

BOOK NOTICES.

The Life and Labours of Charles H. Spurgeon. By GEO. C. NEEDHAM. 8vo., pp. 650. Boston : D. L. Guernsey. Toronto : Wm. Briggs. Price, cloth, extra, \$4.00.

Few Canadian tourists remain over Sunday in London without going to hear the great Baptist preacher. No man of his generation has ever given more full proof a successful ministry. For twenty-eight years he has preached to a congregation of more than 6,000 persons. He has received into church membership nearly 10,000. He has furnished weekly sermons for twenty-seven years, and they have been translated into many foreign languages. He has founded and presides over a College which is unique in itself, preparing one hundred for the ministry. He is the originator and director of an Orphanage, giving a home to 500 needy children. On the 25th anniversary of his marriage, he gave the testimonial then given him, of over \$30,000, to provide an asylum for a score of poor widows. He is the author of over forty different volumes, including sermons, commentaries, lectures and essays. The sale of one book alone, John Ploughman, was over 300,000 copies.

Such a man as this is worth knowing about. Mr. Needham, the well-known evangelist, is in hearty sympathy with his subject, and in this noble volume has given us a biography worthy of the man. The vigorous intellect, the deep spirituality, the earnest zeal, the strong common sense, the executive ability, the broad charity, the racy humour of the great preacher are well set forth. Converted in his sixteenth year in a Primitive Methodist chapel,* he began forthwith to preach the Word, and became thenceforth a burning and a shining light on the right

hand of God. No man of his time, by the living voice and printed page, has influenced so many minds. To carp at his Calvinism is to seek for spots on the sun. God abundantly owns his preaching, and well may man. His great soul spurns the limitation of close communion, and welcomes every believer to Christian fellowship.

Copious extracts from Mr. Spurgeon's writings are given. No man better knows how to use homely Anglo-Saxon speech. His John Ploughman is as pithy as Bunyan and as witty as Fuller, and the pictures are very funny. This book has over forty illustrations, including steel portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Spurgeon, and numerous others of much interest. We commend it warmly to both ministers and laymen.

Pre-Adamites; or, A Demonstration of the Existence of Men before Adam. Together with a Study of their Condition, Antiquity, Racial Affinities and Progressive Dispersion over the Earth. With Charts and other Illustrations. By ALEXANDER WINCHELL, LL.D. Third edition. 1 vol., pp. xxvi.-500, 8vo. Chicago : S. C. Griggs & Co. Price, cloth, \$3.50.

Professor Winchell, whose masterly work on *World-Life* we recently reviewed, has won the right to speak with authority on all questions on palæontology and ethnology. His studies on these subjects have placed him in the first rank of American savants. This book is the best storehouse of information bearing on the topic it treats that we know of. The learned author marshals the facts and opinions in a very cogent manner. He examines first the ethnography of the Bible, and concludes

* Preaching in the same church fourteen years after, he pointed to the very pew in which he was converted, and preached from the same text which had aroused his own soul.