THE BOOK PAGE

Old Testament By John Edgar McFadyen, M.A. (Glas.), B.A. (Oxon.), Professor of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis in Knox College, Toronto. Charles Seribner's Sons, New York. 376 pages; \$1.50 net.

The objections urged against higher criticism fall into two classes. It is urged that the methods of the higher critics are unreliable and their results therefore uncertain, as evidenced by the wide divergencies of view amongst the critics themselves. It is also maintained, that the conclusions of criticism contradict convictions which are fundamental to the Christian faith. Professor McFayden has sought to meet both these classes of objections. He has stated the case of his opponents with conspicuous fairness, and his reply is couched in language of great courtesy and moderation. He has thus avoided the faults deprecated in one of the opening chapters on the "Discourtesies of Criticism" and if he fails to convince, he will not offend. Written with all its author's beauty of diction and style, and showing on every page the hand of a master, this volume will be welcomed by those who wish to be informed concerning what has been well styled "the gravest issue" the British churches have "had to face within living memory." If it is possible for the friends and foes of higher criticism to find a common ground, such a book as this will materially aid in their doing so. At any rate, it is well that the case from both sides should be clearly set forth, so that the great mass of Bible students, who cannot presume to be experts on this subject, may have the materials for a sound judgment. The reader will appreciate the full table of contents at the beginning and the excellent index at the end of the book.

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