

the Books of Holy Scripture," in which he indicates the scope of each book of Scripture from Genesis to the Song of Solomon, and furnishes in brief a compend or digest of its contents. The Rev. R. Johnston, of Arbroath, has published lectures on the Epistle of James, with a new translation and notes on the Greek Text. The Rev. W. Reid, of the Lothian Road U. P. Church, Edinburgh, in "Things to Come," introduces such important topics as the Millennium, the Intermediate State, the Resurrection, the Judgment, Future Punishment, and Heaven. The life of Dr. Cunningham, by the late Rev. James Mackenzie, who wrote Scottish History so admirably, and Dr. Rainy, the Professor of Church History in the New College, Edinburgh, is a book full of interest for all those for whom the Disruption has not ceased to possess a charm. Dr. Hefell's History of the Christian Council from the original documents, to the close of the Council of Nice is now by far the best book upon this important department of Church History. Dr. Hefell is Bishop of Rottenburgh, and formerly Catholic Professor of Theology at Tubingen. His conclusions and deductions display his theological and ecclesiastical bias, but he is singularly accurate and honest in his statements of fact. Dr. Delitzsch has translated Paul's Epistle to the Romans into Hebrew, and, as he says, has illustrated or elucidated it by means of the Talmud and Midrash. It is said to be a far better translation than that of Reichardt. An interesting little book by the Rev. G. W. Sprott, B.A., on Scottish Liturgies of the reign of James VI., the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments, fitly follows his edition of the Book of Common Order, or the Liturgy of John Knox. Presbyterians who are looking towards liturgies will do well to give the preference to those once in use in their own Church. Another description of a different kind of Church forms, from the pen of an undoubted authority is "The Practice of the Free Church of Scotland in her Several Courts," by the Rev. Sir Henry Moncreiff, the principal clerk of the Free Church Assembly. We have frequently had occasion to bring before the readers of the RECORD the cruel slave trade carried on in the New Hebrides and other of the Polynesian Islands. An interesting book has just appeared called "Kidnapping in the South Seas," being a narrative of a Three Months' Cruise of H. M. S. *Rosarie*, by Captain George Palmer, R. N., F. R. G. S. A. The Free Church of Scotland has found a poet at last, whom she would be all the better without. The Rev. John Johnston, of Balmaghie, has perpetrated "The Cross and the Crown, or the Trials and Triumphs of the Scottish Kirk, a poem in ten books." In these ten books he brings the Kirk through from Knox to the Disruption, and farther, down to the present day. The following verse was chosen by the editor of the FREE CHURCH RECORD as characteristic:—

"Auchterarder now lacks a minister; soon
The Patron presents his man,
But one whom the people don't deem a boon,
Though lawyers should plead and plan.
A call is brought forth—sure a mockery,
For what are the presentee's claims?
Of the great crowd met
Two alone can he get
To exhibit their precious names."

We have seen worse poetry than this by ministers of the Presbyterian Church, but it was not in print. Darwins "Descent of Man and Selection in relation to Sex," has received very severe yet gentlemanly handling in the Edinburgh and London *Quarterly Reviews*. His doctrine of the Genesis of the Soul especially has brought his pretty piece of imperfect induction into disrepute among many who cared little for its theological bearing. The *Westminster* set all the good Presbyterians of Scotland, clerical and lay, by the ears, by its article on "Religious Life and Tendencies in Scotland," in which Messrs. Wallace, Story, Caird, and Gilfillan were taken to represent the march of thought in that be-