Lotos-Time in Japan. By Henry T. Finck. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $1.75.) We constantly ask our foreign visitors, "What do you think of us?" But when our friend goes home, after his brief sojourn, and straightway writes a book, we indignantly deny his right to judge our customs, manners and institutions. Both question and denial may be justified. It is interesting to learn the impression made upon intelligent strangers by our ways of life, and it is presumption to judge any people on brief inspection. But our European friends are qualified far better to judge of us after a tour of a few weeks than are we to judge an Oriental nation after a residence of months, of years. Yet do we pronounce our sentence, favorable or otherwise, on so very foreign a land as Japan, after the briefest stay. It is safe to say that no traveler's book satisfies Americans or Englishmen resident in Japan. At best it recalls a state of mind long since passed away. Most of the books that are printed so freely represent the opinion neither of the Japanese themselves nor of foreign residents. They describe not the Japan that is, but the Japan of the globe-trotter. Therefore, Mr. Finck's justification of his book is precisely its one condemnation.

"That there is room for another volume on this remarkable country I may, perhaps, be allowed to infer from the fact that, among the hundreds of books in various languages that I have looked over, I have not found one in which is given a convenient bird's-eye view, in a few brief chapters, of the principal points in which Japanese civilization is superior to our own."

Naturally enough the only worthless chapters in the book are those in which this bird's-eye view is attempted; and they are none the less worthless because they do contain some facts and enforce some lessons much needed by ourselves. But Mr. Finck is not competent to understand his facts nor to teach his lessons. Such qualification can be acquired neither by a few months in the land nor by the perusal of some hundreds of volumes in various languages. Let us give a single instance. Mr. Finck especially praises the Japanese for their kindness to animals and tells us that with a few exceptions "there are hardly any instances on record of Japanese cruelty toward animals, altho there has never been a law against it." Doubtless, there is much kindness to animals in Japan, but doubtless, too, there is much cruelty. Nowhere, perhaps, is the horse worse treated, and that not merely in the occasional maltreatment of a car-horse in Tokio. The horses are infamously abused on all the stage lines. We have known a miserable beast to drop dead in the shafts, overworked, under fed, abused, covered with sores. We have known many foreigners who refused to patronize the stage lines because of the constant and atrocious maltreatment of the horses. And, moreover, efforts to remedy the abuse by the organization of a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals proved futile, as the Japanese public made no response. Back in the hills among the farmers we have seen the boys misuse pack-horses until one wondered whether the undeniable viciousness of the horse was due to the cruelty of the boy or the cruelty of the boy to the viciousness of the beast. Nor is it true that such cruelty never has been forbidden by law. We have a copy of a law published in the last century which punished by death the killing of a dog, and all mistreatment of animals by imprisonment—a law which filled the prisons of Tokio (Yeddo), with literally ten thousand prisoners. And if "all cruel sports, such as hunting and cock fighting, come under the ban of Buddhism," so, likewise, does all killing, even of noxious reptiles and injurious insects. Besides, hunting was an aristocratic amusement when Buddhism was at its best, and dog fights were and are common, in some of the provinces at least. It is not Buddhism which has taught a rational consideration for animals in Japan or elsewhere. Apart from his preaching, Mr Finck has given us an admirable book. He fairly and sufficiently sets forth Japan in lotos time, as it appears to the cultivated man of the world who knows what to see and how to write. For the prospective tourist the book is to be recommended highly, as highly as any book of travels on the far-Eastern fairly land. Nor is it any criticism to add that no one really lives in fairy land.——*Rambles Through Japan Without a Guide.* By Albert Leffingwell. (The Baker & Taylor Company, New York. $1.50.) This book is to be recommended to the commonplace traveler. It is straightforward, clear, photographic in its accuracy, without humor, imagination or literary skill. The author has made good use of his guide-book and other easily accessible sources of information. He is patient, good-natured and ready to put up with the minor inconveniences of travel. Japan moves so fast that some of the detailed information is out of date. For example, there are railway lines on some of the routes he traveled by jinrikisha. The treaties, too, which so vexed his righteous soul, are revised, and his grievance removed. He cannot resist the temptation to express his judgment on topics of which he knows nothing. He thinks that foreign intercourse has impoverished the land, while the undoubted fact is that Japan was never before so prosperous, never before so wealthy as to-day. ——*Japan the Land of the Morning.