

actor, and is in such general use in the Methodist churches as to make this revision something like an imperative necessity. Dr. Curry's revision, without modernizing the work or destroying its original character, introduces into it as much of the results of modern study and criticism as it will imbibe without injury to its own distinctive character. It is, at all events, a vast improvement on the old work, and the only edition of *Adam Clarke's Commentary* that could be used with any hope of keeping abreast with modern scholarship.

....If it were safe to predict the future of a young singer from a first book, we should augur a succession of pleasant triumphs from Louise Imogen Guiney's *Songs at the Start*. They are fully as original as we could expect in this period of imitation; and where they remind us of other poets, it is of poets whom we respect, even if we do not particularly admire them. Miss Guiney is impressed by the Puritan element, as much so as Longfellow, or Whittier, or Miss Larcum, who are her masters; and what is most characteristic of their verse is reflected in her's. Either might have written her opening poem, "Gloucester Harbor," or "Boston from the Bridge," or "Mount Auburn in May"; but only Longfellow could have written her sonnet, "Knight Falstaff," and only Mrs. Thaxter her sweet lyric, "The Sea Gull." She has a clear sense of the picturesque in landscape and in the sea from shore, a fine sense of unstudied melody, and a pensiveness of her own which is like the flavor of wild flowers. (Cupples, Upham & Co.)

....*Melodies of the Heart, Songs of Freedom and Other Poems*, by W. H. Venable, betray the influences which have molded the mind of their writer, and breathe of the localities in which they were improvised. He is one of the poets whom the West always welcome, and of whom it is proud, in that they are supposed to represent what is distinctive characteristic in its scenery, its boundless prairies, its devious, interminable streams, and the sense of liberty which encircles them like the sky, that is now smiling with sunshine, and anon whirling with blizzards. We have in him the Platts at second hand, as we have in that estimable couple at third hand Gallagher, the Carys, and Bryant. The classes into which Mr. Venable has arranged the poems in this, his third collection, determine their scope and limitation. They are "Melodies of the Heart," "Songs of Freedom and Faith," "An Octave of Sonnets," "Occasional Poems," "For my Children," "Etchings by the Way," and "In the Library." His work is fairly good. (Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati.)

....Mr. E. B. Treat, of this city, publishes in popular form and with numerous illustration and other popular attractions, *The Home Beyond; or, Views of Heaven and its Relation to Earth*, composed of selections from over four hundred different preachers and authors, bearing on the various aspects of the subject contained in the title. The collection is made by the Rev. Samuel Fallows, D.D., now Bishop in the Reformed Episcopal Church, who has arranged the extracts in systematic order, grouped them under appropriate heads, and provided the whole with convenient indices.

—A volume similar in character and purpose is *Heaven*, edited by the Rev. Charles S. Perkins, of the First Free Baptist Society, Boston, from whom it is to be obtained. The volume contains thirty-four sermons by as many different preachers in different denominations and wings of the Christian Church, selected so as to present the greatest variety of theory as to the heavenly state, of sentiment concerning it, and of motive to attain it.

....It is rather a bold thing nowadays to discover the site of the Garden of Eden; but Moritz Engel, of Dresden, has done it, as he thinks; and he has published the results in a small book entitled *Die Lösung der Paradiesfrage* (Solution of the Paradise Question), issued by Otto Schulze in Leipzig, and imported by Westermann. The location is about seventy miles southwest of Damascus, just east of the smaller lava plateau of the region, and just above the thirty-third parallel of latitude. The basis for his conclusions he finds in the explorations of Wetzstein. Whatever may be thought of the author's work as a final settlement of the question, his book is readable, and especially pleasant in its résumé of sundry previous theories and guesses, as well as in its presentation of sundry modern Oriental facts and customs. It is provided with an illustrative map. (Size, 9x6 inches, pp. x, 194.)

....The Messrs. Macmillan & Co. publish a second edition of the Messrs. Barnes and Brown's delightful *Sketch of Charles George Gordon*, with a *fac simile* letter from *Abu Hammed*, containing a rough draft of the Nile, from the mouth to Khartûm, and the biblical motto, "Be not thou greatly moved." It is dedicated to the Queen of the Belgians. In addition to the interesting notes of Gordon as a man and a Christian, a summary sketch of his last days at Khartûm and of the catastrophe there is given.

