

upon the past, and closes with the grand promise and result of all prophecy and of all God's dealings in Providence :— ”

“ So perish all thine enemies
O ! Jehovah,
But they that love thee are as the sun
going forth in his strength.”

The style and diction of the poem are naturally archaic in the extreme, and to the literary men of the later days of the Hebrew Monarchy it may have been in this respect what Chancer is to us. Hence it has proved very difficult to do justice to it in translation ; and in English we have only one or two translations at all tolerable.

Deborah is said in the English version to have been the wife of Lepidoth ; but as the word for wife is the same in the original with that for woman, and as *lepidoth* means lights or torches, while nothing is said in the story of either a person or place named Lepidoth, it has been held with some reason that the words mean “ woman of lights,” or as we would say “ an enlightened woman.” In this case “ *Ashath Lepidoth* ” may be regarded rather as official or educational—her university degree in short ; and if in the latter day we should have a Hebrew University for women, this degree of A.L. might be a very appropriate one. It was certainly very well fitted for Deborah, and should apply to every university graduate. I may illustrate these points by noticing shortly Deborah's opportunities and acquirements in that remote time in which she lived, as illustrated by the terms of her song. Not only the poem itself but some minute touches which it contains throw an instructive light on these points. In enumerating the tribes which took part in the struggle for freedom which she celebrates, Zebulon is said, among other things, to have sent men who could “ handle the pen of the writer ”—literally the “ stylus of the scribe.” The translators of our old version, following the Hebrew, the septuagint and the old versions generally, have so rendered the words. But in the meantime certain German critics, having proved to their own satisfaction that the art of writing was not known so early as the time of the Judges, had translated the words by the “ staff of the leader ” and similar phrases. This has been followed in the revised version, where we read “ the marshall's baton.” But there was no need of this cowardly compliance with German authority. We have now the most certain evidence that