* By the Rev. John W. Saunby. (B. A. Wesley Buildings, Toronto. $1.00.) Mr. Saunby is a missionary of the Canadian Methodist Church, and has given us a little sketch of the mythology and history of Japan, a sketch of service to those who have not the time for the larger works of Griffis, Rein and Chamberlain, from which most of Mr. Saunby's information is drawn. The book has a brief chapter on missions, especially of the writer's own mission. We are surprised that Mr. Saunby should seem to countenance the absurd statement that the Japanese once held a faith which comprised the existence, death and resurrection of a Savior, born of a virgin, with almost every other essential dogma of Christianity, including the belief in the Trinity. Mr. Saunby, like Mr. Finck, misspells the name of the aborigines, Ainu. That is the Japanese nickname. Surely even savages may claim right to name themselves, and the true word is Ainu.——*Occult Japan; or, The Way of the Gods.* An Esoteric Study of Japanese Personality and Possession. By Percival Lowell. (Houghton, Mifflin & Company. Boston and New York. $1.50.) A part, the better part, of this book was printed in substance in the "Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, in 1893." The additions contain nothing of importance or interest. This is the fourth volume Mr. Lowell has given us on the Far East, and it is in some respects his best. The parts printed already in Japan make a positive, if somewhat unimportant, addition to our knowledge. It is a description of modern miracles and god-possession, a Japanese form of the phenomena we call nowadays hypnotic. The material is meager; but Mr. Lowell is an accomplished bookmaker, and manages to spin his story out to the requisite number of pages. He is really a charming companion for a while, and in the most graceful and genial fashion introduces us to out-of-the way places, manners and people. His style sparkles, and point and wit come with every paragraph. Puns and alliteration are natural to his flippant, facile, fluent pen. "Sense may not be of the essence of religion, but incense is"; "Childish conceptions embalmed in an exquisite etiquet, so Shinto might have been ticketed"; "In that semi-ecstatic state, when discrimination has lapsed into a supreme state of satisfaction, when the charms seemed as enchanting as the chant, and the chant as charming as the charm." And so on, page after page. It is all about the religion of the illiterate. There are miracles—walking on hot coal sprinkled well with salt, climbing a ladder made of sword blades, scattering hot water on one's bare skin, bringing fire down from heaven and the thunder god into a kettle of steaming rice, which is to be offered as banquet to the deities; "for to have rice taste like thunder is said to be particularly pleasing to the gods." There are purifications innumerable and ultimately a state of mind, of never mind, Mr. Lowell would say, so vacant that the god comes in and takes possession for a few minutes, answering questions after the fashion of ordinary mediums. Mr. Lowell goes over the purifications and rites in all their varying forms, and incidentally tells us about the pilgrim clubs and mountaineering and the quaint ways of many quaint folks. In spots one is half inclined to think that Mr. Lowell takes himself seriously, and that he really wishes to prove something. But with him a pun is an argument, and jokes are reasons. He very much desires us to think that these miracles and possessions are of Shinto origin and not Buddhist; and then that Shinto expresses the soul of the Far East, and then that the Far East has no soul. He is always philosophic. His soul of the Far East showed plainly a cursory acquaintance with the "First Principles" of Herbert Spencer, and *Occult Japan* proves that he has read recently, the "Psychology" of Professor James. Not that we hold Professor James responsible for the remarkable psychology and metaphysics of Mr. Lowell, for the latter's grasp of his subject is shown by such sentences as these: "Now of what do ideas consist? They consist apparently of molecular motion. An idea, in short, is a mode of motion." "This white-heating of the cells we call consciousness. Consciousness, in short, is probably nerve glow."——*Corea, or Cho-Sen; The Land of the Morning Calm.* By A. Henry Savage Landor. (Macmillan & Co., New York. $4.50.) Mr. Landor is a young artist who spent a few months in Korea, and gives his impressions in this book. To him the strange land and people appear as to most travelers who go no further than Seoul. The people are interesting from their oddity, grown-up childishness, utter out-of-the-worldliness. But they lack good manners, intelligence, greatness, hope. There is neither beauty nor art. The officials are ignorant, corrupt, intriguing, and spend the proceeds of their relentless "squeezes" in inordinate feasting and on the base women of low degree who minister to their debased pleasures. The common people are lazy, work only when forced by hunger, and are like their betters in their morals. Women are the property of father or husband, and must submit to every humiliation, unless, indeed, as often happens, they rule at home by virtue of superior physical or moral strength. Fights with fists, stones and clubs are frequent. Punishments are revolting beyond description and cruel beyond belief. Life is degraded, disgusting, hopeless. Mr. Landor thinks all this funny, and sums up his conclusions in the paragraph beginning at the foot of p. 208:

