

## HELPFUL DATA IN CURRENT LITERATURE.

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## Books.

*A. D. F. Randolph & Co.* "Resurrection in Nature and in Revelation: an Argument and a Meditation," by D. W. Faunce, D.D. Price \$1.50. As an "argument," there is nothing new or striking in this book—no originality in the form, or substance, or arrangement of the argument. In this particular it is disappointing. As a "meditation" it is somewhat better. The work was prepared in the shadow of a great personal bereavement, and this fact is the keynote to it. As a general meditation on the theme of the resurrection, though a little too sentimental, it is sweet and consoling, especially to the bereaved heart; but as a whole, the book adds nothing of value to the grand subject of which it treats.—"The Pulpit Commentary—Deuteronomy." Exposition, by Rev. W. L. Alexander, D.D.; Homiletics, by Rev. C. Clemanee, D.D.; Homilies, by various authors.—The same publishers. This excellent Commentary, under the general editorship of Canon Spence and Rev. Joseph S. Exell, is rapidly progressing, no less than 14 volumes having already been published in England, and reissued here by Randolph, from duplicate stereotype plates, and at about one-half the price of the English edition. As we have before had occasion to note, this work is unique in character. It can scarcely be called a "commentary," in the usual acceptance of the word, as the exposition of the text is brief, and a subordinate feature of the work. It is mainly homiletical in form of treatment, and in its purpose. The numerous "homilies" are by various authors, and possess, of course, different degrees of merit. Some of them are truly excellent. As a whole, if used with discretion—in the way of suggesting themes and texts and the best modes of handling them—the work may be highly useful to the "pulpit." But we would advise the lazy-man, who is given to appropriate the study and thought of others, rather than to be at the pains of thinking and planning for himself to let it alone.

*Congregational Sunday-School.* "Fuss-budget's Folks," by Anna F. Burnham. Price \$1. A lively story, with a good moral. It will interest the young, and is worthy of a place in the Sunday-school library, and the Children's Home library.

*Funk & Wagnalls.* "Meyer on the Gospel of John." With a Preface and Supplementary Notes to the American edition by Prof. A. C. Kendrick, Greek Professor in the University of Rochester. It were superfluous in us to commend this series of commentaries. The verdict of the best critics of Europe and America places it in the very first rank. The Gospel of John stands pre-eminent among the Gospels, as does Paul's Epistle to the Romans among the New Testament epistles. Infidelity has not been slow to discover in this gospel the battle-ground

of Christian Apologetics, and hence has assailed its genuineness with peculiar virulence, asserting that the Christ of John is irreconcilable with the Christ of the other gospels. Meyer has some special qualifications for expounding this gospel. To his wide learning, his philological exactness, his exegetical tact and acuteness, his independence and candor, he adds a hearty and loving sympathy with his author that is among the surest aids to a right understanding of him. He has a thorough conviction of its authenticity and complete apostolic authority, and such a sympathy with the "beloved disciple" and his Master, as could only flow from deep communion with that Master's person and teaching. He fully recognizes the essential agreement of the Johannine and Pauline Christology. Prof. Kendrick has done the work assigned him with care, and, for the most part, with sound judgment. It might have been still more improved by additional labor bestowed upon it. He availed himself, to a limited extent, of Dr. Weiss' recent edition of this volume in Germany, which is marked by great freedom and ability.—"Thirty Thousand Thoughts." Edited by Canon Spence, Rev. Joseph S. Exell, and Rev. Charles Neill. Vol. II. The same publishers. This volume embraces the following topics: Man's Nature and Constitution; The Law by which Man is Conditioned; The Epistles to the Seven Churches of Asia; The Sayings on the Cross; Virtues, including Excellencies. We have already expressed our high appreciation of this work as a valuable aid to students and preachers, in connection with the first volume. An examination of the present volume confirms that opinion. A portion of it covers a field of special interest, viz.: the philosophy and science of man, embracing evolution, materialism, etc. While advanced thought and modern criticism have free scope, the fundamental truths of Christian science are respected. The Christian student and preacher need not shirk modern research and criticism. He has still the vantage-ground, and ought boldly to occupy it. Man's nature, with its boundless capacities, Godlike powers, and longing after immortality, is a problem which baffles the mere religion of humanity. The one solution of the enigma of man, as well as the one hope of mankind, is the Christ of the gospels. Jesus is, in every sphere of human thought and interest, "the Light of the world."—"Apostolic Life as Revealed in the Acts of the Apostles." By Joseph Parker, D.D. Vol. II. The same publishers. Next to Mr. Spurgeon, there is no religious writer in England at present who attracts more attention than Dr. Parker. And we have not far to look for the reason. He is a fitting representative of the spirit of the age. Broad Church in his views, and yet essentially evangelical; intensely in earnest and practical; bold and uncompromis-