Work and Workers.

Professor Benziger is publishing in the Journal of the German Palestine Society a résumé of the Palestine literature of all lands for the years 1892-3.

The new books published in England during 1894 amounted to five thousand three hundred. Of these, four hundred and seventy-six were in the department of theology.

Professor John R. Seeley, of Cambridge University, is dead at the age of sixty-one years. He is known in the religious world as the author of Ecce Homo, a great and influential book.

The revision and republication of Dr. Geikie's Hours with the Bible, under the substituted title, The Bible by Modern Light, has been completed the last volume covering the period from the Exile to Malachi.


The British and Foreign Bible Society has recently forwarded to the Armenian Catholicos at Etchmiadzine, in the Caucasus, a printing press to enable the priests to print for the Society the Scriptures in the modern Ararat-Armenian and the ancient Armenian.

Professor Baethgen, of Greifswald, has been appointed to the Old Testament chair left vacant at Marburg by the transference of Count Baudissin to Dillmann's recent position in Berlin. The conservatives of Germany regard this as a victory for themselves, so far as it goes, against the advanced teachings of their leading Old Testament scholars.

Professor J. Dyneley Prince, of the University of the City of New York, is at work on a history of the civilization of Assyria and Babylonia, which aims to present in popular form an exhaustive statement of the results of the discoveries made in this field of ancient history, from the time of the decipherment of the cuneiform inscriptions until the present day.

We note in passing that the Presbyterian Quarterly, the organ of the Presbyterian church in the South, has at last observed the presence in biblical circles of the Akhmîm (they call them the "Akhmîne") fragments which were given to the English public in the fall of 1892, two and a half years ago. The writer is Mr. R. B. Woodworth, and the point of view of his article is
rigidly conservative. The facts which are again recited, and also the opinions expressed, became very familiar to the religious public some time since, but perhaps are just now making their way into the Southern states.

The course of lectures given last month at Haverford College by Professor J. Rendel Harris, of Cambridge University, England, will be published in book form. The subjects of the five lectures were as follows: The Influence of Homer upon the Early Christian Church; The New Syriac Gospels from Mt. Sinai; Methods of Research in Eastern Libraries; Palæographical Studies with especial Reference to Greek Manuscripts, and Some Recently Recovered Early Christian Documents.

A new number in the Bible Class Handbook Series has just issued from the press of Messrs. T. & T. Clark. It is entitled From the Exile to the Advent, the work of Rev. William Fairweather, M.A. The description and discussion of these four centuries is not a new undertaking, and Professor R. W. Moss has just traversed it in much the same way in his From Malachi to Matthew. But the period is very full of interest and significance, and certainly there is still much room for works devoted to it. The series in which Mr. Fairweather's volume appears gives reason to expect a scholarly, adequate and attractive treatment of the subject.

The English publishers, T. & T. Clark (Scribners, importers), have in the press a work by the Rev. H. A. A. Kennedy, M.A., D.Sc., Callander, on The Sources of New Testament Greek. The book is a study in biblical Greek, attempting to estimate the influence of the Septuagint on the New Testament vocabulary. The subject is treated in close connection with later Greek as a whole, and more especially with the Colloquial Greek of the period in which the Septuagint and the New Testament were compiled. The investigation seeks to prove that in place of a predominating influence of the Septuagint on the New Testament, the element common to them is rather the "popular" language in which they were written.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the eighth, and final, series of the Expositor's Bible, 1895–96. There are seven volumes, all of them upon the Old Testament, which will complete this valuable commentary on the entire Bible. They are: The Book of Daniel, by Archdeacon Farrar; The Book of Jeremiah, by Professor W. H. Bennett; The Book of Deuteronomy, by Professor Andrew Harper; The Song of Solomon and Lamentations, by Professor W. F. Adeney; The Book of Ezekiel, by Professor John Skinner; The Minor Prophets (in two volumes), by Professor G. A. Smith, D.D. These closing numbers deal with very difficult and much canvassed problems of Old Testament study. They will be received with interest, and may be expected also to contribute not a little toward the right understanding of these several books.

