

ested especially in mathematical metaphysics. The argument and the conclusions are valid enough intellectually but for most will perhaps make an impression of abstract unreality.

IV. RELIGION AND MISSIONS.

Islamic Africa. By R. Burton Sheppard. Illustrated. The Methodist Book Concern, New York and Cincinnati, 1914. 127 pp. 75 cts. net.

This is a highly interesting and informing little volume dealing with a subject of primary importance for Christian missions. It discusses briefly the origin of Islam and its "amazing advance" in the first centuries of its history.

Then it gives a strikingly clear account of the current conquest of Africa by Mohammedans. Next we have a chapter giving opinions and inferences touching the effect of this religion on the African. The work closes with a brief urgent appeal to the end that "the defeat of Islam in Africa (is) necessary for the greatest future of the black man," for "if Islam is not defeated in Africa, the country may still be developed; but the 'Man' is in greater need of development than the country."

There is a convincing, but not wholly judicial, array of evidence that all European governments give unwarranted favor to Mohammedanism in their administration in Africa.

The work is not strictly consistent nor always self-consistent, but is one of merit and high value. A striking, but obvious, slip (on p. 89) makes a Mohammedan woman ruler of an area seven thousand miles square in India!

W. O. CARVER.

Social Christianity in the Orient. The Story of a Man, a Mission, and a Movement. By John E. Clough, D.D. Written down for him by his wife, Emma Rauschenbusch Clough, Ph.D. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1914. 407 pp. \$1.50 net.

Here we have one of the great stories of modern missions. It has been told before in part, but never before as a whole. It was worth the telling and it is splendidly done. The main facts

come from Dr. Clough himself, but Mrs. Clough has worked the narrative together and has produced a notable volume that ought to be widely read both for the story in it and for the way it is told. The best thing about Dr. Clough is the simple way that he went after the Telugus at Ongole and won them by the thousands. Moreover, they died in the faith and the work survives and flourishes in great power to-day. The pictures add greatly to the interest of the fine volume.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

Mary Webb and the Mother Society. By Albert L. Vail, Author of "The Morning Hour of American Baptist Missions," "Baptists Mobilized for Missions," "Stewardship Amongst Baptists," etc. Philadelphia, 1914, American Baptist Publication Society. 110 pp. 50 cts. net.

Dr. Vail has here given in brief and interesting form an account of a remarkable woman, for seventy-seven years a helpless cripple, and yet a remarkably energetic, devoted and successful Christian. She was the founder of "the Boston Female Society for Missionary Purposes" which was only the most significant of many ministries in the work of the Kingdom of God. She was treasurer of this society fifty-six years and all the while leader and worker in many helpful enterprises.

For the sake of knowing so inspiring a worker, for the sake of the knowledge of this first period of missionary interest in America, for the sake of the quaint ways and words of a century past, for the whole human interest this is a desirable volume.

V. CHURCH HISTORY.

Christianity and Civilization. By the late R. W. Church, M.A., D.C.L. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1914. 143 pp. 50 cts. net.

This volume consists of five lectures delivered in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1872 and 1873 and now published for the first time. Dean Church was a historian and scholar as well as a great preacher. These lectures are the fruit of his pen in his younger days, but they exhibit all his excellences as an author. In the