

The author of this book is Professor of Homiletics in the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology. President Henry Churchill King, of Oberlin, says of him: "Professor Hutchins' work with his students, out of which these lectures have grown, has been so stimulating and enlightening, that I rejoice that the fruit of his long thinking on the Preacher's problem is to be made available to others also." In the opening chapter the author dwells helpfully upon the nature and need of the power of the preacher to meet and master the tasks imposed by our own times. Then he freshens up the rather hackneyed themes of the Preacher and His Bible, The Preacher and His Sermon, The Preacher and His Master, concluding with a suggestive lecture on Lincoln as a study and inspiration to the preacher.

The colloquial style of spoken address is retained throughout, as the author explains, in the hope that it may bring to the reader something of the atmosphere of frank comradeship which pervaded the gatherings of the Bangor Convocation where the lectures were delivered.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Life in Christ. By Edgar Young Mullins, D.D., LL.D. New York, 1917: Fleming H. Revell Co. 239 pp. \$1.25.

Lovers of the author and of the truth will cordially greet this collection of sermons from Dr. Mullins. Those who know him will be delighted to find here those mental and spiritual qualities which we admire in the man. Those who do not know him will learn, through these expressions of his mind and spirit, what they can only hail as distinct and notable gifts. Four things stand out in all of Dr. Mullins' work as an author and speaker, and they all are shown in these delightful and helpful discourses.

First, there is a rich, strong and clear mentality. Keen and profound thought, and thought fully abreast of the times, is here. Then there is excellence of style. The clothing of the thought is both adequate and becoming. There is no effort at precision. Here and there we find enough carelessness to remind us that perfection is not necessary when in general the style has all the

qualities accepted as needful to the best expression of thought. A third outstanding quality of Dr. Mullins' speaking and writing is a rare gift and felicity of illustration. This constitutes in our author one of his special charms. The illustrations are fresh, many of them thoroughly original, always briefly given, and wonderfully apposite and telling. The combination of great thinking with faculty for simple yet elegant and suggestive illustration is rare and powerful. Added to all these is the fourth element, with which the friends of the distinguished author are well acquainted. There is a trace of mysticism of the best sort in the spiritual side of the author's thought and writing. A deep personal experience of religion is his. His heart is with those who love, quite as much as his mind is with those who think. He brings in this book the strong, sympathetic grip of a brother who has met difficulties and problems, and can help the weaker ones who struggle in the Christian life.

This book will find many delighted, and, better than that, comforted and strengthened, readers. It deserves all the recognition and use that it is sure to find.

E. C. DARGAN.

Parable and Precept. A Baptist Message. By J. B. Gambrell, D.D., LL.D. Fleming H. Revell Company: New York, 1917.

Editor Routh, of the Baptist Standard, has put the reading public under obligation to him for compiling and publishing these characteristic messages of the Mark Twain of the American pulpit, for like the varied messages of the great original, they go straight to the heart of the question in every case and "appeal to all classes." For this reason the publisher might well have left off the sub-title, "A Baptist Message," and let the unique and many-sided message speak for itself its various language. Dr. Gambrell is already "well out" and well recognized by the American public as lecturer and writer, especially noteworthy for his original, witty and homely way of putting things. He has himself been too absorbed in the activities of denominational life and administration to find time to gather together in book form his pulpit and platform utterances and contributions to the press, and so