"The two qualities I most admired in the Korean were his skepticism and his conservatism. He seemed to take life as it came, and never worried much about it. He had, too, practically no religion, and no morals. He cared about little, had an instinctive attachment for ancestral habits, and showed a thorough dislike to change and reform."

If Mr. Landor mastered the Korean tongue so as to understand it and talk it in the fashion described, he is a prodigy. We are glad to note in conclusion, that the pictures are excellent, and only wish there were more of them.

Actual Africa; or, The Coming Continent. A Tour of Exploration. By Frank Vincent, author of "The Land of the White Elephant," "Around and About South America," etc. (D. Appleton & Co., New York. 8vo, pp. 549.) This large and sumptuous volume is much such a report of travels and observations as Bayard Taylor used to give us in his day, written with good sense, intelligent general observation, and in an attractive literary style. Those who read "Around and About South America," by the same author, should know what to expect in this new volume. It is the record of a grand exploration of the entire continent of Africa from the Straits of Gibraltar, back by the way of Mauritius, Madagascar and the Cape of Good Hope. Beginning with Tangier and the Land of the Moor, and the Gorge of the Chabet, Mr. Vincent keeps on the track of the African tourist to Tripoli, whence he transfers himself to Egypt, and reports his journey up the Nile as far as the second cataract in Lower Nubia. Returning to Cairo he ships for Mauritius, makes a trip across the whole breadth of Madagascar, and embarks for Zanzibar, where, after a look at German East Africa, he takes ship for Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, and a brief run back into Portuguese East Africa. Natal brings him to British soil and the proper starting point for his trip to the gold and diamond fields of South Africa. His reports of them are more rosy than any we have seen, and we fear more so than a strictly scientific view of the case would warrant. From the Cape his course lay north to the Canaries, where he climbed Teneriffe in midwinter, an ascent which tried his powers more than it would a trained mountaineer, but gave him an opportunity to enrich his book with a pleasing literary account of the trip. From the Canaries he sailed back for a look at Portuguese, Benguela, on the east coast. What he saw inspires him to volunteer a little praise of Portuguese administration in Africa, which should win him favor in Portugal. She has certainly had very little of good reported of her African administration for many a year. The same occasion draws forth a voluble stream of commonplace rhetoric against England, and her part in Africa, which comes very strangely from a man who professed to be on the paths of Mungo Park, Livingstone, Gordon, Baker and Bartle Frere, to say nothing of the Welsh-American, now returned to his native land, Henry M. Stanley. The final stages of his circumnavigation brought him to the Congo. We have read carefully his report on the progress of the Free State. Excepting the references to the Christian missions, it is very favorable indeed. We wish it bore evidence of more rigorous and capable examination than we find in it. As to the Christian missions, his interest in them all over Africa would seem to have been of the slightest. At least his observations on them are fully as unimportant as he seems to have considered the missions themselves. His explorations "toward the heart of Africa" was made on one of the largest steamers of the Belgian Commercial Company, by invitation of Major Parminter, Managing Director, who took him with him on an extensive but neither dangerous nor in any way trying trip up the principal southern affluent of the Congo, the Kassai, to Luebo, thence returning by the Sankuru to Lusambo, into the new water of the unexplored Kutlu River—a trip whose novelty gave our traveler very great delight, and of which he writes in a pleasing and sensible style. The impression left on his own mind, and by his book on its readers, is that the Free State is moving forward, and is sure to move more rapidly than ever when the railway now building around the Stanley Pool section is completed, as, at the rate at which it is now being pushed, it will be at no distant day. Mr. Vincent's work is that of an enterprising looker-on rather than an explorer, of a traveler of boundless curiosity rather

