

all lines of Messianic prophecy converge, not in the predictive, but in the ethical sense of the term.

"As all ethical teaching in the New Testament looks backward to Christ, so all ethical teaching in the Old Testament looks forward to Him. As the manifested truth of God, He embodies or realizes in His own personality the truths and principles of Messianic prophecy." — P. 474.

Nevertheless one cannot but feel that there are vital points of difference between the views taught by Prof. Workman, as we understand them, and the consensus of opinion of the great body of Biblical commentators. Just last Sunday, for instance (December 7), the Sunday-schools of Christendom have been studying the revelation of our Lord to His disciples in the walk to Emmaus after His resurrection, when, "beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them

in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself." Throughout Christendom nearly 2,000,000 devout teachers have been instructing 12,000,000 scholars, with the help of the best interpretation that they can procure, the distinctly predictive character of Messianic prophecy. Our own "Sunday-school Banner," for instance, gives references, after Canon Farrar, to twenty-three Old Testament passages of this character. The same teachings are uttered from ten thousand pulpits throughout Christendom. Much of this teaching, it may be said, is uncritical and unscientific, but much of it is fully abreast of the foremost critical investigation of the day. The interpretation which is so enfolded in the heart of Christendom, which has endured through the ages, and is wide as the world, is not to be changed except upon irrefragable evidence such as, in our judgment, has not been, and cannot be, produced.

Current Topics and Events.

WOMEN IN THE CHURCHES.

The question of the eligibility of woman for membership in the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States has for some months been prominently before the people of that community. Very strong positions were taken both by official organs and by prominent men on opposite sides of the question. The veteran New York *Christian Advocate*, the *Northern Advocate*, and one or two papers in the South strongly opposed admission. The other official papers were, we think, all in favour of their admission.

The vast preponderance in favour of woman is in the Central and Western States. New York State, which seems to be supposed to be under the special influence of the *Christian Advocate*, is strongly against them; although New Eng-

land, with characteristic independence is strongly for them.

It will be remembered that previous to the last General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church some five or six ladies, one of the most conspicuous of whom was Miss Frances Willard, were elected delegates to that General Conference. That body, however, after an animated and somewhat heated debate, refused to recognize their eligibility, and referred the question to the vote of the local churches. The New York *Independent* of December 18 gives the returns from 112 Districts. There were 59 Conferences represented in the total vote of 102,000, and there was a majority in favour of the women of 16,614. There are, in all, at home and abroad, 500 Districts, but as these represented all parts of the country, it is probable that the proportion of the votes will