

John Brown of Haddington. By Robert Mackenzie, M.A. Hodder and Stoughton, New York and London. 358 pp. 12 shillings net.

We have in this volume one of the most interesting biographies of recent years. The famous John Brown, author of the "Dictionary of the Bible", the "Self-Interpreting Bible", and many other theological works, was one of the great characters of Scotland in the eighteenth century. The most interesting part of the book is the story of how the poor orphan boy of sixteen, a shepherd lad, with only one month of schooling in Latin, overcame all difficulties, learned Greek by himself as if from a new Rosetta stone, without grammar or teacher, aroused the jealousy of his companions and even of his pastor, who accused the poor boy of witchcraft because he had learned the Greek New Testament. It nearly broke his heart and it took him years to live down the shame of the charge, but he became a pedler and teacher. Finally as preacher and professor he shed a glory on Scotland.

There is no more stirring story to be put before young ministers who by chance complain of the hard path that they may have to tread in order to gain proper theological equipment. Ministers who drop their Greek for very shame ought to read the life of John Brown of Haddington, whose Greek Testament is today one of the treasures of the University of St. Andrews.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

The Suffering of the Best, or Service and Sacrifice. By John Adams, B.D., Author of "The Great Sacrifice". Edinburgh, 1918, T. & T. Clark [New York, Charles Scribner's Sons]. 163 pp.

"No biologist has as yet attempted to explain the science of pain." **Peyton's Memorabilia of Jesus.** The science of pain! the pain especially of God's suffering servants! that, alas! is not to be explained by any science, not, certainly, by the law of the survival of the fittest: it must be lifted up into the sphere of vicarious self-surrender and interpreted as the suffering of the best." From the standpoint of such a principle, and driven hard to deep searching by the war's grim tragedy, Mr. Adams has given us a fresh interpretation of the vicarious, redeeming element of suffering in "the servant of Jehovah" passages of Isaiah. The applications are continuous of this principle which lies in the deeper forces of history making on the plane of our human life. Right rich in reward will be the patient following of the reasoning and the exposition in this little volume. It deals with a topic than which none need more to be clearly and forcibly expounded in the day of reconstruction.

W. O. CARVER.