

## THE BOOK PAGE

From the Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va., we have received the first volume, to be followed by two others, of **Apologetics: Or the Rational Vindication of Christianity**, by Francis R. Beattie, D.D., LL.D., Professor of Apologetics and Systematic Theology in the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Kentucky (605 pages; cloth, \$2.00 net; sheep, \$2.50 net; 25c. postage). Dr. Beattie has undertaken a survey of the whole field of apologetics. Few men are better qualified for the task.

The principle of division adopted by him is the various aspects of "the redeeming and restoring activity of God in the world as it appears in Christianity." Christianity implies a certain relation of God to man and the world. It has assumed a definite historical form in the world. And it has many practical problems with which to deal. Apologetics, therefore, admits of a threefold division, into Fundamental Apologetics, dealt with in the present volume, Christian or Historical Apologetics, and Applied or Practical Apologetics, to be discussed in two succeeding volumes.

Theism is the general topic of Fundamental Apologetics. Under it two questions fall to be considered. The first relates to the nature and origin of the theistic belief—a psychological problem. The second deals with the validity of this belief. The business of the apologete is to establish the reality of the object on which the theistic belief terminates. Here, in the language of philosophy, the problem is ontological. Dr. Beattie's thorough investigation of both these

questions is followed by a presentation and criticism of anti-theistic theories.

Dr. B. B. Warfield, of Princeton, in an introductory note, calls attention to the comprehensiveness of Dr. Beattie's work, and speaks of it as the first treatise of so wide a scope, "to be produced by an American Presbyterian." It is with some satisfaction, that we remind our readers of the fact that Dr. Beattie is a Canadian, and was for many years a minister of our own church. While he is now one of the brightest ornaments of another church, he is still welcomed with pleasure to Canadian pulpits. The distinction he has won abroad brings honor to his native land, which will be distinctly added to by this new *magnum opus*.

Rand, McNally & Company (142 Fifth Avenue, New York City) have excelled themselves in their new **Indexed Atlas of the World** (2 volumes, various prices and bindings from \$20 upwards). We keep it on our table, and consult it frequently. We have not found it to fail; and this is an unusual excellency in an atlas. It enters into detail in regard to physiography, industry and commerce, ethnology, history, politics and sociology. As a leading daily journal says:

"Rand, McNally & Co.'s Indexed Atlas of the World touches the highest water-mark ever reached in this direction. It is all that may reasonably be required of such a publication, and vastly better than anything of the kind that has heretofore come to our table. It is at once historical, descriptive, and statis-

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