Man's Need of God, and Other Sermons Preached at Blaisgowrie.

By the Rev. David Smith, M.A., D.D., Professor of Theology in Magee College, Londonderry. Hodder and Stoughton. New York and London. 1910. Pages 286. Price \$1.50.

Dr. Smith has dedicated these sermons to his former flock at Blaisgowrie, Scotland. He now holds a professor's chair at Londonderry, Ireland. He is equally at home in the teacher's chair or in the pulpit and is a fine type of the scholar-preacher. He has the finest kind of scholarly equipment, with the true shepherd heart. This love for Christ and for the souls of men chimes forth in these able and winning discourses. Dr. Smith has great charm of style and felicity in quotation, but in this volume he sticks close to the Scripture text. He is a delightful expositor of the Word of God such as the Scotch delight to hear. The British pulpit is more productive of books of sermons partly because the British public is more fond of sermons of a high order. But I would not discount at all the merit of their discourses by the high quality of the audience. 'But preacher and audience do rise together.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

Correspondence on Church and Religion of William Ewert Gladstone. Selected and arranged by D. C. Lathbury, with portraits and illustrations. In two volumes. 1910. The Macmillan Co. New York. Pages 446 and 470. Price \$5.00.

The letters cover the great religious topics which so much interested Gladstone, such as church and state, ecclesiastical patronage and university reform, the Oxford Movement, the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Oxford Elections, the controversy with Rome, the controversy with unbelief, education. There are some letters also to his children and a few purely personal ones, but the great mass of this correspondence has a public aspect. The illustrations are numerous and very attractive, but the chief charm of these volumes lies in the revelation of the religious side of Gladstone's life. It is not too much to say that religion with Gladstone was primary. Indeed, theology enlisted his whole nature more completely than did politics or statescraft. He was an ecclesiastic, a

churchman of the strictest type, and yet curiously enough his most earnest supporters were the Non-conformists. Gladstone was built on a very grand scale. His greatness was not of simple type. He was complex and many-sided. He held in solution apparently contradictory views and was able by refinement of reasoning to reconcile them. But Gladstone was a real Christian and a powerful exponent of fundamental Christianity. It is a distinct service to have this correspondence preserved. The best traits of Gladstone come out in the letters, and some of his weaknesses. Some of his best sayings come out in his correspondence. "To read much in the daily newspapers in early youth cloyes the palate; it is like eating a quantity of marmalade before dinner." He was not averse to expressing his opinion on any point. His ideas on all sorts of topics come out at every turn.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

Life in the Roman World of Nero and St. Paul. By T. G. Tucker, Litt.D., author of "Life in Ancient Athens", Professor of Classical Philology in the University of Melbourne. The Macmillan Co. New York. 1910. Pages 453. Price \$2.50.

The student of Paul will find this an extremely interesting book. The book is beautifully printed and the numerous illustrations are very attractive. The author has presented in epitome the life of the empire in its various phases. The security of the empire is sketched in one chapter. Another discusses travel. There is an admirable survey of the imperial system (the emperor, senate, knights and people). Nero comes in for a vivid portrayal. The system of taxes is explained. The bulk of the volume is devoted to Rome itself in all its varied life. The streets, the water supply, the building materials, the houses and furniture, the country house, the social life of a Roman aristocrat, the life of the lower and middle classes, the holidays, amusements (theatre, circus, amphitheatre), the life of the women (dress, marriage, the Roman matron), children, education, the army, religion, science, philosophy, art, burial, the tombs—these are the main topics of the book. The style is lucid and the