

ation of Scripture by History and Natural Science deals once more with Creation, with the Deluge, Dispersion of Humanity, and the Sinaitic Journey, and quotes the Chaldean Creation and Deluge Tablets and Sir William Dawson's *Modern Science in Bible Lands*. He quotes Lenormant against Huxley, placing history against the palaeontological and geological record, in favour of the Deluge; but repeats the old rubbish that Josephus or his rabbinical predecessors evolved out of their imaginations regarding the dispersion of the Toldoth Beni Noah. In his last chapter, however, the veteran statesman rounds upon Professor Huxley on a matter of elementary hydraulics, taking the word of a practical man, an engineer in charge of part of an English river, who replaces the professor's furious torrent that, at the deluge, would have cleared the Mesopotamian plain in a few hours, by a current of two miles an hour. He rightly advises the scientist not to be too proud of his "weapons of precision." The Office and Work of the Old Testament Mr. Gladstone takes to be the setting forth of the sinfulness of sin with a view to evoke in man a desire for and a hope of redemption from its power. He extols the Psalms as well as he may, and is inclined to deal very tenderly with those of an imprecatory character, although he has not the sanction of Christ for retaining these. By means of the Samaritan Pentateuch and other historical documents, he shews the impossibility of bringing the Mosaic Legislation down to a late regal or even postexilic period in Jewish history. Altogether, *The Impregnable Rock* will repay perusal, and, like Mr. Mowat's *Lecture on the Christian Evidences*, is a valuable testimony from an enlightened statesman to the earthly record of the King of Kings.

Part 1 of the thirteenth volume of the *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology* contains an article on Nile Mythology by the President, P. Le Page Renouf, one on Le Naja, and other serpents and reptiles mentioned in the Egyptian texts, by Dr. Pleyte. Dr. Wiedemann translates the contents of steles and other Egyptian remains preserved at Friburg in Baden; and Dr. Karl Piehl continues his notes on Egyptian Philology. He and Dr. Pleyte write in French. Mr. F. L. Griffith translates parts of the *Prisse Papyrus*; and the Rev. C. J. Ball proceeds with his comparison of Chinese and Accadian, turning, however, from the study of the ordinary vocabulary to that of proper names, mythological or protohistoric. But the article of chief interest is that of Mr. B. T. A. Evetts on the discovery of Babylonian Antiquities in the City of London. These are three black stones containing cruciform inscriptions in the old Accadian tongue, showing that they belong to a very ancient period, which Mr. Evetts does not hesitate to refer to the absurd antiquity of between 4,500 and 5,000 B. C. Mr. George Smith placed Gudea, whose name is on one of them, immediately before Kudur Nanhundi, and as he is the Bible Chedorlaomer, this will only carry him and his inscription back to about 1950 B. C. People know very little about ancient history who talk so glibly about 4000 and 5000 B. C. The tablets were found in the course of pulling down some old houses in Knight-riding Street, and it appears that they must have been there prior to the great fire of London. Some Dutch tiles were found at the same place; so the inference is that a Dutch merchant doing business with a factory which the Netherlands' East India Company had established at Bassora, the port of Bagdad, had shipped them from thence, either as ballast or curiosities and brought them to his home in London. Last year also a description of the Assyrian Sargon was found built into the foundation of a convent in Jerusa-