


Book Reviews.

 HE war now going on between Russia and Turkey has directed attention to the countries and people involved in the bloody struggle. To meet the popular demand for information, (in regard, especially, to Turkey) several works, good, bad, and indifferent, have lately been issued from the press. On our table is a volume of 500 pages, very handsomely bound, just published by Messrs. A. H. Hovey & Co., 48 King St. East, Toronto, giving a HISTORY OF THE EMPIRE AND PEOPLE OF TURKEY, and the War in the East. This book has the advantage of being written by one (R. A. Hammond, LL.D.) who seems to side with truth rather than with Russian or with Turk; one, also, who travelled over large sections of the country he describes. Intending to review the book more fully next month, we content ourselves at present by simply saying that no reader who wishes information, varied, full, and recent, on this interesting and famous land and this notorious people, will be disappointed in this book. It gives an account of the origin of the Turks, and the growth of their empire, the habits and customs of the people, their religious rites and ceremonies, the life of Mahomet, brief, of course; the doctrines of the Koran, and Mahometanism, and the Greek Church; a description of Syria and the Holy Land; cities and towns, mosques and temples, manufactures and products, government and governors of Turkey, with a narrative of the origin and progress of the war; an estimate of the financial and military condition of the two countries, with biographies of leading officers. Whatever may be the fate of the Turks, their country, the finest under the sun, will always be to us, as Christians, interesting and dear, through its connection with the Bible, and Christ, and his apostles. That country is undoubtedly entering on a new era, and it becomes us to follow its fortunes with an intelligent eye. The publishers of this volume deserve praise and encouragement for putting within the reach of general readers such an excellent book at this time.

The next volume* that lies to our hand on the study table introduces the reader to subjects and scenes of a different order. Its title is, VISIONS OF HEAVEN FOR THE LIFE ON EARTH. The author, Robert M.

* Bain: Toronto. Kennedy: London.