

unhappy reader who had not expected to meet with a Chinese puzzle in a novel for Christians. The household of that benevolent and hospitable minister's wife, Dolly French, is about the least item in the book. The rustic, God-fearing Westholt family, in whose bosom the heroine, Clara Ranesford, spends her holidays, has most of the talk, for the story is all talk, and some of it clever and even learned talk. One is disappointed to find Clara marrying John Wheatecroft, an uncultivated and self-sufficient—Christian. In the New York group, the great event is the conversion of Mr. Guy Underwood, an agnostic, to the great joy of his wife, Ethel, who had nearly nagged all religion and morality out of him. There is a lack of elevation in this book. This is not due to want of religious earnestness, for the author is full of it; nor to deficiency in education, for she exhibits evidence of wide and appreciative reading. But she has not learned how to group her facts and place her bright sayings in appropriate settings. If John Wheatecroft, who had not read a dozen books in his life, was worthy of the intellectual and clever school-marm, he has not been properly word-painted. His one virtue was truthfulness; otherwise he was a commonplace, pretensions, religious prig, such as it would be agony for any woman of culture and spirit to live with. Yet such women do at times suffer martyrdom to such men. God pity them! He was a really religious man too, which some are not.

The Presbyterian Board of Publication at Philadelphia contributes five small-wares. The largest is a *Compendium of Church History*, by the Rev. Andrew C. Zuercher, D.D., Professor of Biblical theology in the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, with an Introduction by the Rev. John De Witt, D.D., LL.D., Archibald Alexander Professor of Church History in Princeton Theological Seminary. This book has 340 pretty closely printed pages, including a full index, and carries the history of the church on from the birth of Christ to the present day. It is pleasantly written, and the statements of