

## NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

THE MOSAIC RECORD, in Harmony with the Geological. Edinburgh: Thos. Constable & Co. Sold by J. C. Geikie, Toronto.

We regard this as a very valuable contribution to our literature. It is evidently the work of one of deep thought, and who combines reverence for the word of God with scientific knowledge. The author in the outset reviews all the theories which have been propounded and the attempts which have been made to reconcile the statements of Scripture and the discoveries of Science. He adverts especially to Dr. Chalmers's scheme of solution, and to those of Dr. Pye Smith, Cuvier, and H. Miller, specifying the grounds on which he regards them as unsatisfactory. He then states his own scheme of reconciliation. It is based on the mode in which, according to the writer, God revealed to Moses the creation of the world. He does not admit that Moses derived his knowledge from ancient records, or that the words were merely impressed upon his mind by the spirit of God, but that Moses saw in successive visions the work of creation, and that it was to these successive visions that the term "days" must be referred, in which were comprehended periods of great, indeed of indefinite length. It would require greater space than we can afford to enter fully into an illustration of the arguments employed. We have stated, however, the basis of his theory, and would recommend the volume to those whose attention has been directed to such questions. We observe Mr. Hugh Miller speaks in high terms of the talents of the writer.

CUMMING'S MINOR WORKS. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blackston. Sold by A. H. Armour & Co., Toronto.

This volume contains three distinct treatises, viz: 'Infant Salvation,' 'The Baptismal Font,' and 'The Communion Table.' They are written in Dr. Cumming's usual style, which is easy and popular. The first treatise contains much which will no doubt be found calculated to afford comfort and hope to sorrowing and bereaved parents, although there are several positions laid down which we regard as somewhat dangerous and unwarranted. The other two appear to be really useful treatises on the sacramental ordinances, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and set forth in a plain and popular manner the teaching of Scripture on these important points.

SCENES IN THE COTTAGE, or what Women may do. A narrative chiefly addressed to the working classes, by Margaret Maria Brewster, author of "Work; or plenty to do and how to do it." Edinburgh: Constable & Co. Sold by J. C. Geikie, Toronto.

It is pleasing to find a woman of Miss Brewster's talents and accomplishments and social position consecrating her talents to the service of God, and employing her labours in seeking to benefit, both in a temporal and spiritual point of view, her fellow creatures. Her former production, viz. "Work; or plenty to do and how to do it," was received with universal favour. She has also written some very admirable tracts for the special benefit of Romanists in Ireland, which

have been greatly blessed. The little book before us comes fully up to the standard of her former writings. It contains some exceedingly interesting sketches of Scottish character, illustrating the special circumstances of the working classes, the sketches being taken partly from personal observation and partly from what the author has read or heard. It is admirably adapted to the end which the writer had in view, viz: to improve and elevate the lower classes of society, and make all feel the influence which they are capable of exerting, and the power they possess of diffusing happiness around them. We most cordially commend the work to the attention of our readers.

FAMILY PRAYERS, for each morning and evening in the year, with references to appropriate Scripture readings, by the Rev. John Cumming, D. D. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blackston. Sold by A. H. Armour, Esq., Toronto.

Those who think that they require a help for the duties of domestic religion may find in these volumes forms of prayer which are concise, simple, and Scriptural in their expressions. At the beginning of each there is a reference to a portion of Scripture to be read, the Scripture and the Prayer being in harmony with each other. This is a feature which we approve, and which gives both variety and point to the form of prayer. The prayers have in this edition been somewhat altered so as to adapt them for use in the United States. This is frankly stated in a prefatory note by the publishers. We think it would have been better had no alteration been made, especially as there are some expressions which it would be somewhat difficult to interpret with special reference to the United States. For instance we find occasionally supplications which speak of "our country" being an asylum for the oppressed, &c., expressions which can be understood with reference to Britain, but which are not so intelligible when used with special reference to the United States, whence numbers of the oppressed sons of Africa are every year fleeing to seek an Asylum on British soil.

DISCOURSES ON TRUTH. Delivered in the Chapel of the South Carolina College, by James H. Thornwell, D. D., President and Chaplain. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

This neat and well got up volume consists of a series of discourses, preached in the ordinary routine of the author's ministrations as Chaplain of the South Carolina College, from the text, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true—think on these things" Phil iv 8. The discourses are seven in number: the first being on the ethical system of the Bible; the second and third on the love of Truth; the fourth on Sincerity; the fifth on Faithfulness; the sixth on Vows; and the last on Consistency. They exhibit much thought, and present sound ethical and religious views, in the enumeration and illustration of which the writer has often to express the errors of Paley and ethical writers of the same class. We regard them as admirably adapted for the instruction and benefit of students and of intelligent readers generally.

PRICES PARTING; or the Devotions of the Apostle Paul. New York: R. Carter & Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

We lately directed attention to the "Footsteps of the Apostle Paul," a very interesting and instructive work. We have now to call attention to another work devoted to the elucidation of the life and labours and spirit of the great Apostle of the Gentiles. It is the "Devotions of the Apostle Paul." We find here the various prayers of the Apostle culled from his writings and illustrated with great beauty and simplicity. It is a book which we would cordially commend to the notice of our readers.

THE SELECT WORKS OF THE REV. THOMAS WATSON, comprising his celebrated Body of Divinity, and various sermons and treatises. New York: R. Carter & Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

Watson's Body of Divinity is a book which has been well known to Presbyterians for about two centuries, and which has been highly appreciated. We fear it is not now so generally perused as in former days. And unquestionably nothing could tend so much to lead to a revival of true religion amongst us as the general use in families of the Shorter Catechism, accompanied by such an admirable exposition of it as we find in Watson's "Body of Divinity." Our Ministers could not more effectually advance the cause of Christ than by striving to revive the habit of family catechising, and recommending to parents such standard works as the one to which are now referring. This very handsome and cheap edition, contains, besides the Body of Divinity, seven sermons and five treatises, each of which is exceedingly valuable. The treatises are 1. The art of Contentment; 2. The preciousness of the Soul; The Soul's malady and cure; 4. The beauty of Grace; and 5. The trees of righteousness blossoming and bringing forth fruit. The sermons are on the following subjects, viz: 1. On Christian prudence and innocence; 2. On becoming a new creature; 3. On the evil tongue; 4. On not being weary in well-doing; 5. On knowing good and doing it; 6. Christ all in all; and 7. His farewell sermon on his ejection, for Watson was one who suffered much for his adherence to truth and conscience. This work so valuable in itself and so handsomely got up will have, we sincerely trust, a very wide circulation.

RICH AND POOR; and other Tracts for the Times. By the Rev. J. C. Ryle, B. A. New York: R. Carter & Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

This volume contains seven distinct tracts all written with the usual point, and earnestness of Mr. Ryle. Scarcely any writer of the present day can speak so directly to the conscience and heart. His writings cannot be too highly recommended or too widely circulated.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH. By the Rev. Samuel Miller, D. D., and the Rev. J. J. Janeway, D. D. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication. Sold by A. Kennedy, London.

This is a little work, the object of which is to set forth the paramount importance of the Christian Education of the young, and to urge the