

ing, tenderness to the fallen, only describe and enjoin the ideals He had realized, the graces that were personalized in Him. He who rightly apprehends the relation of the Personality to the teaching of Christ will understand why He was and is "full of grace and truth."

A. M. FAIRBAIRN.

### A BRIEF NOTICE.

THE LIFE AND WORDS OF CHRIST. *By Cunningham Geikie, D.D.* Vols. I. and II. (London: Strahan and Co.) It is obviously impossible to do justice to these two portly and handsome volumes in the few sentences which the remnant of this page will hold. I can only give the briefest indication of their quality and value.

Dr. Geikie's *Life of our Lord* is not so rhetorical and picturesque as the popular work of Canon Farrar, nor is it marked by the moral penetration and force of Mr. Beecher's noble fragment. But it is far more erudite than either, and must have cost far more study and labour. It is well and carefully written, and often rises into a sober and chastened eloquence. And of all the "Lives" we possess, it is likely to prove most helpful and informing to those who teach and preach the Word. It supplies them with precisely what they want in order that they may place the sayings of our Lord in a telling and picturesque setting of historical circumstances and local colour. It gives the results of wide reading and immense industry, and is really, though not formally, an elaborate and invaluable commentary on the four Gospels.

It has its defects, of course, for it is as true of books as of their authors, that never was any yet so perfect,

but some defect in it  
Did quarrel with the noblest grace it owed,  
And put it to the foil.

And the main defect of this book is, perhaps, that Dr. Geikie gives his reading of a disputed text, or his solution of a difficult problem, not as *his* view of it simply, but as though there were none to question it. Defects notwithstanding, our advice to all ministers of the Word who can allow themselves only one *Life of Christ*, is—By all means get this.

S. COX.