

has not only put many into the course of his narratives, but has headed each right-hand page with one of them in Chinese character and in English translation. There is great variety in the one hundred and thirty-nine fine illustrations with which the work is adorned and its value heightened.

W. O. CARVER.

Half a Century in China. Recollections and Observations, by the Venerable Arthur Evans Moule, B.D., Rector of Burwarton; Sometime Archdeacon in Mid-China; Missionary of the Church Missionary Society from 1861; author of "New China and Old," etc. With illustrations and map. London and New York. 1911. Hodder & Stoughton (George H. Doran Company). xii+343 pages. 7/6 net.

China is to-day not only the biggest thing on the map, but the most interesting and amazing part of the world. One-fourth of the human race is in China entering upon a new era with a swift suddenness before which the watching world grows dizzy with wonder. What the present crisis will issue in immediately and exactly no one can know or guess. That it will mean a new day for China and call for a new reckoning on the part of all the nations is too obvious for comment.

For a decade, students and curiosity mongers have traversed China's highways in rapid succession and even in great groups. And the presses have poured forth a great library of volumes about China. Now, whatever is transpiring in China to-day is the product of forces operating in and upon China heretofore. In the venerable missionary, A. E. Moule, we have one more chance to follow the forces that China has been resisting and to which she is now yielding. Fifty years of "living in and for" China give any man a right to speak, and when the man has had eyes and ears, a mind and heart, his words will find ready and eager readers and hearers. Full half a century has this author watched and shared China's slow-moving life. He brings to us the rich fruitage of these long years of observation, service, reflection. He does not seek to startle nor essay new stories. He pictures for us in graphic phrase and stirring story what he has lived by and lived through. China's "Conservatism" and yet

her inevitable—and now rapid—change, characteristics of temper, habits, education and culture are presented as the author has studied them. The changes that have been wrought in great cities like Ning-po, Hangchow and Shanghai are presented in retrospect and contrast. As a young missionary, the author was in the midst of the stirring events of the T'ai-p'ing Rebellion, and its course, consequences and indirect effects occupy two of the eleven chapters and not a little of a third.

The experiences of his long service have inevitably brought the author under the necessity for studying the theory of missions, their message and methods. He has kept in close touch with the theological and critical changes in Europe. It is particularly interesting, therefore, to read his courteous but vigorous remarks about the modern clamor for a new motive and a modified message for the missionary. He repudiates the whole contention. His judgment concerning the function of the Gospel in relation to the religions of the East is the more instructive that the author himself in his early service thought to adjust the Gospel to the religion and literature of China much as not a few are advising at this time. He became convinced that Jesus and His Gospel bear to the religions of the nations and to their literatures, no such relation as they sustain to Hebrew religion and the Old Testament.

The author shares strongly the deepening longing of Christendom for a recognition of its essential unity in a definite union. A true Churchman—and with the circumscribed vision of any churchman—he offers the Episcopal—his Church—as the home to which all are invited to come; and he has a gentle hope that sometime they will come to “the Church of England, primitive, apostolic, faithful to Scripture and the faith of the ages, and containing and harmonizing in her creeds and services and solemn ritual all the many-lustred truths which other churches [note the change from C to c] hold perhaps too individually and with too little harmony of proportion.” Such ideas of union are of no value and their expression a waste of words.

In analyzing and estimating the facts and factors of change in China, the author manifests what, indeed, is evident at all

stages of his work, a strong element of conservatism which prevents his appraising the forces even so correctly as some with less opportunity to know have done.

The work is one of great interest and value.

W. O. CARVER.

Calvin Willson Mateer, Forty-five Years a Missionary in Shantung, China. A biography by Daniel W. Fisher. Philadelphia. 1911. The Westminster Press. viii+342 pages. \$1.50; postage 12c.

All the world knows now of the Shantung Christian University, one of the great factors in the onward growth of religion in China. Every mission in North China is under debt to this school and to the two that preceded it and made it possible. And informed friends of China know that this great work is the creation of the purpose and power, in the grace of God, of C. W. Mateer. It was inevitable that his life would be written. It was needed and demanded. It is well done—done in a way not to glorify its subject alone, but to present him as he was so that his influence may continue in others and that workers in the missionary enterprise may benefit by his wisdom and faithfulness and profit by his limitations and mistakes. It is much to have a life and character great enough to tell the full truth about; and to have a friend too loyal and sensible not to tell the facts as they are. This is the combination we have in this splendid volume.

The story of the early years and the family life will encourage boys to think and aim high. The story of devotion and success will lead others to follow in the way Mateer went. The story of patience and firmness will hearten discouraged workers. The frank revelations of differences and difficulties with other missionaries and with the board at home will be full of instruction to missionaries and to their supporters. The final detachment of the great missionary from the work he had nurtured and brought to such rich fruitage, told in simple story without malice, will show the limitations of the best men.

Dr. Fisher should have the thanks of all honest students for this rather unusually frank and rounded story of the life and