

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Dogmatics. *The Scriptural Doctrine of Sacrifice and Atonement* (1) is a scholarly and a very useful treatise, which will confer honour on the author and benefit on all who study it. It keeps closely to its title, and the inquiry is conducted with perfect fairness, and with such completeness that the course of the controversy which has surrounded the faith in this respect may be clearly seen. There is some repetition in the work, but not more than is rendered necessary by the state of the case; and, after all, judicious repetition forms the hammer-strokes that drive the truth home. Dr. Cave is not concerned to prove the authenticity, or the genuineness, or the age of the canonical books: what he has set himself to do is to display the doctrine of sacrifice as found therein. The treatise before us is called the second edition, but every page in the present work has been carefully revised in the light of the latest relative researches, and the literary references have also been brought down to date. Dr. Cave tells us that he has endeavoured to write the book as a member of the great Church catholic; and we think he has succeeded. The opinions of the various writers on this subject are stated with impartiality and fulness; the author's own conclusions are set forth with modesty; and we can heartily echo Dr. Cave's expressed desire that his work may "continue to aid Christian thought, whether upon the supreme sacrifice of our dear Lord, or upon those lower sacrifices of ours to which His great love constrains us." In the introduction Dr. Cave states his subject, and says that his aim is dogmatic, and not apologetic. "With the Rabbinic, Patristic, Tridentine, Augsburg, Socinian, or Westminster doctrine we are only indirectly concerned, as each may serve to elucidate the teaching of Holy Writ. Still less have we to do with that comparative method, now so much in vogue, which forms its estimate of truth from the *consensus* of all religions. The Bible is our *fons et judex*, the source or the test of all opinions legitimate to our inquiry."

Book I. is entitled Preparatory, and contains a chapter on the origin of sacrifice, which Dr. Cave does not consider had anything evolutionary about it. He lays some stress on the Paradisaic sacrifice, which he considers was the ideal and original, though to us it seems greatly conjectural. The second chapter is taken up with a consideration of the development and significance of patriarchal