

Descending the staircase and returning to the transept, we enter the great rotunda, a circular space one hundred feet in diameter, with eighteen massive piers, above which springs a majestic dome, with an opening at the top for light and ventilation like that of the Pantheon at Rome. In the very centre of this rotunda, and immediately below the dome, rises a small oblong building of yellowish marble, twenty feet in length, twelve feet in breadth, and about fifteen in height, surrounded by a small cupola. Within this is the reputed sepulchre of our Lord. The entrance is decorated with gold and silver lamps set with precious stones. The interior is divided into two small chapels: the Chapel of the Angel, which contains the stone on which he sat (?), and the sepulchre itself, a vault seven feet long and six wide. The tomb is elevated about three feet above the floor, and faced with white marble, worn smooth by the passionate kisses from the lips of pilgrims from every clime, who, with prostrations and streaming tears, advance upon their knees along the marble floor until they reach the sepulchral couch, which they clasp and embrace with tearful joy and devout reverence. Forty-two gold lamps burn continually before this revered shrine. Whether this be in reality our Lord's sepulchre or not, no one can stand in that little apartment without the profoundest emotions.

The sepulchre itself, over which floats the banner of the Cross, is the common ground of all the Christian sects, and in the arcades round are the various chapels. The largest and most imposing of these is the Greek chapel, which we have already described, whose galleries afford a fine view of the scenes and orgies to be witnessed on the great festival days. Nearly in range of the front of the sepulchre is a large opening, forming a court to the entrance of the Latin Chapel. The little room in which the organ stands is called the Chapel of the Apparition—where Christ appeared to Mary. One of the most picturesque of these chapels is the half-subterranean Church of St. Helena. We will not give an account of all the aisles, stairways, vaults, tombs, altars, concealed relics, and holy "inventions," from the real centre of the earth, in the Greek Chapel, to the place where the earth was taken out of which Adam was formed. Within this vast and confused mass of buildings are no less than seventy "stations," and the air is laden with the legends and wonders of monkish and mediæval days. But all these myths and frauds cannot destroy the deeper significance and impressive associations of this venerable temple. We condemn the superstitions and regret the bad taste of tawdry finery and gaudy ornamentation; we are indignant at the frauds and lying abominations; yet still, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre awakens the most thrilling and affecting interest of any structure in the world, for it covers the spot where the Saviour was crucified, and "the place where the Lord lay." It is the "holy of holies" among the holy places in the City of Jerusalem—City of Mystery and of Miracles, and yet to be the scene of wonders!

Book Notices.

Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew. By JOHN A. BROADUS, D.D., LL.D. 8vo, pp. ii.-610. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society. Price, (in U. S.) \$2.25.

Dr. Broadus, the learned principal of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., has won a well-merited reputation as one of the most sound and lucid of modern commentators. In this volume he amply vindicates that reputation. The needs of the average Bible reader, of the Sunday-school teacher, of the preaching fraternity, have been kept in view in preparing this work. The expositions are eminently practical, and the homiletical department will be found exceedingly suggestive and helpful. This commentary does not profess to be un denominational. It is frankly and strongly Baptist in its discussion of all questions relating to baptism. But it is courteous, candid and fair to those adopting different expositions. "After all," says the learned author, "there are but few passages in the Gospel in regard to which evangelical opinion is seriously at variance."

A valuable general introduction to the New Testament is prefixed by the venerable Dr. Alvah Hovey, the general editor of the comprehensive commentary of which this volume forms a part. The work is stereotyped at the expense of a bequest for that purpose by Gardner Colby; so, though a large volume, it is published at a low price.

Humour, Pith and Pathos. A Book of Readings and Recitations. By REV. JAMES COOKE SEYMOUR. Toronto: William Briggs. Price 35 cents.

This book contains the gleanings of many years in a wide and varied field of readings. It ranges "from grave to gay, from lively to severe." It rings soundly on the temperance question, and will provoke now a laugh and now a tear. We commend it for use in Temperance and Sunday-school anniversaries, social gatherings, and the like.

The Life of the Rev. George Haddock, Hero and Martyr. By FRANK C. HADDOCK, pp. 541. New York: Funk & Wagnalls. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.

The Rev. George C. Haddock, of Sioux City, was killed because he was determined that the liquor men in that city should obey the law. He was waylaid at night, Aug. 3, 1886, and shot from behind by the foreman of a leading brewery, in pursuance of a confessed conspiracy to assassinate him. His murderers have not yet been punished. Four have confessed the conspiracy.

The son of this Christian martyr has prepared a life of his father, which is of thrilling interest. As a faithful Methodist preacher he was an uncompromising foe to the liquor traffic, and became the victim of its vengeance. He was a man of superior ability, of rare poetic gifts, as