

from the grip of war, must build the fair House of God, at least we have the temple of Truth in secret vision, and we are gathering the stone and the lime, the timber and the metal, against the day of its building, when it comes." The book, as the author, declares, "has been written in the spirit of this vision. It affords a summary, yet complete and luminous view of creeds and creed making, outside the Hebrew and Christian religion, and within—from the ancient Persian and Buddhist documents, to the beliefs of Christian Science and the Salvation Army. The discussion of the vital elements in the great creeds of Christendom is keen and discerning, but irenic—always the eye to the elements of cardinal and abiding truth which they embody, and always with the forward reach to the time when, perhaps, as says Professor Denney, "the symbol of the church's unity might be expressed thus: *I believe in God through Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord and Saviour.*" Professor Curtis' treatise will add a book of value to the most complete theological library, and will be a chief treasure in the library of any young minister. The tables in the Appendices illustrating the rise and evolution of creeds ancient and modern, are exceedingly instructive.

Reasons and Reasons, by James Moffatt, D.D., D.Litt. (Hodder & Stoughton, Toronto, 199 pages, \$1.50), comprises twenty sermons, terse, shrewd, keen, strong and brief. As one would expect from Dr. Moffatt's reputation as one of the foremost New Testament scholars of the day, they exhibit reading and the deep thinking, but the author is also always in close touch with common things and common people. The

purpose of the book is exhibited in the motto from Browning on the title page:

"The candid incline to surmise, of late,
That the Christian faith may be false, I find; . . .
I still, to suppose it true, for my part
See reasons and reasons."

The sermons are much more than a cold apologetic of the Christian faith. They are a warm, sympathetic setting forth of that faith. The author has a firm and joyous grasp on the central truth of Christ as Lord and Redeemer.

"Visitors to the Tate Gallery see with surprise the paint-box of Turner—a battered receptacle of apparently dirty pigments. It could never be associated with the vases of drawing-rooms or the jeweled treasures of nobles. Yet how well it served its famous owner and bodied forth his wonderful visions!" This sentence, quoted from one of the pages of Dr. W. L. Watkinson's **Life's Unexpected Issues** (Cassell & Company, Toronto, 242 pages, \$1.00), is suggestive of the character of the book itself. Dr. Watkinson is not lacking in scholarship; but his chief characteristic is a certain picturesqueness of homely personality and expression. He knows the power of the pictorial as well as of the practical, and in these Papers on Character and Conduct, he is in very close touch with life as it actually is. Such chapters as *The Astronomy of the Blind*, *White Funerals*, *The Casuistry of Love*, *The Holiday Hours of the Soul*, *The Sleeping Partners of Unrighteousness*, etc., will give a notion of the good things this fresh, vigorous, wholesome volume contains.

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