

Plain Introductions to the Books of the Bible. Vol. II., New Testament Introductions. Edited by C. J. ELLICOTT, D.D. London: Cassell & Co.

This book doubtless fills a long-felt want. It gives in an interesting way what Bible readers so anxiously long for. The book is simple in style, but nevertheless is crowded with facts. The introductions are by such men as Plumptre, Sanday, Barry, Spence, and fairly introduce one to the writers and writings of the New Testament. The type is quite small and the pages much crowded; but, probably, considering the nature of the book, this is hardly a disadvantage. Besides giving special introductions, it gives a general introduction, discussing the canon, text of the New Testament, History of the translations, etc. It is to be recommended to every thoughtful reader of the Bible.

C. E. W.

The Old Testament and Its Contents. By Professor JAMES ROBERTSON, D.D., University of Glasgow. New York: A. D. F. Randolph & Co., 1893. 4 × 6 inches. Paper, pages 162.

This is one of the *Guild and Bible Class Text-Books* edited by Professor Charteris, of the University of Edinburg. It is one of the results of the effort of modern scholarship to popularize the best biblical knowledge of these times. The writer has in view the instruction of the ordinary Bible reader who is seeking for an epitomized statement of the facts regarding the Old Testament. The book is divided into two parts: (1) the Old Testament as a whole including mainly a discussion of the canon, (2) the books composing the Old Testament. In the first part, the author gives a readable, concise statement of the principal theories on the evidences of a completed canon, its gradual formation, and its transmission. The reader will scarcely be anchored by these paragraphs, but will be convinced of the scantiness of data on the question. Less theorizing and a few additional facts and quotations would better satisfy the average reader. The second part is made up mainly, after some introductory matter, of the analyses of the Old Testament books according to their order in the Hebrew Bible. We find, however, one chapter on the "composition of the Pentateuch." This sets before the reader the moderate critical results of the analysts in a clear yet of necessity incomplete form. The attempt to present so much in so small a compass embarrasses the writer and distresses the reader. But the users of such compends and epitomes must become lovers of statistics.

PRICE.

The Second Book of Kings. By the Ven. Archdeacon F. W. FARRAR, D.D., F.R.S. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son; Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1894. Cloth, 8vo; pages xvi and 496. Price, \$1.50.

Last year Dr. Farrar gave us in this *Expositor's Bible Series* the volume on First Kings. This volume completes the history of Israel and Judah