

L'Astronomia nell' Antico Testamento, which is just now of considerable interest because of the many questions arising on account of the explorations being made and the recent research in Bible antiquities from other scholarly sources.

We have not yet seen this new book, but judging from the tone of the religious press in reviews of it, the book must be a rare contribution to present day literature that will find many readers in America who are equally interested in the present progress and relation of scientific and religious thought in some of their prominent phases which this book discusses apparently in a strong and an independent way. We hope to have a careful review of the new book soon for our own readers.

The Royal Society Medals for 1904.—In looking over the *Scientific year book* for 1905, we find the following awards of medals from that society for the year 1904.

The Copley medal to Sir William Crookes, F. R. S., for his long continued researches in spectroscopic chemistry, on electrical and mechanical phenomena in highly rarefied gases, on radio-active phenomena, and other subjects.

The Rumford medal to Professor Ernest Rutherford, F. R. S., for his researches on radio-activity, particularly for his discovery of the existence and properties of the gaseous emanations from radio-active bodies.

A Royal medal to Professor William Burnside, F. R. S., for his researches in mathematics particularly in the theory of groups.

A Royal medal to Col. David Bruce, B. M., M. C., F. R. A. S., for service in medical lines.

The Davy medal to Professor William Henry Perkins, Jr., F. R. A. S., for his discoveries in organic Chemistry.

The Darwin medal to William Bateson, F. R. S. for his contributions to the theory organic evolution, etc.

The Sylvester medal to Professor George Cantor for his researches in the theories of aggregates and of sets of points of the arithmetic Continuum, of transfinite numbers and Fourier's series.

The Hughes medal to Sir Joseph Wilson Swan for his invention of the electric incandescent lamp and various improvements in the practical applications of electricity.

THE ASTRONOMER. (C. A. Y.)

The destined course of whirling worlds to trace,
To plot the highways of the universe
And hear the morning stars their song rehearse,
And find the wandering comet in its place;
This is the triumph written in his face
And in the gleaming eye that read the Sun
Like open book, and from the spectrum won
The secrets of immeasurable space!

But finer was his mission to impart
The joy of learning, the belief that law
Is but the shadow of the power he saw
Alike in planet and in throbbing heart—
The hope that life breaks through material bars,
The faith in something that outlives the stars.

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ROBERT BRIDGES.