

Commentaries.

2. Homiletic.

IN setting forth the *Character and Mission of the Prophet Jonah* (1), Dr. Martin has produced a valuable expository commentary on the prophet's life, his work, and his book. The commentary, as the author admits, owes a good deal to Calvin, and something to Dr. Fairbairn, but Dr. Martin's own personality is abundantly evident too; and the preacher and the ordinary reader will find in the volume much that will assist them. Dr. Martin exerts himself to set Jonah in a favourable light, and it is quite possible that the prophet's timidity in the outset and his anger at the end of his mission have somewhat darkened his character, and obscured what he did well and successfully. Dr. Martin's volume will be found to contain valuable remarks on a variety of subjects more or less germane to the matter in hand, *e.g.*, whether and how far unenlightened reason can furnish man with a religion; the characteristics of an ambassador for Christ; the working of faith, &c. The chapter on Jonah as a type is well worth study, and the chapters on the New Testament commentaries about Jonah are thoughtful and suggestive. Dr. Martin's work is a valuable contribution to the hermeneutics on the minor prophets, and deserves to be widely read and deeply pondered.

Bishop Alexander has furnished an attractive contribution to the Expositor's Bible in the volume which contains his *Commentary on the Epistles of St. John* (2). The text is given in five versions, and under the various sections are discourses upon the most important topics, followed by exegetic notes. This commentary is not so learned as Dr. Westcott's, to which the author expresses himself indebted, or as Dr. Jelf's; but in many ways it is as useful, and in some ways more useful, than these; while it is more critical than the well-known work of Dr. Morgan. The discourses are eloquent and brilliant, and the student, the expositor, and the general reader will each in turn be delighted and instructed by them. Dr. Alexander includes in his purview the widest range of topics—Evolution and the Salvation Army, the Sacraments and the devotion of Father Damien—and all are treated with a delicate discernment born of ripe and generous judgment. We could have wished that the sections of the text had been numbered, and the book would be greatly improved by an index. This we hope to see added in another edition, which we should think will be speedily called for.

The next volume in this series is a *Commentary on the Book of Revelation* (3), by Dr. Milligan, in which he tells us his aim has been rather to catch the general import and object of the Revelation of