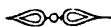


Literary Notices.



NOTES Critical and Explanatory on the Gospels. Designed for Sunday-school Teachers and Bible Classes. By Albert Barnes. Author of "Notes on the Psalms," "Lectures on the Evidences of Christianity," &c, &c. In two volumes.—**NOTES on the Acts of the Apostles.** One volume. New York: Harper Bros. Dawson Bros., Montreal.

This revised edition of these well-known Notes, which contain so much information in small compass and convenient form, will no doubt be welcome to thousands. In the revision the essential character of the work has not been changed. It would, of course, have been easy to have enlarged it very greatly and to have made it much more learned, but the fact of its great popularity in its original form, showed that it met and satisfied a felt want, and the author justly considered that it would not be advisable to change the plan. Many improvements have, however, been made. Some portions have been abridged, and much new matter has been added, and the value of the work has been greatly enhanced by numerous illustrations from photographs and otherwise. The maps, chronological table, tables of weights, &c., and index, will be found very convenient for reference.

AD CLERUM: Advice to a Young Preacher. By Joseph Parker, D.D. Author of "Ecce Deus." Boston: Roberts Bros. Dawson Bros., Montreal.

The readers of "Ecce Deus" will expect great things in taking up another volume from the same pen, and we venture to predict that their expectations will not be disappointed in this series of critical letters. It is not only the originality of

the thought, but the beauty of the style which charms the reader. The writer often does not express his idea in so many words, but suggests it so skilfully that the reader in mastering it cannot fail to make it his own. Dr. Parker speaks from the heart. His earnestness is evident in every page; and though a rich vein of humor runs through the book, he never loses sight of the sacredness and heavy responsibility of the preacher's functions. We fancy there are few preachers, whether old or young, that would not learn something by a careful perusal of the hints on manner and delivery. Take, for instance, his advice with regard to the preparation of sermons. After speaking of the choice of a text, and the elaboration of the sermon, he says—"Having completed a full draft of all your divisions, begin at the beginning and strike out all the fine words, and all the super-fine expressions—let them go without murmuring. Particularly strike out all such words as 'Methinks I see,' 'Cherubim and Seraphim,' 'The glinting stars,' 'The stellar heavens,' 'The circumambient air,' 'The rustling wings,' 'The pearly gates,' 'The glistening dew,' 'The meandering rills,' and 'The crystal battlements of heaven.' I know how pretty they look to the young eye, and how sweetly they sound in the young ear; but let them go without a sigh. If you have spoken of God as the Deity, put your pen through the word 'Deity,' and write 'God' in its stead. If you should so far forget yourself as to write the word 'pandemonium,' put it out and write the monosyllable over its ruins; and if in a moment of delirium you should write "My beloved, come with me on the pinions of imagination," pause and consider soberly whether you had not, on the whole, better remain where you are."