

## Book Notices.

*Fact and Fiction in Holy Writ ; or, Book and World Wonders.* By REV. J. HENDRICKSON McCARTY, M.D., D.D. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.00.

We had the pleasure of reviewing Dr. McCarty's previous interesting volume, "Two Thousand Miles Through the Heart of Mexico." In this book he assumes a different rôle. The title we think a misnomer. It should be "Confirmed Fact and Alleged Fiction in Holy Writ." From a wide induction of science, history and archæology, he confirms many of the most wonderful statements of the Scriptures, and shows that the apparent discrepancies merely result from the ignorance or prejudice of would-be critics. There is an immense amount of curious information in the book. The contrast between the records of Holy Writ and those of the sacred books of heathen nations, with their absurd cosmogonies and mythologies, is very instructive. At times the Doctor bars his attacks upon materialistic and atheistic science with the shafts of ridicule. We think this a mistake. Certain follies and foibles may be laughed out of court, but in a book of this sort even the false claims of science should be met with dignity and respectful argument.

*Methodism; A Retrospect and Outlook.* By CHARLES WM. PEARSON, M.A. Professor of English Literature in Northwestern University. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs. Limp cloth 30c., paper 25c.

We have here a poem in rhymed iambs of nearly two thousand verses. It is extremely comprehensive in its range. It is by no means confined to Methodism. It pays a tribute to the moral heroes of the Church of Rome and of the Reformation, and especially of the great

English revival under the Wesleys. A strong, concise, graphic characterization is given of the great minds of Methodism in the Old World and the New, including Methodist women; to the later movements of Chautauqua, the Epworth League, the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Salvation Army, mission work in all the continents and islands; and a glowing anticipation of the final triumph of the Gospel in the following closing lines:

Ye gates of Zion, lift again your head,  
The King of kings in glory soon shall tread;

Not then, as when He hung upon the  
    rod

And shed for sinners His atoning blood,  
Feebly amid His dreadful agony

"'Tis finished!" shall the suffering  
    Saviour cry;

But seated upon His everlasting throne  
Aloud proclaim, "Redemption's work  
    is done!"

While heaven shall echo with triumphant  
    song,

And the freed earth the voice of joy  
    prolong.

*St. Matthew's Witness.* By FRANCIS W. UPHAM, LL.D. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.20.

One of the most interesting and instructive books which we ever reviewed was Dr. Upham's able treatise on "The Wise Men: Who they were and How they came to Jerusalem"—a book which commanded a tribute from some of the ablest scholars in the world. In the present volume the conspicuous ability of Dr. Upham is shown in the exegetical field. This is not a textual commentary on St. Matthew's Gospel so much as a continuous exposition, after the excellent manner of the Presbyterian pulpit, of the Gospel in large sections, showing its scope as a whole. For preachers, teachers and all Bible students it will be found very helpful to a fuller comprehension of this book.