

## SOME UNSOLVED PROBLEMS OF THE HIGHER CRITICISM.

---

CRITICISM OF THE BIBLE is not to be deprecated, any more than the criticism of any other book. Textual criticism, which is called the lower in distinction from the historical and literary which is styled the higher, has been of exceeding value. There is no good reason why the latter should not be of great service as well as the former. A millionaire might not care much for the class of ship in which he was sending a few dollars' worth of freight; but were he about to embark with his family and all his fortune, he would wish to know that every timber was sound. Just because we are asked to entrust the infinite interests of our souls to the Bible and its teachings, is it but reasonable that the Bible should be submitted to the severest testing. Neither are those who would shield the Bible from the most searching examination its truest friends. Any indisposition to have it submitted to criticism both implies and suggests a doubt whether it is able to bear it, which is most damaging to its claims. Those who have thorough confidence in the Bible as God's Word, are ever most ready to have its claims tested; for they believe that examination will but make their truth more apparent. In any case, we want to know the truth. This can never harm us, but must be of