

BRIEF NOTICES.

THE LARGER HOPE: *A Sequel to "Salvator Mundi."* By S. Cox, D.D. (London: Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.). There is an after-sting of authorship which few men of letters who take their vocation seriously can have escaped; that, viz. of discovering, so soon as any essay has been published, some new argument for the conclusion they have advocated, or some illustration which throws new light upon it. I have not escaped, as I could not hope to escape, the common lot. No sooner had *Salvator Mundi* passed out of my hands than a new argument in favour of its main conclusion occurred to me, which seemed, so far as I could appraise it, of more real weight and worth than any or all of those which I had previously employed. And in a little while, as I was engaged in a study of that "wicked person" whom St. Paul charged the church at Corinth to cast out from its communion, I lit on a new illustration which, to many minds at least, is likely to suggest a still more cogent argument than that to which I have just alluded.

I have long wished to put this argument—of which indeed I gave a brief hint in *The Contemporary Review* for May 1878—and this new illustration before the readers of *Salvator Mundi*. And at first I thought it would be easy to add a chapter to my book on the issue of a new edition. But when a book has been stereotyped and is selling steadily, publishers reasonably demur to any alteration in it which, by adding to the cost, may add to its price, and so disturb the arrangements of the market. And the public reasonably objects to buy a book over again for the sake of an additional chapter. On the other hand, to print a chapter of a few pages as a separate volume is so difficult, and to make it known so costly, that no author however imprudent, no publisher however generous, will lightly commit himself to the adventure. At last, however, Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co. have resolved to run the risk, and, as I cannot hold back from my share in it, my additional chapter—which yet is complete in itself—appears in the present cheap but elegant form, and every reader of *Salvator Mundi* may now purchase it for a few pence. As neither author nor publisher are ever likely to be a penny the

richer for it, I can only hope that both may reap a better reward ; and that this little *brochure* may prove useful to many who either distrust "the larger hope," or have embraced it with some natural misgivings. Perhaps those who have entertained that hope with all their hearts, and daily bless God for the comfort and peace it yields them, may find this concise statement of reasons for holding it more convenient for distribution among their friends than larger and more expensive works on the same theme.

Editor.

REVELATION AND MODERN THEOLOGY CONTRASTED. *By Rev. C. A. Row, M.A.* (London : F. Norgate). This is one of the few books which *are* books in Charles Lamb's sense, and to which we may attach George Eliot's epithet—"nourishing." A more able, nutritious, and suggestive book it would be difficult to find among recent productions of its class. With a sincerity and force which in a dignitary of the Church will be amazing, and perhaps distressing, to many minds, Prebendary Row shews how simple, clear, and undogmatic was the teaching of Christ and his apostles ; how the truths they taught have been added to, perverted, petrified out of their proper life and power, by the dogmas and formularies of the Church ; how far, therefore, we are now removed from the "simplicity" of the Christian faith.

In the brief space at our command it is obviously impossible that we should do justice to this remarkable work, or even give any taste of its quality. We must be content to say that we have read it with much profit and delight, and to commend it earnestly to all who teach and preach the Word—to all, indeed, who feel that, in these days of doubt and strife, we need above all to "clear the ship," and to stand only for the defence and furtherance of the essentials of Christian faith and service.

A. P.
