

A Winter in India and Malaysia among the Methodist Missions. By the REV. M. V. B. KNOX, Ph.D., D.D. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.25.

The author of this book has been for years a careful student of the progress, life and achievements of the great nations of history. This study created an intense desire to examine for himself the remains of antiquity, and to examine the condition of the ancient races of the East. In visiting these he became absorbed in the investigation of the great problem of Christian missions and in their achievements. Bishop Hurst, whose own comprehensive work on India places him in the very forefront of all writers on that great appanage of the British Empire, pays a high tribute to the present work, and bespeaks for it a place on the pastor's table, the Sunday-school library and Christian homes everywhere. It is an admirable book for Women's Missionary Societies. We know no inexpensive book on India in which so full an account of the country and of its missionary movements is to be found as the present one.

ΚΟΛΑΣΙΣ ΑΙΩΝΙΟΣ; or, *Future Retribution.* By GEORGE W. KING. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.00.

Our author approaches this august and solemn theme with reverence, an avoidance of mere rhetorical expression, and with a clearness and definiteness of aim and treatment which cannot be too highly commended. In this age of questioning of the eternal verities of God's Word, the clear, strong, definite restatement and exposition of those essential truths is doubly necessary.

The Business of Travel; a Fifty Years' Record of Progress. By W. FRASER RAE. London: Thos. Cook & Son, pp. 318.

In the month of July last a banquet was given by the house of Thos. Cook & Son, tourist agents,

in the hotel Metropole, London. The Duke of Cambridge and other titled and noble guests honoured the occasion with their presence. Mr. Gladstone and General Wolseley, unable to be present, sent their hearty greetings. The story of progress, thus celebrated, and recorded in detail in this book, is unparalleled. In 1841 the first excursion by Thos. Cook, sen., was eleven and a half miles, at a shilling a head. In 1891 their routes girdled the globe with over 30,000 routes, giving facilities for 1,823,959 miles on railway, ocean and river. During 1890 they issued over three million tickets, and had in stock at the close of the year nearly five million tickets. They have 169 offices and agencies, 1,714 salaried members, 978 other employees, a staff of 2,692. In 1890 they returned to purchasers over \$200,000 for tickets which for various causes were unused, being the full value of those tickets, without retaining a farthing of the commission to which they were entitled by the conditions of their sale.

The story of the growth of this great house reads like a romance. During the British occupation of Egypt, on the revolt of Arabi Pasha, the Cooks patriotically undertook to transport men, munitions and stores on the Nile, for the bare cost of so doing, and fulfilled the conditions to the utmost satisfaction of the British Government. They had at one time over fifty steamers carrying coal from Newcastle to Alexandria. In Palestine and Syria they have tents and camp equipments sufficient for a thousand persons at one time, and often have from 700 to 1,000 animals engaged at once. Mr. Gladstone, among the characteristics of the Victorian era, specifically mentions the facilities for travel secured by this great tourist agency. If, as Bacon says, travel is a part of education, this firm has been one of the greatest educators of the century. They have, as it were, caused a notable shrinkage in the dimensions of the globe, brought the far-off places near, and made it possible to visit with safety and comfort almost every part of the world.