

theories which have been proposed, with a view of accounting for the Saviour's work and sufferings in some other way than by the Scriptural explanation of them.

And *fourthly*, we shall endeavour to deviate those objections with which the doctrine of Holy Scripture, respecting the Atonement, has been ordinarily assailed."

The author further prepares his readers at the outset that he *assumes*, as true, the Doctrine of the Incarnation of Deity in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. With these few plain and simple statements our author betakes himself to his noble subject. And those who have read other books by Dr. Crawford meet in this one the well remembered features of an old friend. There is to be found in this book the result of long and patient study of Sacred Scripture in view of the Great Doctrine of the New Testament, and throughout the whole book he adheres to his principle, *Scripture the first thing to be considered*. One, as he reads, is brought and kept face to face with the Bible and the subject, so that he forgets the author altogether. The classification of the book is so good that the simplest mind is never confused and consequently the subject is not lost sight of. An especially pleasing feature of the book is to observe the care bestowed upon the selection of passages of Scripture, and the accuracy which the different shades of meaning are deduced from the New Testament.

Professor Crawford has, we think, wisely avoided entering "into the much-controverted question respecting the *extent* or *destination* of the Atonement," because "a full and systematic discussion of it would be impracticable, apart from the difficult and mysterious subject of the purposes of God;" not that the Professor feared to grapple with this or any other department of the system of Theology, to the teaching of which he has devoted his life, but because such "would of itself form matter for a separate treatise."

We were much pleased at finding in Part III. of this Book "a review of the theories that have been proposed as substitutes for the Catholic (or general) doctrine of the Atonement." Here the author professedly draws upon lectures

published a few years go in reply to a book on "The Fatherhood of God," but though we do not take up his thoughts in his last book, for the first time, yet their logic is so telling and their style so pleasing that we take to them as to a company of former acquaintances.

As to style we have not much to say, as we could not give any satisfactory estimate thereof without giving extracts. This, however willing, we are unable to do, as the space at our disposal in the well-filled pages of the *Monthly Record* will not permit. Suffice it to say, that it is Professor Crawford's style over again—calm, judicious and in perfect keeping with his subject.

The name of the Book and the title of the Author should not cause the uneducated to keep aloof. It is a book which can be understood and ought to be studied by every reader of the Shorter Catechism. In this book, written as it is by a Minister and Professor of the Church of Scotland, the reader can hope confidently not to be betrayed into heresy. On the other hand, he who has "itching ears" will be disappointed if he comes to this book for something *new*. The author simply deduces from Scripture the Doctrine of the Atonement as held by the Orthodox of the Protestant Church, and defends the same from the attacks of the adversary—for the manner in which his object has been accomplished we refer to the book itself. We hope to see it in the libraries of the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the Provinces, as it is a book which repays perusal of its pages. C.

#### Presents to Ministers.

How often we hear persons speak as if giving *presents* to their minister laid him under an obligation, which must not, on pain of the charge of ingratitude, be forgotten. The members of a congregation come in a body without notice to the manse, give a trifling sum of money, a sleigh, a set of harness or some such gift to the minister, an address is given and without a moment for preparation a reply is expected, both must go the round of the papers, and good natured editors, who do not understand the true state of the case, commend the generosity.