....Among recent instruction books in Hebrew are: *Hebrew Introduction; an Elementary Hebrew Grammar and Reading Book*, by Edward C. Mitchell, D.D. (Andover: W. F. Draper), in which the grammatical elements are compressed into a compass almost as small as the elementary treatises of two centuries ago, with tables and exercises, the latter in great part taken, without acknowledgment, from Kautzsch, the whole intended as introductory to the author's edition of the Hebrew book of Genesis. The book may be pronounced worthless. (Size, 9x6 inches; pp. 34, and 15 unpaginated leaves of paradigms. Price, \$1.25.)—*Hebrew Lessons; a Book for Beginners*, by H. G. Mitchell, Ph.D., Professor in Boston University School of Theology (Boston: Ginn & Heath), a book of progressive exercises, studiously avoiding technical terms, but nowhere explaining its (good) method of transliterating Hebrew into Roman letters. Faulty explanation of the pronunciation of 'ain, teth, sade, and goph. Well calculated to teach the author's pupils, and to teach the rapid reading of the historical books. (Size, 7½x7 inches, pp. vi, 164, 68. Price, \$1.90.)—*A New, Easy and Complete Hebrew Course*, containing a Hebrew Grammar with copious exercises, and a Hebrew-English and English-Hebrew Lexicon; by the late Rev. T. Bowman, M.A., of Clifton, Bristol [England] (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, but printed in Leipzig); much more voluminous than either of the preceding, and much more comprehensive, minute and full. Progressive exercises fill two volumes. Part II begins with the irregular verbs. (Size, 9½x6 inches. Part II, pp. xv, 423.)

....The Messrs. Robert Carter and Bros. publish an attractive 16mo of Mr. Spurgeon's *Sermon Notes: A Selection from Outlines of Discourses delivered at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, with Anecdotes and Illustrations*. They make a rich and suggestive collection, which will prove most useful, if employed by a preacher as a garden of refreshments and suggestions to walk in, in the cool of evening, when his work is done; but very bad indeed if he goes to it in the morning, as a kitchen garden, to fill his pot for the day.—In his little volume, fresh from the press (Boston: W. A. Wilde & Co.), the Rev. Prof. L. T. Townsend, D.D., discusses the subject which is contained in the title. *Faith-work, Christian Science, and Other Cures*, with moderation, and yet with sympathetic appreciation. He has weighed the evidence against the difficulties, and leaves the subject in that condition of pleasing indefiniteness, which we apprehend is the exact notch for it to remain in, at least for the present.—*Family Prayers for Every Day in the Week, with Occasional Prayers*, by the Rev. Thomas Cotterill, A.M., Late Fellow of Cambridge (Eng.), was, in the first edition, a very excellent manual of devotion, dignified, comprehensive, plain, and homely in its honest petitions, unconventional, and well adapted to daily use in the family. The new edition is published by the Messrs. A. C. Armstrong & Co.—We suppose Prof. Frank Sewall, of Urbana, Ohio, to be the editor of *The Young New Churchman's Guide to the Holy City*, with a manual of doctrines and a collection of prayers preparatory to confirmation and the communion. (E. H. Swinney: 20 Cooper Union).

....The *Songs of the Silent World, and Other Poems*, (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) We have the fourteenth volume of Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, and in it most of the qualities which have endeared her writings to a multitude of readers. If we were not familiar with her verse and prose we should possess the key to both in her portrait, which must be like her, it is so womanly, so refined, so pensive, so questioning, yet so believing, and so shadowed over with the pale cast which is incident to gentlewomen of Puritan ancestry. One of Coleridge's books (if it be Coleridge's) might serve as the title to all her books, for they are all the Confessions of an Inquiring Spirit. One should read between the lines in her poetry, which, faithfully reflecting what is uppermost in her mind at the hour of writing, is, nevertheless, in a certain sense, dramatic, or, as Browning puts it, in the Advertisement to his *Dramatic Lyrics*, "so many utterances of so many imaginary persons, not mine." They are simply studies. "Afterward," is as surely a study as "Won," "Galatea," or "At the Party." If Miss Phelps wrote "The Gates Ajar," and "Beyond the Gates," she also wrote "The Trotty Book." There are silver linings to her clouds.

....In connection with the first volume of Dr. Daniel Curry's new, condensed and supplemented edition of *Adam Clarke's Commentary* we have already explained the general principles of the new revision. Vol. I carried the work as far as the end of the Book of the Acts. Volume II, which has been published by the Messrs. Phillips & Hunt, contains the Epistles and the Revelation. More revisionary and supplementary work has been found necessary, we should think, than in the previous volume. Dr. Clarke's Commentary has such a standard char-