

These are the best sermons I have read in many a day—I can't say that I ever read better ones. As Mr. Black teaches the young preachers of Union Seminary I sincerely hope that he will be able "to show them how!"

J. P. GREENE.

Rudolf Hermann Gurland.

Von Lic. Joh. de le Roi, Leipzig, J. C. Hinrichs'sche Buchhandlung. 1906. 80 pf.

This little "brochure" of seventy pages gives account of the life and labors of a converted Jewish Rabbi, largely among his own people in Germany and parts of Russia. Gurland sprang from a Jewish family who lived in Holland, of whom some had been Christians. His father was a teaching Rabbi in Wilna. Gurland was himself brought up a Jew and became assistant Rabbi to his uncle in Limburg. His studies led him to question some of the principles of the Jewish faith, especially of the reformed wing. He resigned his office and gave himself to literary pursuits. In 1862 he got hold of a Hebrew New Testament and fell under the influence of a German military chaplain by the name of Faltin, in Kischineff, yet at the same time became rabbi of a Jewish congregation in that city. After a while he was converted to the Christian faith and received baptism at the hands of Faltin. He pursued his studies for a while and determined to devote himself to preaching the gospel among his own people. He attended the Mission House and the University at Berlin for several years and went back to Kischineff where he assisted Faltin with special relations to work among the Jews. He continued in these labors for some years with varying success, when he went as a traveling missionary. In 1876 he became pastor of the Lutheran Church in Mitau where he labored for twenty years. The latter part of his life he gave to traveling and missions among his own people, dying in great peace of mind in the year 1905. No statistical account is given of his suc-

cesses, but a number of Jews were led to Christ through him. His character was mild and loving. He did not argue so much with his compatriots, but sought to win them with love and Christian living. A number of touching incidents are given in his book of conversions of Jews of all classes to Christianity. The narrative is simply told and makes both interesting and easy reading.

E. C. DARGAN.

Rests by the River. Devotional Meditations.

By George Matheson, D.D. New York, A. C. Armstrong and Son. \$1.25.

Those who have found help and spiritual enjoyment in Dr. Matheson's *Hours of Retirement* and similar books need only be told that here is another of the same sort. There are short meditations, the first part exposition and thought, which glide into prayer in the second part. Thought and devotion mingle in a style clear, sweet, appropriate to its purpose. It is a delightful book to keep at hand for use in one's morning or evening devotions. Each meditation may be read in a few minutes; and they need not be read consecutively. Sometimes one must demur emphatically to the author's fanciful and forced interpretation of Scripture, but this does not often happen. The book, with its companions, must continue to hold high place in devotional literature, and bring rest and comfort to many a soul.

E. C. DARGAN.

The Social Message of the Modern Pulpit.

By Charles Reynolds Brown, Pastor of the First Congregational Church, Oakland, Cal. Published by Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.

This volume constitutes the Yale Lectures on Preaching for the year 1905-6. In the preface, the author states that the subject grew out of his experience as a pastor and preacher. The first two lectures deal (1) with the demand for preaching adapted to the social questions of the day and the need of the pulpit's adjustment of itself to modern social life, and (2) with how this can be done