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government override providence. It is unjust, because its aim is to treat all as nearly alike as possible; and because there is no injustice so great as that of treating unequals as if they were equal. It is absurd, because "it is an attempt to make the world better without making men better". We cannot, therefore, agree with Mr. Stelzle when he says "that a man has a perfect right to be a Socialist, if he is convinced that Socialism is morally and economically sound". No one has a right to be convinced that a system is morally and economically sound which is essentially irreligious, unjust and absurd.

Princeton.

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PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

Life's Unexpected Issues and Other Papers on Character and Conduct.

By WILLIAM L. WATKINSON, D.D., LL.D., author of "The Fatal Barter", "The Bane and the Antidote", "The Blind Spot", etc. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company. 1912. 12mo; pp. 212. \$1.00 net.

A volume of sermons by this celebrated preacher always makes delightful and profitable reading. These seventeen discourses are thoroughly characteristic of his homiletic art. They reveal an unusual intellectual versatility and breadth, combined with tender spiritual fervor and exquisite graces of style. The venerable editor and preacher gleaned from many fields of literature and makes the scientific study of nature yield a wealth of strikingly apt illustrations. He has an uncommon power of drawing novel and instructive lessons from familiar texts.

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FREDERICK W. LOETSCHER.

The James Sprunt Lectures delivered at Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. *The Sermon: Its Construction and Delivery.* By DAVID JAMES BURRELL, D.D., LL.D., Pastor Marble Collegiate Church, New York. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company. 1913. 8vo; cloth, pp. 329. \$1.50 net.

"This book is made up, for the most part", says the Preface, "of material used in Princeton Theological Seminary, where the author recently supplied a four years' vacancy in the chair of Homiletics. The lectures . . . were afterwards revised and committed to writing for use in other seminaries and ministerial associations. They have been still further revised and reduced to their present form to meet the requirements of the James Sprunt Lectureship in the Union Theological Seminary of Richmond, Va."

The introductory chapter is an incisive discussion of the definition of the sermon, "an address to a congregation on the subject of religion from the standpoint of the Scriptures, with the purpose of persuading men". The seven main divisions of the work are devoted to the con-