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I.

REV. DR. JAMES RICHARDS AND HIS THEOLOGY.

OF the one, I shall give only a sketch ; of the other, only some outlines.

Dr. Richards' life of seventy-six years (1767-1843) covered an eventful period in the history of the Church and of the State.

In early boyhood, he heard the mutterings of discontent with English misrule, and the notes of armed resistance to British injustice. In the ninth year of his age, the Declaration of American Independence was published. In his own neighborhood, and everywhere, the people took up arms ; and for seven long years—long for the veteran soldiers, long indeed for such a boy—he heard of the terrors, and trials, and vicissitudes of the strife, which seemed to his boyish impatience as if it would never end. Not until his sixteenth year, came the news of the final victory—too good, almost, to be true ; and, then, the better news of peace, and, still better, of American Independence.

Already he was older in experience than many a man could be after fourscore years of national quiet. But Richards had just begun his great life-experience. Now he witnessed the formative process of constitutional government for a young independent nation—a process slow, difficult, delicate ; the formative process of his own State government, and of other States—sometimes appearing more troublesome, and certainly more intricate and delicate than the difficulties of war.

book before us contains. It has too often been the temptation of Old Testament scholars to decide on the value of the Alexandrine translation on superficial grounds. Even where its value has been placed high—too high, probably—it has been because this was the current version of New Testament times and used by New Testament writers. Before we consider the question of the value of the LXX it would seem reasonable to settle the text of the LXX, to find out what it is we are to decide upon. Even if it shall turn out that the translators were arbitrary, ignorant, and unreliable, we ought to know this on adequate grounds. The problem to be seriously attacked is the Greek text. The beginning of the attack is made by Lagarde. We regard his work as marking an epoch because it makes the beginning, and we hope the author may be enabled to make further contributions to the solution. Probably no one is better qualified.

H. P. SMITH.

A COMPANION TO THE GREEK TESTAMENT AND THE ENGLISH VERSION. With fac-simile Illustrations of MSS. and Standard Editions of the New Testament. By PHILIP SCHAFF. New York: Harper & Bros. 1883. Post 8vo. pp. xi, 616.

"It is Dr. Schaff's best book," is the opinion of *The* (New York) *Independent*. It is "the best work we have seen which has been published in connection with the Revised Version," says *The* (London) *Academy*. It is certainly an admirable book, and worthily supplies a need in our literature. It furnishes to the educated reader, whether lay or clerical, just the matter he needs to know before he begins the intelligent study of the New Testament. It will be a boon to the theological student, who has hitherto had no accessible source of accurate information on the New Testament text. And it places in the hands of scholars a succinct hand-book filled with exact information.

For a proper estimation of the book, it should be noted that it consists of three very distinct portions. The first part treats of the Language of the New Testament (pp. 1-81); the second, of the Text (pp. 82-298); and the third, of the Authorized and Revised Versions (pp. 299-494). The remainder (495-616) is occupied by very important appendixes and indices. The first part is the most slightly treated; yet gives a clear account of the origin and nature of the Greek of the New Testament, of the chief characteristics of the style of each of the evangelists, and Paul and John, with lists of their *ἅπαξ λεγόμενα*. It will be seen that this subject is not treated with any completeness; it is, doubtlessly, however, as thoroughly treated as the purpose of the book allowed.

The account of the Authorized Version is admirable, sober, and fair both to it and to those who desired its revision; while that of the Revised Version gives the fullest and most authoritative history of it as yet published, and a sufficient illustration of its character and peculiarities. The section on 'American Co-operation' (p. 391, *sq.*), ought to be read and carefully pondered by every Bible reader. The section on the relations of the American and English Committees (p. 398, *sq.*), is, on the other hand, somewhat painful reading. Three things can scarcely be denied: the hearty co-operation of the American Churches was absolutely necessary to the real success of the attempted revision; the aid rendered by the American Committee was substantial: the English Committee, in more than one circumstance, failed of the highest and most generous courtesy. The plan of procedure offered in July, 1875 (p. 399), was, perhaps, all that could have been desired; but the compromise adopted August, 1877, and on which the Revision was actually carried out, while perhaps the best that could be obtained, was honorable chiefly to the Christian character and forbearance of the American Committee. All honor to these men, who "sought not their own things," but "looking on the things of others," were

willing to give their time and labor in the freest way, amid uncertainties, and apparent disregard, in order to attain a worthy end. We cannot feel with Dr. Schaff that the "Americans secured the full recognition of their rights as fellow-revisers" (p. 401), if by this is meant anything like equal rights. Only in a sense can the product of these joint labors be called a joint production. The staple of the revision is English work; the English Committee kept the whole power and authority in their own hands, and appear to have been even jealous in their guarding of it; the immense mass of the changes made, was made by them, and only accepted by the Americans. At the same time, the amount of the American share in the joint work is liable to be underestimated, and the wording of the introductory note to the Appendix (whereby hangs a most extraordinary tale—see Dr. Schaff's note on p. 483), provokes underestimation. We, therefore, welcome the reprint of Bishop Lee's "List of Changes proposed by the American Committee, and adopted by the English Committee," given in Appendix iv. (p. 579 *sq.*). A comparison of this list with the American Appendix leaves the very pleasant impression that if the American share in the work was the smaller, the character of the American work was the better. We regret to note, however, that it was due to American pleading that John i. 18 was not conformed to what we cannot but believe to be certainly the true reading.

