

A very different work from the same bookseller, but published by the American Baptist Publication Society, is "How Christ came to Church: The Pastor's Dream: A Spiritual Autobiography, by A. J. Gordon, D.D.: with The Life-Story, and the Dream as interpreting the Man, by A. T. Pierson, D.D." This is a terribly long title for a handsome but small book of 123 pages. Dr. Gordon relates a dream he had one Saturday night, that he was in the pulpit preaching, and that a certain stranger, whom he afterwards learned was Jesus-Christ, was present listening attentively to his sermon. This dream led the eminent Boston divine to consider that Christ is really in every assembly of His people by His Spirit, and to reflect upon the responsibility of preacher and worshippers in general which this consideration involves. The purification of the soul as the temple of the Holy Ghost, and that of the church as part of the Father's house often made a den of thieves, are insisted upon, and much is said of the attitude of the believer towards our Lord's second coming. The author tells of the influence of the dream upon his own work and upon the activities of his people in a simple strain of gratitude. There is intense earnestness and a spirit of deep devotion to Christ in the brief lessons drawn from the vision. In the prefaced biographical sketch and in The Life Story, Dr. Pierson has drawn with a loving hand the por-

trait of his revered departed friend. It would be most ungenerous to deny to the dead above all others the need of praise which generous friends bestow, and as Dr. Pierson is by no means alone in speaking of Dr. Gordon as a very eminent saint of God and a childlike, honorable, and affectionate Christian man, we can only regret that the world has not more that are such, and that when they do appear they are so soon called away to the upper sanctuary.

Finally, Mr. Chapman has to be thanked for The Story of Bessie Costrell, by Mrs. Humphrey Ward. It is a short story of 180 pages and the Canadian edition is published by the Toronto News Company. It contains none of the socialism of Marcella nor of the gospel negation of Robert Elsmere. A record of very humble, even sordid English peasant life, with little of the beauty of romance or of the dignity of religion, it tells of a woman's fall through the life-savings of a relative being left in her husband's safe keeping. She was good-looking and not bad-hearted, but giddy, careless and extravagant, and her husband, a gardener and a prop of the Independent Chapel, by his joint dreaminess and austerity, was a hindrance rather than a help to her moral life. Much against his bitter judgment, he assumed the care of old John Bolderfield's money box. Bessie fell into debt, and conveniently found a key which placed the treasure at her mercy. Hungry for affection of any