

Book Notices.

The Christ of To-Day. By GEORGE A. GORDON, Minister of the Old South Church, Boston. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Gilt top. Price, \$1.50.

We had the pleasure of reviewing in these pages some months ago Dr. Gordon's "Witness to Immortality in Literature, Philosophy and Life"—one of the best books we have ever read. We find in this volume the same elevation of thought, the same depth of insight, the same clear-cut form of expression. His book might well have been called "The Larger Christ." It shows how "the thoughts of men have widened with the process of the suns." Astronomy is no longer geocentric, as before the days of Copernicus, but heliocentric; and theology to-day is Christocentric as it never was before.

The enlarged conceptions of the universe of matter and the universe of mind of the present day demand a larger Christ than that which the new Christians, emerging from the limitations of Judaism, were able to conceive. In the Divine Man, whose teachings were not for an age but for all time, the loftiest aspirations of the soul find ample fulfilment.

"Mankind," says our author, "have been brought out into a large place, and the daily vision is of broad rivers and streams. But unless Christ shall be installed over this new world, it will simply be a larger and more splendid corpse than the old. Over the total worlds of space, and time, and present humanity, and the spirit, He must be recognized as supreme; and these kingdoms, with all their glory, if that glory is not to fade into a dream and the highest hope of mankind is not to be blasted, must become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ."

In a chapter on "Christ in the Faith of To-Day," our author discusses the gains manward and Godward in current thought of Christ, the interpretation of the final meaning of nature and certain defects in current thought on this august subject. He points out the significance of a supreme Christology in relation to the higher criticism, in reference to theological theory, in its bearing upon the social problem and as a force against materialism; and he eloquently argues that the fortune of humanity is bound up with the deity of Christ.

The final chapter is on the "Place of

Christ in the Pulpit of To-Day." He shows the relation of the preacher's message to the multitudes under moral defeat. He expounds the lofty theme that Christ is the source of our Christian civilization, the Supreme Person in time, and therefore the Mediator of the Supreme Person beyond time. Whether one will agree with all the arguments and conclusions of this book or not, it will be found wonderfully fresh, stimulating and inspiring.

Digest of the Doctrinal Standards of the Methodist Church. By the REV. PRINCIPAL SHAW, D.D., LL.D., Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, 75c. net.

This admirable book will be found of great service, not only for theological students, for whom it is principally prepared, but for all thoughtful readers, especially for the young people in our Epworth Leagues. It gives an exceedingly able digest of the doctrines of Methodism, and quotes from Wesley's Notes and Sermons the illustrative and corroborative passages. In an early number of this magazine we will print, by permission of the author, the chapter on "Last Things," which is a concise and judicious treatment of a most important subject. The closing chapter on the "Principal Creeds of Christendom" shows the substantial harmony, with minor differences, of these historic symbols of the Christian faith. We congratulate the learned Principal of the Wesleyan Theological College upon the important service which he has rendered to our Church.

The Age and Authorship of the Pentateuch. By REV. WILLIAM SPIERS, M.A. London: Charles H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs.

We have had more than sufficient recently of books attacking the Mosaic age and authorship of the Pentateuch. In this field the higher critics have found a happy hunting-ground for their often mutually destructive theories. Hence, the timeliness of this apposite rejoinder from a conservative and orthodox point of view. Mr. Spiers is well equipped for the task he has undertaken. It is gratifying to find that the testimony of the monuments, the cuneiform clay tablets of Babylon, the ancient monuments of Egypt,