

## THE BOOK PAGE

IN THE THREE CROSSES, a new book by Rev. Professor James W. Falconer, now just from the press (Hodder & Stoughton, London, 101 pages, 75c), we have a rich and truly edifying interpretation of the great tragedies of Calvary. The frontispiece contains fine reproductions of Rubens', Durer's, and Van Dyke's "Crucifixions". Professor Falconer interprets the Crucifixion "as a trilogy or Divine Comedy enacted upon the present stage of time. One thief impersonates the hell of unrepented sin, the other stands for the purgatory of godly sorrow, while Jesus is the paradise of self-sacrificing love. Three types of consciousness are found here, and these together exhaust the religious experience of the world." The touch is exquisite, the spirit of the book being tenderness itself, as is meet; but the writer does not shrink from a frank discussion of impenitence, "the most perplexing problem of the spiritual world", and from following sin out to its ultimate issues. He is perhaps at his best in his delineation of the godly sorrow over sin, and the penitent's apprehension of God in Christ. Calvary, its agonies and its triumphs, will ever be a trying place of souls who are seeking for pardon and holiness, and this little book will bring many a reader far into its mysteries of suffering and of love.

"To make the reader his own expert . . . to enable him to form definite conclusions in regard to the truth of the Gospel apart from the verdict of others", is the aim of Rev. Albert S. Mackinnon, in **Tangible Tests for a Young Man's Faith**,

(just issued by Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh, 187 pages, 75c. net). He has been thoroughly successful, his appeals being to such tests as every one can measure for himself, as, for instance, our own unconscious aspirations, the testimony of history, of science, of commerce, of the personal change which the religion of Christ works in those who receive it, the present day influence of Christ in the world. His discussion of such topics as The Factor of Faith, Life's Driving Power, The Discontent of Unbelief, is admirable. Mr. Mackinnon possesses three indispensable qualifications of a writer for young men—he knows his men; he knows his subject—rings true; and he speaks, not in the abstract, but in the concrete. The book is valuable for those to whom young men look for guidance, as well as for young men themselves.

"The enrichment of the Public Prayer of the Sanctuary"—no more worthy object, surely; for the enriching of public prayer lifts the whole service of public worship to a higher level, with corresponding profit to all who take part in it. There is special need of aid in this direction, seeing that,—one knows not why,—training for public prayer receives such scant attention in the theological colleges: the importance of it seems scarcely to have dawned upon those who lay out the curriculum. **An Anthology of Prayer for Public Worship** issued by The Church Worship Association of the United Free Church of Scotland (Macniven and Wallace, Edinburgh, U.C. Tract Society, Toronto, 208 pages, boards, 75c. net; morocco, thin paper, handy pocket

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