The middle section of the book is in some respects the most important of the three and in some respects the best. It is not too much to say that it gives the most succinct and most accurate account of the sources of the New Testament text extant—in English or any other tongue. Dr. Scrivener's third edition of his Plain Introduction still holds the palm for comprehensiveness; but in real accuracy and trustworthiness, it might have profited much by waiting for and imitating this unpretentious little volume. The information which Dr. Schaff gives as to both MSS. and Versions is up to date, and exceedingly accurate; so that for all the practical purposes of the theological student or minister this little book is to be distinctly preferred to any other yet before the public. For the fullest lists of the MSS. and minute and comparatively unimportant details, one must still go to Scrivener; but for a classified and sifted account of those of real importance, he had best come to Schaff. As a manual of textual criticism, the book no doubt still leaves something to be desired; but this partial failure it shares with all others on the subject. The fact is, we have no manual of text-criticism; no book to put into the hands of students which can be relied on to teach them the art. All of our works on the subject treat rather of the sources and material of criticism than of the method and manner of criticism; and Dr. Schaff's is only a partial exception to the rule. We have here 116 pages devoted to text-criticism. Of these only 22 pages (202–224) discuss the principles and practice of the art. The greatest space is given to the sources of the material for criticism and the history of editions. The practical teacher is, therefore, forced to supplement this book, too, with lectures, if he would use it as a text-book in his classes. He does not fail to be duly thankful, however, that he at last has a book which can be obtained at moderate cost, and which "abrogat et antiquat" the necessity of lecturing into his students a hundred pages of dry but necessary facts.

The most striking features of the work are yet to be mentioned. This book is invaluable to students for its carefully-chosen and full "literatures" prefixed to each section, which will enable them to make the acquaintance of the best works on the various subjects treated, and will direct them into the path of true scholarship. It is again invaluable to scholars as furnishing them with the completest bibliography of the New Testament ever printed—a bibliography which leaves Reuss' well in the rear, and is likely to be the standard basis of all subse-

quent work. This portion of the work has been contributed by Dr. Isaac H. Hall, and makes the book indispensable to scholars, even independently of its other excellences. And, finally, the book has an unique feature in the facsimiles of the title-pages and letterpress of twenty of the chief historic editions of the Greek Testament, from the Complutensian Polyglot of 1514, to Westcott and Hort of 1883 (why not of 1881, which is the historic edition?) This one feature alone, again, would make the book indispensable.

It would be scarcely possible that such a book should go through the press without making some slips. We have, however, noted very few, even typographical errors, of any importance. Of course, 'Diocletian,' and not 'Domitian,' is meant on p. 95. It would be well to add C to B under L (1) on p. 129. John i. 18, is wrongly cited on p. 281. Even such slips are very rare. In conclusion, therefore, Dr. Schaff and the American public are alike to be congratulated on the publication of this excellent manual.

BENJ. B. WARFIELD.

OLD-LATIN BIBLICAL TEXTS: No. I. THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW, from the St. Germain MS. (g. 1), now numbered Lat. 11,553 in the National Library at Paris. Edited by JOHN WORDSWORTH, M.A., Oriel Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, etc. Oxford: At the Clarendon Press. 1883.

It is now ten years since Mr. Wordsworth showed his scholarly tastes by issuing "Fragments and Specimens of Early Latin," and he has in the meantime gained a wide reputation in another department by his thoughtful, positive, and yet catholic Bampton Lectures on "The One Religion." He now gives us new evidence of his exact learning by a critical edition of one of the most interesting and one of the most neglected Latin texts of the First Gospel. It would be well if our intelligent public could have a better understanding of the value of such a publication, than one usually meets with outside of the narrow circle of specialists. There are great regions of fruitful study in this province of textual criticism, of which even well-informed men have little idea. Inquiries as to the relation of the ante-Hieronymian Latin versions,—whether they were all recensions of the one African translation, or whether there were two or more independent versions, with their respective families,—as to the source of their variations,—as to the scope of the changes which Jerome felt himself called upon to make,—inquiries, too, as to the relation of these versions, in time and in accuracy, to the original Greek autographs,—these, and such as these, are, no doubt, involved in great difficulties, and some of them will never be fully answered; but they are worth pursuing, and they tend—even while they direct attention to the letter—to an exaltation of the spirit, which has remained unchanged amid all the vicissitudes to which the letter has been subjected; and this is of no small practical service.

Among the laborers in this field, Professor Wordsworth has taken a prominent place by the issue of the present volume. It shows clean and thorough work. The Introduction opens with a reference to the collation of the manuscript (then known as *Germanum Latum*), by John Walker, who acted for Bentley, in 1719–20. It was through Bentley's allusions to it, in unpublished correspondence, that the attention of the present editor was especially called to it. Then follows a description of its external and internal characteristics. It is the second volume of a Bible "the first of which was lost some time between 1540 and 1680;" . . . "and may be conjecturally assigned to the middle of the 9th century." It contains 191 leaves, with two columns on a page and 52 lines in each column. The volume contained originally a part of the Old Testament and all the New, but there are now some important *lacunæ*. The arrangement of the New Testament books is unusual, the Apocalypse standing between the Catholic Epistles and the Epistles of Paul. The MS. ends