

Dr. Parry has kept up the standard of the series. He writes on ecclesiastical points from the standpoint of the Church of England, but he is scholarly and pungent in his comments.

**John Fourteen.** *The Greatest Chapter of the Greatest Book.* By James H. Dunham, Dean of College of Liberal Arts and Science of Temple University. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York, 1917. 320 pp. \$1.50.

Dr. Dunham has produced a sympathetic interpretation of this wonderful chapter. One naturally thinks of Ian Maclaren's "In the Upper Room," and Swete's "The Last Discourse and Prayer." Dunham's book is more discursive than these, but he is true to the heart of Christ.

## II. PHILOSOPHICAL AND APOLOGETIC.

**The Survival of Jesus.** A Priest's Study in Divine Telepathy. By John Huntley Skrine, D.D., Author of "Creed and the Creeds" (Bampton Lectures), "Pastor Ovium," "Pastor Futurus," etc. Hodder & Stoughton, New York, George H. Doran Co., 1917. xvi-|-326 pp. \$2.00 net.

When an imaginative mystic, the very essence of whose religious experience is faith—a faith that cares little for the slow ways of rational logic—undertakes to search out the rational weaknesses of a Christian creed and reconstruct better foundations for belief in things eternal, then it is the average reader finds great difficulty in getting himself adjusted to the book he is trying to read. But if you will keep at it, after awhile—along about half way through "The Survival of Jesus," say—you will begin to feel that you know Dr. Skrine and by degrees will forget how he became wholly unnatural in the first few chapters and played a role to which he was wholly unsuited.

Some men are fond of magnifying their heresies and are constantly flying red flags of warning against the horrible things they are about to perpetrate. When you hear or read their words you are disappointed that the heresies are so harmless. This author is such a man. Indeed, to a free Christian man

whose efforts to think are on the unrailed platform of a free-churchman, the way this book starts off on a heresy wandering only to wind up with reaffirming all the articles of the creed of the Church of England, is rather amazing. To be sure he has put new meaning into the words of many a phrase, and has left you sometimes in doubt as to his meaning, but he has pretty securely shielded himself from attack within his own circle.

He has done much for himself and for many of his readers, no doubt, in finding regeneration and vital communion to be essential realities in our religious experience as Christians; but why should these be regarded as things new and startling in Christianity? When it comes to his telepathy one finds oneself often bewildered and uncertain. The author seems to be doing what all the "psychical research" people and "spiritualists" are ever doing, trying, that is, to relieve us of the necessity of walking by faith by giving us "knowledge" of the things faith provides; only the bases of that knowledge always seem to rest on a credulity that leaves the faith of the ordinary man far behind.

There is much of newness and suggestiveness in the "facts" and conclusions of the author.

His explanation of the "preaching of Christ to the spirits in prison" is startlingly new and fits in with the true conception of the Human Christ Jesus who is also Divine, but one thinks it strained and unsupported in Scripture or safe reasoning.

The central place of the idea of Atonement in all the book saves it from superficiality and keeps it profoundly vital even when most it wanders in the realm of the remarkably speculative. It is a book of interesting, mystical theorizing in a sphere of which we can know little with security. Its use of the war incidents is an element of great interest. W. O. CARVER.

**The Supernatural, or Fellowship with God.** By David A. Murray, D.D., Author of "Christian Faith and the New Psychology," etc. New York, 1917: Fleming H. Revell Company. 311 pp. \$1.50 net.

The Supernatural is a "burden" to the modern mind, but an abiding necessity for the religious spirit. And the modern mind