

This is a romance of the beginning of the Gospel.

The author attempts a very difficult thing without the genius of Lew Wallace in *Ben Hur*. He catches to some extent the spirit of the time, but he has Herod having the Roman soldiers search in Bethlehem for the son of Zacharias (pp. 20f.) to slay him. The author adopts the theory that Salome loved John the Baptist and pictures all the supposed details. He makes use of the legends about John.

**A Critical Introduction to the Old Testament.** By George Buchanan Gray, D.D., D.Litt., Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis in Mansfield College, Oxford. 1913. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 253 pages, 75 cents net.

If one wishes a briefer treatment of Old Testament Introduction than is found in Driver, he can obtain it in this new book by Dr. Gray. The discussion is intended for the average mind. Any Bible reader who wishes to know what the great body of modern critical scholars think concerning the different books of the Old Testament can here get it in readable form. Dr. Gray has in mind the difficulties of the general reader, and helps him over rough places as well as one could be expected in dealing with complex problems. A useful bibliography may be found at the back of the book. Students who are familiar with Dr. Driver's *Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament* will not find much that is new in Dr. Gray's book. Dr. Gray has put in the compass of a small volume a great deal of information.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

**Class-Book of Old Testament History.** By George Hodges, Dean of the Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 1913. New York: The Macmillan Company. 222 pages. \$1.00 net.

Dean Hodges has given a fairly conservative treatment of Old Testament History. He accepts very much indeed of the account given in the historical books of the Old Testament, and arranges his material in logical order. The book readily lends itself to classroom use. The author accepts the modern critical view of

the Old Testament in general, but he is a good deal more conservative than most modern scholars. The style is pleasing, and the book is supplied with chronological tables and a good index.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

**Die Genesis**, übersetzt und erklärt, von D. Otto Procksch, Professor der Theologie in Greifswald. A. Deichert'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Leipzig, 1913. xi+530 pages. M. 10.50; bound M. 12.50.

Dr. Procksch follows the method adopted by some of the most recent commentators on Genesis, in that he comments on the passages in the book not in the order in which they are found in the modern translations, as well as in the Hebrew text, but first he makes his critical analysis into sources, and then treats the parts assigned to each of these sources in order. First he takes up the so-called Jehovist, and presents the material from that document. Next he treats the Elohim source, known commonly as E. He reserves for the closing treatment the sections assigned to the Priestly writer, P. If the analysis into documents could be accepted as reasonably final, there would be decided advantages in this method of discussion, especially if the order of the documents in point of time could be agreed upon. In the Book of Genesis practically all the story material is assigned to either J or E. The Priestly document is for the most part merely a skeleton of genealogies and statistical material. The material assigned to P is so devoid of human interest, apart from the beautiful story material in J and E, that it is difficult to think any author would compose such a document as a separate composition. Of course, as a document for filing among the archives of a priestly society, it is conceivable that one might have composed such a dry history. The general reader is enabled to pass successfully over these sections of genealogies as they occur in the Book of Genesis, because he has become profoundly interested in many of the persons whose names are there recorded, in the vivid story material to be found on either side of these genealogical lists. On the theory of the critics, surely much credit must be assigned to the redactor who distributed this statistical material throughout the whole roll of Genesis, instead of detaching it, as