

nation numbering nearly one-third of the human race slowly and majestically rousing itself from the torpor of ages under the influence of new and powerful revolutionary forces. No other movement of our age is so colossal, no other is more pregnant with meaning." With the ample knowledge derived from prolonged travel and study in China our author treats this subject. The chapters on the Missionary Outlook and the Future of China are of special importance. He brings a severe indictment against the importation of Western vices to this Orient land. A "Christless civilization," he says, "is always and everywhere a curse rather than a blessing." The book is handsomely illustrated.

"To Jerusalem Through the Lands of Islam, Among Jews, Christians, and Moslems." By Madame Hyacinthe Loyson. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. viii-325.

This is one of the handsomest books of Oriental travel which we know. Madame Loyson, it will be remembered, was the wife of the distinguished Pere Hyacinthe, the eloquent priest who for conscience's sake left the communion of the Catholic Church. The book is well introduced by the ex-Mayor of Jerusalem and by Prince Polignac. It describes in interesting chapters the visit of Pere Hyacinthe and his distinguished wife to Algiers, Oran, Tunis, Malta, Upper and Lower Egypt, and Palestine. The book pays special attention to the religious conditions of the Copts, Jews and Moslems of the East. It presents a tremendous indictment of the liquor traffic in Malta and elsewhere. The white man's vices are the greatest obstruction to the mission work in the non-Christian world. The writer is not as sympathetic with missions as we could wish, accuses them of too intense denominationalism, says she has not yet met with a single converted Moslem or Jew. She must have been unfortunate in experience, because there are scores, if not hundreds, of clergymen of the Anglican and other churches who are converted Jews,

"A Struggle for Life." Higher Criticism Criticized. By Rev. John Langtry, M.A., D.C.L. Pp. 328. Price, \$1.50.

Dr. Langtry is well known as a scholarly and vigorous writer. This book will add distinctly to his reputation in this regard. It gives evidence of wide read-

ing and profound study in the problems of biblical criticism. The reckless attacks of some of the "higher critics" upon the validity and authenticity of the Holy Scriptures have instilled doubt and fear, uncertainty and trembling in the minds of multitudes of Bible students, and have in many cases overthrown the faith of those who once believed. Dr. Langtry examines the proofs and arguments offered in support of the new theories and endeavors to show that they are illogical, insufficient and altogether unconvincing. "The premiss upon which almost every fundamental conclusion of criticism rests," he says, "is a conjecture or an assumption and not a fact or a demonstration, and so we are now in a position for a final stock-taking and a final judgment." With much learning and literary ability, sometimes rising into an impassioned eloquence, Dr. Langtry pursues his task. He examines the great questions of evolution to anthropology, the Mosaic cosmogony, the "analytical theory," the Hebrew history, and kindred topics in defence of his argument. The book will be a new buttress to what Mr. Gladstone has well called "the impregnable rock of Holy Scripture." The book is published in handsome style by our Book Room.

"William Hickling Prescott." By Thurston Peck. New York: The Macmillan Co. Toronto: Morang & Co. Pp. x-186. Price, 75 cents net.

It is a remarkable circumstance that the two American writers who have treated most fully the subject of American and Canadian history, Prescott and Parkman, should both have been almost incapacitated for reading by partial blindness. Yet they both overcame this handicap and through sheer force of will accomplished a vast amount of high-class work. The labor involved in the research of documentary evidence, often in obscure manuscript and in foreign tongues, is one of the great achievements of literature. It is very appropriate that this study of Prescott should form one of Macmillan's English Men of Letters series. This is a biography of unusual interest. Prescott was received into the best circles in England, met many distinguished men. He says of Macaulay that he believed he could restore the first six or seven books of Milton's "Paradise Lost" from memory if they were lost. So great is the interest of this biography that we will present its substance in a special paper.