

Mr. Murphy has already become widely known as the author of the volume entitled *Problems of the Present South*, and with the appearance of this volume announces another as ready for the press, to be published under the title *Issues Southern and National*. In this volume, *The Basis of Ascendancy*, he deals with an issue more general in its nature, and seeks to prepare the way for the discussion of such specific subjects as "Agricultural Education", "The Negro School", "The Lynching Problem", "The Problem of Child Labor", "Compulsory Education", "Suffrage Restriction", "The New Federation", etc.

It is not too much to say that these books of Mr. Murphy mark an epoch in the statesmanlike treatment of Southern issues. The best thought of the Southern people is here stated so lucidly, so calmly and so cogently that he who runs may read, and he who reads must acquiesce. Mr. Murphy is true to the South, true to the past, but he contends for the future. Every thoughtful Southern man will be able to find here his own convictions expressed better than he could hope to express them himself, and reinforced by a heartfelt earnestness, a sinewy style and a masterful reasoning which cannot be questioned.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Social Life at Rome in the Age of Cicero. By W. Warde Fowler, M.A., Fellow and Lecturer of Lincoln College, Oxford, etc. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1908. Pages 362. Price \$2.25 net.

The last century of the Roman Republic is one of the most interesting periods in all the long history of the Roman people. The ordinary student of history is fairly familiar with its bloody record of party strife, its civil wars and its ever extending conquests. What he does not know so well is the life of the people, the inner history which makes all else live. Just this life of the home, the factory, the counting house, the author has undertaken to set forth. The book is one of a valuable series of handbooks on the antiquities of Greece and Rome, and is certainly one of the most valuable and interesting of the series. The author has known how to invest details with human interest, and from the fragments of the past present to his readers a

living people. He has not confined himself rigidly to a treatment of the life of the city of Rome. That could not be done. Frequent glimpses into the country districts of Italy and even into distant provinces serve to enliven and vitalize the whole picture.

After a brief walk about Rome to familiarize ourselves afresh with its topography, the author takes us among "The Lower Population", showing us how they lived, etc., worked, slept, organized, etc. Thence we go among the well-to-do business men and study their life, business methods and ideals, and thence upward to the governing aristocracy, where we look into their homes, learn their prejudices, their ability and their weaknesses. These subjects are followed by chapters on "Marriage and the Roman Lady", "Education of the Upper Classes", "The Slave Population", "Holidays and Public Amusements", "Religion" and other subjects. At the close there is a good map of Rome and a fairly good index.

The author acknowledges his great debt to Marquardt's *Privatleben der Römer* as well as to other standard works such as Boissier's *Cicéron et ses amis*. He has also made diligent use of the sources, and frequent quotations both in original and translation, enliven almost every page. One feels confidence in the conclusions reached. The subject is one of absorbing interest to every student of Roman history, and this volume will help to the proper interpretation and appreciation of much Roman literature. With this book and Dill's two masterful volumes on later periods in Roman society one can get a pretty clear view of the inner life of the Roman people during the time of their greatness and decline.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.