

"The Church of Christ." By a Layman. New York: Funk & Wagnalls Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 336. Price, \$1.00 net.

The increased attention given by lay writers to the great problems of religion is one of the most encouraging features of the times. The writer of this book is prominent in Y. M. C. A. work and in this relation fills the need of a closer unification of the different members of Christ's body, the Church. He seeks a new and larger union of all true believers. To find a basis for this union he investigates the conditions of membership in the kingdom of heaven. The great essential of this is the old Methodist doctrine of the full assurance of pardon and acceptance with God. The book is full of inspiration and encouragement.

"Missions from the Modern View." By Robert A. Hume, of Ahmednagar, India. New York, Chicago, Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Co. Pp. 292. Price, \$1.25 net.

The subject of missions is one which challenges the attention of the Christian Church as never before. "The Mission Problem," says our author, "is the readjustment of missionary ideals and methods to the state of knowledge. To admit the need of readjustment in the field the same honorable category with every other field of lofty human enterprise. Readjustment means growth, progress, augmentation of power, as the effects of increased knowledge and experience." Dr. Hume's book is written from the point of view of the missionary in the field. It discusses missions and their psychology and sociology, treats the historical development of Hinduism, a comparison of that ancient religion with Christianity, and in many ways broadens and deepens our conviction that the religion of Jesus is the only solvent of the age-long problem of the race.

"Edward Fitzgerald." By A. C. Benson. New York: The Macmillan Co. Toronto: Morang & Co. Pp. vii-207. Price, 75 cents net.

The history of a man of letters is almost always uneventful. That of Fitzgerald was singularly so. He was a shy, retiring scholar who published little over his own name, and who was best known as the translator of the Persian poet, Omar Khayyam. But the man who won the friendship and admiration of Tennyson, Thackeray, Carlyle and others of the chief lights of English literature, must be

a man of distinction. Yet the seven published volumes of letters by this remarkable man, and five biographies, indicate the charm of his character and brilliance of his talent. He was a man of fastidious taste, filing and polishing his lines till they were finished "ad unguentum," as the Latins say. The book is an important addition to Macmillan's series of English Men of Letters, of which John Morley is the editor.

"Southern Writers." Selections in Prose and Verse. Edited by W. P. Trent. New York: The Macmillan Co. Toronto: Morang & Co. Pp. xx-524. Price, \$1.10 net.

It was a happy idea to collect in one volume an anthology of southern literature in prose and verse. This book is one of wide range, from Captain John Smith, of the seventeenth century, down to living writers. Between these dates are given selections from Washington, Henry, Jefferson, Madison; in later times from General Lee, Jefferson Davis, Cable, Joel Harris, Thomas Nelson Page, and many other prose writers. It is to the galaxy of poetry, however, that the South has given some of the most brilliant stars, as shown by copious quotations from Poe, Father Ryan, Randall, author of "My Maryland," Sidney Lanier, O'Hara, author of "The Bivouac of the Dead," and many others who have lent lustre to the southern muse. For a book of five hundred and forty pages, the price is remarkably low.

"Seven Sorts of Successful Services." Suggestive Solutions of the Sunday Evening Problem. By James L. Hill, D.D. Author of "Growth of Government," etc. New York: E. B. Treat & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 224. Price, \$1.00.

The Sunday evening problem is met with in an acute form in the United States, where the evening congregations, and morning ones, too, are far inferior in numbers to those in Canada; but even here the wise counsels of this book will be found very helpful. The proper use of good music, character studies, the "you-and-I plan," heart-to-heart talks, the "going-out-into-the-highways-and-hedges plan," the after-meeting, and other subjects are wisely discussed. The "sensational" plan is strongly denounced: "This Red-Fire, Hurdy-Gurdy, ad captandum Pyrotechnic, Wild-West, ad hominem Brass-Band style of service is wide open to the stricture of wise Dr.