than a path-breaker or a qualified, trained observer. He tells us that the plans for the journeys, of which those described in this volume are the closing series, were organized twenty-five years in advance, and that three years were spent in this exploration of Africa. But it is the exploration of a traveler with note-book in hand, on the commercial routes, who only once goes beyond them, and Then in a commercial steamer on business of its own. If his preparation for it included thorough study of the countries to be explored, their natural or political history, their geography, of what had been done previously in them, or of their unsettled problems, our search through his pages has failed to discover it. The merit of a wide-awake, sympathetic observer of boundless curiosity, and energy enough to carry him forty times around the globe, he unquestionably possesses. He tells his story in a brief, businesslike, sensible way; and, despite a conspicuous lack of humor, and the yet more conspicuous lack of intellectual outfit or rigorous habits, has produced a book worth reading, and which will sustain its interest in the class of general readers for whom it is intended.

We have before us the two latest volumes of the *Early Records of the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts;* Vol. III containing a complete Transcript of Book One of the General Records of the Town, together with the Selectmen's Day Book, covering a portion of the same period (Volume Three of the Printed Records of the Town); and Vol. IV, in the same series containing a complete Transcript of the Town Meeting and Selectmen's Records in Book Three of the General Records of the Town. Both are illustrated with facsimiles of handwriting, the first with facsimiles of the writing of the four town clerks and fifty of the early settlers. Both volumes, like the two which preceded them, are edited by the present Town-clerk, Don Gleason Hill, President of the Dedham Historical Society, Member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society and of the American Historical Association. (Printed by the Dedham Transcript, Dedham, Mass.) The town of Dedham, as originally laid out, covered the whole territory for twenty-five miles south of Roxbury and Dorchester to the Rhode Island line, and for fifteen miles west to Charles River and beyond. The original settlers intended to call the town "*Contentment*," and in the records of the two first meetings that name is apparently given to the town. Dedham was among the earliest towns settled on the Bay, and in its history stands pre eminent not only for having preserved the character of a typical New England town, but for having also preserved its records, and even published a very considerable and most creditable part of them. We have noticed these histories as they came to hand, and called attention to the exceedingly valuable original material contained in them. The volumes published earlier than the two named above contained the records of births, marriages and deaths previous to 1800, admissions to the church and dismissals to 1845, and all the epitaphs in the ancient burial places of the town, together with the other inscriptions before 1845 in the three parish cemeteries. The second of these volumes covered the ministry of the first pastor, John Allin, and contained the account of the assembling and forming of the church in 1638. The first town meeting (Vol. III) was held two years earlier, August 18th, 1636, with the solemnity of a religious occasion. The record gives the covenant on which the civil structure was built and the names of the covenanting citizens. The very next step in the proceedings is this remarkable vote:

"There shall not any waters in the compass of our town become impropriate unto any particular man, but shall rest free for the common benefit, for matter of fishing." (See Vol. III, p. 20.)

