

is as persistent as she is pretty, overcomes the old-fashioned prejudices of her husband and gets her own way, not by crying and nagging, but by smiling and keeping everlastingly at it. The reader is constantly amused at the situations which Mistress Peggy creates and at the way in which she meets them,—always assisted, in the end, by Ed's saving sense of humor and his love for his wife. There are other characters in the book which are drawn with rare skill, such as Sam Ichy and Ichy Sam, the jolly twin brothers of sixty-five, bashful Lily Updown, the silent hired man and the deaf cook. Fun a plenty is found on every page, and the story glows with sunshine and love and happiness.

Little six-year-old Michael, the central figure in **The Glory and the Dream**, by Anna Preston (B. W. Huebsch, New York, S. B. Gundy, Toronto, 244 pages, \$1.25 net), will take his place amongst the most delightful children of literature. His vivid imagination fills the world with fairies and with people invisible to the eye of sense, and gives reality to his races with the big green dog, which his playfellow, Nieder, can never see, and to his grief when Susan's "knittity" doll is lost in the woods. Wonderful dreams, too, Michael has of what he is to be when he grows up,—a patriot, for he is Irish, a lumberman, an engineer, etc. There is plenty in the book to make one laugh, and something, also, to make one cry in the pathos of Michael's father trying to be a mother too, and to lessen the weight of Michael's sorrow for the mother who had understood him as no one else ever could.

"If any of us knows a word of hope or has picked up a message of comfort anywhere, it is his plain duty to share it these days." This opening sentence in **A Day at a Time**; And Other Talks on Life and Religion, by Rev. Arch. Alexander, M.A., B.D. (H. R. Allenson, London, U.C. Tract Society, Toronto, 194 pages, 90c.), indicates the scope and purpose of the book. Like the author's earlier book, **The Glory in the Grey**, which met with so favorable a reception, it is a collection of heartening messages which make good reading in these troublous times. Each "talk" is followed by a brief and simple prayer, which lifts the heart of the reader to the supreme source of comfort and cheer. It is fitting, in these war times, that the book should be dedicated to Admiral Jellicoe. From the U.C. Tract Society we have received also Vol. 5 of **The Greater Men and Women of the Bible**, edited by James Hastings, D.D. (T. and T. Clark, Edinburgh, 443 pages, \$2.50), extending from Mary the mother of our Lord to Simon of Cyrene, a valuable aid to the preacher who is seeking to make his sermons at the same time popular and scholarly.

William Briggs, Toronto, sends us a reprint in the Every Age Library of William Arthur's famous book, **The Tongue of Fire**, which has never been out of print during the sixty years since it came from the fervent pen of the author. There is no other treatment of the Holy Spirit's "Baptism of Fire," so full, so scriptural, so evangelical, so practical, itself so touched with the fire from heaven. The price of the present volume (349 pages) is 25c., postage 8c.

There is no better authority on Japan and things Japanese than Dr. Sidney L. Gulick, for twenty-five

years missionary in the Island Empire, Professor in Doshisha University, and Lecturer in the Imperial University of Kyoto. In his **Working Women of Japan** (Missionary Education Movement of the United States and Canada, New York, 162 pages, illustrated, 50c. postpaid), this eminent scholar and writer gives a plain, unvarnished and exceedingly well informed and instructive account of the working women, including such as farmers' wives and daughters, the women and girls engaged in domestic industries and factories, the silk workers, baby-tenders, and the Geisha and Shogi. The account—some portions of it—reads like that of a different planet than our own; and our admiration and sympathy are called upon in about equal measure. There could be no better book for a women's or girls' missionary reading circle or study class.

Syria may become one of the active theatres of the war. It will be from and through Syria that enemy advances will be made, if made at all, on Egypt. Altogether apart from this Syrian life, nomadic, agricultural, city, Mohammedan—the ancient and the modern strangely overlaid and intermingled, presents exceptional material for stories. **Masoud the Bedouin** (Missionary Education Movement of the United States and Canada, New York, 249 pages, \$1.00) gives the title to 16 such stories, with illustrations. The writer is Adela Post Carhart, herself a native of Syria, and the stories are steeped in Oriental color.

Even in the midst of the war we must keep an open ear to the call of the world. Indeed, just because of the war, the heeding of that call becomes the more important; for the war has made evident, as never before, how inextricably international all the nations are. Sherwood Eddy's new book, therefore, **The Students of Asia** (Student Volunteer Movement, New York, 223 pages, 16 illustrations, 50c. prepaid), will have a large circle of readers. The subject is profoundly interesting just at this moment, for what the students of Japan, China, and India are, those countries and nations are likely to be in the near future. Sherwood Eddy, co-worker of John R. Mott, has twenty years' experience of the East and its students. He has been their great evangelist. The wonderful Christward movement amongst them is described at first hand and with abundant personal instances. In the pages of **The Students of Asia** is revealed how devoted and successful an evangelist of students of the East and how sane a statesman Mr. Sherwood Eddy is.

The Methodist Book Concern, New York and Cincinnati, have just issued three handy and useful books, about 180 pages each, price 50c. each, on **The Introduction and Use of the Graded Lessons**. They embrace a General Manual, by a number of well known experts, covering all the Departments, a Primary Manual, by Marion Thomas, and a Junior Manual, by Josephine L. Baldwin. The general editor is Rev. Dr. Henry H. Meyer, whose name is a guarantee of intelligent and thorough work. Schools which use the Graded Lessons, and especially where the closely graded series is employed, will find these little volumes of much interest and profit.