

## TALKS ABOUT BOOKS.

The last talk of last session began with reviews of four books sent by the Fleming H. Revell Company: the first of this series commences with notices of two volumes from the same firm. The author of each is Dr. Alexander Whyte, of Free St. George's, Edinburgh. "Father John of the Greek Church, an Appreciation," is a neat duodecimo of 83 pages, the price of which is 75 cents. Dr. Whyte is well known as a lover of the devout people of all ages called Mystics, the German Behmen, the English Law, the Scottish Rutherford, the Spanish Santa Teresa, and now the Russian Father John, of Cronstadt. Father John is an arch-priest of the Greek Church, born in Archangel in 1829, known in some way or other to everybody in Russia, from the Czar to the humblest peasant, and to thousands in other European countries. He is known as a preacher, a man mighty in prayer, a son of consolation, a guide to inquirers, a Christian philanthropist, and even as a worker of miracles of healing. After a brief dissertation on the Greek Church, its service, and its agency in spreading abroad the Scriptures, Dr. Whyte gives a biographical sketch of his subject and a portraiture of the man at work, followed by selected passages from John Sergieff's (for that is his name) book, entitled "My Life in Christ." Commendation is too poor a word to express one's active appreciation of the generous catholic spirit that leads a man of Dr. Whyte's acknowledged ability and high Christian reputation to put himself in the background, in order that God's saints, of different ages, lands and communions, may be allowed to speak to his large literary clientelage. His work in the present case is an appreciation, as he himself calls it, not a criticism. There are people who cannot put pen to paper nor open their mouths in public without having a fling at something or