

able author concedes, and of interest chiefly to "Clergymen" of the Episcopal order. "My own capacity for preaching and active ministry being now restricted, I am anxious to bequeath some hints from experience to a younger generation," is the Bishop's apology for printing them.

Secrets of Sunday School Teaching. By Edward Leigh Pell. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. 1912. Pp. 201. \$1.00 net.

Mr. Pell is fertile in hints as to better methods in teaching. His pages fairly bristle with practical suggestions. One of the best features of the book is the emphasis that it puts upon right motive in Christian work.

III. BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

The Building Up of the Old Testament. By the Rev. R. B. Girdlestone, M.A. Robert Scott, London, 1912. Pp. 314. 5s net.

Canon Girdlestone has been a student of the Hebrew Bible for fifty years. He is not, however, a member of the modern critical school. If one wishes a detailed discussion of the literary analysis of the books of the Old Testament, he must go elsewhere. The venerable author brings out of his treasury things new and old, which he describes in a discursive style. The book would be intelligible to the average man; and it would do him a world of good to read it. Ministers who have read widely in severely critical works would be distinctly helped by the sane discussion of this veteran believer.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

The Deciding Voice of the Monuments in Biblical Criticism. By Melvin Grove Kyle, D.D., LL.D., Lecturer on Biblical Archaeology, Xenia Theological Seminary. Bibliotheca Sacra Company, Oberlin, O., 1912. ix+320 pages.

The subjective character of Biblical Criticism by the literary and theological methods and to a very considerable extent by the historical method as well, leaves their results essentially incon-

clusive. Archaeology provides the one possible and supremely needed objective method of testing these results. And it has done splendid service in this way. It will do very much more. Dr. Kyle has in this volume presented a clearly classified, frank and reasoned statement of the service thus far rendered in confirming, refuting or discrediting theories of Hebrew history and collateral history as it affects our understanding of Israel and the Old Testament. The work is easily comprehensible to the average reader and also deserves full respect of scholars.

W. O. CARVER.

Ancient Assyria. By C. H. W. Johns, Litt. D.; G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1912. Pp. 175. 40 cents net.

The gist of Assyrian history is put by Dr. Johns in a highly entertaining way. Few events of importance in the fifteen centuries of Assyria's history fail to receive adequate mention. The student of the Old Testament follows the author with interest, especially from 860 B. C. to the fall of Nineveh. Dr. Johns does not confine himself to accounts of military campaigning, but affords glimpses into the life of the people. There are maps and a few well chosen illustrations.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

One Hundred Brief Bible Studies. By J. B. Shearer, D.D., LL.D. Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va., 1912. Pp. 229.

The venerable author wrote the Preface to the seventh volume of his Bible Studies on his eightieth birthday. Dr. Shearer is a reverent reader of the Bible who pays little heed to modern critical questions. There is a touch of originality here and there in the way of putting things. The mind of the aged student accepts every statement of the Bible narrative as strictly historic, unless it is expressly declared to be a parable. The studies are never prolonged and tedious. We can well believe the author when he exclaims with the psalmist, "My cup runneth over."

JOHN R. SAMPEY.