

The Sunday Street-Car Traffic

By Rev. J. J. Roy, B.A.

A formidable document is Mr. Ewart's address of last Sunday. A wonderful array of texts and Scripture quotations. It covers no less than three full pages of the Free Press, and in good solid, visible type. A marvelous display of erudition. Mr. Ewart sees no valid religious objections to the Sunday street car traffic. Why, far from seeing any valid religious objection, he finds no religious objection whatever to the traffic. No wonder, because in his extraordinary dialectical powers, he begins by sweeping away, any such thing as a religious objection, and then concludes that there is no valid religious objection.

The Bible Torn to Pieces.

To reach his conclusion, he begins by literally tearing the Bible to pieces, and here he calls to his aid the "Higher Critics," and amongst others George Adam Smith and his book "Modern Criticism and the Preaching of the Old Testament," the Yale lectures for 1901. Listen to Mr. Ewart expounding the intricacies of the problems of the higher critics.

Mr. Ewart as An Exegete.

Says Mr. Ewart, "Higher Criticism ignores Inspiration. The Pentateuch is a conglomeration of the writings of several persons, none of whom we know, but it is not difficult to detect contributions from four principal writers. . . . These four principal

writers are known as the Jahvistic, the Elohist, the Priestly and the Deuteronomist, all of whom lived after the time of Solomon. The editors are absolutely unknown. "The Pentateuch is full of legend, myth and imperfection and contradiction."

So ipse dixit Mr. Ewart "Higher Critic" clean cut, everything clear and simple, manuscript in hand, all arranged: The Mappiqand Raphe; the Maqueph and Metheg; the Qerl and Kethibh; the Piel and Puai; the Hifhil and Hophal; the Pe Guttural, the Ayin Guttural and the Lamedh Guttural so Mr. Ewart "Higher Critic."—Manuscript in hand has it all arranged, ipse dixit, George Adam Smith, "No inspiration, but legends, myth, imperfection, contradiction."

After this, can there be any religious objection left in the whole wide world? Surely not. There cannot be any valid religious objection to the Sunday street car traffic. There you have it all in a nut shell, pure logic—and there it comes, that in order to justify the Sunday street car traffic, you must first begin by the tearing the Bible to pieces. You cannot have them as long as the Bible stands. So get rid of it by hook or by crook.

Canon Driver vs. Mr. Ewart.

Mr. Ewart, we all know, is a great scholar; but still it may be interesting to compare his conclusions, with some of the "Higher Critics," Canon Driver, for instance, the Regius Professor of Hebrew, at Oxford, associated with Dr. C. A. Briggs, in the publication of the International Theologi-