

It seeks to come to the heart of "the social process" in order to promote social well-being and well-doing. It is a pleasure to recognize a great achievement and congratulate the author upon his success. E. C. DARGAN.

The Negro in the Cities of the North.

Reprinted from *Charities* Vol. XV, No. 1, Oct. 7, 1905 by the Charities Publication Committee, New York. 96 pp.

Perhaps the wicked and sordid agitation of questions concerning the negro by Thomas Dixon and some of his equally unsobber critics may serve the end of arousing a more general, humane and Christian interest in the negro that by the application of sound principles and adequate information will make some noteworthy advance in dealing with a complicated and delicate condition.

The October 7 number of "Charities and the Commons"—weekly, \$2.00 per year—brought together a remarkable collection of articles dealing with all phases of the question of the negro in Northern cities. The writers are white and black and represent all phases of interest in the negro where that interest is sympathetic and constructive. There are some two dozen writers and a brief note with each name tells his relation to the work in hand. The illustrations are numerous, admirable, informing. The articles bring together extensive and most valuable information and constitute one of the indispensable helps for studying the various negro questions.

One does not yet see daylight on this dark problem. That the solution lies along the way of education is clear enough. Just what is to be the nature of that education is more uncertain. So far there are utterly "diverse programs for the education and advancement of the negro with his conflicting ideals" and there is yet a third idea which can hardly be called an ideal and which has no program but many adherents and which is taken little account of by the students of this subject. There is, moreover, one phase of the whole question of which no recognition has come to the notice of this writer: The vast

majority of notable examples of negro education and leadership are of mixed blood and leave the serious question of the native negro capacity unanswered. That many negroes are capable of the highest and best need not be discussed, but are they all or any great number of them capable? One hopes so, but has seen no sufficient evidence as yet. Little account seems to be taken of tribal differences in American negroes, so significant in Africa.

The discussions of this volume call for careful study by every friend of the negro.

W. O. CARVER.

Social Theories and Social Facts.

By William Morton Grinnell. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1905. Pp. 146.

It is hard to get for the group of subjects discussed in this little book a title that would not be more or less misleading, but there is scarcely excuse for taking one quite so wide of the mark as this. Instead of a treatise on Sociology the author discusses corporations, trusts, competition, cost of living, wages, railway rates, public ownership of utilities, and related topics. In general the argument lies against the popular condemnation of trusts and the popular demand for public ownership of utilities. The author maintains that trusts are a natural development of the laws of trade and that legislation against them is ill-advised. There ought to be enforcement of the laws against individual offenders. He exposes the evils of competition, and maintains that the Standard Oil Trust is a fine flower of the method of competition. The tendency of capitalistic combination has been to increase wealth per capita, and there is now more general distribution of wealth than ever before. For while the management of the great corporations is in fewer hands, their shares are more widely distributed than formerly. In 1880 the Pennsylvania Railroad had less than 14,000 shareholders, while it now has 44,000. He pays his respects to the "municipal ownership" theory in regard to public utilities, and insists that a time when great political