

Book Notices.

The Dragon, Image and Demon; or, the Three Religions of China—Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism. By the REV. HAMPDEN C. DU BOISE. Pp. 468. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Co. Toronto: William Briggs.

The writer of this book was, fourteen years a missionary of the Southern Presbyterian Church at Soochow, China, and therefore writes with a fulness of knowledge of the subjects which he treats. An old Chinese missionary declares that, "If there is a better book for common use on the three religions of China—Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism—than this, he is not aware of its existence." The style is peculiarly lucid and the writer invests the subject with a fascinating charm. His treatment of the problem of these three religions, which together dominate about one-half of the human race, is very philosophical, and his analysis of their elements and characteristics enables one to understand their distinctive features as does no other book that we know. Much of the romance is stripped off Arnold's "Light of Asia," whom our author more appropriately calls the "Night of Asia." The work contains 187 illustrations of the mythology of the strange religions of China. The author computes that during sixty generations these religions have directly influenced twenty-five thousand millions of human beings. This fact lends profoundest significance to the study of their nature. He also appeals for 3,000 ordained men to go "two and two" to the 1,600 walled cities of that great empire.

A Budget of Letters from Japan: Reminiscences of Work and Travel. By ARTHUR COLLINS MACLAY, A.M., LL.B. Pp. 391. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son. Toronto: William Briggs.

The readers of this MAGAZINE are

much interested in the Empire of Japan. There the only foreign mission of our Church has achieved a remarkable success. There a number of the sons and daughters of Canadian Methodism are courageously holding up the banner of the Cross amid surrounding heathenism. We therefore specially commend to our readers this attractive volume as giving a very racy and readable account of life and labour in that country. The writer is a son of the Rev. Dr. Maclay, missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Japan. He has spent four years as a teacher in various parts of the Empire. He writes in an interesting and graphic style and gives a vivid account of the impressions made by intimate acquaintance with the people and country. He pays a due meed of praise to the missionary operations of the several Churches, including our own. He gives a brief account of the recent rebellion, discusses the social problems of the country, and describes his extensive journeys. The engravings (twenty-five in number) are very sharp and clear, and the book is attractively bound.

The People's Bible: Discourses upon Holy Scripture. By REV. JOSEPH PARKER, D.D. Volume IV. Numbers XXVII. Deuteronomy. 8vo., pp. 412. New York: Funk & Wagnalls. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price \$1.75.

Dr. Parker is one of the most popular of living preachers and writers. He has made the City Temple a Mecca to which almost every religious tourist who visits London finds his way. These sermons are the most notable examples that we know of continuous expository preaching. He takes a comprehensive text, from five to fifty verses, and brings out the fulness of its meaning both in itself and in its