

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Sermons. *The Incarnation as a Motive Power* (1) is a volume of thirty sermons, in which Dr. Bright carries the idea of title through discourses suited to the various seasons of the Church's year in order, and also into some of the details of daily life. The sermons are short, in many cases too short to set forth properly what the author treats of. They are learned and orthodox, and withal they have a strain of serious melancholy in them. They are more doctrinal than practical. Some of them are very good indeed, especially the one on Naaman and that on Saintliness, which we fancy has been published elsewhere. The sermon about Christ's Presence amid Theological Studies is longer than the others, and in some points better, because fuller. The sermon on the Warnings from the Seven Churches is quite a feat of condensation. There is an Appendix on the "Examination" and the Atonement, which contains valuable remarks.

Manliness, and other Sermons (2) is a volume of discourses collected by the daughter of the late Hugh Stowell Brown, and published, with a graceful Preface by Dr. Maclaren, as a fitting memento of this well-known preacher. The sermons are twenty-two in number, and almost every one of them is charming in style, and excellent as a model of what pulpit utterances should be—plain, practical, perspicuous. Mr. Brown's language is simple, his thoughts run in logical order, and the result is a force and thoroughness which leave little to be desired. The present volume contains no great amount of dogmatic teaching; the subjects expounded are mostly those concerning every-day life and conduct, and each discourse is characterised by a breadth of view which is commendable, and a gentle charity begotten of long experience of men and things, and, needless to say, of the Christian life. Mr. Brown speaks well of the Salvation Army; he prefers Rationalism—by which he means right reasoning—to Ritualism, and does not condemn those who hold the doctrine of Baptismal Regeneration; but in some places he utters views which are by no means common. This is one from the sermon about "Bags with Holes":—"By many it is regarded quite as