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JOHN RANDOLPH—THE MAN AND HIS FAITH.

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On June 3, 1773, near the point where the waters of the Appomattox blend with those of the James, was born one of the most remarkable men America has produced. "John Randolph, of Roanoke," the world has elected to call him, and so indeed he often wrote himself in his later years. But as a matter of fact he did not begin to reside at the "Roanoke" plantation in Charlotte County until he was nearly forty years of age. "Cawsons" was his birthplace, and "Matoax," opposite Petersburg, the home of his childhood. The perils resulting from Arnold's invasion compelled his mother to flee westward with her young children and to take up her residence at "Bizarre." This still prosperous plantation, charmingly situated on the crest of a hill overlooking the town of Farmville, was the home of John Randolph until long after he had achieved a fame as statesman and orator that reached beyond the seas. Here he lived in the midst of a people whom he loved best of all Virginians, and whom he proudly described on the floor of Congress as "such constituents as no man ever had." They repaid his admiration with a loyal and enthusiastic devotion that never failed or faltered throughout a long and stormy public career.

Mr. Randolph's life covers the most picturesque period of American history, and in those lofty and momentous struggles that marked the first four decades of the life of the Republic, he played a conspicuous and impressive part. There were

shadowing problem of our generation. . . . It is realized by friend and foe that religion can play, and must play, a momentous part in this irrepressible conflict. . . . If it (the church) tries not to act, it thereby acts; and in any case its choice will be decisive for its own future."

WALTER L. LINGLE.

THE CARDINAL ELEMENTS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. *By the Rev. Professor D. S. Adam, B. D.* Published by Hodder & Stoughton, New York and London.

This book comes from far off Australia. Its author is a professor in Ormond College, which is a Presbyterian College, in Melbourne. I guess that he is a Scotchman by birth. His theological point of view may be stated in his own words: "The recognition of Christ as the incarnate word of God and the only mediator of salvation to sinful men is, in the writer's view, the rock-truth on which the Christian Church is built." This note runs all through his book. A man with such an article in his creed is not apt to indulge in much destructive criticism. His philosophical point of view may also be stated in his own words: "The writer confesses to having considerable leanings towards a thorough-going idealism as the only philosophy or metaphysics which gives hope of furnishing a rational ground for the affirmation of Christian faith."

Having defined his theological and philosophical position the author proceeds to discuss the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, such as the Christian conception of God, God's relation to the universe, man's nature, sin, the person of Christ, Christian salvation, and the appropriation of redemption by the individual. His style is popular and pleasing. His discussions are clear cut and interesting. There is an appendix of nearly a hundred pages written in a more technical and scholarly way, dealing with such subjects as revelation and inspiration, idealism, modern theories of the person of Christ, free-will, and so forth. It is interesting to note how many books are being written on "Fundamentals" these days. I can think of at least a half dozen which are fresh from the press. Criticism is causing men to examine the very foundations and is making them ask what is fundamental, what is vital? Of all these books that I have examined this is one of the most satisfactory. Some of the author's views are not our views, but in the main he holds to the old doctrines and states them in a new light. He shows the minister how to put the old truths in a new and attractive dress. That is a lesson which the minister of the present day needs to learn.

WALTER L. LINGLE.

MODERN CHURCH BROTHERHOODS—A SURVEY OF THE PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCHMEN'S CLUBS AND BROTHERHOODS. *By William B. Patterson, Editor of Methodist Men.* Revell.

More and more the men of our churches are awaking to a sense of their privilege and responsibility. They are asking their pastors for *something to do*. Here is a book that will prove suggestive in this connection.

"It is the author's hope," as he himself says in his foreword, "that this volume may serve (1) to bring the church to a more just appreciation of the