

One of the weaknesses and vices of our age is that we have largely banished the personal devil from our theology and especially from our practical theology. In thought we have slain the devil, but in the life of humanity he is ascendant as in ages past. The table of contents of this book led to the hope that it might do something to cause men to take fresh account of the nature of our spiritual warfare. It will not be wholly lacking in such service if one can read it selectively. But the manner in which it uses the Bible as if it were a set of puzzle blocks to be put together with cunning skill to spell out its story by some one who had gotten the key to the secret meaning of the parts and of their curious adjustment, this balks us and drives us away. If the Bible was given for a secret code to a few among men this prophet may be its interpreter. If it was given to reveal the Light of the World, the plain man may run and read. But cabalistic priest and preaching prophet had both best take account of Satan and his wiles.

W. O. CARVER.

Thinking Above What is Written, or The Exaltation of Human Wisdom Above the Word of God: The Devil's Righteousness, or Cain Came to Town Again. Jericho Theology. Three Pamphlets by I. M. Haldeman, D.D., Pastor First Baptist Church, New York City. New York. 1910. Charles C. Cook. Price 10 cents each.

These pamphlets are in Dr. Haldeman's vigorous style, filled with intense earnestness, enthusiastic clamor for orthodoxy and untempered denunciation of heresy. Their purpose is good. They are not as discriminating as one could wish. The author has written a large number of tracts of similar sort attacking current heresies and such notions and movements as seem to him harmful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and there seems to be a large demand for them.

W. O. CARVER.

The Fatal Barter, and Other Sermons. By William L. Watkinson, D.D., LL.D., Author of "The Blind Spot," "The Supreme Conquest", etc. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. 1909.

Dr. Watkinson is a strong preacher, and these are sermons

of a high order. The volume takes the title of the first sermon, which is a strong argument in favor of the reality of the divine revelation. The thought is solid, the style dignified and vigorous, though lacking somewhat in grace and beauty. The appeal is to the head more than to the heart, although the devotional element is not altogether wanting. Dr. Watkinson is quite strong in his logical arrangement of his discourses. In this respect he is almost a model. He numbers his divisions, but the "points of his armor" are not unpleasantly obtrusive, and he generally finds an effective plan for the discourse. The volume is excellent for its thought and teaching, and even more so in its strictly homiletical features.

W. O. CARVER.

A New Heaven and a New Earth, or The Way to Life Eternal (Thought Studies of the Fourth Dimension). By Charles Brodie Patterson. Author of "The Will to be Well", "Dominion and Power", "What the New Thought Stands For", "The Measure of a Man", etc. New York. 1909. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. Pages 286. Price \$1.25 net.

This work is described in its threefold title. It may be further described as an effort to point the way to eternal life conceived of as perfect adjustment to the Universal Life of the world. This way of life is of man's own making. There is no sin but in the thinking which may be corrected by proper thought adjustment which is to be initiated on the physical plane and which will lift man to the spiritual plane.

The initial chapter on "Definition of Terms" is the most obscure of all the book, the rest being fairly comprehensible. The author recognizes quite fully the difficulty of explaining his experiences to those who have not had them. He constantly talks of "the fourth dimension", which is no "dimension" at all. There is much of practical good in this work of one of the greatest exponents of "new thought", provided one knows how to use it and not to be misled by its impossible promises and absurd explanations of experiences and phenomena which are common to many who have no dreams of new thought.