# THE HOMILETIC REVIEW.

## REVIEW SECTION.

### I.—THE ATTITUDE OF CHRISTIANITY TOWARD OTHER RELIGIONS.

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The subject proposed in my title is narrow and strictly bounded. I do not set out to discuss in general the relations between Christianity and the ethnic religions—relations of priority, of derivation, of reciprocal influence, of similarity, of intrinsic value, of present prevalence, of probable future spread. These topics have, all of them, their interest and their importance. But they are, all of them, aside from my present purpose. I discuss simply and solely the question of the attitude that Christianity assumes and maintains toward competing religions.

Will the reader kindly observe that it is not the attitude of Christians, but the attitude of Christianity, that I name? And it is not the attitude of Christianity toward the adherents of non-Christian religions, but the attitude of Christianity toward those religions themselves. In passing, I may say that, toward the adherents of non-Christian religions, the attitude of Christianity is an attitude of sympathy, of help, of desire and endeavor to save. Toward the non-Christian religions themselves the attitude of Christianity may be found to be very different.

But what is Christianity? As its name imports, it is the religion of Christ. Where shall we look to find the religion of Christ authoritatively described? If there is any authoritative description of Christianity existing, that description must be found in the collection of writings called the Bible. To the Bible, then, let us go with our question : What is the attitude of Christianity toward other religions?

I say, to the Bible ; but, of course, I must mean, in the first instance, to that part of the Bible which is called the New Testament. The New Testament purports to give an account of what Christ and Christ's accredited representatives taught. This, evidently, is Christianity.

We shall not need to enter at all into the question whether the New