

The Fourth Gospel and Some Recent German Criticisms.

By Henry Latimer Jackson, B.D., Vicar of St. Mary's with St. Benedicts, Huntingdon. Cambridge, the University Press; Cambridge University Press Warehouse, C. F. Clay, Man., Fetter Lane, London, E. C. England. 1906. Pp. 247.

This is a brightly written and fair statement of present-day German criticism concerning the Fourth Gospel. It is briefer and a little less technical than Dr. Sanday's recent able volume on the Criticism of the Fourth Gospel. He is very much on the fence about the author, whether John the Apostle, John the Presbyter (if there be such a man), or an unknown member of the circle of Christ's friends, though he does argue strongly for the unity of the book. The volume is helpful not so much for any positive opinions of the author as for an excellent presentation of various German views on the subject. Dr. Sanday inclines to the view that the Apostle John is the author or at least a member of the circle of Jesus' friends. But Mr. Jackson only hopes that this is true, but considers it all in the air. Mr. Jackson does not consider the argument that John's name is not mentioned in the Gospel at all (sons of Zebedee referred to once in John 21:2), certainly a very pointed and curious omission if a member of the inner circle, often mentioned in connection with Simon Peter, wrote the Gospel. If one admits that the author was this close to John, it is a halting logic to stop there. I myself have no doubt that John the Apostle will still hold his place as the author when the debate is over.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

The Culture of the Spiritual Life. Some Studies in the Teaching of the Apostle Paul.

By the Rev. William Dickie, D. D. Hodder & Stoughton, Warwick Square, London, England. 1905. Price, 6 shillings. Pp. 340.

Dr. Dickie is a Glasgow minister of much ability. These studies are not sermons, but real studies, though the preacher's practical turn is manifest. But there is also rare spiritual insight coupled with great freshness

of statement. Dr. Dickie is a genuine scholar who has thought for himself. This breadth of reading is marked by lucidity of thought and charm of expression. Dr. Dickie has also a wholesome balance of judgment that leads one to trust his sanity. These qualities make a fine combination, it is admitted, but the book deserves this high praise. It is readable, stimulating, helpful to the thoughtful reader.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

The Biblical Elucidator. The Pauline Epistles.

By the Rev. Charles Neil, M. A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Stamford Brook, London; Author of "The Expositor's Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans"; Joint-Editor of "Thirty Thousand Thoughts"; Editor of "The Comprehensive Scripture Lesson Scheme". London. Francis Griffiths, 34 Maiden Lane, Strand, W. C. 1906. XII+349 pages. Price 10s. 6d.

The author of this work laments the very general ignorance of the Scriptures and the lack of full and accurate knowledge on the part of even very many "clergymen." He thinks that a new and simpler method, with an element of novelty, in elucidation may contribute to better knowledge of the Epistle of Paul. The plan is outlined in a rather extended *preface* and an additional explanation. It consists of three parts: First, there is the Scripture text so arranged as to make a sort of combined logical and syntactical "structural display of the text;" second, a detailed "Analysis" on the opposite page gives the author's logical outline of the thought of the Apostle; "Notes" occupy the lower part of the "Analysis" page and when too extensive for this page run back on to the preceding page at the foot of the "structural display." The arrangement is quite convenient and easily usable. All parts of the work are well done. The *notes* are least satisfactory, being brief and fragmentary but quite generally helpful. The *Analyses* are usually incisive and accurate but frequently the student will prefer another outline. Especially at some points does this reviewer think the author has failed to see the depths and relation of the thought, as, e. g.,