The third volume, edited, like the others, by Don Gleason Hill, makes a beginning on the Early Records of the Town by publishing a complete transcript of Book One. Book Two has been omitted as containing nothing but land grants which had already been transcribed and deposited in the Registry of Deeds. The Fourth Volume contains Book Three of the general records of the town, with other matter of very great interest to the student of Massachusetts history which has been recovered by laborious search among the State Archives. The most interesting of them all relate to John Eliot's championship of the "pore Indians'" title to land granted to them by the town. The Appendix contains the petitions, pleadings and documentary history of the case, and gives to the public one of the most precious monuments of New England history. We desire, however, to call the attention of students of American history to the body of the records as models of completeness and as presenting the record of a municipal history which is typical of New England, and of which not Dedham only but the whole country may be proud. The records of these meetings are drawn with a wonderful dignity and self-respecting fullness. They report who were present; "that which was agreed upon at the last meeting was read and confirmed." New members were voted in and subscribed the covenant. Business was conducted in open town meeting until May 17th, 1639, when growing numbers required its delegation to seven men. This is the origin of the New England Selectmen. These volumes have already attracted wide attention. Students of American history and collectors of original books relating to it have been eager to obtain them. They contain the original facts on which everything depends and from which there is no appeal. The fourth volume in the series covers a period of about fifteen years, from 1658 to 1673, and shows how a New England town of that growing and vigorous period managed its affairs. The public-spirited devotion of Mr. Don Gleason Hill in assuming the burden of the enormous amount of work involved in the reading, literal transcription and publication of these records, and the search in the State archives for matter relating to Dedham is, perhaps, as inspiring as any ancient example contained in the book. We may occasionally regret, to tell the full truth, that the editor has not given the reader the benefit of his larger stores of information in clearing up obscurities of the text and in filling up gaps. We can readily understand the addition such a work would have made to his labors and to the expense which was, in any event, sure to be large enough to make the publication a signal act of public spirit on the part of the town as well as of its learned Clerk, Mr. Don Gleason Hill.

Volume VII of *Johnson's Universal Cyclopædia, a New Edition Prepared by a Corps of Thirty-Six Editors, Assisted by Eminent European and American Specialists.* Charles Kendall Adams, LL D., President of the University of Wisconsin, Editor-in-chief. (A. J. Johnson Company, New York. Eight vols., $48.00 cloth; $56 00 half morocco.) This volume brings the whole work within one of completion, so near that we shall expect the final Volume VIII early in the new year, if not sooner. For an American it is a work of the very greatest and almost indispensable importance—an improvement on the previous edition, in the number of titles, the introduction of new ones, the cutting down of articles on subjects that have shrunk in importance, the expansion of articles on subjects that have risen in importance, and the general writing of the work up to date on all subjects. The present volume begins with *Raleigh* and ends with *Tananarivo*, the capital of Madagascar. The new work is distributed through the volume in a way which makes it difficult to point it out in a brief notice like this. The number of writers whose names are not starred as having contributed to the previous edition is very large. In the interval since the previous edition was published socialism and sociology, for example, have almost come into being; certainly they have risen to general importance and recognition. Naval architecture has been revolutionized, and the whole series of topics relating to ships, steamships and armored ships are, of course, substantially new, as are the magnificent illustrations given of them in full page size. R. Grant White's article on Shakespeare has been rewritten, with additions to bring it up to date on the bibliological side, a reconstruction rendered necessary by the remarkable advance of Shakespearean criticism in the last fifteen years. So we might go through the work citing instances. We shall have to sum up all in the general remark that no fault can be found with the work as to enterprise of this nature. The most serious doubts we have arise as to the question whether condensation has not been carried too far, and whether one or two volumes added to the work would not have improved the whole enough to more than offset the disadvantages of bulk and cost. To this general proposition we should be inclined to answer in the affirmative. But if the limit of eight volumes was to be maintained as on all grounds the most convenient, this objection loses its force entirely. In either event it is a work of great utility and carried out in an admirable manner.

