

BOOK REVIEWS

I. BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

An Introduction to the Old Testament Chronologically Arranged.
By Harlan Creelman, Ph.D., D. D. New York, 1917. xxxiv+383.

According to the author, "In the main the position of the contributors of Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible is the one represented in this volume". The book is thoroughly critical, but mediating between traditional views and the radical and destructive views advocated in many articles in the *Encyclopa Biblica*.

Originality of investigation is not claimed by the author. He aims rather to make available the results of modern critical research in the Old Testament field.

The Old Testament history is divided into appropriate periods and the literature describing each period or emanating from it is discussed in detail, an effort being made to evaluate each document, whether large or small. Questions of chronology receive much attention, whether they have to do with historical events or with the age of literary documents. Varying views receive mention where the best authorities differ. In general, the author has in mind the needs of the intelligent reader who wishes to know what modern critical scholars are teaching as to the Old Testament history and literature. As a book of reference for recent critical views it will be found serviceable and reliable.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

The Books of the Pentateuch. Their Origin, Contents and Significance. By Frederick Carl Eiselen, Ph.D. New York, Methodist Book Concern, 1916. 351 pp. \$1.50 net.

Professor Eiselen has published the first in a series of volumes in which he aims to give to Bible students a new Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament. Naturally the Pentateuch calls for more detailed treatment than any other section of equal length. Dr. Eiselen means to make "an Introduction as complete, comprehensive, and scholarly as the works of Driver and Cornill, but written in less technical or more popular language and style".

The treatment is somewhat discursive and comparatively easy to follow. A beginner in Old Testament Criticism can read with reasonable rapidity. The work is not overloaded with notes and fine print.