

# THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY.

VOL. VI.

OCTOBER 1902.

No. 4.

## THE UNREASONABLENESS OF UNBELIEF.

When John Locke wrote *the Reasonableness of Christianity*, and John Toland, his *Christianity not Mysterious*, they were both rationalists, though Toland went a step beyond Locke, altogether discarding revelation as an unnecessary crutch with which he had seen his predecessor hobbling before him. We know that Christianity is indeed mysterious, that the gospel of Christ is a hidden mystery unless it be revealed to the minds of men? We know that no amount of observation and speculation of human reason, no process of induction or deduction, from whatever analogies or premises, can establish one single article of the Christian faith. It was one of the fundamental errors in mediaeval scholasticism when the schoolmen endeavored to demonstrate the reasonableness of Christian dogmas before the tribunal of the human understanding. 'Anselm's "*Credo, ut intelligam*" was, in principle, as truly, though not in the same degree, unsound as Abaelard's "*Intelligo, ut credam*." The "father of scholasticism" deceived himself and his friend Boso when he endeavored to *prove that God was made man by necessity*, and to prove it in such a way as to satisfy by reason alone both Jews and Gentiles.<sup>1)</sup>

1) "*Cum enim sic probes Deum fieri hominem ex necessitate, ut . . . non solum Judaeis, sed etiam Paganis sola ratione satisfacias.*" Anselmi *Cur Deus homo*, Lib. II, cap. 22.

## Theological Review.

---

**American Lutheran Almanac and Year-Book, 1903.** *American Lutheran Publication Board, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

48 pages; price, 10 cents.

This Almanac of our brethren of the English *Synod of Missouri and other States* is well worthy of being welcomed in every household, not only of the English Synod, but where ever there are members of the family sufficiently familiar with the English language to understand the thirty pages of wholesome reading matter which constitute the greater part of its contents.

A. G.

---

**Lutherbuch, enthaltend Luthers Leben und Wirken nebst einigen einleitenden und abschliessenden Capiteln aus der allgemeinen Kirchen- und Missionsgeschichte. Für Schule und Haus. Bearbeitet von Gustav Just, Lehrer an der Bethlehems-Schule in St. Louis. St. Louis, Mo. Concordia Publishing House. 1902.**

100 pages; price, 25 cents.

The story of Luther is the better part of the history of the Reformation, and the history of the Reformation is the most important chapter not only of the history of the church, but of the history of the world in post-apostolic times. And the story of Luther is so admirably told "for school and house" in this little book, and the introductory chapters are so well qualified to prepare the reader and learner for the proper understanding and appreciation of the work performed by the Reformer, that we are looking forward with joy to the promised appearance of the book in an English version.

A. G.

---