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I.

TERTULLIAN AND THE BEGINNINGS OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY.

FIRST ARTICLE.

IT is exceedingly impressive to see Christian Latin literature Athena-like spring at once into being fully armed in the person of an eminently representative man, in whom seem summed up the promise and potency of all that it was yet to be. This is what occurred in Tertullian, whose advent and career provide a remarkable illustration of the providential provision of the right man for the right place. Seldom has one been called to a great work who was better fitted for it by disposition and talents as well as by long and strenuous preparation. Ardent in temperament, endowed with an intelligence as subtle and original as it was aggressive and audacious, he added to his natural gifts a profound erudition, which far from impeding only gave weight to the movements of his alert and robust mind. A jurist of note, he had joined to the study of law not only that of letters, but also that of medicine; born and brought up in the camp he had imbibed from infancy no little knowledge of the military art; and his insatiable curiosity had carried him into the depths of every form of learning accessible to his time and circumstances, not even excepting the occult literature of the day. When he gave himself in his mature manhood to the service of Christianity, he brought in his hands all the spoils of antique culture, smelted into a molten mass by an almost incredible passion.

The moment when he appeared on the scene was one well calcu-

LEAVES FOR QUIET HOURS. By GEORGE MATHESON, F.R.S.E., LL.D. (formerly Minister of the Parish of St. Bernards, Edinburgh), Author of *The Representative Men of the Bible*, *Studies of the Portrait of Christ*, *Moments on the Mount*, etc. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son, 1904. 8vo, pp. vi, 288.

No one who is familiar with the author's former books needs to be told that this is a volume to be welcomed and prized by all thoughtful and intelligent Christian people. Few men have the homiletic insight, coupled with the faculty for poetic expression, which Dr. Matheson possesses. He handles a text with the deft but reverent hand of a real genius. Most of these papers are exquisite in both conception and expression. They are all very short, each presenting first "a thought" and then a feeling or a prayer. In only one or two instances should we say that the theme, excellent in itself, is not quite germane to the text from which it is taken. We shall have to think again before agreeing with the author when he says that there was no prayer in Eden. In richness of thought and diction these meditations are unique; sometimes the writer seems to have great difficulty in keeping back the torrent of alliterations which comes surging down upon his pen. For example this, in an apostrophe to his soul, in the paper on "The Education of Bereavement": "Thou hast soared by thy sorrow; thou hast loved by thy loss: thou hast widened by thy weeping; thou hast grown by thy grief; thou hast broadened in being broken; thou hast enlarged thy sympathy by emptying out thy treasures; the storm that shook thy nest taught thee to fly" (p. 149).

Trenton.

HENRY COLLIN MINTON.

RELIGION AND THE HIGHER LIFE. Talks to Students. By WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER, President of the University of Chicago. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1904. 8vo, pp. ix, 184. \$1.00 net.

This volume contains an even dozen addresses to students upon a variety of subjects in which student hearers might be presumed to be interested. They are somewhat informal, being practical rather than didactic, and suited more to impress character than to inform the mind. For this design they are well adapted, and there are in them so many wholesome truths and so many helpful bits of advice that they are well worthy of being preserved in this permanent form.

Trenton.

HENRY COLLIN MINTON.

HOME IDEALS. By WAYLAND HOYT, D.D., LL.D. Philadelphia: Griffith and Rowland Press, 1904. 12mo; pp. 115.

In this beautiful little book Dr. Hoyt offers a series of six charming talks, in sermon form, on such topics of universal interest as courtship and marriage, and the respective duties of husband and wife, and brother and sister in the home circle. The last discourse, on "Large Life in Small Place," is a homiletical gem, as helpful, too, as it is beautiful. The style has the well-known characteristics of the author's devotional publications. The many literary allusions and citations will no doubt give many a reader the inspiration for a better acquaintance with Browning and Tennyson, with Carlyle and Ruskin. We are especially pleased with the deeply religious spirit that pervades the treatment of these important themes. The book has a freshness and fragrance and inspiring vigor that make one think of a breeze from the meadows on a sultry summer day. We can only express the hope that many lovers, and husbands and wives, and brothers and sisters will find in these attractive paragraphs a word of wise counsel and good cheer.

Princeton.

FREDERICK W. LOETSCHER.