

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Dogmatics. *The Redemption of Man* (1) is the title which Dr. Simon has affixed to some "Discussions bearing on the Atonement." The learned author does not claim for these discussions anything like completeness, they are just one of the many attempts to restate the doctrine in terms which suit the present age; and we cannot say that this, any more than the others, are entirely satisfactory. But nevertheless the work is well worth reading; the subject it deals with is of everlasting importance, and Dr. Simon brings together a mass of information which is very valuable. In the introduction he gives a *résumé* of the various ways of stating and treating the doctrine of the atonement; and then in several chapters he gives the result of his own studies. He sets out with the idea that "the earthly mission of our Lord Jesus Christ, with its *obedience unto death, even the death of the cross*, was an episode in the history of the kingdom of God. . . . It might be called an act or scene in the great drama of history." Dr. Simon holds that the universe in its totality, with its innumerable intelligences, constitutes the kingdom of God. The kingdom of heaven is the identity of the *de jure* and the *de facto* kingdom of God. The end of the mission of Christ was to establish the kingdom of God, not in the *de jure* sense, for in that sense it already existed, but in the *de facto* sense; in other words, to realise the kingdom of God. There are chapters dealing with the Constitution of Humanity, Relations of Man to God, Hebrew Sin-offerings with Ethnic Parallels, the Anger of God, Forgiveness of Sin, Passion of Christ, Atonement and Prayers, and the Historical Influence of the Death of Christ, and also interesting notes on various topics connected with the subject. It is possible that these "discussions" may grow into a valuable treatise on the whole subject; meantime they form valuable food for thought. We observe that Dr. Simon seems to object to the term orthodoxy, and prefers *orthopisty*; and he adds that "there is such a thing as a right faith, that is, using faith in an objective sense; there is such a thing as the objects of faith held and presented in their genuine, undiluted, untwisted form. Those who change, diminish, mutilate, misrepresent them, Paul anathematises."

Attached to Mr. Copinger's *Treatise on Predestination, Election, and Grace* (2) is a Bibliography of those and kindred subjects, such