

was asked, when the act of communion was passed, how he could remain in the Church of England with such views of the Divinity of Christ. The reply was given in the genuine spirit of expediency; that he could do more good within than without the church. He could have found a position where his work and his convictions might have agreed, but then that would not be the deanery of Westminster. When place and principles cannot be made to agree, the place can be changed; but he followed a different plan. She was thankful for his kindness and indulgent in judging of the ingenious subterfuges of a conscience not nearly so troublesome as her own.

It is not necessary to dwell upon the past career or present position of Mrs. Besant—once a materialist and now a theist—once an atheist and now a theosophist. No critical estimate of this kind was intended, and it was for no such purpose that her name was introduced to these pages. A very great deal might be said upon this subject, and much that might be profitable to students of theology and to those who have charge of theological colleges and of the courses of study required of students, in order that they may know and cope with forms of unbelief that are rampant now, and with the difficulties that harass many earnest spirits hostile to the church. I merely intended to dwell a while upon a part of a biography which demonstrates how much evil may be done by an injudicious or inadequate method of dealing with cases of conscience or of doubt or of disbelief. It shews that this is by far the most difficult part of a pastor's work. Pastoral theology is thus one of the most necessary parts of a theological course. When we see so few fruits of public preaching, may it not be that the time has come for addressing individuals? In this kind of work, both for prevention and cure, "a word fitly spoken, how good is it!"

THE FOURTH PROFESSORSHIP.

HAD you not requested it, I certainly should not have entered upon the discussion of the contemplated additional professorship in our College in your columns. As the matter comes to Presbyteries, goes thence again to the Board, and, I presume,