

and Englishmen will surely sympathize with the brave resistance to insult and persecution made by this able and, as there is the fullest reason to believe, basely calumniated man.



THE LIKENESS GOD MADE OF HIMSELF.

THE romance of life is to have a grand, entrancing personality; one of the rarest, most valuable qualities is a large, sober, reflective judgment, just, always true. Such a friend is invaluable, whose opinion when we are in difficulty can always be adopted, his advice never doubted, but ever followed. He is a miniature picture of the Holy, the Good, the Wise.

Live up to the highest and best that is in you, then your gain will be great; yield to the lower, and your loss will be terrible. It is not much good wishing apart from the doing. Bad as Balaam was, he wished, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his." Alas! he made gain his god, and lost everything.

The inmost spirit, penetrating, inspiring, pervading all our thought, motive, action, should be holiness. In the history of a man holiness is the revelation of the Almighty in him, and God's handwriting on him. There was one perfectly like God, and His Spirit is with us now. For nineteen centuries He has been before the world as best and greatest of mankind; no one has found Him in error; He is the God-man, Christ Jesus. Of Him in especial we may say: "God created Him in His own image; in the image of God created He Him." And yet this God-man, the Lord Jesus, was that Holy Word, the Creator, the Emmanuel. He was made one of us by taking our nature, we are made one with Him by faith; then God remakes us in His own likeness. He was made sin, who knew no sin, that we, the sinful, might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

Faith, sympathy, imagination, are Divine gifts. They deal with facts—the facts of creation, redemption from sin, eternal life. They are that stirring, sweet, spiritual music which awakens our emotions, making even dead souls to listen to conscience—"the voice of Jesus whispering in our hearts." This voice has a Divine, a spirit power; sets free from sin, and makes us holy, thus giving a wonderful renewal and most loving confirmation of the ancient fact that God made man in His own image and likeness. God now is not far from any of us. He is not merely a work of imagination, a picture painted by pious genius: He is the great, saving, energetic

Reality, working in us both to will and to do—to will and to do perfectly. Do every work in the best way you can, and God's way, too. He does the best, and makes you like Him.

PREBENDARY REYNOLDS.

Hymn for the New Year, 1898.

O SON OF GOD, whose life divine
Thro' endless ages onward rolls,
Around whose living memory twine
The thoughts that burn, and stir our souls
With aspirations high and sweet—
O Lord, we kneel before Thy feet.

Before Thy feet, O Christ, we kneel,
And lay our humble offerings down,
Such tribute as we know and feel
Thou deemest nobler than a crown—
The offering of a loyal heart,
The choosing of "that better part."

Lo, past are nineteen hundred years,
With all their follies, noise, and sin;
Thy Truth, eternal as the spheres,
Is still our secret light within—
A light to shine, a light to bless,
The witness of Thy faithfulness.

E. H. BLAKENEY.

Reviews.

GIFFORD LECTURES.

Elements of the Science of Religion. Part I: Morphological (Gifford Lectures for 1896). By C. P. TIELE, Professor of the History and Philosophy of Religion in the University of Leyden. In 2 vols. Vol. I. W. Blackwood. 1897. Price 7s. 6d.

The Providential Order of the World. By A. B. BRUCE, D.D. (Gifford Lectures for 1897). Hodder and Stoughton. 1897. Price 7s. 6d.

THESE two volumes, though they widely differ both in method and merit, may conveniently be bracketed together, as they afford a good example of the now notable lectures yearly delivered under the late Lord Gifford's will. The series began with Dr. J. H. Stirling's "Philosophy and Theology," some ten years ago; and perhaps those first lectures are,