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THE MAKING OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE.¹

The task assigned is a delightful and a simple one. It is to review briefly, and in bare outline, a story which, in its fulness, is as fascinating as it is familiar. The whole story could not be told. It leads us forward in thought to work not yet complete, for men will continue to produce English versions of the Bible; and as we look backward, we are led through the labors of translators and copyists and saints and apostles and prophets to the very mind of God its Author and its Source. The character of this occasion and the necessary limitations of time confine our review to that portion of the process which was accomplished by men of England and which culminated in the production of that version, which, for three hundred years, has been in reality the Bible of the English-speaking world.

The interest centres about three great names: John Wiclif, William Tyndale, and King James the First. Of course there are others which we must mention and which we should hold in grateful remembrance to-day.

We might allow ourselves the pleasure of rehearsing the story, familiar to us all from childhood, of Caedmon the untutored keeper of cattle at the Abbey of Whitby, who leaves the banquet hall, when the harp is being passed, because he cannot sing; but as he falls asleep in the stable

¹ An address at the Tercentenary Celebration of the Publication of the Authorized Version, Princeton, May 9, 1911.

the Scriptures quoted convincing, the general effect is too often one of superficiality, and is therefore transitory.

The attempt to separate the man Jesus from the divine Saviour who continually concentrated man's trust on *Himself* can never do Christianity any service. Dr. Bishop displays only a tendency in this direction, but he fails to note the emphasis placed by the Gospels on Jesus's *death* and *resurrection* as the greatest of His works, ones without which all others would have proved futile.

Cranford, N. J.

GORDON M. RUSSELL.

GENERAL LITERATURE

CHARMS OF THE BIBLE. A Fresh Appraisalment. By JESSE BOWMAN YOUNG, D.D., LITT.D. 12mo, pp. 255. New York: Eaton and Mains. 1910.

The aims of this volume, says the author, are "to call forth in fresh array the beauties of the Scripture; to illustrate by pertinent citations, and in systematic orders, those features of the Book which invest it with perennial attractiveness; and to indicate anew the main reasons which underlie its supremacy in the world." The seventeen chapters into which the discussion is divided are not of co-ordinate importance in the development of the theme, and the spiritual charms of the Word, though given the place of honor as the climax of the argument, are not set forth with the comprehensiveness and cogency with which some of the other aspects of the subject are treated. But taken as a whole the book admirably succeeds in impressing upon the reader the unique and commanding attractiveness of the Bible for all ages. After an introductory chapter on the world-wide appeal which the Scriptures make, the following considerations are presented as their chief "charms;" their structural peculiarities and the wide diversity of materials embraced under a single dominating purpose; their literary traits (the sublimity of certain passages, the yearning, human tenderness of others, the quality of pathos, "the searching and awakening force and penetrating power revealed in the questioning methods of the Bible," the picturesque simplicity of style, and the symbolism of the biblical writers); their poetry; their biographical attractions; their grip on the conscience; their promises; their pictures of home life; their ideals of God and man; their appeal to the intellect; their "credentials"—a combination of the old and the more modern apologetic; their portrayal of the Supreme Teacher; their "great portrait" of the divine and perfect character of Christ; and their spirit of hope.

The book is written with much charm of style, and some portions, notably the chapter on Christ as the supreme teacher, are marked by a fine critical acumen and vital freshness in the mode of treatment. The pages are interspersed with appropriate verses—for which a separate

index is made—dealing with the various “charms” of the Bible.

Princeton.

FREDERICK W. LOETSCHER.

HOW TO DEVELOP SELF-CONFIDENCE IN SPEECH AND MANNER. By GRENVILLE KLEISER, Formerly Instructor in Public Speaking at Yale Divinity School, Yale University; Author of *How to Speak in Public, Humorous Hits and How to Hold an Audience, How to Develop Power and Personality in Speaking, How to Argue and Win*, etc. New York and London: Funk and Wagnalls Company. 1910. 12mo; pp. vii, 288. \$1.25 net.

HOW TO ARGUE AND WIN. By GRENVILLE KLEISER. New York and London: Funk and Wagnalls Company. 1910. 12mo; pp. 310. \$1.25 net.

We have read these books with much pleasure and profit. They are worthy additions to Mr. Kleiser's well-known treatises on the subject of public speaking. Based upon sound psychological principles, his counsels are full of good sense and practical worth.

The former of the two volumes is designed to give special help to those “who daily defraud themselves because of doubt, fearthought, and foolish timidity.” Attention is directed, among other things, to the importance and the proper methods of building up the will-power; curing self-consciousness in speaking; developing the capacity of right thinking; cultivating the best “sources of inspiration” in literature and life, first and foremost those in the Bible; mastering the art of concentration; securing an adequate physical basis for a forceful personality; finding oneself and strengthening one's individuality; forming the habit of expressing oneself in an energetic manner; overcoming discouragements; making the best of one's voice; and living a life of faith. Throughout the book the importance of a sober estimate of one's talents and opportunities is emphasized, and many suggestions are given for the cultivation of specific elements of strength of character. Scores of memory passages are cited to make the candidate in this arduous school of discipline come to a hopeful conclusion as to the possibility of acquiring self confidence in his speech and manner.

The second treatise gives in popular form the basal laws of argumentation, but the main stress is laid upon the more thorough development of the personality of the debater. Separate chapters deal with the subject of persuasive argument from the point of view of the lawyer, the business man, the preacher, the salesman, the public speaker. The Appendix, consisting of some sixty pages, contains a “Note for a Law Lecture,” by Abraham Lincoln; “Of Truth,” by Francis Bacon; “Of Practise and Habits,” by John Locke; and “Improving the Memory,” by Isaac Watts.

Princeton.

FREDERICK W. LOETSCHER.

WHAT HAVE THE GREEKS DONE FOR MODERN CIVILISATION? The Lowell Lectures of 1908-1909. By JOHN PENTLAND MAHAFFY, C.V.O.,