

**Supreme Things.**

By Jas. G. K. McClure, President of McCormick Theological Seminary. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. 12 mo., 159 pp. Cloth, 75 cents net, by mail 85 cents.

These addresses to college men at Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Princeton, Illinois, Wisconsin and Chicago are not only full of wholesome truths for young men, but are good examples for the preacher of how to say the things that need to be said to-day to college young men. The eight "Supreme Things" dealt with by President McClure are: "The Supreme Revelation", which is summed up in John 3:16; "God So Loved the World", etc.; "The Supreme Obligation", which is love to God and man; "The Supreme Virtue", which he conceives to be reverence; "The Supreme Art", which is to use wisely what we have; "The Supreme Resource", found in "The Things That Remain", after all youthful illusions have been dissipated; "The Supreme Test", that which is applied in proving our capacity for true friendship; "The Supreme Mission", that of the prophet, and to-day particularly of the preacher and pastor; "The Supreme Temper", the sober mind, balance, reasonable self-restraint. It is a question if the adjective "supreme" is not sometimes misapplied, i. e., if some of the "supreme things" here cited as such deserve the superlative. But of one thing we are sure, Dr. McClure illustrates what he calls "The Supreme Temper"; he is eminently sober-minded, he shows a true balance and reasonable self-restraint in his thinking and in his way of putting things, and, to a signal degree, the American quality of directness.

GEO. B. EAGER.

**Talks on Religion.**

By Henry Bedinger Mitchell. Longmans, Green & Company, New York. 1908. Cloth, 325 pp., \$1.50 net.

These "Talks" rise clear above the common place. They are full of life, deal with the latest phases of thought on Religion, and are marvellously stimulating. The sub-title suggests the unique character of the book—"A Collective Inquiry—Recorded by Henry Bedinger Mitchell." The object of the "inquiry" was the re-examination of the fundamentals of religion. A varied company was actually engaged in this "inquiry" in a series of conversational club meetings last winter. It was

drawn partly from among the professors of a great university, partly from the business, literary, and ecclesiastic life of the city adjacent; and so represented widely varying types of character and mental outlook. They were alike, however, in this, all had known the discipline of exact thinking. So here we have a record of this "collective inquiry", and not the work or thought of one man. The book claims this merit, that it is a faithful transcript of actual conversations between men, some of whom enjoy international reputations, and nearly all of whom have attained distinction in their own fields, whose names are withheld, but whose occupations are given; and that every opinion put forward by them was honestly advocated. Among the participants are a professor of Mathematics, who is also a student of Religion; a historian, known for his researches into the History of the Middle Ages; a professor of Philosophy; a professor of Zoology; an Orientalist, best known for his translations from the Upanishads; a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church; an editor of a religious journal; a professor of Biology; a banker; a professor, who is one of the foremost exponents of Pragmatism; a professor of Anthropology; "The Oxonian", a churchman much interested in Psychology; "The Logician", an instructor of Logic, and "The Youth", an assistant in Philosophy.

The questions discussed in the prosecution of the inquiry are as follows: "The Nature of the Inquiry-Aspects of Religion"; "Christianity and Nature"; "Evolution and Ethics"; "Collective Life and Consciousness"; "Power, Worth, and Reality"; "Mysticism and Faith"; "Organization and Religion"; "Signs of the Times—the Renaissance of Religion"; and "Has the Church Failed?—The Outer and the Inner Life". Three chapters have proved of special interest to the reviewer, those on "Mysticism and Faith", "Signs of the Times", and "Has the Church Failed?". What the "Talks" have to say "On Professor James", and the reigning current themes, "Individualism", and "Pragmatism", will prove interesting, we are sure, and richly informing as to the present phases of thought on those much debated subjects. There is more than a suggestion of Harvard and Boston on many a page of the book."      GEO. B. EAGER.