

grand consummation of federated evil inviting certain and awful destruction.

The work takes its title from Rev. 13:18, and its basal idea is that the apocalyptic picture of the beasts means to set forth the consummation of human history and progress in "the Man of Sin" who is to be a "superman" uniting in himself the religious and the political supremacy of the race in his time to be overthrown with a cataclysmic demonstration of the power of Christ. By elaborate studies it is pointed out that socialism, psychic phenomena studies, commercial consideration, religious exaltation of man in the religion of humanism and indeed, all the current movements of human thought and life are contributing to the rapid rise of a complete consolidation of human interests with the dominating idea of the divinity of humanity leading into idolatry and sacrilege that will complete the sum of iniquity. The role recommended to the few faithful believers is absolute separation from the course of this world. It would even seem that the faithful ought to go into asceticism but that is not recommended or even mentioned. The author has scant patience with democracy and questions the value of any discovery or development of the race from the day of Adam till now. All invention is inspired by and used for the end of the devil.

For those who can accept the author's premises this is the most scholarly and comprehensive work they are likely to find. Any student of current tendencies will find here an able and incisive analysis of present-day movements.

W. O. CARVER.

Christianity at the Cross Roads. By George Tyrrell, Author of "Lex Credendi", etc. Second Impression. Longmans, Green & Co. New York. 1910. Pages 282.

Father Tyrrell was the leader of the English "Modernists", and died under the ban of his church. The manuscript of the present work, nearly complete when death overtook him, was published by his friends. It is a truly remarkable book, revealing the pathos and tragedy in the situation of the "Modernists" perhaps as no other book. Shaken to the depths by the ideas

that ferment in the modern world, disowned and anathematized by his church, feeling after a new basis for his faith, the position of the thoughtful scholar is truly pitiable.

The title of the book arrests attention by its suggestion of a crisis in the very history of Christianity itself. And for this reason it was chosen. The author believes that Catholic Christianity is on the whole truer to its divine original and more worthy of support than any other, and yet, he boldly declares that "Catholic Christianity cannot live much longer on the old lines; that it has already reached a stone wall which it must surmount unless it be content to dwindle away as it is even now doing" (p. xx). He regards Catholicism as "a rapidly dying church" (p. 280). Such sentiments are frequently expressed. Nor does he have any hope that the hierarchy will do anything to save it, devoted as it is to the exploitation of the church for its own selfish ends. "The Roman Catholic Religion still lives in the grip of the hawk." (p. 219). "Will the Roman bureaucracy, that exploits even the papacy, ever sign their revenues and their ascendancy? Modernists do not believe it for a moment. Their whole hope is in the irresistible tide of truth and knowledge, which must at last surround and overmount the barriers of ignorance, buttressed up by untruthfulness." (p. 280). Truly a forlorn hope! It is impossible to see how the Catholic church could do otherwise than expel the modernists, for to accept their views would be to disintegrate and cease to exist. To look for the church to do this willingly would be to expect more than our knowledge of human nature warrants. Tyrrell had been deeply affected by Biblical criticism, by science, history and the comparative study of religions, and from all these sources he had drawn ideas not compatible with the Catholic church as it is. Its government he charges with tyranny, its doctrines he sublimates, its universality he repudiates.

And yet he regards himself a Catholic. He spurns the possibility of union with Protestants. Indeed a large part of the book is devoted to a vigorous polemic against liberal Protestantism of the German type. He conclusively shows that their

positions are not only not in accord with the Scriptures, but are directly contradicted by any fair interpretation of the probabilities and the available sources. The Christ of criticism, the so-called "historic Christ" which advanced German criticism essays to give us never existed. That Christ is a figment of the over-critical imagination. The real Christ was no mere teacher, no mere moralist; it was this personality that gripped and mastered men; the Christ, not merely the truth he taught. At the same time his own views of the person of the Christ, of His historic work and suffering, of the apocalyptic elements in the gospels would not be acceptable to conservative Christians of any name. His attitude toward conservative Protestantism he nowhere defines.

Tyrrell was a keen and penetrating thinker; more effective in destructive than constructive work. His style was clear, beautiful and vibrant with the vitality of thought and suffering. This book is a thought-producing work, and presents the situation of Modernism better than any other book with which the reviewer is acquainted.

W. J. McGLATHLIN.

Along the Trail of the Friendly Years. By William E. Hatcher LL.D., L. H. D., Author of "John Jasper". New York. 1910. Fleming H. Revell Company. 359 pages. Price \$1.50.

The title of this book proclaims the optimist. It is a remarkable life story. It is not an autobiography, for there is no attempt to tell the full story of the author's life. The men and women, the forces and influences that have contributed to the formation of the character of the man and to his work come before the reader in the natural and engaging manner in which they played their parts. Dr. Hatcher seems always telling you of others; and what eloquent and courtly tribute he does pay to the friends who have made friendly the years of his pilgrimage. He himself plays an unobtrusive part on the surface of the pages, but all the more truly and fully does his remarkable personality and unusual labors show forth. Dr. Hatcher is widely known as a writer with a mastery of word painting, superior