

*The Miracles of our Lord—Expository and Homiletical.* By JOHN LAIDLAW, D.D., Professor of Theology, Neil College, Edinburgh, author of "The Bible Doctrine of Man," etc. Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York and Toronto, 1892. 8vo, pp. 384. Price, cloth, \$1.75.

The literature of the Christian miracles was already pretty full before the appearance of this work: and yet it is evident that the learned and gifted author made no mistake in believing that there was room for still another book devoted to the elucidation of this theme. Of course it was not to be expected that anything that could be written on this, or indeed upon any other branch of inspired truth, would be altogether true. It is too late in the day to expect to find absolute originality in anything that can be written about the Bible or its contents. There is enough in this volume to show that Dr. Laidlaw has not only mastered the literature of the subject, but that he has profited by it. But it would be a serious mistake to expect to find in it a mere compilation or mosaic. It gives evidence throughout of independent thinking and thorough painstaking, and honest work. Both the thought and style are fresh and vigorous. Its method combines the exegetical and the homiletical; the author's aim being, first of all, to assist the reader in acquiring a thorough understanding of the inspired narrative, and then to grasp the doctrinal and ethical lessons embedded in it. It is a really valuable contribution to the theological and religious literature of the time, and as such we are glad to introduce it to our readers.

*An Introduction to the Study of the Acts of the Apostles.* By J. M. STIFLER, D.D., Professor of New Testament Exegesis in Crozier Theologica Seminary. New York and Chicago: Fleming H. Revell Co. Toronto: Willard Tract Society. Cloth, 8vo, 287 pp. Price, \$1.25.

One of the most important helps in biblical work is a good introduction to the book under consideration, which should be carefully read as preparatory to an intelligent study. An idea of the purpose of the author, the aim of the book, the historical facts to which related, etc., are absolutely necessary to any proper knowledge of the Bible in whole or in part; and to supply this for Acts has been the successful aim of Prof. Stifler. In the preface he says: "This is not a commentary. It does not undertake to explain the meaning of the words inscribed by Luke. It assumes that their meaning is already obvious. Taking the book of Acts as it exists, this work attempts to trace out the course of thought and to account logically for all that Luke has written." The question continually before the author has been, "Why was this said?" The facts are plain. "What were they intended to teach?" This explains the sense in which this book is an introduction, and will prove itself of great value to any student of Acts, even perhaps more than an ordinary commentary if the teaching of the inspiring truth is being sought after. Every Bible teacher would find this book to be very valuable in connection with the present Sunday School lessons.

*John's Gospel, in the "Hand-Books for Bible-Classes."* By REV. GEO. REITH, M.A. Two vols., cloth, 8vo, 320 pp., 70 cents per vol. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Toronto: Presbyterian News Co.

This series is being edited by Prof. Marcus Dods, D.D., and Rev. Alexander Whyte, D.D., and is designed for the use of schools or private students. The excellence of these very excellent manuals is fully maintained in the two volumes before us. As commentaries they are concise, clear, exegetical and useful. The commentary is preceded by an Introduction, on the Life and Character of the Apostle John, Authenticity of the