

tion in memory of her father call for a lecture each year, and the subject is "The Immortality of Man." Professor James is the first lecturer, and he has acquitted himself in an able and original manner. He deals with two supposed objections.

First: Thought is a function of the brain, and therefore man's spiritual life ends with physical dissolution. But "we are not required to think of productive function only; we are entitled also to consider permissive or transmissive function." There may be realities behind the veil, and the brain may be but the vehicle through which "the one infinite thought which is the sole reality is shattered or refracted into those millions of finite streams of consciousness known to us as our private selves." This "transmission theory" also helps to explain other psychical phenomena which we have not space to mention.

The second objection relates to the incredible number and character of things we must believe to be immortal if immortality be true. Neither objection has substantial value. A proper understanding of the first gives "to our belief in immortality a freer wing." As to the second, "God has so inexhaustible a capacity for love that his call and need is for a literally endless accumulation of created lives"; and "the Deity that suffers us, we may be sure, can suffer many another queer and wondrous and only half delightful thing." It is a brilliant lecture from one of the first psychologists of the day.

E. I. B.

*Dwellers in Gotham.* A Romance of New York. By ANNAN DALE. Toronto: William Briggs. New York: Eaton & Mains. Price, \$1.25.

This is emphatically a novel with a purpose. It is a parable in which the threefold temptations of our Lord, the appeal to hunger, to pride, to ambition, are shown in their applications to modern life. The book grapples with the great problems of the times: the crowded tenement life, the trades unionism, the fashionable frivolity, the greed for gain of the modern Gotham. The story is one of absorbing interest, and is told with remarkable literary skill. A fine vein of humour, with a flavour of satire, runs through the volume.

Parts of it are as good in their humour as Dickens, and as cutting in their satire as Thackeray. The glimpses of newspaperdom, of Wall Street, of the upper Four Hundred, of tenement life, with

their mingled tragedy, pathos and comedy, are of photographic fidelity.

The author is one of the leading Methodist ministers of the United States. The book is handsomely published by the Methodist Book Rooms of both New York and Toronto. We predict for it a great success.

*Hard Sayings.* A Selection of Meditations and Studies. By GEORGE TYRRELL, S.J. London: Longmans, Green & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co., Ltd. Pp. xx., 469. Price, \$2.10.

It is often very instructive to study religious problems from the point of view of men from whom in many regards we widely differ. This book is written by a Jesuit priest, and is licensed and endorsed by the authorities of his Church. Yet it contains many devout and profoundly spiritual reflections which show that beneath all our differences there are broad underlying principles common to all Christian believers. The key-note of the present volume is "the Gospel of pain." The teaching is somewhat ascetic in its character, but it recognizes the eternal truth "that Christ's yoke is easy, not because it is painless, but because love makes the pain welcome." Or as expressed in verse:

Ah, Christ, if there were no hereafter,  
It still were best to follow Thee;  
Who wears Thy yoke alone is free.

Among the subjects of these devout meditations are: The Soul and Her Spouse, The Hidden Life, The Presence of God, God in Conscience, Sin and Suffering, The Life Everlasting. This is such a book as John Wesley, with his fervent charity and saintly sympathies, would heartily enjoy and commend.

*A Critical Study of "In Memoriam."* By the REV. JOHN M. KING, M.A., D.D., Principal of Manitoba College, Winnipeg. Toronto: George N. Morang. William Briggs.

The development of our Canadian literature is very apparent in many directions. This is especially true of its poetry and narrative fiction. In Dr. King's book we have the first important example, so far as we remember, of a high-class critical volume. "In Memoriam" has been called the greatest poem of the nineteenth century. More fully than any other it expresses the profound religious doubts and difficulties