

the interest of Christianity by his researches and writings.

*Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.* "The Divine Origin of Christianity Indicated by its Historical Effects," by Richard S. Storrs, D.D., LL.D. This is a very bulky volume to have grown out of "Ten Lectures delivered before the Union Theological Seminary, New York, and the Lowell Institute, Boston." Numerous Notes have since been added, and an Appendix containing more matter than the body of the work! It strikes us that this is a serious mistake. It is quite sufficient for a volume in itself, and will not be read except by a few. The mechanical appearance of the book does not exhibit the exquisite taste in book-making which usually marks the issues of this house. But of the contents of the book—the Lectures—there can be but one opinion. The Lectures, when delivered in New York, Boston and Brooklyn, called forth the warmest commendations from the distinguished audiences which heard them. There are few living men equal to Dr. Storrs in his command of an intelligent and educated audience. Much of this is due to his personal characteristics. Hence we cannot expect the reader to be as deeply impressed with the Lectures and as enthusiastic over them as were the hearers. Still, are they grand in beauty of diction, in vigor of thought, in originality of conception, and in the force of argument. It is a work that will stir the soul, thrill the heart, and strengthen the hold of Christianity on the reason and faith of the educated mind, if thoughtfully read. We trust a cheaper edition, excluding the Appendix, will be demanded, and the demand responded to by the author and publishers.—*Randolph & Co.* have added a new volume—on Ezra—to their republication of the "Pulpit Commentary," which we have several times already characterized and commended to those who desire so unique and so voluminous a work.

*American Baptist Publication Society.* "Commentary on the Gospel by Luke," by George R. Bliss, D.D. This is the fourth volume of the "Complete Commentary on the New Testament" that has been in preparation for some years under the care of Alvah Hoyev, D.D., General Editor. The volumes already issued are on the Gospel by Mark, by W. N. Clarke, D.D., the Acts of the Apostles, by Horatio B. Hackett, D.D., on Revelation, by Justin A. Smith, D.D. The text of the common version is given side by side with the late revision; but the commentary is on the former. The high scholarship and repute of these several editors are a guarantee that the work on this "Complete Commentary" is done with care and thoroughness. On a cursory examination of the present volume we are highly pleased both with its literary and mechanical execution. The publishers also have shown good taste and judgment in bringing out the book.—"Brief Notes on the New Testament." The Gospels, by George W. Clark, D.D.; The Acts, Epistles and Revelation, by J.

M. Pendleton, D.D. Same publishers. The aim of these brief notes on the New Testament text is to present the results of careful study and criticism without stating the processes by which they are reached. The plan has obvious advantages and disadvantages. While the work will be of no particular value to scholars and clergymen, who have access to larger and more scholarly and critical commentaries, yet in the family, Bible-class and Sunday-school it may perform a useful mission. The notes explanatory of the text are in small compass; there are Reflections at the end of each chapter, and copious marginal and other Scripture references. The Maps and the Harmony of the Gospels that precede the Notes, as well as the varied matter embraced in the Appendix, will be found of general interest and utility.

*Congregational Sunday-School and Publishing Society.* We have received three excellent books from this Society, which is doing a very important work, and we regret that the pressure upon us is so great that we can only give their titles: "Sermons on the International Sunday-School Lessons for 1885." By the Monthly Club. Tenth Series. With an Appendix, describing the History and Course of Reading of the New England Reading Circle.—"Our Two Homes; or, Without and Within the Gates." By Mrs. S. A. F. Herbert, Author of "A Peep at Eaton Parsonage," etc.—"Duxbury Doings." By Caroline B. Le Row, Author of "A Fortunate Failure." The two latter are worthy a place in the Sunday-school library.

*A. C. Armstrong & Son.* "Earth's Earliest Ages, and their Connection with Modern Spiritualism and Theosophy," by G. H. Pember, M. A. A strange medley of conceits, comparisons and fanciful interpretations of Scripture and providential manifestations. "Modern spiritualism is a revival of the last and greatest cause of corruption in the days of Noah," whatever that was. "Theosophy, now so common a subject of conversation," and which finds a place "in the literature of the day," is simply the revival of a philosophy communicated by the Nephilim, and its teachings furnish the "signs of the last apostasy," the "falling away" of which Paul wrote. After reading the book we are not surprised to learn from the title page that the writer is the author of a book called "The Great Prophecies." We fail to see any value in such a production.—"Gesta Christi; or, A History of Humane Progress under Christianity," by Charles L. Brace. Same publishers. We rejoice to see a new and enlarged edition, in cheaper form, of this important work, which has been received with great favor by critics and by the public in England and America. It presents a mass of facts bearing on the influence of Christianity upon such important topics as the paternal power, the position of woman, marriage, social purity, slavery, divorce, prison reform, and charities, and many other subjects. The failure of other religions to produce humane