

NOTICES OF BOOKS OF HOMILETIC VALUE.

THE WORKS OF JOSEPH BUTLER, D.C.L., some time Lord Bishop of Durham: divided into Sections; with Sectional Headings; an Index to each Volume; and some Occasional Notes, also Preparatory Matter. Edited by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. In Two Volumes. Oxford and New York: Macmillan & Co. 1896. Price \$7.

This is a royal edition of the works of one of the greatest thinkers England has ever produced. The first volume contains "The Analogy, with his Dissertations Of Personal Identity," and "Of the Nature of Virtue," and "A Correspondence with Dr. Samuel Clarke." The publication of "The Analogy" settled the great Deistic controversy of the eighteenth century. Sceptics have often declared or assumed that it has been overturned, but they have been chary of attempting to refute its argument. Adam Storey Barrar, in his "Critical History of Free Thought," compares Butler's "Analogy" for God's moral government with the work of Newton's "Principia" for God's physical government of the universe, and adds: "Probably no book since the beginning of Christianity has ever been so useful to the Church as Butler's 'Analogy' in solving the doubts of believers or causing them to ignore exceptions, as well as in silencing unbelievers."

The analysis, divisions, headings of sections, etc., by the greatest of living British statesmen, orators, and scholars, add a feature that will make "The Analogy" a new work to thousands of ministers who studied it in their younger days without these helps. Moreover, the issues it met in the eighteenth century are, by the turn of the wheel, the living issues of to-day, so that a more timely book was never issued.

The second volume contains the sermons of the great bishop, among them those in which, in connection and cooperation with his dissertation "Of the Nature of Virtue" he demolished the utilitarian and selfish scheme of Hobbes.

Mr. Gladstone has promised a third volume, to be made up of his own essays on the great British thinker and his works.

Probably no other edition of Butler's Works at all comparable with this will be published for fifty years to come.

THE ARMENIAN CRISIS IN TURKEY. The Massacre of 1894, Its Antecedents and Significance. By Frederick Davis Greene, A.M., for several years a resident in Armenia. With Introduction by Rev. Josiah Strong, D.D. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1895.

This is the only handy volume on this absorbing theme with which we are acquainted. It brings the subject down to the opening of the year 1895.

THE QUOTATIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT FROM THE OLD, Considered in the Light of General Literature. By Franklin Johnson, D.D., Professor of the University of Chicago. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1896. Price, \$2.

The author and publishers deserve the thanks of the ministry for preparing and publishing this handsome volume dealing with one of the burning questions of criticism. The difficulties that are found in connection with the New Testament quotations from the Old are examined in the light of the laws of general literature. The author says:

"These laws are of two kinds: first, those which belong to literatures of all ages and

nations, like that of truth, or that of beauty; and, secondly, those which change with season and climate, the dictates of evanescent or local taste and custom, like the absence of rime from ancient poetry, the parallelism of Hebrew poetry, or the alliteration of English poetry. In quoting from the Old Testament do the writers of the New violate the fundamental law of all literature, which is that of truth? Or, do they observe this, and do the accusations made against them proceed from forgetfulness either of the laws of literature in general, or of temporary laws, the literary custom prevalent in their age? The answer will be found in the following pages."

The principles laid down and discussed are amply illustrated from all the classic literatures. The book treats of "The Septuagint Version;" "Quotations from Memory;" "Fragmentary Quotations;" "Exegetical Paraphrase;" "Composite Quotations;" "Quotations of Substance;" "Allegory;" "Quotations by Sound;" "Double Reference;" "Illogical Reasoning;" "Rabbinic Interpretation." It is an able vindication of the New Testament against superficial critical attacks, and can scarcely fail to become a classic in the library of the preacher.

WHAT SHALL WE TELL THE CHILDREN? OBJECT SERMONS AND TEACHING. By Rev. Geo. V. Reichel, A.M., Ph.D. New York: Wilbur B. Ketcham, 1896. Price, \$1.50.

The nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every one thousand ministers, who are not natural preachers to children and who know it, will find help in this volume, which is fresh in matter, and in method and scope somewhat original. A title is suggested at the beginning of each chapter. The "object used" is given after such title; then the "Scripture basis." A simple and graphic description of the object then follows. The readers of THE REVIEW will recognize in the author the writer of the series in our "Illustration Section," entitled "Lights on Scriptural Truths from Recent Science and History."

THE LIFE OF PRIVILEGE: Possession, Peace, and Power. By the Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe. Introduction by D. L. Moody. Edited by Delavan L. Pierson. Fleming H. Revell Company. Price, \$1.

We quote with approval from Mr. Moody's introduction:

"These addresses by Prebendary Webb-Peploe, given before the Northfield Bible Conference last August, have proved of such help and inspiration to so many Christians that I am persuaded their mission will be greatly increased in this permanent form."

Was not Spurgeon right also when he said: "The great mass of our ministers are sound enough in the faith, but not sound enough in the way they preach it!" We may learn a lesson just here from some of our English brethren.

HAVE MERCY UPON ME. The Prayer of the Penitent in the Fifty-First Psalm Explained and Applied. By Rev. Andrew Murray. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co. Price, \$1.

This is an exposition by a man of well-known spiritual power, who has long been the leader in Christian work in South Africa. The Christians of our own land were delighted to make his acquaintance last summer at Northfield and elsewhere, and to profit by his simple presentation of the higher spiritual truths of our religion.