

NOTICES OF BOOKS OF HOMILETIC VALUE.

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LIDDELL & SCOTT'S GREEK-ENGLISH LEXICON, A GREEK ENGLISH LEXICON. Compiled by HERR, George Liddell, D.D., Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, and Robert Scott, D.D., Dean of Rochester, late Master of Balliol College, Oxford. Seventh Edition, Revised and Augmented throughout, with the Co-operation of Professor Drisler, of Columbia College, New York. Harper & Brothers. 4to, sheep, \$10.

A time most inopportune, *this*, for the advent of a great Greek Lexicon. A distinguished alumnus of Harvard University has just pronounced, in the presence of the assembled members of a great Greek-letter society, the Greek language itself a "College Fetich," and nothing more!

But although this Lexicon first sees the light on so dark a day, in itself it will be generally acknowledged to be a really great work in Greek Lexicography, and it may yet be of some use to a class among us who may not be able wholly to divest themselves of all respect for this ancient "College Fetich," even to such men as Lord Derby, Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone; men, who, it will be admitted, have some practical aptitude for public affairs, but still worship this "College Fetich;"—to a Macaulay, who on one occasion was met by an acquaintance in a by-way of London, with his face thrust into a Greek book and the tears streaming down his cheeks, alas! worshipping this "College Fetich," and he then an old man!—to a Robert Hall, who, when no longer young, in order that he might rearrange, as he tells us, the whole furniture of his mind, read the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* twice over critically and with great perseverance, went through the tragedies of Sophocles and Euripides, and other Greek writers, and then, in spite of his worship of the "College Fetich," wrote the noblest sermons in the language on "Modern Infidelity" and the death of the Princess Charlotte;—and to a Michelet, a man of the people in some respects, of modern tastes and advanced notions, who tells us that he himself "had been born like a blade of grass in the shade between the flagstones of Paris, but had been restored to color and vigor and life by southern sunshine and the warmth of another climate" in the study of the ancient languages of Southern Europe. His knowledge of the *people* he traces directly to this source—"Because I was," he says, enabled "to trace it to its historic origin and see it issue from the depths of time." Whoever will confine himself to the present, the actual, will not understand them. He who is satisfied with seeing the exterior, and painting the form, will not even be able to see it. To see it accurately and translate it faithfully, he must know what it covers; there is no painting without anatomy!"

Now this great Greek-English Lexicon, perhaps more than any other book, furnishes us with the means of *studying the anatomy of language*.

The Northern Pacific Railroad, the last spike of which has just been driven, may be, in the estimate of Mr. Adams, the glory of the nineteenth century, but the Greek language is generally admitted to be the crowning glory of the human intellect throughout the ages.

And while it is not too much to say that this book, its binding, its page, its paper and its type, leads one to *love at first sight*, and we can easily believe that its pretty face will do much to give a favorable impression to the *tyro* in the study of the Greek language, we are free to say that this seventh edition, in its approach to ideal perfection, in accuracy and breadth of scholarship and exhaustive research, will be found by the advanced student worthy of the great language of which it is the key.

But what leads us most of all to admire this great work is that it is the noblest illustration of the *co-operation of scholarship* that the world has ever furnished.

No one man could have produced it, no single school, no age, no country; but it is the grand result of the combined scholarship of the ages and of all countries. In editions back in this very work there were found indications of prejudice and sectarian bias, if not of ignorance. These have now all disappeared, and in this last edition the honest, fearless work of true scholarship is discernible on every page.

This book is intended to cover all the eras in Greek literature, from the early epic down to the Roman age, and it will not only be found an all-sufficient help to the student of classic Greek, but it will be all that most students will want in the study of the New Testament, and generally it will be more satisfactory than any special New Testament Lexicon, inasmuch as the words are herein traced in the development of their signification from their earliest age to their New Testament and even Byzantine use. As a book of homiletic value, we have never called attention to one more worthy of regard.

FRENCH AND GERMAN SOCIALISM IN MODERN TIMES. By Richard I. Ely, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Economy in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, etc. Harper & Brothers. Price 75 cents.

This is a little book on a great subject. Socially, politically, as well as religiously, Socialism would seem about to be the engrossing subject in this country as well as in Europe. For the last fifty years it has turned Europe into a seething cauldron, and many of these elements of commotion are being rapidly transferred to this country. It must be acknowledged that neither practically nor theoretically have the ministers of this country known much about Socialism. It has been regarded by many intelligent people as a sort of a craze of some hair-brained enthusiasts, and at best but a theory of impracticable men. But, as the theories of one age, if not refuted, become the principles and give rise to the practices of succeeding ages, it is high time that ministers, and intelligent minds in all classes, carefully examine the theories of the Socialists. They are especially dangerous because they seem to rest in part on the basis of religious teachings, and on this account ministers ought to study them carefully.

This little work, with great brevity, but with remarkable clearness, gives the tenets, rise and progress of the various schools of Socialism in Europe. It will be seen that they differ widely, and that the principles of some are not easily overthrown, and that there is a probability that there are in them some truths that will largely influence our country and the world in the future.