

sunder what God has joined together." That is, his meditations are explanations. "Thier aim is to give a new edge to truths and truisms blunted by use. Doubtless it contains little or nothing that has not been said before and said better; yet in many cases the truths are said in the writer's own way, and so far he can claim to bring forth from the treasury old things and new—old, because truth is eternal; new, because its expression is infinitely variable. . . . A new gospel is not worth listening to; while to say old things in old words is tiresome." (From the Preface).

Each meditation is so packed with thought that a less condensed style could not cover the matter in less than half a dozen books. Even to those who like ourselves, are unfortunately not very partial to purely religious books, Father Tyrrell will prove as interesting as instructive.

When one has become accustomed to the simplicity of *Nova et Vetera*, a simplicity resembling that of the *Imitation*, *Hard sayings* comes as a change. The reader who has never studied *Morals* will have to gather everything he knows about these subjects, if he is to understand and appreciate this exposition of fundamental Catholic doctrines. If a mere tyro in philosophy might venture an opinion, we would say the book appeals most to those who have studied the dry scholastic formulas, and who wish vivid descriptions of the truths which the logician partly reveals and partly conceals.

In *Faith for the Millions* (First and Second Series) Father Tyrrell writes as a religious apologist and critic. For the ordinary reader these are perhaps the most interesting of his books. The Catholic apologist of the twentieth century must, as he says, first know the Catholic doctrines, know not only the dead formulas but feel the living truth; he must also know the doctrines of the modern non-Catholics; he must express the Catholic doctrines in phraseology which the moderns will understand; he must prove the Catholic doctrines from principles the moderns admit; and finally he must be sympathetic, and not anger his readers, as the sledgehammer controversialist does. Father Tyrrell himself meets all these requirements.