

attitude is distinctly modern and liberal, his spirit is reverent, and doubtless many will find in his frank, brave treatment of his subject help toward the solution of one of the most interesting if not most vital of present-day problems.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Things Worth While.

By Thomas Wentworth Higginson. Price 50 cents net.

This is a worthy third of the books that have already appeared in this series. If it could be said that any one man links the literature of the nineteenth century to that of the twentieth, the distinction would belong to Colonel Higginson. After a rich and full life as an author, soldier and man of affairs, at 84 he gives us a volume which, though small in size, is full of reminiscence, wise counsel, criticism of life and manners, and homely philosophy. There is nothing old or old-fashioned about it except it be the virtues it possesses or its old-time flavor. In thought and style it carries one back to the best days of Emerson, Lowell and Longfellow. It touches brightly and helpfully many of the perplexing and not a few of the amusing problems and phases of life. It is just like the author to say that one hears chiefly lamentations over what life takes, seldom rejoicing over what it gives. So he invites us to consider some of the joys of life: Friendship, the joy of seeing one's family, or country; the pleasure of public office or service, of literature, of science. In the chapter on "The Conundrum of Human Life", he says: "Grant that universal suffrage and shorter hours of labor, and collective ownership and equalized incomes will remove many of the existing temptations to evil, what is to become of the temptations that remain? Remove every struggle in the world there will still remain the flesh and the Devil." In a chapter on "Truth is Truth" he says: "The Higher Criticism of the Bible is already giving back the book as sacred literature to multitudes who had outgrown the conviction of its infallibility," and he gives this instance of the unconscious revolution: "In the church where I was bred, the First Church in Cambridge, Mass., the prescribed reading of the Old Testament had almost died out and disap-

peared from families and it looked as if the magnificent strains of David would be left unknown by the young when Professor Toy came, full charged with modern knowledge; and how soon the greater part of the congregation was ready to remain an hour after church every Sunday to hear him lecture about Ezekiel and Jeremiah!" The chapters on "How to Elevate the Average Man", and "Peace and Health Heaven's Best Treasurers", are well worth the preacher's attention—as, indeed, the little book is from beginning to end.

Other volumes of the series, we are told, are in preparation. We await them expectantly as signs of the times.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Mature Man's Difficulties With His Bible.

By Rev. D. W. Faunce, D. D., 12 mo., 200 pages. 75 cents net. American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia.

"Your other book helped when I was a young man," wrote a friend to Dr. Faunce about his book entitled "A Young Man's Difficulties With His Bible", "now prepare another on the mature man's difficulties with his Bible, taking up the most modern difficulties, as you have met them in your pastoral work". The present volume, the author tells us, is the result of this advice. It is the "humble effort of one who keenly feels some of the modern objections to Biblical statements, and yet still loves and trusts the book on the study of which he has bestowed more than half a century"—to help, not so much professed theologians, as those busy men who read and think enough to have serious difficulties suggested concerning the Bible. Dr. Faunce, with the ripened knowledge and experience which have come with these added years, has met the questions of such men in a most sympathetic, direct and admirable way in this book.

The topics discussed are as follows: "The Bible and Mathematical Certainty", "The Bible and the Scientific Spirit", "The Bible and the Historic Spirit", "The Bible and Its Morality", "The Bible and Its Methods", "The Biblical Christ and Human Thinking".