

Good biographies are a very healthy and stimulating kind of literature. When the subject is such a simple and vigorous writer, and such a modest and useful man as Dr. J. R. Miller was, the author's task is made easy and the reader's privilege a delight. Dr. Miller (1840-1912) was the second of a family of ten children, and his father a useful Presbyterian minister. His college and seminary training, coupled with his experiences in the U. S. Christian Commission, prepared him well for the exacting and diversified labors of pastor, editor and author.

During the thirty-nine years of his three Philadelphia pastorates, more than five thousand persons united with the Presbyterian Church. Perhaps more than any other one man he led in the magnificent development of the numerous periodicals issued by the Presbyterian Sunday School Board. Especially are the *Westminster Teacher* and *Forward* (a rival of *Youth's Companion*) tributes to his ability and skill.

He was a prolific writer for current periodicals, and remarkable for his simple and transparent style.

He was the author of more than three score books, chiefly of a devotional type. Many of the volumes have been translated into several languages.

One of his sayings was seized by his biographer as descriptive of the spirit and life of Dr. Miller: "Jesus and I are friends." Perhaps that is why Dr. Miller was such a friend to man. Thousands are leading better lives because he lived and wrote.

B. H. DEMENT.

The Presence. By James M. Campbell, D.D. Eaton & Mains, New York: Jennings & Graham, Cincinnati, O.

The divine Presence in human experience is the reality of realities. The Presence in nature is real, but veiled. In the Old Testament it is limited and localized, mediated by elect souls, or even by angels. It became the supreme reality for experience in the Incarnation. This is the Presence visualized and personalized. The Presence becomes spiritualized in the risen Christ and universalized in the Holy Spirit. The New Testament doctrine of the Presence is outlined. The Parousia means not the visible

return of Christ, but the presence of Christ in the heart now. He "came," in fulfillment of His prediction, at Pentecost. Critics and commentators alike have been mistaken in their view as to the Parousia. Thus runs the argument in this earnest and impressive discussion. It is deeply spiritual in aim and spirit. Its views as to the Second Coming of Christ will be challenged by many. But the volume will prove an addition of great value to the reading of many a layman and pastor.

E. Y. MULLINS.

Seed Thoughts for Right Living. By A. S. Hobart, D.D. The Griffith & Rowland Press, Philadelphia, Pa. 50 cents net.

The aim of this volume is to elevate the standard of living by applying "new methods to the teaching of old morals." It is not a book on ethics in the ordinary sense. The author defines as follows: "That is right which contributes in its net effect to the fulness of the life of man." Right living is then set forth in manifold relations. Four principles of right living are discussed in as many chapters. The first principle of right living is that every man has the right to himself; the second, no man to trespass on another; the third, love one another; the fourth, every man his pound. Part II discusses the Christian principles of right living. Part IV contains an exceedingly valuable series of chapters of suggestions to parents, children, husbands, wives, ministers, business men, customers, and numerous other classes. Part V gives a series of apostolic suggestions as to right living. The book is fresh, suggestive, timely. It ought to be widely used as a manual of instruction in the principles of right living by parents, Sunday School teachers, pastors, young people's organizations, and others.

E. Y. MULLINS.

Making Religion Efficient. Edited by Clarence A. Barbour, D.D. Association Press, New York and London. 1912. Pp. 271. \$1.50 net.

A much needed method of preserving the history and conserving the message of the Men and Religion Forward Move-