

preaching of the Gospel, especially that pungent preaching which says to the sinner, as Nathan said to David, "Thou art the man." "On Sunday night," says Dr. Banks, "I preach to sinners as directly and simply and earnestly as I know how, and hundreds of them come to hear me preach every Sunday night. I do not try to preach an easy Gospel. I do not call the sermon a lecture or an address, or try in any way to hide the fact that it is a straightforward, honest effort to win a man from his sins and bring him to the mercy-seat. I go just as directly to his conscience as I can. I plead with him, with all the earnestness there is in me, to pause in his downward career and come *now* to Christ.

"I find there is wonderful interest in the old Bible stories; that no story of modern fiction has such gripping power on an audience as the old stories of the Bible translated into modern language and told in the tongue of to-day. There are in every community men and women who are living sinful lives, whose consciences constantly rebuke them for their course, who are haunted with a longing for something better, and whose hearts turn toward the man who speaks the true message from God, as a flower toward the sun. They feel that he speaks to them, and they cannot stay away. Though the word pierces like an arrow, they will come back again and again, until they are won from their sins and are saved."

"My own method," he adds, "is to seek for direct results from such sermons whenever and wherever they are delivered. At the close of a sermon especially addressed to unconverted people I always give some opportunity for confession of Christ and the expression of a determination to lead a Christian life. Set your pulpit on fire, brother, with an earnest giving of yourself to save men, and multitudes of sinners will flock to see the flame, their hard hearts will be melted, and they will be saved."

This book re-tells the wonderful Bible stories of sin and salvation in a way that grips the conscience and leads sinners to the Saviour.

The Old Faith and The New Philosophy. Lectures delivered before the Canadian Summer School for the Clergy, in Port Hope, Ont., July, 1899. By G. J. Low, D.D., Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa, and Rector of Trinity Church, Billings' Bridge. With an Introduction by PRINCIPAL GRANT,

of Queen's University. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, 50 cents.

We count it a happy augury of Christian unity that this volume by an eminent Canon of the Church of England, introduced by an eminent divine of the Presbyterian Church, is issued from the press of the Methodist Church in Canada. Canon Low asks the question, "Is the Old Faith compatible with the New Philosophy?" and answers it in this wise: "We propose to accept in full the New Philosophy. We shall not argue that this or that is only an hypothesis at present, and therefore, to be ignored, or that this or that link is missing. We will, for the sake of argument, assume or concede the whole system, and then strive to show that the great doctrines of the Christian faith are consonant with the evolution which pervades the works of God—that the Natural Law has been projected into the Spiritual World, to adopt Drummond's happy phrase; or, in the language of that grand master of metaphysical theology, Bishop Butler, we shall endeavour to establish the analogy of revealed religion to the constitution and course of nature, as interpreted by the New Philosophy."

Thus it is a learned and scholarly work, and cannot fail to confirm the faith of any who may have been fearful that the New Philosophy of these latter days, in any of its aspects, is undermining the authority of revealed religion.

A Dictionary of the Bible: Comprising its Antiquities, Biography, Geography, Natural History and Literature. By WILLIAM SMITH, LL.D. Revised and edited by REV. F. N. and M. A. PELOUER. Philadelphia: Henry T. Coates & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. 8vo, pp. 818. Price, \$2.00.

Every Sunday-school teacher ought to have a good Bible dictionary. There are many occasions in which information beyond what is given in the lesson notes is necessary. This is often not given in the commentaries nor elsewhere, except in a work like this. Dr. William Smith's famous Bible dictionary, the fruit of the ripest biblical scholarship in England, has long had a distinguished reputation. It is here condensed into one handy volume, brought up to recent date, and presented in clear, concise form. One of the most favourable features about the book is its copious illustration. A single picture will often give a more vivid and correct idea than pages of description.