The British Fleet, the Growth, Achievements and Duties of the Navy of the Empire. By Commander Charles N. Robinson, R. N., Assistant Editor of the *Army and Navy Gazette*, author of "The Sea Service," etc. (Macmillan & Co., New York. $3.00.) This very complete manual of the British Navy comes from an author who himself reached a distinguished position in the service, and whose long acquaintance with its affairs in the editorial direction of the *Army and Navy Gazette* has given him an acquaintance with the subject which may almost be called official. The subject is presented in four different relations. Part I is a sketch of the rise of the English Navy and the development of its power on the sea, with a general presentation of its relation to the State, the service it has rendered in peace and war, and a chapter on Flags and Signals. The Second Part is devoted to Naval Administration, the Admiralty Board, equipment, victualing, naval laws and customs and with a chapter of thrilling interest on the names of the ships. The chapters which compose the next Part discuss various aspects of naval material, such as the evolution of the ship-of-war, the days of oak and hemp, the Royal navy of to-day, the introduction of steam, etc. The personal interest of the volume is reserved for the closing Part on the Seamen and Mariners of England, with a chapter on the officers and men on whom England now relies to sustain the honor of her flag at sea. The volume is enriched with not less than one hundred and forty-one illustrations, many of which represent large and famous pictures, others are historically accurate, and others are reproduced from sketches on the spot. The book fills a gap in the popular naval literature of England, and covers the ground in a broad, highly intelligent and thoroughly satisfactory style.

There is never a time when the question of strong drink is not urgent, and therefore Prof. Alphonso A. Hopkins's book, entitled *Wealth and Waste* (Funk & Wagnalls Co.) has the merit of being timely. His contention is, that political economy demands the total prohibition of the liquor traffic. "That traffic must be banished, or Political Economy is not a science, but a sham." This conclusion follows from the premises that every want is false that discounts health or imperils life to insure its gratification, and that the desire for alcoholic stimulant is a false want. Moreover, the liquor traffic is a direct foe to the productive laborer and to his creation of wealth. Regarding the loss thus caused very extensive computations are employed, and the figures are of staggering dimensions. About one thousand millions of dollars per annum seems to be the amount of waste in this country alone. What is demanded by Political Economy is also required of Government, and it is its duty to prohibit the traffic altogether, as well as its right. Of course, the scheme of local option is rejected as an immoral and impracticable compromise. The weak point in the case presented by Professor Hopkins is the absence of proof that prohibitory laws decrease the consumption of strong drink or increase sobriety. The mere existence of prohibition on the statute book, when it is not enforced by the police, can hardly be regarded as a gain. While this book will, perhaps, not convert those whose convictions are opposed to those of the author, it must be said that it is a very emphatic and earnest presentation of the *reasons for the faith* that is in the Prohibitionists.

A Hundred Years of Missions; or, The Story of Progress since Carey's Beginning. By the Rev. Leonard L. Leonard, Associate Editor of the "Missionary Review of the World." Introduction by the Rev. Arthur T. Pierson D.D. (Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York. $1.50.) We commend this volume to the attention of all who are interested in Christian missions. It is a competent, adequate and invigorating review of the history from the first, without overlooking those fundamental principles which are the inspiring philosophy of the whole. It is crowded with historic facts, and traces the stream of events and the development of the work all over the world in a systematic, simple and effective order. It is just the book to place in the hands of young Christians, and for their use in Christian Endeavor meetings and the monthly concert. As the best exposition we can make of its character and contents, we print the titles of the successive chapters: "The Christian Idea of Missions," "Missions in the Early Centuries," "Conversion of Northern and Western Europe," "The New Missionary Centuries," "Reformation and Discovery of America," "Roman Catholic Missions," "Preparation for Foreign Missions," "Protestant Missions before Carey," "The Carey Epoch," "The Great Missionary Revival," "Genesis of Missions in America," "The Phenomena of Missionary Expansion," "Missions in India," "Missions in Africa—Madagascar," "The Islands of the Sea," "Turkish Empire—Persia," "Chinese Empire-Korea," "Missions in Japan," "Missions in Spanish America," "Missions among the American Indians," and "The Land which Remains to be Possessed."

