

10), "is to explain and illustrate really what Buddhism is." He seems to be an Englishman who has been seduced by the Mysticism of the East into becoming a convinced Buddhist. He glorifies his new found faith and its effects upon men. It, he claims, is alone rational, eschewing revelation, offering the only reasonable immortality, pointing away from weakness, sin and suffering to purity, joy and gladness; it leads men to think not of sin but of righteousness; it produces the most beautiful family life, puts the soul into connection with the eternal source of all things.

This is not the place to discuss Buddhism. The author's presentation is attractive. In form it is the experiences and reflections of a wounded Englishman in Burma in contact with the Buddhist monks and the village life of the Burmese. There are bits of beautiful description, references to interesting native customs, etc. One feels the almost weird spell which Eastern faiths cast over some Western minds. The weakness of these faiths is equally apparent. The insignificance of the individual, the futility of all his endeavors and aspirations, the depressing effects of contemplation are all painfully present. With such a faith greatness is impossible. The individual is restrained and depressed rather than stimulated to endeavor.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

Islam, a Challenge to Faith. Studies on the Mohammedan religion and the needs and opportunities of the Mohammedan world from the standpoint of Christian Missions.

By Sam'l M. Zwemer, F. R. G. S., Secretary Student Volunteer Movement, Missionary in Arabia. The Student Volunteer Movement, New York, 1907.

The author of this volume is already widely and favorably known to the Christian world through his work as a missionary and his work as secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, as well as by other publications on Mohammedanism. He approaches the subject from the missionary rather than the scientific standpoint. He is seeking to show that Mohammedan fields offer an opportunity today as never before—are a "challenge to faith". At the same time the author has supplemented his personal knowledge of the fields and the religion by the

use of the scientific studies of others. The "book lays no claim to originality save in the form in which the results of the labors of others in this wide field are presented".

The author is optimistic, hopeful for the future of Mohammedan missions. He believes today offers a crisis, an opportunity, which Christianity does not miss or neglect. In the brief compass of this work there is a fairly comprehensive and satisfactory treatment of the origin, content, history and present condition of Mohammedanism. Few volumes of equal size contains so much valuable information and inspiration for the pastor.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

The Fruit of the Desert.

By Everett T. Tomlinson. The Griffith & Rowland Press, Philadelphia and London. 1907. Pages 492. Price, \$2.00.

Frontier missions have furnished material for several admirable stories such, as Black Rock, Sky Pilot, etc. Hitherto, these have dealt chiefly with missions in the Northwest. "The Fruit of the Desert" is an excellent story of mission work in the Indian Territory. The missionary, Hugh Bradford, is a manly young fellow, with the right spirit in him. The difficulties and discouragements with the brighter sides of missionary labor are well told, and there is a delightful story of pure and high human love. The book can be heartily recommended.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

VI. APOLOGETIC AND POLEMIC THEOLOGY.

The Philosophical Basis of Religion.

By John Watson, M. A., LL.D. James Maclehose & Sons, 1907.

Modern philosophy is being invaded by idealism. The older materialistic conception of the world is giving place to this type of philosophy which is a vast improvement upon it. We have here 466 pages of closely reasoned exposition of the general thought contained in the title. In the first lecture the author discusses religion and authority. He says religion is at once a life, a creed, and a ritual, and as any one of these constituents may be accentuated, there are three main types of re-