Notices.

Baptizing and Teaching, being a New Exposition of Ritual Baptism and the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. By the REV. J. S. EVANS, D.D. With a Preface by the REV. J. A. WILLIAMS, D.D., General Superintendent. Toronto: Methodist Book Room and Publishing House. Price \$1.50.

This is a goodly 12mo volume of 722 pages, fine paper, clear type, and well bound. The workmanship is very creditable to the House by which it is published. We are not certain that any previous volume which it has sent forth is a better piece of workmanship.

The esteemed author, who was called to his long home as this volume was passing through the press, was a diligent, painstaking student. Those who knew him intimately can bear testimony to the fact that few men were more regular in their habits of study, and for calm investigation he probably could not be surpassed. While he was distinguished as a scholar, he particularly excelled in analysis.

The volume now named may be regarded as a memorial of life study. There were few books published either in England or America on the subject of baptism that he had not read. Several years ago a distinguished divine in the United States, on being made acquainted with the investigation Dr. Evans had made on the subject in question, encouraged him to persevere, as he was sure that when completed the work would be worthy of publication.

Dr. Evans' mode of treating the vexed question of baptism will be regarded by some as somewhat novel. He carefully examines every verse of the New Testament in which the word baptize is found. His knowledge of the Greek Testament was of immense value to him. The chapters relating to the baptism of

John and the doctrinal import of baptism display a great amount of ability. The author contends that baptism was only initiatory and was to be followed by teaching, so that the disciples of John and those of Christ consisted of two classes, the baptized and the instructed. The views which he held are defended by clearness and skill, and though it is not to be supposed that on a subject on which there has been almost endless controversy, that his interpretations of proof-texts will always be regarded as correct, but we believe that no scholar will read the volume without admiration for the author, whether he endorses all his conclusions or not. Dr. Williams writes a graceful preface. We sincerely commend the volume to all our readers and hope that all ministers will give it a place in their libraries.—E. B.

Unfinished Worlds, a Study in Astronomy. By S. H. PARKES, F.R.A.S., F.L.S. 8vo. pp. xii-230. Illustrated. New York: James Pott & Co. Toronto: William Briggs.

This exceedingly readable book is a popular exposition of the phenomena of the heavens. It is copiously illustrated by full page photomezzotypes of star clusters, nebulae, comets, the sun, the planets, etc. The book is exceedingly well written, and has the fascination of a fairy-tale. The latest discoveries in this exalted branch of science are embodied in the work. The author shows how the spectroscope has enabled us to discover the physical condition of the remotest star, and of the rarest nebulae. He also shows how the recent art of photographing celestial bodies, has enabled the least change in them to be readily detected. He describes coloured, variable, and temporary stars, shows their physical resemblance to our sun, and gives an interesting chapter on the latter.