

original language of the Old Testament, but also to keep up their knowledge of it. The author rightly condemns easy-going dependence on the labours of others, and remarks upon the bewilderment caused by those who, instead of cultivating a first-hand acquaintance with the text, will rely upon second or even third-hand sources. He has a useful word, too, upon that method of dealing with Scripture which he calls the 'handy concordance plan', and he urges the more systematic method of Biblical Theology which observes the development in ritual and doctrine. For the rest, his book is a readable exposition of the Hebrew tenses, shewing, by practical illustrations, that a careful knowledge of their use leads to the greater appreciation of Old Testament thought. Although the more expert student may occasionally hesitate to follow the author's guidance, this popularization is admirable in principle, and 'tenses without tears' (if I may invent a sub-title) should smooth the path of beginners.

STANLEY A. COOK.

Ancient Chronology (Part I). By OLAF A. TOFFTEEN, Ph. D.
(Chicago, 1907.)

THIS first part of Prof. Toffteen's work brings the subject down to 1050 B.C. only. It is consequently like Ezekiel's valley, 'full of very dry bones.' But the second part is to deal with the better known periods of Biblical and Assyrian history, and should be more immediately interesting. Even in this first part an inspiring teacher would be helped to make dry bones live. A good deal of material bearing on Babylonian and Egyptian as well as Biblical and Assyrian history is brought together here in the compass of a handy volume. The chief criticism to be passed on the book is that it seems to sway between a scientific and a popular aim; yet taken as a whole it is likely to be of considerable use to the advanced student of the Old Testament, who is neither an Assyriologist nor an Egyptologist.

W. EMERY BARNES.