

HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE.

(Continued from page 35.)

and responsible task. As a basis of their revision they, to a certain extent, used all this material, at least the part of it that was available to them, and that could be treated scientifically during the time within which they did their work. The result of their work is seen in the text they have given us in our Revised Version, in the marginal notes, and in the appendices.

That we may still better understand just what facilities are now at the disposal of scholars for undertaking a revision of the Bible we shall next study, in greater detail, some of the oldest of these manuscripts and Versions and writings of the Fathers.

The Universal Book

There is but one universal Book. That Book is the Bible. There will never be another. It is said that some French skeptics had an ambition to produce one that might supplant the Holy Scriptures. They were scholars, after their sort, and were sure the thing could be done. Of course, every book must have a first chapter and a first sentence, and this new Bible could by no means be an exception to this rule. Hence a special committee of extraordinary ability was appointed to prepare the first chapter. They well knew that the work would not command public favor unless the first chapter and the first verse were at least as strikingly original and important and significant as found in the Bible. The special committee appointed for this work was confronted by the first matchless sentence of Genesis. Three months were spent in the fruitless attempt to equal it, and then the task was given up in despair, and that French Bible has never been written, and never will be; and so again, with added emphasis, it may be affirmed that the Bible is the one and only Universal Book.—Bishop Mallalieu.

It Means Business

A model young people's society will not be aimless, but will have a vital purpose. It will "do things." It will provide ways to study the Bible, modern needs, and ways to do God's will on earth. Any live society will equip itself with means to do a larger work in hand. Any society that is worth while will increase the numbers and efficiency in each department of the church work. It will not say, "These things are too hard, and we shall just continue to run in the old ruts." Suppose we each, this evening, set a new ideal for our society. Lay out a few practical plans, and go to work in earnest.—Service.

The Road to Happiness. By Yvonne Sarcey. Published by Andrew Melrose, London. Price \$1.25.

This is a book of wholesome and helpful counsel to young women. Written in the form of friendly letters, it interestingly conveys some wise advice and many excellent admonitions. There are over 50 chapters, and we have found the majority of them good reading. Our young women may safely invest in it.

The Bible and Spiritual Criticism. By Dr. A. T. Pierson. Published by the Baker & Taylor Company, New York. Price \$1.00.

The contents of this book comprise the Exeter Hall lectures as delivered by the author, in 1904. Dr. Pierson's ability is well known and his writings are always extensively circulated. The 12 chapters of this book are intended to give the results of thorough Bible study to the laity, and the author's position is that the Scriptures absolutely declare themselves to be the product of Divine inspiration and are not of private interpretation.

Harry's Birthday

Nannie was spending a week at her uncle's. The day she got there was her Cousin Harry's birthday; he was twelve years old. One of his presents was a new Bible with the story of Jesus' visit to Jerusalem marked in blue ink. Harry read it to Nannie.

"O!" said Nannie, "He was just your age."

"Yes," said Harry, "and what a lot he knew! Just think! He was smart enough to talk with all those wise men and astonish them. I wish I could do something like that—something that would surprise everybody."

"You could mind your father and mother," said Nannie; "that would be doing like Jesus, you know."

Harry looked sharply at his cousin for a minute, and wondered if she could have found out that only the day before he had disobeyed his father.

"How do you know he minded them?" he asked.

"Cause it says so in the story."

"No, it doesn't."

"O, yes, it does!" It says: 'And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them.' Grandma says that means He minded them. She told us all about it, and we learned the verse. I'm going to begin before I am twelve years old to be like Jesus, and mind every word my parents say. Begin now, on your birthday."

"Who says he don't mind them?" Harry asked, and this time his voice was cross. He went away from Nannie, and was gone for almost an hour. When he came back he was very pleasant. He let himself be harnessed for a pony and be driven by Nannie all about the grounds. At the big gate they saw Ben Sturt going out with a pail of milk.

"Hello, Ben," called Harry, "you tell your brother Carl that I can't go skating this afternoon; father doesn't think the ice is safe."

Nobody but Harry and Jesus knew how near Harry had come to disobeying his father.—Selected.

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