

**Turkestan, "The Heart of Asia."** By William Eleroy Curtis, author of "One Irish Summer," "Around the Black Sea," "Modern India," "The Turk and His Lost Provinces," "To-day in Syria and Palestine," etc., etc. Pictures by John T. McCutcheon. New York, 1911, Hodder & Stoughton; George H. Doran Company. 344 pages. \$2.00 net.

Every reader of travels owes his debt to the able and distinguished newspaper correspondent traveller who has recently closed his labors in death. He was a man of culture, taste and energy. His friends were many and influential in all parts of the world. His facilities for seeing and learning on his travels were, therefore, rare and his facility for reporting what he saw and guessing what was unseen was of a high order. He gained a reputation for faithfully respecting every confidence and taking improper advantage of no courtesy. So that by 1910 when he would visit the land of mystery in Central Asia he was enabled to do so under the best possible circumstances. Even at that he declares the journey was not wholly delightful. His letters in the *Record-Herald*, Chicago, are published in this attractive volume which will be read by many because of its uncovering a land so little known and because it represents one of the last labors of the distinguished author. It abounds in just such varied information as would properly go into the columns of a high class newspaper for its most cultured readers, geographical, historical, ethnic, familiar, political, religious.

W. O. CARVER.

**The Greek Commonwealth, Politics and Economics in Fifth-Century Athens.** By Alfred E. Zimmern. Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1911. Pp. 454.

More and more historians are seeking to know *the people* of the past—how they lived, what they thought and did, what and how they worshiped. Politics still figures as one of the phases of national life which must be heeded, but it is no longer the sole or even the main matter to be studied. Kings and princes are important, but the people are essential. Even politics is more explained on the basis of economics, religion and other primal motives of mankind.