

TALKS ABOUT BOOKS.

A good many years have passed since Dr. Paton J. Gloag and the Talker contributed articles to the defunct British and Foreign Evangelical Review of London. My quondam fellow-contributor has kindly remembered me with his latest book, *Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels*. Other writings of his are *A Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles*, and *Introductions to the Pauline Epistles, the Catholic Epistles, and the Johannine Writings*. The *Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels* is an octavo volume of 298 pages, in T. & T. Clark's best style. All who are acquainted with Dr. Gloag's abundant and accurate scholarship need hardly be informed that his latest volume is a monument of wide and diligent research. Every help that the most recent bibliographical finds can contribute to his task he has freely availed himself of. Every question connected with authorship and dates, language and composition, the whole apparatus criticus of friend and foe, he passes in review. But there is no overloading of learning, nothing either dry or oppressive in style. However learned, the author's pages abound in brief yet clear statement and argument, simply and naturally expressed, so as to appeal to the sympathies of the youngest student and the lay reader, equally with those of the veteran investigator of Sacred Truth. While Dr. Gloag is fairly conservative in his criticism, he is as far as possible from being a mere traditionalist. He believes in an original Hebrew or Aramaic Gospel of Matthew; in the superior antiquity of Mark and its integrity, and agrees with Julius Africanus, whom the Biblical History men know that the Talker follows, in regarding Matthew's genealogy of Jesus Christ as that of Joseph, and Luke's as that of Mary. In regard to the Sermon on the Mount, Dr. Gloag contends that Matthew, disregarding chronological order, has brought together in one place, the substance of our Lord's discourses de-