

Whither? A Theological Question for the Times. By CHARLES AUGUSTUS BRIGGS, D.D. 8vo, pp. xvi—303. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; and Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Price \$1.75.

This is a very noteworthy book. The distinguished position and scholarship of the author and the importance of the subject conspire to give it weight. It shows what remarkable departures have taken place from the old Westminster Confession, and that many of these departures have been less liberal and Scriptural than the venerable document itself. While the book on one side is polemical, on the other it is irenical, broad minded and catholic. It shows that Presbyterian theologians have hardened and sharpened the doctrines of the Confession by excessive definition in the field of Protestant polemics—that the “consensus” of Christendom is far greater than its “dissensus”—that even “the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant Churches are agreed as to nine-tenths or more of the contents of Christianity”—that, we quote its very words, “those so-called Protestants who refuse to recognize the Roman Catholic Church as a true Church of Jesus Christ are guilty of heresy and schism.” We wonder what Dr. Fulton would say to such catholicity as that.

“They are,” says, Dr. Briggs. “our allies in the conflict with irreligion and atheism, and immorality, and heathenism, and are in agreement with Protestants as to the great essentials of Christianity.” He quotes with approval the “wise words of John Wesley” on the future state, and claims that the doctrinal system of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the teachings of John Wesley have more in common with the Presbyterian Church than in opposition to it. He doubts whether it is practical or advisable at the present time to consolidate the Presbyterian and Methodist families, but claims that there might be a federation and alliance for union

and co-operation in the general work of the Church of Christ.

These are not the hasty utterances of a rash and obscure man. They are the calm results of more than twenty years of study of one of the foremost professors of the leading Presbyterian Theological Seminary of the United States. The plan of a federal, as distinct from organic, union of Protestantism, is one suggested by Principal Grant in his recent sermon in the Metropolitan Church. May we not hope the time will come when all the now severed Churches of Christendom shall thus be joined in a holy alliance against the world, the flesh and the devil, and for the upbuilding of Christ's cause in the world.

Personally Conducted. By FRANK STOCKTON. Square 8vo, pp. 240. New York: Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.

The young people are to be congratulated who can enjoy the comprehensive tour described in this book under the genial guidance of the author of the “Rudder Grange,” “The Lady, or the Tiger,” etc. Few things are more educative and instructive than a judicious course of travel, and the next best thing to actual travel is to follow such a vivid and well illustrated account of travel on the great historic routes of Europe as is presented in Mr. Stockton's handsome volume. He takes us through Southern France, stopping at Avignon; and on through sunny Italy, with short visits to Genoa and Pisa, to the most interesting city in Europe—Rome. Then we proceed to Naples, Florence, and Venice; thence into Switzerland, up the Rigi, and on to Paris and London, through rural England, back to Holland and Germany, down the Rhine and through Belgium. The admirable engravings by Mr. Pennell Mr. Parsons and others greatly enhance the value of the book. Such fine cuts as the views on the Rhine, the Hotel de Ville, Brussels, the views in Paris, Westminster Abbey, etc., are exquisite works of art. This