Irish Church Quarterly

The Samaritan Pentateuch and Modern Criticism by J. Iverach Munro

Review by: C. G. S.

The Irish Church Quarterly, Vol. 5, No. 19 (Jul., 1912), p. 265

Published by: [Irish Church Quarterly](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/30067741>

Accessed: 16/06/2014 11:28

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at
<http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Irish Church Quarterly is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *The Irish Church Quarterly*.

<http://www.jstor.org>

science of the early Church, was afterwards "analysed" and "expressed" during the first five centuries. The correspondence between the *Quicumque* and the new spirit which St. Augustine brought into theological speculation is shown. The second chapter of this part contains a discussion of the doctrine of the Incarnation. The teaching of Tertullian, Origen and Athanasius is briefly summarized, and it is shown that the *Quicumque* corresponds more closely to writings of the fifth century than to later formulations of the faith. These chapters lead the way to the proper understanding of the doctrine which is laid down in the creed. Then follows a Commentary. This is exegetical rather than critical. Dr. Burn succeeds admirably in explaining and illustrating the deep meaning which is expressed so precisely in the balanced antitheses of the Athanasian Creed. The value of the book is enhanced by a brief bibliography and an index. It is published in the series of Oxford Church Text Books, and is well up to the high standard which has been set by other books of this series.

W. P. W.

THE SAMARITAN PENTATEUCH AND MODERN CRITICISM. By J. Iverach Munro, M.A. With an Introduction by the Rev Professor Orr, D.D. (Nisbet.) 3s. 6d. net.

Mr. Munro hopes to establish the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch mainly by means of the evidence afforded by the Samaritan Codex. He abandons the traditional account of the origin of this document for a theory of his own, which ascribes it to the needs of the colonists at Samaria in the reign of Hezekiah. Having thus proved that the Pentateuch, as we know it, was in existence before B.C. 700, he tries to show that there is no date to which it can be assigned later than the time of Moses. But Mr. Munro has made no attempt to account for the phenomena which have led scholars to discover the documents known as J E P in the Pentateuch, the existence of which is unassailable evidence of its gradual formation, and fatal to the theory that the whole was due to Moses. Nor do we consider his proofs of the antiquity of Deuteronomy satisfactory. If, however, his theory be adopted, it does show that other and much earlier dates will have to be found for Deuteronomy and P than those at present accepted. Thus his suggestion may prove a starting-point for the re-arrangement of all the constituent documents. Mr. Munro has certainly done good work in exposing the prejudice of Gesenius, and in presenting much information in an attractive form about an exceedingly valuable but long neglected aid to the study of the Pentateuch. For this latter reason especially we hope that the book will have a good sale.

C. G. S.

F