

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Apologetics. In the *Mystery of the Universe* (1) Mr Reynolds pursues his well-intentioned task of defending "Our Common Faith" from the attacks of scientific and other assailants. He does this by first proposing a series of what he calls "Puzzles for Sceptics," and then in ten "themes" restating the old truths with whatever he has been able to collect of new helps and assistance towards their support. He also at times carries the war over into the field of his opponents, and gives them many a vigorous thrust. Mr. Reynolds calls to his aid a most extensive research, and applies the resources of poetry and prose to the work he has undertaken. His book is a large and very interesting one. It will probably be more useful in the way of supporting belief in those who already possess it, than in confuting those who disbelieve, or in dispelling the doubts which afflict a good many. Mr. Reynolds is as enthusiastic as he is learned, he is also very eager; and his style shows that his learning sometimes prevents him from stating his conclusions in such a manner as the ordinary reader can readily grasp. We heartily wish Mr. Reynolds every success in his praiseworthy endeavours; and can recommend this, as well as his other works, to the careful attention of all who take an interest in the grave questions under debate—and these must be numerous indeed.

In *The World to Come* (2) Mr. Reynolds sets out, in his usual manner, the theories upon the subject of Immortality and the Life to Come in thirty chapters, which he calls "researches." Most people will agree with him that "it is a grand thing to know that we shall not die, but live. It is good to be able to accept immortality as the great fact made clear by Christ to those who accepted His Divine authority; to show all other men that it was a truth seen of old, though dimly, and now is exhibited in the light of modern science as a truth not less wonderful than that of the conservation of energy. If," says Mr. Reynolds, "I am able to comfort any who are of doubtful mind, to give more evident purpose to life, and to show death as a blissful rather than a dreaded change, great will be my gladness." Such is the aim and purpose of the work, and we may say that it very well carries out its intention. We can cordially recommend it.

We gladly welcome Dr. W. Morison's work, *The Footprints of the Revealer* (3), as being a valuable addition to the array of Christian Apologetics. The work is conceived in a moderate and