

The Cambridge Bible Commentary on the New English Bible:

I and II Corinthians, by Margaret E. Thrall, 1966, pp. 198; 17s. 6d.; \$3.50; School edition 10s. 6d.; Paper edition 9s. 6d.

The Letters of John and James, by R. R. Williams, 1966, pp. 148; 15s. \$3; School edition 9s. 6d.; Paper edition 8s. 6d.

The Cambridge University Press now produce two further volumes in this brief but useful series. Miss Thrall is lecturer in Biblical Studies in the University College of North Wales, Bangor. The Bishop of Leicester has already published several short New Testament commentaries. The introductions of both books are straightforward and adequate. Commentary on the text is necessarily limited, but is always fresh and interesting. Bishop Williams' book is not only scholarly, but often racy. The series as a whole is intended for the general reader rather than for the translator, but the translator will find a great deal of light in it, though by themselves these books will not give him all that he needs.

H. K. MOULTON

Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament, by F. W. Gingrich, University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London, 1966, pp. 241; \$4.50 or 33s. 6d.

Arndt and Gingrich's Greek-English Lexicon, translated and adapted from the German of Walter Bauer, has been an indispensable tool for the last nine years. This is a large volume of over nine hundred pages, with an introduction of over thirty pages. Dr Gingrich has abridged it to just over a quarter of the number of pages, each of which is only half the size of the original page. This has been done by omitting all patristic references, all references to literature on individual words, and a great deal of detailed explanation. At the same time, plenty of New Testament references are retained, and no major alternative meanings are omitted. A random set of examples may be given: *logeia* (collection) has a line and a half as against twelve (longer) lines; *logizomai* (reckon) has sixteen lines as against nearly eighty, but covers the major meanings with twenty-seven Scripture references; *logos* (word) has forty lines as against five columns, but again covers the ground.

This abridgement will clearly be of great value to those who want something more than a vocabulary but find the large lexicon overwhelming. In scope it covers somewhere between Souter's Pocket Lexicon and Abbott-Smith's Manual Lexicon. The only failure in abridgement is in the price. The large lexicon costs £6 10s. 0d. The shorter, one eighth of the size, is a quarter of the price.

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