

THE  
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I.

THE PLAN OF THE NEW BIBLE REVISION.

WITHIN a few weeks past there has appeared a volume which has for some time been looked for with great and growing interest. This is the New Testament as revised by a number of British and American scholars, which is now given to the world without waiting for the Old Testament, the completion of which is not expected for two or three years to come. In the next number of this REVIEW there will be a careful critical estimate of the characteristic features of this interesting and important volume. What is now proposed is to give some account of the origin and progress of the whole movement for revision, and to consider the plan upon which it has been and is to be conducted.

In regard to the authorized version there has been for a long time a substantial agreement among all the learned upon two points: first, that in point of fidelity and elegance, the English Bible, as a whole, is equal if not superior to any other version, ancient or modern; but, secondly, that in particular places it is defective, owing to the progress made in grammar, lexicography, exegesis, criticism, and archæology since the days of King James, and also to the inevitable changes in the meaning and use of many English words and phrases. Attempts, therefore, at a new version in whole or in

biography the author has been eminently successful. The inner springs of Livingstone's life and actions are here laid clearly open before us; his single-hearted devotion to his Master; his constant habit of esteeming naught of himself for the Kingdom of Heaven's sake; his clear sight of duty and faithful performance of it. It was under the influence of such springs of action that he was enabled to become such a practical adherent to the true *Kenosis* doctrine. Equally finely exhibited do we find both the providential guidance which led him from point to point of his career, and his own subjective growth toward appreciation of the work which God had in store for him. It reads like a chapter out of patriarchal history—this chain of remarkable providences which placed him in such a sterling household; wrought his conversion through a medium which at the same time attracted him to science; forced him to Africa against his choice; drove him into the interior; and brought him into contact with the slave-trade. And it reads like a chapter in psychology, the skilful tracing of the gradual broadening of Livingstone's horizon, by which each stage of the upward and onward growth is shown to spring naturally out of some circumstance forced now upon his mind and heart. We see him before our eyes becoming, step by step, Christian, missionary, missionary statesman, and pioneer of the Kingdom of God. The steps seem so natural that Livingstone would have been unnatural in not making them; it was all God's doing, not his, that he made them. It seems as if they must have been made even against his will had not God given him, with the opportunity, also the willing mind and made him through a divinely given *suavia concordia* a fellow-worker with Himself. What wonder that under such influences he grew to be an ideal of "the perfect Christian gentleman," that his biographer feels bound to describe him as exhibiting "the minimum of infirmity in connection with the maximum of goodness"? Having hearkened to the command of I Cor. xi. 1, he found the truth of the experience of Phil. iv. 13.

The book, thus, is a life, not a defence, of Livingstone. Yet his life simply stated constitutes an ample defence against the charges often brought against him. For example, the Christian nobility of his motives in all stages of his ministry are beyond all doubt fully vindicated. We are inclined to add: so also the Christian wisdom of his judgment in seeking the kind of work he did. It is clearly shown that he was never more God's simple servant and devoted missionary than when at the very work for undertaking which the world was apt to condemn him as false to his calling. If Livingstone be a type, who would not wish to be a missionary? God send the Church many such! And God grant a full fruitage to the seed he, in such abounding travail, sowed!

B. B. WARFIELD.

MASTER MISSIONARIES—CHAPTERS IN PIONEER EFFORT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

By ALEXANDER HAY JAPP, LL.D., F.R.S.L., F.R.S.E., F.R.G.S., F.S.A. "Ye are the salt of the earth."—MATT. v. 13. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. 1881.

This book is worthy of its place in the admirable series of religious works which bears the imprimatur of its venerable and beloved publisher. It consists of ten short biographical sketches exhibiting the character, the field, and the methods of work of some of the most remarkable and interesting Christian heroes of the last century. Among these are James Oglethorpe and Georgia, Robert Moffat and South Africa, John Coleridge Patteson and the South Pacific, etc.

A. A. HODGE.

MEMORIALS OF ROBERT SMITH CANDLISH, D.D., Minister of St. George's Free Church, and Principal of the New College, Edinburgh. By WILLIAM WILSON, D.D., Minister (Emeritus) of St. Paul's Free Church, Dundee. With concluding chapter by ROBERT RAINY, D.D., Principal and Professor of Church History, New College, Edinburgh. Edinburgh: Adam & Charles Black. 1880.

In the ten years' conflict which issued in the Disruption of the Scottish Established Church, and the formation of the Free Church, Dr. Chalmers was the great