

The Acts of the Apostles Explained. By JOSEPH ADDISON ALEXANDER. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Vol. I., pp. 485. Vol. II., pp. 498. Price, \$3.00.

From every source light is being focused upon the Book of Acts for the study of the International Lessons for the current year. One of the fullest and most thorough of English commentaries on this book is that by Dr. Alexander, of Princeton, covering nearly a thousand closely-printed pages. The most conspicuous figure in this book is the great Apostle of the Gentiles, whom we first meet as a persecutor, holding the robes of those who killed Stephen, and whom we follow through his glorious missionary career of unparalleled tribulations and heroism to his cruel martyrdom under the monster, Nero. With competent scholarship and admirable exegetical skill Professor Alexander expounds this first and greatest of all Church histories.

A specialty of this book is its comparison of the earlier English versions which, by their direct and simple force and quaint old English, strikingly set forth the mind and the spirit. This is a valuable addition to the apparatus for the study of the life of St. Paul. Though written before the issue of the Revised Version, it anticipates more than half its changes.

The Book of the Native. By CHAS. G. D. ROBERTS. Boston: Lamson, Wolfe & Company. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Company, Limited.

Professor Roberts is one of our sweetest and tenderest singers. There is a delicacy and refinement about his poems akin to that of Keats. He possesses a keen sympathy with nature and rare facility of expression. His ballads add the human interest which one misses from some of his poems on nature. The story of the humane sea captain, who rescued a drifting boat to save a kitten and found that he had saved his child, is very touching. So also is that of "The Forest Fire," in which a father lost his life to save his son's. A stirring ballad is that of "Laughing Sally," a pirate craft that bore down to help the king's ship against the ships of France, and

Then muttered the mate, "I'm a man of Devon:"

And the captain thundered then —
"There's English rope that bides for our necks,

But we all be English men!"

The Great Meaning of "Metanoia." An Undeveloped Chapter in the Life and Teaching of Christ. A New Edition, with a supplementary Essay. By TREADWELL WALDEN. New York: Thos. Whittaker. Pp. 166. Price, \$1.

When Phillips Brooks testifies of a book that he has read it "from beginning to end," that he has found it "full of inspiration," making "the work of Christ seem worthy of Christ," we turn to its pages with justifiable expectation. Nor, in this instance, are we disappointed, for Mr. Walden's book is one of the most suggestive that we have met for months. We would advise all earnest New Testament students to study the pages of this volume with great care. No Christian teacher can afford to neglect the theme which the author brings before our notice. "Metanoia," as our readers know, is the Greek word which our translators have rendered Repentance. To this rendering our author takes strong exception, and shows that "Metanoia" stands for a broader, richer truth than that which is generally associated in our minds with any form of penitence.

S. P. R.

"*Martin Luther.*" By GUSTAV FREYTAG. Translated by HENRY E. O. HEINEMANN. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Company. Pp. 127. Illustrated. Price, \$1.00.

This is not so much a biography of Luther, as a vindication of his conduct in departing from the original faith into which he was born. Our author sympathetically traces the course of Luther's moral and spiritual development, and shows clearly how a divine hand was guiding the great reformer in a way which he had not chosen. The book is copiously illustrated, and may be recommended as a good introduction to a more elaborate study of the life and times of Martin Luther.

S. P. R.

"*The Prophets of Israel.*" By PROF. C. H. CORNILL. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Co. Pp. 194. Price, 25 cents.

This book is an attempt to afford those "who are deprived of access to the latest works of Old Testament science, some insight into its results and into the spirit and purpose of its inquiries." The writer follows Wellhausen, Kuenen, Duhm, Stade, and critics of their class. It is an interesting work and gives the conclusions of advanced Old Testament criticism in an attractive manner.

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