

other immoral conduct or other irregularity. If they were married and had families the government usually required their successors to pay to them one-fifth of the income of the living and occasionally supplemented this amount by gifts from public funds. The processes of sequestration were carried out by county commissions who made investigations on sworn testimony in regular judicial form. The author does not seem to think, taking conditions as they were, that many mistakes were made or unnecessary hardships imposed.

Two very interesting chapters are devoted to the treatment of Cambridge and Oxford. This was the most difficult task undertaken by the Puritans. This was especially true at Oxford which was politically the center of royalist sentiment and religiously the home of Anglican views.

The closing chapters deal with "Religious Freedom" and "Church Property."

Altogether this a valuable volume, based on careful investigation and without passion or prejudice, accurate and well written.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

Modernism and the Reformation. By John Benjamin Rust, Ph.D. D.D. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York, 1914. 339 pp. \$1.50 net.

This volume constitutes a rather unusual study in the fundamental conceptions of various forms of Christianity. The title would indicate that some comparison between the Reformation and the movement known as Modernism was intended. But the author studies all parts of Christianity with astonishing impartiality, and when the book is finished the reader is left wondering as to what was really intended. He has read a collection of rather interesting and able dissertations on a variety of subjects, but does not seem to have arrived anywhere. The book is without a thesis or purpose.

The reader will find interesting studies of the Protestant principle or principles of the Reformation in an exposition of the criticisms of Schenkel, Hagenbach and Von Hurter; he will find very good expositions of the views of the Modernists on

Transubstantiation, the sacrifice of the Mass, the Virgin Birth, the Church and similar subjects; he will find treatments of the Historicity of Jesus, the Mythical Theory, etc., but he will be compelled to organize this material into a consistent whole. He will find no organizing principle in the book.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

William McKendree: A Biographical Study. By Bishop E. E. Hoss, Methodist Founders' Series. Smith & Lamar, Nashville, Tenn, 1914. 206 pp. \$1.00.

The Methodist Church is doing well in publishing this admirable series of brief popular and yet scholarly biographies. It would be a great loss to the forces of the kingdom for the heroic efforts of these founders of Methodism to be forgotten. They are among the treasures of all Christians.

McKendree was one of the most important of the Methodist pioneers. He was American born, a Virginian, with great native ability, deep consecration and burning zeal. It was he who inspired and organized Methodism west of the Alleghenies and made it one of the redeeming forces in this then frontier country. The story is full of intense and inspiring interest. Bishop Hoss has told it well, with sympathetic insight into the condition of those primitive days, with appreciation of the heroic self-sacrifice of those early preachers in their rude surroundings, with fullness of knowledge and good style. Every reader, and especially Methodist, will find this brief biography both interesting and inspiring.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

Contemporary American History, 1877-1913. By Chas. A. Beard, Associate Professor of Political History in Columbia University. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1914. 397 pp. \$1.00 net.

To write a thoroughly good history of our own times is perhaps impossible. We lack distance and perspective, movements have not had time to work themselves out to legitimate results, prejudices and party passions are too active. Such a history must necessarily confine itself largely to the external progress