

the world during the nineteenth century form the subjects of a brilliant series of chapters. Our author is no pessimist. He shows that as a skilful rider winds his steed so God is guiding the world up the heights of progress to the grander Christian civilization of the future. As says the Laureate :

For I doubt not through the ages
An increasing purpose runs,
And the thoughts of men are widened
By the process of the suns

The People's Bible: Discourses upon Holy Scripture. By JOSEPH PARKER, D.D. Vol. II. The Book of Exodus, 8vo, pp. 328. New York: Funk & Wagnall. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price \$1.75.

The People's Bible. Vol. III. Leviticus—Numbers I.—XXVI. 8vo, pp. 360. Toronto: S. R. Briggs, Willard Tract Depository. Price \$1.75.

Dr. Parker proposes the comprehensive task of issuing in some five and twenty volumes a "Pastor's Commentary" on the whole Bible. Its scope is thus outlined by the publisher :

This is not a Bible Commentary in the usual sense of that term. It is a pastor's commentary upon such portions of Holy Scripture as are of obvious and immediate importance to the growth of the soul in Divine wisdom, and is, therefore, not intended to take the place of the verbal and critical commentaries which so ably represent the latest phases of Christian erudition. Instead of going minutely through any book verse by verse, the first object is to discover its governing idea or principal purpose.

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mystery of human training and discipline, showing how the tabernacle of God is with men upon earth; a refuge, a judgment, a symbol.

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These volumes will be found especially well adapted for family reading, for Sunday-school teachers, and as suggesting themes of discourse and fresh and vigorous modes of treatment to preachers.

Words: Their Use and Abuse. By WM. MATHEWS, LL.D. 12mo, pp. 494. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.00.

The study of words is one of absorbing interest. Trench, Alford, Marsh, Farrar and others, have shown how much "fossi" history" and latent poetry and strange folklore are embodied therein. Some of our commonest words have their roots far back in dim antiquity—on the plains of India or on the banks of the Oxus or Ilissus. A knowledge of their derivation and history often throws a flood of light upon their meaning and upon the laws of language and of thought. This study invests even a spelling-book with a strange fascination. Probably no writer has brought to the elucidation of this subject greater perspicacity and ability than Dr. Mathews. The work under review is a new edition, greatly enlarged, of a book which has had quite a phenomenal sale. It was good in its previous form; it is much better now. It is not a book of pedantic learning, but the work of a fine literary critic and scholar. The headings of some of the chapters will indicate its scope and variety: The significance of words, the morality of words, grand words, small words, words without meaning, some abuses of