

This book belongs to the Literary Lives Series edited by W. Robertson Nicoll. It has the flavor of Scotland and smells of the heather, the rare white heather. Mr. Lang understands Scot and the Scotch. The book has a touch of tenderness about it that is quite appropriate. One who is a lover of Sir Walter (and who is not) can speak of him only with reverence. But there is real criticism here also. For those who have not time for Lockhart this is just the book and many who know Lockhart will revel in the luminous pages of Lang. One effect of the book is to make you wish to take down the Waverley novels again and read them afresh.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

Walter Pater.

By A. C. Benson, Fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge. The MacMillan Co., New York and London. 1906. Price \$1.00.

Mr. Benson writes sympathetically, though with reserve, of this very remarkable man. He cannot be said to be an easy subject, for he is elusive and even shadowy in his personality. The personality of Pater is not very vivid in Mr. Benson's treatment though much of his mystical charm is here. The style of Pater is peculiar though wonderful at its best. He is an artist in the use of words, and deserves a place in the English Men of Letters Series. Perhaps no one else could have discussed Walter Pater better than Mr. Benson unless indeed Dr. F. W. Bussell, of Brasenose College, Oxford, could have done so. Pater was tutor at Brasenose, though a student of Queen's College. In a way he was the most striking figure at Oxford during his prime, though his lectures were above the heads of the students. He will live in his books on artistic and critical subjects.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

The New Far East.—An examination into the New Position of Japan and her influence upon the Solution of the Far Eastern Questions, with Special Reference to the Interests of America and the Future of the Chinese Empire.

By Thomas F. Millard. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1906. XII-319 pages.

Here we get a note of discord in the harmony of current praise for Japan and all things and plans Japanese. Mr. Millard finds himself at variance in mind and spirit with the popular condemnation of Russia and admiration of Japan. He undertakes to account for the general attitude toward Japan as produced by a remarkably profound and shrewdly successful propaganda of the Japanese Government.

He gives the Japanese credit for being able to hoodwink the world, even to the extent of expecting us to believe that a really inferior and superficial people are practicing the deception upon us. England has of course been the ally, confederate and conspirator of Japan in it all.

One wonders whether Russia may not be pushing a propaganda with Mr. Millard in its employ; and whether the author may not also be nursing some grievance against the Japanese. Certain it is that a cool, calculating, material principle lies at the basis of judgment and advice to America throughout the volume.

The spirit of the work is never admirable and often repulsive. At the same time there is a deal of wholesome and timely information and warning here. One can not think of Mr. Millard as a statesman, certainly he is no diplomat; but materials for statesmanship and questions for diplomacy he does give.

The present situation in China, Corea, Japan, Manchuria, Russia is presented with cool calculation and the significance of the situation for Western governments, especially for America, is suggested rather fully. The author does not play the role of prophecy but seeks to present the materials of destiny. And one must think that he is quite correct in his estimate, for China is really for more significant for the future of the Orient than is Japan.

All students of the Eastern situation will be interested in this discussion and will do well to lay aside any pro-Japanese prejudices so far as to give proper considera-

tion to the phases of the question here presented.

W. O. CARVER.

The Negro and the Nation.—A History of American Slavery and Enfranchisement.

By George S. Merriam, New York. Henry Holt & Company. 1906. 340 pages.

That Mr. Merriam has made an extensive study of the Negro, and that he has sought to maintain a spirit of judicial fairness to all parties involved, seems apparent enough. His accuracy and his calmness alike call for admiration though his effort to be calm frequently becomes an index of deep feeling.

Through forty chapters we have traced for us the history of slavery and enfranchisement and of adjustment of the emancipated enfranchised. This history has not been written for the sake of the history but for the sake of applying it to the question of the working out of the relation of white and black races in America. The solution of all the vexing questions as to the Negro in America are easy of solution when one seeks "not to predict what will be, but to see what ought to be, and what we (who?) purpose shall be." "The saving principle is as simple as the multiplication table or the Golden Rule. Each man must do his best, each must be allowed to do his best, and each must be helped to do his best. * * * The situation is less a puzzle for the intellect than a challenge to the will and heart." So indeed it will seem to the theorist, but a rather complicated puzzle it is proving for the intellects of sincere men dealing practically with the problems. When one begins to apply the principle, so admirably stated, to practical working in "industry, education, politics, and social relations," and then asserts that this means equality everywhere, he has assumed an equality in materials that remains undemonstrated.

This important study is frank, courteous, courageous, suggestive. It appeals to Christian principle and sentiment, as the author understands these. W. O. CARVER.