

necessary aid to men largely occupied in the practical work of the ministry. The Bible has spoken to and aroused a responsive chord in the breasts of many generations of men, but it cannot be effective if it be unknown. The signs in

Canada noted above, of a living interest in Bible study, are most hopeful. May they prove but the beginning of a universal awakening to the majesty and the beauty, the life-giving and life-directing power of the Word of God!

Requests and Replies.

Will you please mention the necessary Books for a beginner in Syriac?—Orcadian.

1. Nestle's *Syriac Grammar* (Williams & Norgate).
2. An edition of the Syriac New Testament. That by Gutbirius, with Latin Vocabulary (1664), is still procurable and useful.
3. The *Chrestomathia Syriaca* of Kirsch, with Glossary, by Bernstein (Lips. 1836), is extremely useful.
4. For an advanced Grammar the *Grammaire Syriaque* of R. Duval, Paris, 1881, is to be recommended.

5. The Old Testament may most conveniently be procured in the edition of Mausil, 1886.

Oxford.

D. S. MARGOLIOUTH.

Is there any History of the Authorship and Compilation of the Scottish Psalms?—C. H.

I sent you a brief note on 5th curt. anent Scottish Metrical Psalms. You might *add* to the books referred to—if the note is not already printed off—Julian, *Dictionary of Hymnology*, London, 1892, Art. "Scottish Hymnody," pp. 1021-3. It is probably more accessible than one or two I named.

D. D. BANNERMAN.

Our Debt to German Theology.

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I.

MOST of the English translations of German theology have been published by a single firm—the Messrs. Clark, of Edinburgh, who so far keep the lead in the field which they were the first to enter. The first series to appear was the "Biblical Cabinet," in forty-five duodecimos, a most interesting and useful series in its day, and still not without value. The first volume, published in 1834, Ernesti's *Principles of Biblical Interpretation*, which well represents the entire series, struck out a new path in biblical study in this country. But this was only a forerunner of the stately series of "The Foreign Theological Library," which, during the forty-five years of its existence, grew into one hundred and eighty volumes,—a goodly library in itself, representing the best names in German theology, and covering almost the entire ground of theological study—Church History, interpretation of the Old and New Testaments, Dogmatics, Ethics, Apologetics, Biblical Introduction and Archæology. Martensen and Godet, while non-

German in race, represent the best side of the German spirit. Outside this series, the same house has translated other standard works, such as the Meyer *Commentaries*, Cremer's *Lexicon*, Winer's *Grammar of New Testament Greek*, Lange's *Commentaries*, Thayer's edition of *Grimm's Lexicon*, Hefele's work on the Councils in part, and others. It has been a rule with the firm to publish only the works of orthodox writers, understanding orthodox in a liberal sense. Probably the difficulty of continuing a regular supply on these lines in the face of increasing competition explains the discontinuance of the series. The feature now referred to is worth noting, as it may serve to reassure those who suspect everything coming from Germany. It is mere prejudice to suppose that German is synonymous with Rationalist or heterodox. A moment's reflection would show the improbability of the homeland of the Reformation having fallen a prey to Rationalism. There has been a wonderful revival of scriptural