

The crises treated in this little volume are as follows: The Jewish Crisis, the Gnostic Crisis, the Montanist Crisis, the Monarchian Crisis, or who is Jesus?, the Chiliastic Crisis, the Arian Crisis, and the Catholic Crisis, or Will Christianity Remain a Spiritual Religion? There are two appendixes on the Montanist prophecies and the Literature, and an excellent index. The treatment is popular since the work is intended for laymen and students as well as scholars; but it is written with a full knowledge of the sources and the literature of the subject. The author is a staunch conservative, a scholar of high order and able to give a reason for his positions. And yet it must be said that here and there he seems to allow his theology to get the better of his historical knowledge and spirit. On the whole, pastors and laymen will find this a most helpful volume. It is, in fact, the best work for its purpose with which the reviewer is acquainted.

W. J. McGLOTHLIN.

Puritanism in England. By Hensley Henson, D.D. Hodder & Stoughton. New York. 1912. Pp. 294. \$1.50.

The author, Canon Hensley, is well known as a vigorous thinker, writer and preacher throughout the English-speaking world. He is a champion of the Established Church and its history and ideals, but he is also fair in the main to his opponents. On a subject so beset and beclouded by controversy as the Puritan history and work, there will necessarily be wide divergence of view due to difference in standpoint. It is necessary to say this much by way of introduction. The standpoint of this volume is frankly Anglican. But when this is said it is necessary to add that it is written in a broad, tolerant spirit that makes the book not only instructive, but also readable by the descendants of the Puritans, whose sympathies still point in the same direction.

The volume consists of the six Lenten Lectures for 1912, and three sermons on related subjects preached elsewhere. The author attributes the brief success of Puritanism to its moral appeal in an age when the Established Church was either indiffer-

ent or devoting its energies to something else. Its great failure in the mind of the author, was intellectual. It produced nothing intellectually comparable with the output of the Establishment, either in amount or quality. This statement is, however, subject to one important qualification. In the matter of literature for the average man Puritanism was far ahead of the Establishment.

With an unerring hand the weaknesses of Puritanism are pointed out, while the equally striking defects of his own church are not so visible, or at least not mentioned by the author. Some of his statements cannot be accepted as properly representing the facts. For example, he says on page 137, that the violence of the sects set religious toleration back "for a whole generation." How is it possible to know this? The probability is that there would have been no toleration yet but for the heroic suffering of the sects. In fact, many of the canon's fellow churchmen still deny religious freedom to their dissenting fellow citizens. On page 225 it is said that "only the Quakers have a clean record" with regard to persecution. The fact is that the Anabaptists and the Baptists are both absolutely clear on this score, and the Baptists had put forth a number of the noblest tracts on liberty of conscience to be found in the English tongue years before Geo. Fox began his propaganda. But apart from a few blemishes like these, the book can be highly commended. It is characterized by illuminating comment and rare insight at many points. Men of Puritan extraction and sympathies would do well to read it for the new standpoint and the penetrating criticism.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

Edward Irving: Man, Preacher, Prophet. By Jean Christie Root. Boston. Sherman, French & Company. 1912. 150 pages. \$1.00 net.

After three-quarters of a century of relative indifference to the great personality and influence of Edward Irving, the present work undertakes to give him among "candid thinkers of all creeds" his legitimate place as "the man who perhaps more clearly foreshadowed the problems and truths of to-day than any other man in his period." Incidentally also, the author seeks to