

Aspects of Authority in the Christian Religion. By H. S. Robins. Griffith & Rowland Press, Philadelphia, 1911. 151 Pages, 75 Cents.

The writer of this little volume does not attempt an exhaustive discussion of the subject of authority but, as the title indicates, limits himself to Aspects of Authority in the Christian religion. Part I is historical and deals with authority in Judaism, the New Testament Church, the New Testament Scriptures, the Authority of Dogma, Early Protestantism and the Authority of the Bible. Part II discusses authority in relation to the Bible, Reason, Conscience, Christian Consciousness, Jesus, and closes with a section on The Rank of Authorities.

The author exhibits excellent appreciation of the central issues as to authority and discusses them with much ability. Jesus Christ is final as the revelation of God to us and the Bible is final for its purpose, which is to bring us to Christ. Due provision is made for the function of reason and for the Christian consciousness. Christianity not only admits but requires by its very nature the exercise of the reason. Our intellectual processes, however, yield varying results in successive generations, and thus our theological formulations do not become final. The Christian consciousness is witness to many vital and fundamental Christian truths, and possesses a certain kind of authoritativeness on undisputed points. It is not, however, final and cannot be, save where there is a quite general consensus. Jesus Christ mediates life to men, and in and through Him alone do we truly find God. The literary record of His life and work is the result of His action in human experience and is trustworthy. There are philosophic aspects of the subject of authority lying in the background which the author's plan did not require him to discuss. The subject of authority in religion is one which calls in a peculiar manner for clear treatment in our day. This volume is an excellent addition to the literature of the subject. E. Y. MULLINS.

New Thought, Its Lights and Shadows. An Appreciation and a Criticism. By John Benjamin Anderson, Professor in Colgate University. Boston, 1911. Sherman, French & Company. 153 pages. \$1.00 net.

The sub-titles accurately and admirably describe this work.