China's Book of Martyrs.

By Luella Miner. Westminster Press, Philadelphia.

One of the most inspiring chapters in Christian history is the story of the long role of Christian martyrs. It is true that there has sometimes been wild fanaticism, sometimes cowardly renunciation in the hour of trial, but on the whole Christian men and women have faced the terrors of persecution with as much calmness and steadfastness as could be expected. Time has painted a halo of glory around the brow of the ancient martyrs until they seem to be exalted into another sphere far above us. But the last year of the nineteenth century has furnished its full quota of those who were faithful unto death; and that not among the enlightened men and women of the West, but among those but lately won from Confucius and Buddha in the far East. This book is the story of the martyr faith and martyr death of the native Christians, (not the missionaries) in China during the awful summer of 1900. We have seen substantially the same material before, but it is well to gather it into one volume that we may see at a glance the whole glorious story. There were lapses of course, there was no fanaticism. Every honorable effort was made by the native Christians to save themselves, but they met death calmly, fearlessly. The author estimates that thirty thousand native Christians perished with as much fortitude and hope as was ever shown by Western Christians. This is an inspiring book, full of excellent illustrations for the pastor and the missionary leader.

W. J. McGLATHLIN.

Dona Perfecta and El Nino de la Bola.

The American Book Company has just issued school editions of the "Dona Perfecta" of Galdos, and of "El Nino de la Bola" by Alarcon. These are quite popular

stories, in Spain and outside, and these texts are likely to prove useful. "Dona Perfecta," indeed, in the edition of Dr. Marsh has long been in the hands of the teacher and student of elementary Spanish throughout the country. The present text differs from this in one important particular: it has a very full (123 pp.) vocabulary, adapted to novices and a good bit of special work. The editor, Dr. Lewis, has, it seems, taken no care to use as a basis throughout, the tenth (and last) Spanish edition of Galdos' novel. The ninth has probably served his need. However, this will be of no serious disadvantage to the educational value of the book. "El Nino" (Schwill of Yale) is uniform with the above in fullness of vocabulary, paucity of notes—which are at the foot of the page—and excellence of typography. They are each furnished with a slight introduction, are bound in plain serviceable cloth, and are of handy size. "El Nino" is not given complete, and the author has had resort to the questionable method of interspersed synopses. They form, on the whole, respectable additions to the growing body of Spanish texts.

E. P. DARGAN.

How to Study Literature.

By Benjamin A. Heydrick, A.B. (Harv.), Professor of English Literature, State Normal School, Millersville, Pa. Hinds and Noble, Publishers. New York City.

This is a lucid and suggestive little volume of 150 pp. It is intended to be "a guide to the intensive study of literary masterpieces."

Part I. discusses the nature and classes of literature, and gives careful and detailed outlines for the appreciative study of the more prominent types of literary productions: Narrative Poetry, Lyric Poetry, Dramatic Poetry, Fiction, The Essay and The Oration.

Part II. applies the principles of Part I. to a half dozen specimens of literary masterpieces. There are brief and