

ume, but I cordially recommend it as bright and clever, suggestive, and thoroughly devout. It has raised my estimation of its truly great author as a truth-seeking, Bible-loving man.

One of those kind people who feel it their mission in life to tell their friends all the supposed unkind things said about them and their work, has drawn the attention of the Editor of the Presbyterian Record to the passing remark in December's Talk, which, referring to the appearance of the Free Church and Church of Scotland organs, states: "There is a certain dignity about these documents when laid side by side with our own Record that stamps the latter more or less with provincialism." If the Editor, who is indignant, were to lay the three documents side by side, not take and read them, I think, as a candid man, he would agree to the provincialism more or less. This is not the first time the Talker has drawn attention to the Record's typographical appearance externally. He has never called in question its literary excellence, nor would it become him to belittle the old editor in favour of the new, nor the new in favour of the old. One thing, however, I must say, in justice to the former editor, who did not need to have his attention called to the Talker, and that is, that, when a very similar remark was made relative to a possible improvement in the Record's appearance, he knew the Talker better than to take it as an ad-

verse criticism of his work. The expense of publication in Canada may not admit of a larger sheet or a coloured wrapper, but the fact remains all the same. There may be people who have the bad taste not to appreciate the cover of the JOURNAL even. If there are, they may say so as publicly as they please; it won't hurt us in the least.

A former Editor-in-Chief of the JOURNAL sends for review The Higher Criticism of the Hexateuch by Professor C. A. Briggs, D.D., a handsome octavo of 250 pages, published by Charles Scribner's Sons of New York. Within brief compass, this is the most complete and readable book on its side of the subject I have met with. Its history of the Higher Criticism, and its chronological marshalling of great names and opinions are masterly. The arguments and philological proofs are admirably arranged. The tone of the book is calm and scholarly. If one fails to see the force of some of the arguments, and still doubts the success of the critics in locating their documents, one must still admit that the matter cannot be put aside with a dogmatic sneer or the angry exclamation of a mere traditionalist. One thing language reveals, namely, that at whatever times the books were originally written, all of them in part, and Deuteronomy probably as a whole, have been re-written. Dr. Briggs refuses to accept the testimony of Jesus in favour of Mosaic authorship, yet is he reverent,