

has been to present in a clear and vivid portraiture each of these great personalities, and to show how each one of them was, without always intending it, a witness to the Light of the World. None of them would have been the man he was, or could have done the work he did, but for the presence in his life of that Spirit whose incarnation was Jesus Christ. The volume is illustrated admirably with six portraits.

Dr. Gladden has a loyal following, but in addition to his regular audience, this volume will enjoy a wide reading, being written in a popular and pleasing vein.

"The Women of the Middle Kingdom." By R. L. McNabb, A.M. Cincinnati: Jennings & Pye. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 160. Price, 75 cents net.

The Gospel of Christ brings a special word of emancipation to woman. In all pagan or Moslem lands she is oppressed and degraded—considered either a toy or a slave. Christianity alone places her in her true sphere as man's equal and helpmate. Yet the elevation of woman is the supreme method for the elevation of the race. Hence the importance of the subject treated in this interesting volume. The strange practice of foot-binding alone is one that literally as well as morally cripples and handicaps the women of the so-called superior classes of the empire. The entire subject of the book is treated with full information and in an interesting and attractive way, and is accompanied by numerous illustrations.

"West Country Songs." By Mark Guy Pearse. London: Horace Marshall & Son. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. x-131.

No one can listen to Mark Guy Pearse without feeling that he has the heart and soul of a poet. The tenderness of his stories, their glimpses of humour and pathos, are all evidences of the poetic soul. In this volume he has collected a number of his west country songs and ballads, legends and stories of his beloved Cornwall. Mr. Pearse is an artist, too, of remarkable skill, as those who have seen a sketch grow under his rapid pencil will bear witness. The book is freely illustrated with admirable half-tones, one from a sketch by Mr. Pearse himself, others by his daughter, Miss Mabelle Pearse. A group of poems describe the Cornish miner in foreign parts, in California, Australia, and the Klondike, the latter one of exquisite pathos. We have pleasure in quoting, on page 450, an example of Mr. Pearse's employment of humour for highest moral purpose.

A translation of Withrow's "Religious Progress of the Nineteenth Century," an extract of which we print in this number, is being made into Japanese by a native professor of English in one of the colleges in that country. The translator expresses high appreciation of the book and its adaptation to meet the need of the Japanese thought and inquiry.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We beg to call special attention to the serial story of Christian heroism which we begin in this number and which will run throughout the greater part of the year 1904. It is in our judgment the greatest work of the famous author of "The Gates Ajar." It is inspired by the lofty ideals which mark all Mrs. Ward's writings. It is one of the most tremendous indictments of the traffic in the bodies and souls of men which is the greatest menace of modern civilization. It is one of absorbing interest, strong character-painting, and dramatic power.

The November and December numbers of this magazine will be sent free to new subscribers. Now is the best time to secure subscriptions. We have had a large increase during the year. Let us have a still larger one. A fine programme for the New Year is being prepared which will be announced in next number. It will contain strong papers on Canada, Canadian Methodism, and other subjects of general interest.