

SOME THOUGHTS ON CHRISTIAN REUNION. *By W. Boyd Carpenter, D.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Ripon. Cloth 8vo. Price, \$1.25. MacMillan & Co., New York; Copp, Clark & Co., Toronto.*

Whether Christian reunion will ever advance beyond the talking stage in our day may be a matter of doubt, but that the discussion of the question is producing some interesting and useful literature is beyond question. Among recent contributions to such literature this work by Bishop Carpenter deserves special mention. It consists of seven addresses delivered to the clergy of his diocese during Visitation in June, 1895. Instead of considering simply the question of church union and confining the thought to Protestant denominations, he considers the wider question of the reunion of Christendom, embracing Protestants, Roman Catholics, and Greeks.

He points out the growing desire for reunion, the gain that it would bring, and calls attention to the approximations to reunion, holding that the first three Ecumenical creeds would be a sufficient and satisfactory basis. Of necessity, the question of authority in religion stands at the very front of the enquiry. The author discusses the authority of *conviction*, the authority of *reason*, and the authority of *order*. The Bible produces the authority of conviction, theological propositions have the authority of reason, and the church's mandate the authority of order.

After discussing the position of the Church of England in relation to authority, the author deals with a very interesting subject, viz., the influence of race on religion, and considers the racial influences as factors in the formation of churches. This chapter is one of the most interesting and instructive in the book, and will be found to open up entirely new lines of thought for many readers. The claims of the Latin church are carefully considered, and their steadfast maintenance shown to be an insuperable barrier to reunion. Union in the letter is not possible, but union in the spirit there would be if the churches gave practical effect to what they believe of the Fatherhood of God and His love for their fellow-men.

The Bishop of Ripon is not a commonplace man, and this is not a commonplace book. It is somewhat churchly in tone, yet not without warm fraternal charity. It is packed full of information, presented in the attractive garb of an elegant English style.

THEOLOGY OF PRAYER. *By Rev. B. M. Palmer, D.D., LL.D. Cloth, 8vo., pp. 352; price, \$2. Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va.*

The venerable author of this volume has long been recognized as one of the greatest preachers in the Presbyterian Church. His splendid