

of the complex influences which are at work upon the population of country communities. As Dr. Strong says, families run out both at the top and at the bottom of the social scale; in the great middle class lies the hope of society, and it is this class that is to be found chiefly in the country. The author doubts if the decadent rural towns are as bad as the city slums. But he rests his argument upon the favorable showing of the country as a whole as compared with the city as a whole. The reason that crime flourishes in certain rural communities is that there is such lack of education, moral and religious training, uplifting examples, in short, a lack of favorable environment, and not, as some say, a lack of individual stamina. The book is a trumpet call to more liberal, and hopeful and patient effort for the education and the evangelization of this sadly neglected and disparaged half-world. The issue depends in every community upon tactful, patient, generous, consecrated and hopeful activity. Here is a loud call to missionary zeal.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Social Duty of Our Daughters.

By Mrs. Adolphe Hoffmann. Vir Publishing Company, Philadelphia 1908. Cloth, 69 pp. 35 cents net.

The author of this beautiful little book is a cultivated Christian mother and writer, of Geneva, Switzerland, who has achieved shining prominence in European reform work. She here addresses to mothers and their daughters who are budding into womanhood a message that is exceptionally frank, but never indelicate, on the dangers of girlhood and young womanhood, and the sacredness of wifehood and motherhood. "I am writing this frankly," she says, "in the interests of our daughters, nay, still more, for the sake of our dear children—fully convinced that one of the first social duties of woman is that of sacred motherhood—of a motherhood consecrated to the welfare of others". "To enter upon relations out of which a new being may come into existence branded with the stigmata of corruption, shame and vice, is anti-social, and just as much a social crime as an act of immorality." "Is it not this, even more than unchastity, which constitute the guilt of girl-

mothers?" It is a worthy number of the series known as "The Sex Series", or "Pure Books On Avoided Subjects", which are not gotten up "just to sell".

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Religious Teachers of Greece. Being Gifford Lectures on Natural Religion delivered at Aberdeen.

By James Adam, Litt. D. Edited with a memoir by his wife, Adela Marion Adam. Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 1908. Pages lv, 467.

There is a pathos about this noble volume, the *magnum opus* of the distinguished author. He died before the volume was printed, though the lectures were actually delivered at Aberdeen and created widespread interest.

Mrs. Adam has written a beautiful and sympathetic memoir that tells the story of early poverty, longing for learning, struggle for mastery in Aberdeen and Cambridge, and supreme victory as Fellow and Tutor in Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He had great love for Greece and his lectures were highly appreciated.

The book in question cannot be called popular in the usual sense of that term, but it is intensely interesting to one of scholarly attainments and tastes. By religious teachers he means the poets and philosophers. These include indeed most of the greatest minds of Greece from Homer to Plato. We have thus a definite contribution of great value to the understanding of Greek thought on the highest themes. It is needless to say that the student of the New Testament finds help here in his approach to the World of Christ and Paul.

Prof. Adam makes much of the jealousy between the Greek poets and philosophers, but shows how they contributed mutually to the development of Greek ideas. The book is a treasure for the scholar.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

My Pets.

By Marshall Saunders, author of Beautiful Joe. Illustrated by Charles Copeland. Griffiths and Rowland Press, Philadelphia. 1908. Pages 283. Price \$1.25.

This is a beautiful volume for a child and will create love for the animals all about one. The pictures are numerous and