

Bible-class. The universal testimony is that it throws a flood of light on the sacred narrative. If teachers or superintendents desire to order a quantity for Christmas presentation, they should write at once to the Rev. Dr. Withrow, Toronto, who will quote special rates for these presentation copies. Every Sunday-school superintendent and teacher will find a copy of this book exceedingly useful in the study of the lessons for the next seven months. Professor Wells, writing in the *Sunday-school Times* of such "Harmony," says:

"It has given the life and person of Christ marvellous vividness, setting facts in their due order, location, relations and proportions, while the facility it affords is constant inspiration to fresh, delightful study. This is the experience of thousands, and yet I am sure that there are many thousands who are yet unacquainted with this Bible-help. Not only every Sunday-school teacher, but every Bible scholar should own one."

Testimony from Dr. Potts:

"Dr. Withrow's 'New Harmony of the Gospels' is emphatically a book for the times. The 'Harmony' is of special value just now when Sunday-school teachers are studying the incarnate life of our Lord, as recorded in the four Gospels. I most heartily commend it to all students of the Word. It is a helpful companion volume to the New Testament.

"JOHN POTTS."

Aid to Bible Study.

"THE People's Bible History," prepared in the light of recent investigations by some of the foremost thinkers in Europe and America. Illustrated copiously and beautifully, and accompanied by portraits of the several authors. Edited by Rev. Geo. C. Lorimer, LL.D., with an introduction by Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, M.P. 1,300 pp. 4to, 9½ by 12½ inches; 200 engravings. Chicago: The Henry O. Sheppard Company. Price (in case) \$15.00. Sold only by subscription.

One of the most hopeful signs of the times is the intense interest which is manifested in the Word of God. No book has ever been so widely read, so carefully studied, and so sharply criticised as the Bible. Around it for ages has been waged a strenuous war. But from every conflict it has emerged more than conqueror. It has been cast into the fiery furnace of hostile criticism, and has come forth without even the smell of fire upon its pages, for abiding in it—a perpetual presence—is the spirit of the living God. It has been the

inspiration of all that is wisest and best and holiest in the laws and literature of mankind, and of the holy lives and happy deaths of believers in its sacred truths. No one has paid a more glowing tribute to this book of books, simply as a body of the world's noblest teaching of its sublime poetry, its pure morality, its enthralling narrative, than Mr. Huxley, who cannot be accused of undue bias in its favour.

Yet this book is far too little studied and known. Professor Swing recently issued a number of questions to advanced university students on the literary allusions to the Bible, and found a woful ignorance on this subject among men who would think it an almost capital offence not to recognize allusions in literature to the pagan classics. Even those who study it in the Bible class, or Sunday-school, or for private devotion, know far too little of its relation to the ancient races of mankind, of the manner in which it has been handed down from age to age, or of the light thrown upon its pages by that greatest of modern commentators—the spade of the explorer.

The purpose of this volume is to bring aid from every source for the better comprehension of the Word of God. For this purpose, the ablest authorities in the whole range of Biblical scholarship have been laid under tribute for the discussion of various phases of the comprehensive study and various periods of its history. While this method sacrifices somewhat unity of treatment, it gains in wider range and more ample and more exhaustive discussion. It is a curious example of the versatility and theological learning of the ex-Premier of Great Britain (Mr. Gladstone) that he has found time to write an elaborate treatise of twenty-six quarto pages, prepared specially for this volume, setting forth the value of Scriptural studies to the laity. Professor Sayce, of Oxford University, who is doubtless one of the greatest living authorities on Assyriology, contributes an article of forty pages on the literature of the Old Testament; Dr. Farrar, Dean of Canterbury, contributes seventy pages; Dr. J. Munro Gibson, of London, eighty pages; Dr. Lorimer, one hundred and ten pages.

We have no reason to be ashamed of the Methodist contributions. Dr. Bristol, of Evanston, contributes seventy-five pages, and Professor Beet, of the Wesleyan College, Richmond, England, a valuable section on literature of the New Testament. The most important section, we think, is that of one hundred and forty pages by Professor Wilkinson on the life of our Lord. These are a few out of the many authors engaged in this work.

Of this book Bishop Vincent says: "What Gladstone and Sayce have written expressly for its pages, giving the latest results of their largest knowledge, is enough to justify even the most cultivated people among us in the purchase of this admirable work, and the English ex-Premier and the eminent English