

umes of the New Testament Commentary have already appeared from the pen of the distinguished editor. Their clear, terse, vigorous criticism, going right to the heart of the subject, and grappling with all the difficulties of the text, have proved them to be the best for popular use extant. Their success commended them to the enterprise of a first-class London publisher,—although we wish that the Conference Office, instead of a Calvinistic house, had done itself the credit of presenting them to the British public.

The present volumes on the Old Testament, the third and fourth of the series, although the first and second issued, are a worthy complement of those on the New Testament. The writers selected have done their work well, with great critical ability, and with the aid of the best recent authorities. The volumes are enriched by copious notes by Dr. Whedon, and have enjoyed the advantage of his careful supervision. Coloured steel-plate maps, numerous engravings, and careful genealogical and other tables illustrate and embellish the work. In order to gain space, the text is printed in smaller type than in the volumes on the New Testament, and in the Books of Chronicles is omitted altogether, and the poetical portions are printed metrically.

For pastors, Sunday-school teachers, or for private reading, we regard this as by far the best commentary extant. It contains much more matter than the *Speaker's Commentary*, and is much cheaper in price and more convenient in size. Nor is it largely filled up with homiletical extracts, of little interest to the general reader, as is Lange.

The fourth volume of the New Testament, from I. Corinthians to II. Timothy, now in press, will shortly be issued, and will be eagerly hailed by those who have the former volumes. When completed, this Commentary, and Strong and McClintock's Biblical Encyclopedia, will

be a literary monument of which American Methodism may justly be proud.

*The Living Wesley, as he was in his Youth and in his Prime.* By JAS. H. RIGG, D.D., Principal of the Wesleyan Training College, Westminster, England; author of *Essays for the Times*. 12mo. Pp. 267, with steel portrait. New York: Nelson and Phillips; Toronto: S. Rose.

TYERMAN'S *Life of Wesley* will probably never be superseded as an exhaustive account of all that is known of the wonderful career of its subject. But the sinister austerity with which it is written, the harsh and, as Dr. Rigg thinks, unwarranted severity of many of its judgments, make it, at times, an unreliable guide. It is to correct some of the erroneous opinions that have been set forth, and more especially to present certain aspects of Wesley's life and character that have not yet been duly recognized, that this book is written.

Dr. Rigg throws much new light, from the examination of original documents, letters, and the like, on some of the most interesting episodes in the life of this most remarkable man of his age. Wesley was singularly unfortunate in his relations with the gentler sex. "He was naturally," says Dr. Rigg, "a woman-worshipper. He had been brought up in the society of clever and virtuous women—his sisters; and it seems as if he could at no time of his life dispense with the exquisite and stimulating pleasure which he found in their society. An almost reverent courtesy, a warm but pure affection, a delicate but close familiarity marked, through life, his relations with the good and gifted women with whom he maintained friendship and correspondence." Yet all his early experiences of the tender passion, and he had several, were doomed to disappointment; and his marriage in later years produced the bitterest disappointment of all.

Dr. Rigg gives copious citations from the sentimental correspondence