

# THE PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL REVIEW.

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## I.

### TERTULLIAN AND THE BEGINNINGS OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY.

#### SECOND ARTICLE.

**I**N the last number of this REVIEW\* it was pointed out that any approach which Tertullian may have made toward formulating a doctrine of a really immanent Trinity will be revealed by attending to the responses he makes to five questions. These questions are: (1) Whether he intends a real distinction of persons, in the philosophical sense of the term, by the distinction he makes between the divine "persons"; (2) Whether he supposes this distinction of persons to belong to the essential mode of the divine existence, or to have been constituted by those prolations of the Logos and Spirit which, according to his teaching, took place in order to the creation and government of the world; (3) Whether he preserves successfully the unity of God in the distinction of persons which he teaches; (4) Whether he conceives deity in Christ to be all that it is in the Father; and (5) Whether he accords to the Holy Spirit also both absolute deity and eternal distinctness of personality. We shall endeavor now to obtain Tertullian's responses to these questions.

(1) The interest with which we seek Tertullian's answer to the

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of our Church. The spirit of the book is judicious and moderate. The topical method employed throughout will add to the value of the compend as a textbook. The Index could with advantage have been considerably enlarged. The Appendix reprints the valuable "Statistical Returns from the Reformed and Presbyterian Churches of the World," published by "The Eighth Council of the Alliance of the Reformed and Presbyterian Churches which met in Liverpool, July, 1904." We recommend the volume as an excellent popular history of Presbyterianism.

Princeton.

F. W. LOETSCHER.

ENGLISH CHURCH HISTORY, FROM THE DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP PARKER TO THE DEATH OF KING CHARLES I. Four Lectures by the Rev. ALFRED PLUMMER, M.A., D.D., Formerly Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, Oxford, and Master of University College, Durham. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. 12mo; pp. x, 179. Price, \$1.00 net.

It is well that Dr. Plummer consented after much hesitation to permit these lectures, after they had been repeatedly delivered in England, to reach that larger circle of readers of which such an author's works are worthy. The lectures present the politico-ecclesiastical history of England during the years 1575 to 1649 under the following captions: (I) Counter-Reformation and Ultra-Reformation; (II) The Wise Fool in Church and State; (III) Development of Despotism in Church and State, and (IV) Downfall of Episcopacy and Monarchy.

Dr. Plummer's claim that these discourses offer little that is original must be allowed. "In the main," he says, "these lectures are based upon, and in some particulars are directly derived from, modern works which are accessible to every one." It must be confessed, moreover, that the author has not always succeeded in his sincere and everywhere noticeable desire to be fair. In more than one place his Anglican sympathies lead him to do injustice to the Dissenters. Not that Elizabeth's shortcomings are overlooked, nor that James and Charles are raised above their proper level, but rather that the conceded limitations of a Calvin or a Cartwright or a Cromwell are viewed from a distorting angle of vision. But this partiality is for the most part bravely overcome, and it by no means blinds us to the many admirable qualities of this work. The lectures are able and instructive, affording opportunity for judicious revision of some widespread but inaccurate opinions concerning the leading personalities of this period. There is a tendency to express judgments *ex cathedra*, which makes one challenge some of the statements, but before the paragraph is finished the author has managed to justify his views, save when he deals with some of the less commendable features of the Puritan movement. But even here he is uniformly interesting and suggestive and we can readily understand the many importunities made for the publication of the lectures by those who heard them delivered.

Princeton.

F. W. LOETSCHER.

#### IV.—SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY.

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE. By PROFESSOR W. BRENTON GREENE, Jr., D.D. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press. 1905. 8vo, pp. 55.

This little volume has been prepared primarily for the use of students in "The Westminster Teacher-Training Course" who may wish to pursue their study of Christian doctrine further than could be done with the aid of the regular Manual. The bare outline, which is all that the limits of the latter permit, is in the book under review extended and illustrated, though still of necessity very briefly. With each chapter references are given to "The Confession of Faith," and also to "Popular Lectures on Theological Themes" by Dr. A. A. Hodge. The subjects discussed are "The Bible," "The Nature of God," "God's Works of Creation