

# THE THEOLOGUE.

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VOL. X.—JANUARY, 1899.—No. 3.

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## Presbyterian College, Halifax.

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WHITHER?

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ANYONE reading the religious or semi-religious books of the present day must be struck with the great difference between them and those of a half century ago and earlier. In the older writers there was a strong grasp of truth as it presented itself to the reason. Men held strong views on all questions of doctrine, erroneous views perhaps, but strong views and in many cases clearly defined and self-consistent. The sermons, lectures and writings of that time are full of statements of the doctrinal truth held by the writers. The preachers of that period appeal to the life and conscience, but they never neglect the reason, and statement of doctrine as intellectually apprehended every where abounds. When one turns from those to the modern religious writers, especially those who may be classed as popular the great decline in doctrine is at once apparent.

The modern tendencies may be well illustrated by reference to two popular writers, one of the Old World and the other of the New. It is true that neither of these men is of recognised position as a Theologian even in his own ecclesiastical body, but the great popularity of their writings shows that there is a real