

**My Baptism and What Led To It.**

The Rev. James Mountain. Preface by Rev. F. B. Meyer. Philadelphia. American Baptist Publication Society. 1904.

The author of this little book was a highly esteemed minister of that branch of the Methodists in England known as Lady Huntingdon's Connexion. He was pastor of a flourishing church of that body at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, having held the position for eight years. But his mind became aroused to the lack of Scripture authority for the practice of infant-baptism, and after long and painful search he became convinced that the rite was opposed to Scripture and that he must therefore cease to practice it. This led to trouble, for the creed or discipline of his church required the ministers to practice the rite. Mr. Mountain applied to the court of chancery to see if legal measures could be found for him to retain his pastorate and yet act out his conviction. When this failed he withdrew and set up an independent church, founded on believers' baptism. Many of his brethren followed him. A new building was erected and is now partly paid for, and the property is held by the Baptist Union of England and Wales. Mr. Mountain was baptized by the Rev. F. B. Meyer soon after his mind found rest in the Bible views of the ordinance. In this book, under the form of conversations, reproductions largely of some that he actually had during the time of his struggles, Mr. Mountain has given an interesting examination of the errors of infant-baptism. The argument follows the lines with which we are more or less familiar: examination of the Scripture, history, and the concessions of Paedobaptist scholars of various communions.

While there is not a great deal that is new to well informed students of the subject, there is much that is interesting, and the spirit of the author is so eminently frank and conciliatory that the book interests and holds the attention from first to last. As a recent and valuable

contribution to the baptismal controversy it is well worth a careful reading. It is an excellent work to put into the hands of those who are disturbed and seeking light on the question of baptism.

E. C. DARGAN.

### **An Abridged History of Greek Literature.**

By Alfred Croiset, Dean of the Faculty of Letters of the University of Paris, and Maurice Croiset, Professor of Greek Literature in the State College of France. Authorized translation by George F. Heffelbower, A.M., Professor of Greek in Carroll College. The Macmillan Co., 66 Fifth Avenue, New York. 1904. Pages 569. \$2.50.

A. and M. Croiset's great work, *Histoire de la littérature grecque*, in five volumes has long been a standard in Europe. In 1900 they published a *Manual of Greek Literature* in one volume. It is this *Manual* that Prof. Heffelbower has translated and that is now offered to the English reading public. There is need for just such a scholarly, comprehensive and masterly survey of Greek literature in English. The book modestly claims to be designed only for secondary education, but it will be found very helpful for all save the specialists who can use the original unabridged edition. This volume is thoroughly scientific, but is readable and luminous. There is constant reference in the foot notes to special treatises for further study. The book traces the historic development of Greek literature from the days of Homer to the time of John Chrysostom, Cyril and Theodoret, when "Hellenism had taken its exit, and Byzantinism had taken its place." Greek Christian literature is ascribed to the fourth century for its rise. This is true in the sense of the vital and historic connection between Christianity and the ancient Greek literature. And yet it does seem odd for the Greek New Testament writings to receive no mention in a complete survey of Greek literature, though the reason for the omission is clear.

The authors deny that there is a decadence of interest in Greek culture as a basis for modern education. Cer-