

Literature.

THE SCHAFF-HERZOG ENCYCLOPEDIA—A DICTIONARY OF BIBLICAL, HISTORICAL AND PRACTICAL THEOLOGY, based on *The Real Encyclopædie* of Herzog, Plitt and Hauck. Three vols. Edited by Philip Schaff, D.D., LL.D., Professor of Theology in Union Theological Seminary: Revised Edition; 1888. New York, *The Christian Literature Co.* Price \$12.00.

This valuable work is a condensed reproduction of the magnificent German Encyclopedia above named, begun by Dr. Herzog in 1854, and completed in 1868, in twenty volumes. In adapting it for the use of English and American readers, many elaborate articles have been shortened to make room for a large amount of new matter. More than one-third, indeed, of the work is original, the editor, who is a host in himself, having received the hearty co-operation of nearly two hundred eminent divines of different denominations and schools of thought in America, Britain and the Continent of Europe. A work, already so well known, so rich in its contents, and so handsomely brought out, needs no commendation from us. Our duty to the publishers and the public is discharged by the simple announcement that ministers, theological students, and intelligent laymen have the opportunity of enriching their libraries by procuring these volumes at the very moderate price which we have named. Our only regret in first glancing at the contents, was, that in the biographical sketches, 'living celebrities are excluded.' But we notice in the preface that a *Dictionary of Contemporary Divines* is being published simultaneously with this work, containing reliable information respecting living theological writers and Christian workers of Europe and America, furnished by themselves. Price \$3.00.

FOREIGN MISSIONS, THEIR PLACE IN THE PASTORATE, IN PRAYER, IN CONFERENCES: by *Augustus C. Thompson*, of Boston; *CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS*, New York, 1889; pp. 469. Price \$1.75.—This is a course of ten lectures, delivered in Hartford Theological Seminary for the benefit of students, and which will be found especially helpful to young ministers in conducting prayer-meetings in their congregations. The volume is characterized throughout by a devout missionary spirit, while the thoughtful and very practical references to missionary obligation and responsibility are evidently founded upon personal experience in the mission field. *W. DRYSDALE & Co.*, Montreal.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The Eighty-Fifth Annual Report, with its interesting appendices, and its long list of Subscribers and Benefactors, comes to us like an old friend with a new face—the record of a grand work, nobly sustained, and carried on with marked faithfulness and ability. The total receipts of the society for the past year were about

\$1,063,275, and the payments \$1,100,820, indicating a deficit for the year of \$37,540; but, taking the figures for the past three years, there is still a balance on the right side of \$10,000, showing that the financial basis of the institution is sound. The total issue of Bibles, Testaments and Portions for the year was 3,677,204—somewhat less than the previous year, yet sufficient to show impressively the immense extent of the Society's work. The detailed accounts of the work in its world-wide field are especially interesting, and cannot fail to inspire hope and call forth devout thanksgiving. Suitable acknowledgment is made of the valuable services rendered to the Society by the Hon. Senator Ferrier, late resident of the Montreal Auxiliary, and other distinguished patrons of the Society, who, during the year, ceased from their devoted labours. These workmen have gone, but the work in which they engaged lives after them. The numerous maps with which this volume of 620 pages is illustrated, are very useful in conveying an adequate idea of the vast extent of the Society's operations. The translation, printing, or distribution of the Bible, has been promoted by the Society in 290 languages or dialects, and during the past year 641 colporteurs were employed in circulating the Scriptures in all parts of the world—a striking fulfilment of the prophecy, "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

DIVINE GUIDANCE, By *Rev. Nelson Burns B.A.* This volume of 288 pages treats of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the hearts, and lives of believers. It contains a theory of "holiness" with the principles and extent of which we cannot fully agree. In some of its aspects the argument is defective and erroneous. Abandoning himself too recklessly to his own fancy, the author mistakes its leading for Divine guidance, and too readily contents himself with the standard of righteousness which he has set up in his own mind. Nevertheless the book will repay a careful perusal. *The Bramford Book and Tract Hq.* Price \$1.00.

THE WORLD'S SUNDAY-SCHOOL CONVENTION, held in London, July 1st to 6th, 1889. A complete Record of the Proceedings day by day. pp. 418. Price, by mail, in paper covers, 60 cents: *F. H. Revel*, New York and Chicago. Here is a rare opportunity for Sunday-School workers to obtain a mine of valuable information for a trifling amount. The volume can be obtained through any Canadian bookseller, and as the edition is limited, early application is necessary to secure a copy. A word to the wise is enough.

WHAT IS TRUTH? By the Duke of Argyll. New York, *A. Randolph & Co.*—This is a lecture delivered to students in Edinburgh last February, and contains a most interesting illustration of the harmony between the highest truths of science and the highest truths of religion.