

select congregation. The style of the sermons is pure, chaste, Addisonian. The thought is strong and scholarly. The theology may not always be acceptable, but in general these sermons not only gratify a fastidious homiletical taste, but have in them an exceptionally fine spiritual flavor and present important truth in a very edifying way.

Dr. Aked's volume teems with the intellectual and spiritual vitality for which he is notable. He is not so chaste in style as Tipple, nor so felicitous in illustration as McLeod; but as you read he arouses in you the sense of a vigorous personality grappling with your own, as neither of the others does. Whether you agree with him or not, and at times you probably would not, you are kindled and stirred by him.

On the whole these five volumes would be a valuable addition to any library, and particularly to every preacher's library. It is rare, indeed, that there come from the press simultaneously so many excellent specimens of homiletical work.

C. S. GARDNER.

#### JOHN JASPER. *The Unmatched Negro Philosopher and Preacher.*

By William E. Hatcher, LL.D. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York and Chicago.

Dr. Hatcher has a gift for characterization that amounts to real genius. In John Jasper he has a human phenomenon that is worthy of a gifted pen. The author does not propose to give us a systematically written biography, a consecutive detailing of the events of a life. His aim is rather to place upon canvas for us a most remarkable personality, and his success is so great that one feels, after reading this volume, as if he had been personally acquainted with Jasper and had heard him in those most extraordinary sermons, some of which are reported for us by the author in a negro dialect that recalls "Uncle Remus" or "Marse Chan." One service which the book performs, in behalf of Jasper and in the interest of many readers, is to dispel the notion that the only notable thing that the negro genius ever did was to preach the notorious sermon, "De Sun Do Move."

His other sermons, as reported by Dr. Hatcher, show a sane and vital grasp of truth which he presented with extraordinary power. As one reads the book he falls under the spell of a truly wonderful personality. And the study of it is a healthful homiletical exercise; for while the negro probably never heard of Homiletics he nevertheless exemplified many of the most important principles of Homiletics in a most unconventional way. Dr. Hatcher has done a good service in giving us this book.

C. S. GARDNER.

### QUIET TALKS WITH WORLD WINNERS.

By S. D. Gordon, author of *Quiet Talks About Jesus*, *Quiet Talks on Power*, *Quiet Talks on Personal Problems*. A. C. Armstrong & Son, New York, 1908. Pages 280. Price 75 cents net.

Mr. Gordon's "Talks," as those who have heard or read them know, lose nothing by being "quiet." They have the force of sunshine and always reach mind and heart. "World Winners," in a warm, fresh, luminous way, gives a birdseye view of the world as a vast mission field, with the aim of making world-winning the thrilling purpose of every follower of Jesus, to make even the humblest man in the humblest place feel that he can do something, even as he goes about his daily, commonplace rounds, to help bring the world back to God. The book, while addressing itself specially to those interested in missions, is vitally full of material relating to the personal life and the Christian service in general, and, like all Mr. Gordon's "Quiet Talks," will attract and repay a large circle of readers.

GEO. B. EAGER.

### ABBA FATHER, or The Religion of Everyday Life.

By William De Witt Hyde. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York, 1908. Pages 71. Price 50 cents net.

Religion itself, not criticism of it, commenting upon it, controversy over it, philosophy about it, or exhortation to it, is what this book offers, "just as one would offer a picture, a story