The Clarendon Press (Macmillan & Co.) expects to publish early in this year the first volume of a Local History of Phrygia, by Professor W. M. Ram-
say, D.C.L., of Aberdeen, author of *The Church and the Roman Empire before A.D. 170*. The plan of the work is to treat each district and city separately, collecting all information that can be gathered from every source about each, from the earliest period when anything can be learned about it down to the final conquest by the Turks. The facts about the ancient religion of each district will be gathered with especial care, and the original texts on which every inference is based will be given in appendixes to the several chapters. The early history of Christianity will be treated very fully, and the Christian inscriptions will be collected in special chapters. Volume I. will be devoted to the Lycos valley (with the great cities of Laodicea, Hierapolis, and Colossae), and to the extreme southwestern parts of Phrygia.

**Letters** have been received at the office of the Palestine Exploration Fund from Dr. Bliss, stating that the iron-bound door of Neby Daud, which had remained open against the wall for many years, was recently blown down in a storm, disclosing on one of the stones behind it an inscription which seems not to have been noticed before. It is in Latin and is a votive tablet to Jupiter on behalf of the welfare of the Emperor Trajan and the Roman people, erected by the Third Legion. This takes us back to the time between the destruction of the city by Titus and the founding of Aelia Capitolina. The inscription was partly covered with plaster. It is built into the modern wall, about fifteen feet above the ground. Roman inscriptions are very rare at Jerusalem. A squeeze of it will soon be at the London office. Dr. Bliss has now excavated more than a thousand feet along the line of the old southern wall, and has uncovered the foundations of several towers.

A second and carefully revised edition of Davis's *Vocabulary of New Testament Words* has been issued by the Hartford Seminary Press. This is useful. But we were waiting for Mr. Davis to issue a second part to his work, which should contain the remainder of the New Testament Vocabulary, perhaps in two sections—in the first, those words which occur five or more times; in the second, those words which occur from one to four times. Such a division is of course artificial, and is only looked for because it is useful to students of New Testament Greek in acquiring a vocabulary. Mr. Davis's present pamphlet contains the New Testament words which occur ten or more times, but our students should at least be familiar with the list of words found five times and more. The arrangement of them in groups according to their roots is excellent, and surely is the correct way to memorize them. Then if Mr. Davis would make one list of the whole New Testament vocabulary, on the present principles, and distinguish by some simple device immediately preceding the word whether it belongs to list one or list two or list three (whether it occurs ten times and up, or five times and up, or under five times) we should have a very useful book to recommend to our classes. We need just such a work and need it now.
A special feature of the Thinker (London: Nisbet & Co.) is its condensed reproduction of selected articles from the current numbers of biblical and theological magazines. Each issue contains abstracts of ten or twelve such important contributions to Christian thought. The articles are selected from the periodicals of America, Canada, Germany, France, Holland, Scandinavia, Switzerland. The American literature is given the first place, and more articles from it are reproduced than from the literature of any other one nation. It is interesting to notice what American magazines furnish the material for this survey of our religious thought. An examination of the Thinker for the year ending last month (February) gives quite a list of periodicals represented. The New World leads, with abstracts of twelve of its articles; from the Biblical World are taken ten, from the Presbyterian and Reformed Review six (but in the latter part of the year it seems to have been overlooked), from the American Catholic Quarterly Review six, from the Lutheran Quarterly six, from the Catholic World five, from the Bibliotheca Sacra four, from the Yale Review four, from the Presbyterian Quarterly three, from the Reformed Quarterly Review three, from Christian Thought two, from Biblia one. These are all monthly or quarterly publications. The weekly religious papers, even the New York Independent and the Outlook, are not represented. Yet the range of literature from which the survey of American Christian thought is drawn is wide and good. It is doubtful whether the exact proportion of articles from the several magazines which appears above is an intentional one—in such work the choice is not unfrequently determined by the periodicals which have come to hand when the material is prepared. But with some exceptions it is commendable. One wonders why the two Roman Catholic periodicals receive so much attention, as we think quite undeserved and out of proportion; and the Lutheran Quarterly is perhaps made more of than its contents warrant. The Presbyterian and Reformed Review and the Bibliotheca Sacra should be oftener quoted from. The Century has several articles each year which are exceptionally able and representative, such as that in the recent December number by Professor Du Bois. The Methodist Review has never been noticed, and the Homiletic Review and the Hartford Seminary Record frequently have important articles. The editors of the Thinker have done well, however, considering the irregularity which characterizes the arrival of foreign publications, and the distance from which they must judge the religious periodicals of America.