

university circles with which I am acquainted. They contain the essence of what is generally believed by the more advanced German theologians, and are exceedingly interesting reading. Many of their conclusions can not be accepted for a moment, but they do not set them forth as final. On the contrary Gunkel, for example, admits that every position he takes may be changed by further study and investigation. He only sets forth what he now believes about the Old Testament in the light of the most thorough investigation he has been able to make. Chief interest attaches, of course, to the essays on the Old and New Testaments. The negative criticism of Gunkel is already well known. It is not so well known, perhaps, that he still holds the Old Testament in high esteem and devotes his life to teaching it. At the close of an eloquent passage in praise of its value (p. 53f), he declares that its rejection would be an unspeakable loss not only to religion but also to the entire world of culture.

The essay on the New Testament is perhaps a little less radical than that on the old. The author's view of the Gospel of John is interesting. He declares that the question of authorship is not so important as that of date and standpoint. "It is the Pauline Gospel, the grand reflex of Pauline piety—Pauline Christianity through and through, even to the most surprising echoes of Paul's favorite turns of thought. Therefore it is at least later than Paul. The other possibility that Paul has this Gospel to thank for his best thought can be expressed, but is very improbable." It will be seen by this brief quotation that the author gives the fourth Gospel an early date and a very high value.

It is to be hoped that the book will appear in English.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

Ideas From Nature.

By William Elder, A.M., LL.D., Professor of Chemistry, Colby University. Published by A. B. P. Society, Phila. 202 pages, 5½x2½. Price 25c.

This brief work of Prof. Elder was published two and

a half years ago, but it has not been my good fortune to read it until recently. He calls it "Talks With Students" and for them it is remarkably adapted. I account it a truly remarkable little volume. It is a statement and defense of the *Design Argument* for God's presence in nature. Of course the argument can not be exhaustive in this compass, but it is satisfactory. The author is abreast of the times, at once scientific and devout and he writes with irresistible clearness and force. I heartily wish that the millions of young people who study natural sciences might all read this book and that very many others would join them in the reading. W. O. CARVER.

A First Primer of Apologetics.

By Robert Mackintosh, D.D. Second Edition. London. Andrew Melrose. 1904. 120 pages 5x7.

A very good, frank primer, based on a good knowledge of the literature and from the modern viewpoint. In the main the positions are well taken and the proper lines of defense indicated. His dealing with critical questions is unsteady and inadequate and his treatment of the Resurrection is by no means calculated to give much help to one who needs it. W. O. CARVER.

The Gospel and the Church.

By Alfred Loisy. Translated by Christopher Home. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 1905. \$1.00 net.

This book and Harnack's *Essence of Christianity* that called it forth have made a great and by no means ephemeral stir in the world and given rise to quite a literature. When Loisy's book first saw the light the author was little known, to-day his fame is co-extensive with Harnack's. From 1881 to 1893 he was Professor of Hebrew in the *Institut Catholique* in Paris. In 1893 he was deprived of his chair and appointed chaplain to a girls' school. In the same year this book was placed in the *Index Librorum Prohibitorum*. To-day, however, he occupies a chair and enjoys academic freedom in *Ecole des Hautes Etudes*.

The book has been a revelation to many of an un-