

With this understanding the work is to be commended as able and suggestive.

W. O. CARVER.

**Cardinal Elements of the Christian Faith.** By the Rev. Professor D. S. Adam, B.D., Ormond College, Melbourne. Hodder & Stoughton, London; George H. Doran Company, New York. xix+320 pages.

Professor Adam has just missed making a great book in this volume of lectures delivered at Melbourne University two winters ago. There are seven of the Lectures dealing with the essentials of Christian doctrine in a fresh and vigorous manner. The method wavers between that of *theology* and that of *apologetics*. The limits of the work are quite insufficient for both treatments and the reader is constantly wishing that the able author had gone a little further in meeting current opposition to Christianity in philosophy, science, and social life; and, on the other hand, that his definition of the Christian position had been fuller and so more adequate.

In quite unusual degree the author has succeeded in maintaining an orthodox position in a truly modernistic spirit. His treatment of modern philosophical theories is unusual and helpful. More than a fourth of the book is occupied with "notes" that had better have been incorporated in the main discussion or omitted entirely. One does not like to have all the waste lumber left on the premises when he buys a house.

W. O. CARVER.

**The Renaissance of Faith.** By Richard Roberts. With an Introduction by G. A. Johnston Ross. New York, 1912: Fleming H. Revell Company. 318 Pages. \$1.50 net.

Nothing more brilliant in the way of Apologetics has appeared in the great bulk of modern writing in this field than this book by the Welsh pastor of a London church. It has the faults of a brilliant, dramatic platform orator, as well as the excellences. It is dominated by an optimism all the more splendid and reassuring because it thrives in the midst of a profound

and informed conviction of the sin, unbelief and practical materialism of our age.

The author speaks with a fundamental acquaintance with the critical thought of the day and with the history of philosophy and of Christianity. He also knows the sufferings, *and the sins*, of the masses of men, as well as the sordid materialism and inhumanity of the masters of men, and their worth.

There are twenty-four chapters under three "Parts." The first two parts diagnose the situation in its thought aspects and its religious condition, the third part urges "the spiritual point of view" and occupies two-thirds of the volume.

There are exaggerated statements, half-truths and brilliant generalizations; but there are keenest insight, prophetic fire, rhetorical excellence, and epigram in profusion.

W. O. CARVER.

**The Religion of Science: The Faith of Coming Men.** By James W. Lee. Author of "The Making of a Man," etc. New York, 1912: Fleming H. Revell Company. 304 pages. \$1.50 net.

If Christianity can be saved and made universal by the method of Apologetics, it ought speedily to demonstrate its power, for there is an endless stream of apologetic literature coming from the press in these days. It has its use and is welcome. The present volume belongs to the class of brilliant, rhetorical and original works. The style is that of the eloquent, vivacious, and magnetic platform speaker. Although never having seen the author, the reader imagines his form, motions, accent, and keen, searching, almost hypnotic eye; and all but hears the avalanche of rapid words, striking sentences and flowing periods.

The motif is the supposed fact that while the splendid city of knowledge has seen all its other structures magnificently rebuilt in recent years, that part of the city belonging to religion has been left unimproved, having only the theological structures of outgrown eras and for the most part left as "religious commons" where "Gypsies camp and tell fortunes," palmists, jugglers, faith healers, *et id omne genus* get in their work. Over