

and able preacher, and an extensive author. Twenty-five years ago he took his place among the leaders of the orthodox party, beat back the destructive New Testament criticism of what is called the Tubingen school. Whenever it is his turn to preach in the University church, the place is crowded. Oftentimes, it is only those who go half an hour before the service begins, that obtain seats. But he is principally known as Professor of New Testament Literature and Exegesis. Three or four years ago he issued a new edition of his work on John's Gospel, in which, with a perfect mastery of the whole subject, he vindicates its Johannine authorship. This work, dealing with the latest opposing literature, completely defends what may be called the orthodox position: for if it be true that the Apostle John wrote the fourth gospel, the truth for which the church of Jesus Christ contends as vital, is impregnable, and can be rejected only by a blind, stubborn, immoral unbelief. This elaborate work, translated by Dr. Caspar Rene Gregory, of Leipzig, has been published by Mr. Clark, of Edinburgh. Prof. Luthardt has also rewritten his commentary on John's Gospel, bringing the exposition up to the latest light, and rebutting the latest perversions.

His mastery of the whole literature of the subject—and it is very extensive,—his familiarity with every aspect of the critical question, and with all that relates to the interpretation of the book, makes him a very instructive and interesting lecturer. His fluency as a speaker, his great geniality as a man, and his thorough sympathy with his students, make him a great favorite with them; and his hearty love and loyalty to the faith as it is understood and held by the Evangelical church, render him worthy of entire confidence, and make him a safe and precious instructor of the church's pastors and teachers. It is refreshing to witness the heart and earnestness with which Prof. Luthardt, in his Lectures on John's Gospel, brings out the meaning of that most precious portion of God's word. The sophistries and perversi-

ties of that criticism which would shut Jesus Christ out of this gospel, as it would shut Moses out of Deuteronomy,—which books are to every discerning spirit so redolent of the greatest of the Old Testament prophets and of the living Lord, respectively—are detected by the eye and torn to shreds by the hands of this master in Israel; and as has so often been the case, the difficulties that surround the rationalistic theory are seen to be far greater than those involved in the church's faith. The great courtesy and fairness of such an apologete as Luthardt are fitted to disarm the hostility of opponents, and if they can or will be taught, to render it dutiful in them to lend an impartial ear to what is to be said by the church for the hope that is in her.

#### MODERN IMPROVEMENTS IN ENGLISH.

One beautiful afternoon last spring, just after my return from College, I was busily engaged in my mother's garden, when on looking up I saw two fashionable young ladies coming along the street with slow and majestic tread. As I had work marked out for the remainder of the day, I greatly hoped they were not coming to see us; but in this I was doomed to disappointment. However, having learned to make the best of circumstances, I went to prepare myself for the reception, while our friends were coming up the lane. In due time they arrived, and shortly after I was ushered into their presence. Before we had got far in talking upon those subjects, which, according to the conventionalities of society, form the prelude of all conversation, it became evident to me that these ladies were terribly addicted to slang. Having been at College a short time I was, of course, not a stranger to this sort of thing; but heretofore I had not considered it the embroidery, much less the web, of conversation. With a commendable desire to secure from the present what might in some way be utilized in the future, I asked to be excused for a moment, and going into another room I called my younger brother Charlie, a sly lit-