

These sermons are sound in their teaching; but notable chiefly for their style, which is highly rhetorical—in fact, rather overdone in its manifest striving for beauty and brilliancy. Beautiful and brilliant it is, but these qualities seem a little too obtrusive. In thought the sermons are strong.

IV. BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

A Companion to Biblical Studies. Edited by W. Emery Barnes, D.D., Fellow of Peterhouse, Hulsean Professor of Divinity, Cambridge University Press, 1916. 677 pp. 15/net. Putnam's Sons, N. Y.

As the sub-title indicates, this is a revised and re-written Edition of the *Cambridge Companion to the Bible* published more than twenty years ago. It is justified by the fact that during the period since that work appeared Biblical research has been increasingly active and fruitful. The old *Companion* by no means meets the wants of today. This is really, in most aspects, a new book; it covers most of the old ground, but often in a new way, and with many important additions. Old articles have been re-written and new articles of great value have been added, as, for example, articles by Professors Elmslie and Lancaster on the Old Testament, and others by Drs. Swete and Brooke, and by Valentine-Richards and Dean Smith on the New Testament. G. H. Clayton has an able article on the Theology of the New Testament; Dr. Bowney has brought his article on Geography up to date, as has Dr. Murray his article on the Textual Criticism of the New Testament; and the Dean of Wells, Professor Gwatkin and others have thoroughly revised their contributions to the *Companion* of 1892. Dr. Watson has also rendered a valuable service by revising the Index of Subjects and the Concordance with scholarly thoroughness and care. The Editor himself is responsible for the present form of several excellent articles, *e. g.*, for Moulton's essay on the English Bible and for the Introductions to the Synoptic Gospels, in addition to his new articles on the "Testimony" of Josephus to Jesus Christ, and the chapter on the Sacred Literature of the Gentiles. The several chapters

on the Poetical Books, Chronology, Antiquities, Zoology and Botany have been rewritten with great care and labor, and much improved.

The ten maps in the back of the volume are especially good and trustworthy, six of them being new, and the four others which appeared in the former work thoroughly revised. The book will prove a useful and handy *vade mecum* to any preacher or teacher who may be in need of such a work.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Witnesses to the Word. By the Rev. Charles C. Jarrell, A.B., B.D., Nashville, Tenn. Smith and Lamar, Publishing House M. E. Church, South, 1916. 191 pp. \$1.00 net.

Most readers will agree with Dr. Horace M. Du Bose, Book Editor M. E. Church, South, when he says that this volume, though it comes from the pen of one of the younger men of the Church, is "a distinct contribution to our denominational literature." It is a fresh, vigorous, well-reasoned and readable treatment of that most fundamental element in our religion, the integrity and trustworthiness of the Revelation upon which rest our faith and all things related thereto. It is, moreover, marked by such discrimination and taste in the use of language and by such broad, human sympathies, such clarity and constructiveness of thought and style and such orderly marshalling and movement of the chapters toward the shining goal kept ever in view, as will serve to place it, where it deserves to be, in the class of Southern literature. In moving forward to the accomplishment of its central mission, it should prove, incidentally, an incentive to other young men aspiring to authorship to take the matter seriously and to cultivate the field opening before them most earnestly.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Mythical Interpretation of the Gospels. By T. J. Thorburn, D.D., LL.D. Chas. Scribner's Sons, 1916. 356 pp. \$1.50 net.

This able book won the Bross Prize for 1915. It is a critical study in the historic narratives in the light of modern doubt and