

TALKS ABOUT BOOKS.

The first contributor to the Talk of this month is the Open Court Publishing Company, of Chicago and London, England. One has got into the habit of associating this company with the publication of works more or less detrimental to the interests of evangelical religion, although the tone of its manager, Dr. P  ul Carus, has ever been one of reverence and charity. To the three volumes now submitted no exception can be taken on religious grounds. One is Gustav Freytag's *Martin Luther*, which Henry E. O. Heinemann has translated out of the original German. It is a handsome, thin, large octavo of 130 pages, and twenty-seven admirable illustrations, which greatly increase the usefulness of the history. In twenty brief, well-written chapters, replete with earnest thought and pleasing incident, the author describes the reformer and his father; the spirit of the age; the indulgence traffic; Luther, the monk; his rupture with the Church; the conflict; battles within and without; accepting the summons; the Diet of Worms; the hero of the nation; the outlaw of the Wartburg; and other matters no less engrossing, on to the great man's death. This admirable biography costs but a dollar, and is excellent value for the money. Luther's memory will never die while brave men are honored and religious liberty is dear. Yet there are many who ought to know his history who do not, because they have had it before them in a too learned, or too prosy, or too mechanical form. Herr Freytag's book is instinct with life, and links the history of the great struggle of the Wittenberger with the best of modern thought. It is an inspiring volume for any Christian man or woman to read, partaking, as it does, of the grand forward movement of the great reformer's life and work. The translator has conferred a benefit upon the English reader, and the