Among the very best of the Doctors' Theses which have recently been put into print we name *Agnosticism and Religion: Being an Examination of Spencer's Religion of the Unknowable, Preceded by a History of Agnosticism.* A Dissertation for the Doctorate in Theology at the Catholic University of America. By the Rev. George J. Lucas. (John Murphy & Co., Baltimore.) We have here a scholarly critique of agnosticism which presents some points of unusual interest. It is a critical examination, first, of ancient agnosticism from Xenophanes to Spencer, and next, of Spencer's religion of the unknowable, and covers the ground in an intelligent and systematic way which goes far to indicate in the author a master of the subject. He plants himself on broad Christian grounds, and his dissertation bears the marks of careful preparation, mature thought and a thorough acceptance of the principle that what is involved in this discussion is not the disagreements of schools nor the differences between Catholic and Protestant, but the foundation and reality of religion itself. Dr. Lucas has chosen for his line of critical examination the historical method, and uses it to such good purpose that the question is really already in his hands when he reaches Huxley, and yet more when he begins the examination of Huxley. Mr. Spencer's entanglement in the web of relative existence is worked out with much brilliancy. Dr. Lucas is by no means satisfied with Kant, with whom he parts company on the doctrine of knowledge, and particularly as to the transcendence of the noumenon, points which cannot be discussed here, and which do not affect the general critical value of Dr. Lucas's examination.

The Parchments of the Faith. By the Rev. George E. Merrill. (American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia. $1.25.) This is the complementary volume to "The Story of the Manuscripts," by the same author, and a companion treatise to Professor Pattison's "History of the English Bible." It is not a polemic work, written with a dogmatic or even apologetic purpose, nor critical for the use of students and scholars, but a popular presentation of a subject which concerns everybody in a plain and popular style which should be attractive and intelligible to everybody. The author begins by telling his readers in brief simplicity what the Bible of Jesus and the Apostles was, and what the Bible of the Christian Church is. He gives the story of the Hebrew manuscripts, their translation into Greek and other versions. Passing to the New Testament, he introduces his readers to the materials from which the Greek text of the New Testament has been compiled, the classes and characteristics of the manuscripts from which it has been drawn, and the critical principles which have been applied to its compilation, the ancient versions with which it is collated, and the recent discoveries which have given so great an impulse to New Testament study and criticism. The book closes with a chapter on these later discoveries and another of "Illustrations of Criticism." The book is cautious in tone and covers the ground with full and fresh information.

A History of the Councils of the Church from the Original Documents. By the Right Rev. Charles Joseph Hefele, D.D., late Bishop of Rottenburg and Professor of Theology in the University of Tübingen. Volume IV, A.D. 451 to A.D. 680. Translated from the German, with the author's approbation, and edited by William R. Clark, Hon. LL.D., D.C.L., Professor of Philosophy at Trinity College, Toronto. (Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. $4.50.) The work in which this volume belongs is well known and has given its distinguished author a permanent place among the historians of the Church. Its translation into English, which has been done with scholarly pains and accuracy by Professor Clark, ended in the previous, or third volume, with the Council of Chalcedon and its revocation of the acts of the so called "Robber Synod," A.D. 451. The present volume takes up the history at this point and continues it to A.D. 680, or the beginning of the monothelite controversies. The original work is too well known to require notice. Professor Clark's translation is adequate, and gives English readers access to the great and standard work of modern scholarship on the subject. Whether the translation will be continued through the fifth volume, which is still wanting to complete the work, depends on the encouragement given to the publishers of the present volume, and the favor with which it is received.