

man as Jeremiah. In a former volume Mr. Ball dealt with the first twenty Chapters. The present work deals with Chapters XXI.—LII. The work is furnished with a useful index by which a reader of the Bible can go from any chapter or verse to the author's comments thereon. There is also a useful chronological table. As is well-known the prophecies of Jeremiah are not arranged in order. The present exposition divides the later chapters into three divisions: (1) Personal utterances and narratives; (2) Prophecies concerning foreign nations; (3) Those relating to Israel and Judah. The exposition endeavours to recover and set forth the historical situation in each case, so that readers may as far as possible be placed in the position of those who originally heard the Prophet. Everywhere there is an abundance of illustration drawn from more modern times, which greatly adds to the interest of the exposition.

Professor Harper has given us a most learned and instructive exposition, explanatory and illustrative of the principles which are set forth in the book of Deuteronomy. He is well up in the modern literature of his subject, and deals candidly and reverently with the critical questions which centre round this book. The book will be found of great use in practical teaching upon the laws of common life. With Driver's commentary and these expositions the student of Deuteronomy is well equipped. This is certainly one of the ablest and most useful volumes in the series. We hope it may be widely read and used.

By a happy choice Dr. George Adam Smith has been assigned the Minor Prophets. His former work on Isaiah is regarded by many as the most interesting volume of the series. The present volume is characterised by the same charm of style and will be found a delightful companion in reading the lesser Prophets. There are to be two volumes. This volume deals with Amos, Hosea and Micah, but it also contains a general introduction in four chapters which will be found most useful. The book of the twelve, the Prophet in early Israel, the eighth century in Israel, and the influence of Assyria upon Prophecy, are titles which indicate its scope. With Kirkpatrick, Elmslie, Smith, Findlay and Blake in his hands the student of Prophecy is well off. We hope that many will avail themselves of Dr. Smith's delightful companionship in studying the work of those who strove to guide the life of a nation amid conditions of civilization "marvellously like our own." There is an enthusiasm in this work which indignantly protests against the title "Minor" Prophets, and also against the neglect of fountains of inspiration which recent historical study has opened up afresh.

*Old Man Savarin and Other Stories.* By Edward William Thomson. Toronto: William Briggs, 1895.

The author of this book is a Canadian, and at one time was a resident of Toronto. It is for this reason that his stories, which have had a wide and well-deserved success, are particularly interesting to Canadians. Mr. Thomson holds a very high place in American journalism. At present he is living in the United States, and is there the editor of the "Youth's Companion," a widely known journal.

The book is a series of short stories, any one of which can be read by itself, and each excites a keen and moving interest of its own.

Undoubtedly the best story of the collection is "Old Man Savarin," which gives the book its title. The tale is one of French-Canadian river life. It is told in dialect by an old French fishwife, and wonderful is the touch with which Mr. Thomson has given us the broken English, and described the life of this people. To one who has ever been among the lumbermen of the Ottawa district, the accuracy and vividness

with which their characteristics have been portrayed in this story are very striking. The description of "dat offe fight, 'bout which de whole village is shiver," is capital. "Canadien hain't nev 'nuff fool for fight, only if dey is got drunk" and even then they are not very deadly, one draws from the description of the fight given. This tale of a phase of our Canadian life may be especially recommended to every lover of the dialect story.

"The Ride by Night," is probably the next strongest sketch in the collection. People who have read Mr. Stephen Crane's "The Red Badge of Courage," which has lately received so much attention from the reading public, will, when reading "The Ride by Night," recognize a great similarity in the treatment of these two stories. Both have the American civil war as a background, and have in common the stirring action of military life. "The Ride by Night" is full of excitement, which is sustained to the end. It describes the mad ride of ten "union boys" almost through the enemy's lines, in order to save three brigades of their fellows by delivering a warning despatch. They have two skirmishes with the enemy and only one rider is left to carry on the despatch. This he manages to do and the brigades are saved.

"Drafted" is another well told military story.

The author has the faculty in a greater degree than is usually found, of bringing his reader into the story. One feels almost like an eye witness to the events described. This is particularly felt in the last two mentioned stories. Of the other stories, some are sad and some are humorous, but all possess the same charm and originality.

Mr. Thomson has grasped the "Canny Scot," and in the book are several delightful stories about Sandy.

It is a great relief to come across a book which possesses such a fresh and pure interest as Mr. Thomson's work, as compared with what one generally meets in the world of fiction now-a-days.

## BOHEMIA.

From that artistic intercollegiate periodical *The Lotus* is taken the following:—

"A crow perched himself upon a withered bough and scolded in this wise a canary who was pouring out his young soul in music unto the gladdening of the day:

"You are a queer bird. Your plumage is unhealthful to look upon, and moreover, your shrill warble, the unique thing about you, is like to draw away the young birds from my side-show."

"But I can sing," rejoined the canary, "and better a song-bird in Bohemia than a dismal croaker among ornitholites."

"What is this Bohemia of which we hear so much? Is it an alluring and subtle danger which threatens the morals and manners of the great musical, literary and artistic world, or merely a name to frighten children with? To my mind it presents simply a phase of the old fight between those who are enemies of Art, either from motives of rigorous piety or from ignorant indifference, and those who are so constituted that they may both use and enjoy the beauties of expression. It is the old contest between the Puritan and the Cavalier—whether man is to enjoy all things as he is able, or be subject to prescription; whether human life and action are to be bound by set formulæ and traditional usage to be governed by an individual law of kindness to others and the utmost personal happiness. The world is indebted to this Bohemia for its sweetest songs, its most inspiring pictures, its most powerful sermons. Bohemia permits to the individual