

on the book. The result, we believe, will not only reward him, but be exceedingly useful to biblical students. In a general introduction, Dr. Bissell enters first on a review of Jewish history in the Persian and Grecian periods. He then considers the origin, general character, and scope of the apocryphal books. The text which has been used as the basis of the version is the Greek text of Fritzsche, which has, however, been collated with the Vatican Codex. The English translation has been revised, and the corrections incorporated directly with the text, to the greater comfort of the reader, instead of printing them in square brackets, as was done in "Lange." Dr. Ezra Abbot, of Cambridge, has spent a very large amount of time on the book, and given it the aid of his learning, which in this department, at least, may be said to be unsurpassed in this country. We understand that the entire work has passed under his review, and that large parts of it have been carefully examined by him. The list of authorities at the end owes its completeness and accuracy to him. An eminent scholar, whose name we should be only too glad to give, were we free to do so, writes us that, while "Dr. Bissell would make no claim to scholarship like that of Grimm and Fritzsche, he has spent an enormous amount of time and labor on this work and has spared no expense in procuring for his own library, if possible, every important work relating to the subject. Had he only presented to the English reader the results of the labors of Fritzsche and Grimm, he would have rendered the public an important service; but he has done vastly more. As regards the Greek text, while judiciously following Fritzsche, for the most part, he has in many places supplemented his collection of the various readings, and corrected them by the aid of Nestle's collation of the Vatican MS. and by the use of other materials. Especially has he taken care to indicate the Greek text which our translators followed. His introductions give evidence of a pretty thorough examination of the literature pertaining to the different subjects, including the most recent discussions; and generally he shows good judgment. Many small mistakes and some big ones will be found in the book; but there is a great amount of solid work in it, and there is certainly nothing at present to compare with it in the English language in the books of which it treats."

....Professor Schaff has given his friends a welcome surprise by winding up the American edition of "Lange" with a uniform volume on the *Apocrypha*. There was, of course, nothing in "Lange" to take this place, and there was nothing anywhere to fill the place with by simple translation. It was, therefore, decided to prepare an original commentary. Dr. Edward Cone Bissell had already made considerable progress in work on the Apocrypha when he came into connection with Professor Schaff, and the work was, fortunately, committed to him. He has gone over the ground several times and done an enormous amount of work