

high order in the way of spiritual suggestion. It will do any one good to read one of them at the close of a busy day, before retiring. Several volumes of Mr. Ainsworth's sermons have already been published, and have had a wide acceptance. Among these are *The Heart of Happiness*, *Talks About the Beatitudes*, and *The Pilgrim Church*. Of the latter Sir Robertson Nicoll says:

Every page and almost every sentence is striking. This is a book which must inevitably find its way into the hands of every preacher worthy of the name and multitudes who are not preachers will find in it the help they need. (Fleming H. Revell Company).

My Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is the title of a little book by J. Frank Hanley. This is another book inspired by the tercentenary of the translation of the King James Version of the Bible. The substance of the book was given as a lecture. The author says that for ten years he has had in mind the preparation of a lecture concerning Jesus Christ. In that time he has read many books and has looked in every direction for suggestions concerning the Master, and has given in this brief epitome all that he has read or heard, and also his own best thoughts concerning the subject. The book is a strong presentation of belief in the Deity of Jesus Christ. (Bobbs-Merrill Company.)

*The Heart of the Master*, by William Burnet Wright, D. D., is an interesting volume, which is briefly described as a fresh interpretation of the events of Passion Week, original in thought and forceful in expression. In this book, effort is made to throw fresh light upon the historic Christ. Not a few of our Lord's words and deeds, the author thinks, are now taken in a sense which contradicts the whole tenor of His precepts and example. These interpretations have puzzled believers, armed skeptics, and obscured for all His spiritual splendor. The book is issued with the hope that it will help to throw light upon some of these difficult teachings, and thus correct what are regarded as misleading interpretations. The book is stimulating, the treatment fresh, independent and vital. It makes the whole wonderful story of Passion Week vivid and vital. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

A good many books have been published in recent times in the line of literary criticism of the New Testament. There are still unsettled problems and the controversies are in some cases keen, although the spirit in which these controversies are conducted is better and kinder than it was some time since. In the course of the International Theological Library *An Introduction to the Literature of the New Testament*, by James Moffatt, D. D. has just been issued. This manual is designed primarily for the use of students, and therefore is not a book which will commend itself for popular reading. But in its place it is very thorough and suggestive. It represents a vast amount of work. The author suggests to the student "two commandments of research." First, "Thou shalt work at the sources," and, second, "Thou shalt acquaint thyself with work done before

thee and beside thee." Both these rules are important. It may be said in the way of further explanation of the purpose of this volume that it treats of such subjects as the collection of New Testament writings into a canon, the arrangement of New Testament writings, literary source of the New Testament, structure and composition of the New Testament, the circulation of the New Testament writings, etc. One section is given to the correspondence of Paul with different churches, another to the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke, another to the pastoral Epistles, another to the apocalypse of John. The book represents a vast amount of labor and will furnish guidance for students which will take them back to the beginnings of New Testament literature. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

It is wonderful how the study of the New Testament takes up every minute point, enlisting the attention of the greatest scholars of the world. Biblical Geography and History, by Charles Foster Kent, Ph. D., is the latest of Dr. Kent's books. This volume gives in compact, clear and attractive form the significant facts which any well educated teacher or student should know and understand to appreciate Biblical history and literature. Some people are disposed to slight geography and history in their study of the Bible. But more and more it is felt that there is nothing whatever that belongs to Bible lands and Bible history that is unimportant. In the first part of this book we have a clear, definite picture of the physical characteristics of Biblical countries, especially of Palestine. A chapter is devoted to the great highways that bound together the different parts of the ancient world and determined the direction of conquest and commerce and the spread of culture and religion. The second part deals with the chief characters, movements of Biblical history and their chronological order and geographical setting, and shows the influence of their physical environment upon them. The book contains a large number of carefully prepared maps, including the results of modern discovery and research. These add very much to the value of the volume. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

#### THE STANDARD OF LIVING AMONG THE INDUSTRIAL PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

Mr. Streightoff's essay on the standard of living will evoke keen interest among students of industrial conditions and housing problems in this country. The study represents a critical analysis of all the recent statistics of incomes of the laboring classes, unemployment, workingmen's budgets and the like, published by the national and state labor bureaus, and as a result of private investigations. To the average man the mere mass of data which has been gotten together upon these subjects is a sufficient discouragement to an attempt to digest, or even to read, it all, and to Mr. Streightoff the layman must feel peculiarly obligated for having collated and analyzed the significant facts concerning the more important phases of industrial life in this country, looked at from the point of view of the workingman and his standard of living.

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ance have been elicited from a study of these figures. For instance, we learn that the tendency towards integration of large industries in this country, a movement so marked during the past fifteen years, has been, contrary to the accepted opinion, not altogether a good thing from the workingman's point of view. Unemployment is not checked, but rather aggravated by the over-rapid extension of plant and equipment, many of the large industries rarely reaching an output of more than 75 per cent. of the capacity of their plants. This is a feature of our industrial system which we have been rather prone to overlook, but the figures showing the 22 per cent. of all the male wage earners of the country were unemployed for an average of over thirteen weeks during a single year must give us pause.

So far from being more fortunate than our European neighbors in this respect, we suffer rather more than they from the evil of unemployment, and have so far taken no adequate steps—none at all comparable with those of Prussia and England—to check this seemingly necessary accompaniment of the modern competitive regime.

Real wages and the influence of unemployment are the factors emphasized by

Mr. Streightoff—these being the fundamental conditions of all other phases of industrial life. There are interesting chapters upon expenditures for food, housing and clothing, and their influence upon the health and efficiency of the working classes. Thrift and recreation are treated skilfully and with insight.

The conclusion is forced upon one irresistibly that a vast deal has got to be done in bringing home to the workers the fruits of our wonderful industrial civilization. To quote the words of Secretary MacVeagh, "The great mass of the standards of living of the world must be raised—they must be raised—they are intolerable." Mr. Streightoff's work will take its place as one of the most thoroughgoing studies of this immense problem, analytical and descriptive rather than theoretical and constructive. But it is only upon the basis of just such scholarly and scientific work that progress or reform can be constructed.

In conclusion, a word of appreciation must be spoken for the public spirit and scientific interest of Messrs. Hart Schaffner and Marx, whose liberality has made possible this valuable series of monographs by American students of economics.

Wilfred Eldred.