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## **Franklin Spencer Spalding. Man and Bishop. John Howard Melish. The Macmillan Co. 1917. Pp. 297. \\$.25.**

George Hodges

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viction that Emerson "is a revelation of capacity, an adjourned hope, an unassured but momentous foreshadowing." In "Fore-shadowings," as in numbers of passages throughout the book, Professor Firkins is not merely giving an adequate and concentrated account of the first of American thinkers, he is himself making an important contribution to thought.

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FRANKLIN SPENCER SPALDING. MAN AND BISHOP. JOHN HOWARD MELISH.  
The Macmillan Co. 1917. Pp. 297. \$2.25.

Frank Spalding, as his friends called him, was born in 1865, and died (struck by an automobile) in 1914. He was Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Utah for ten years. Rev. Mr. Melish, who tells the story of his short life, is rector of the parish of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, and a leader among those who are thinking and working not only for social betterment but for social justice.

Spalding was a socialist. He set no mitigating adjective before the name, and knew no differences between his position and that of other men who think that way. He had the grace of unfailing and unflinching frankness, and declared his social gospel in all places. He preached it in Trinity Church, New York, in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, before the General Convention, and in Westminster Abbey, when Mr. Asquith pronounced his sermon one of the most inspiring to which he had ever listened. "It was the passion of his life," says his biographer. "He was an enthusiastic convert to the economic theories of Karl Marx, and he saw in socialism the instrument by which, under God, the terrible wrongs and inequalities which wreck the civilization of today were to be righted. He belonged to those religious pioneers of our day who see the larger interpretation of which Christianity is capable, and which it must receive if it is to become again the dominant factor in civilization."

Here his biographer speaks not only for his hero but for himself, and is thereby enabled to enter into the situation with sympathetic understanding. It is interesting to read in the book how this straightforward and uncompromising socialism was preached for ten years by a bishop of the Episcopal Church, not only without serious criticism but with increasing admiration and affection for the preacher. It is a tribute not so much to the force of his reasoning as to the fineness of his manly character.

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