

before the public do not make this one superfluous. The subject is of perennial interest. John Wesley is confessedly one of the great characters of Christian history. The revival which he with others started has subsequently given color to the Christianity of the English speaking world and its power is not yet exhausted. This new Life of Wesley is the result of a fresh and thorough study of the sources. It is not written "by a Methodist for the Methodists," nor does it deal with Wesley primarily as the religious reformer. The attempt is made to set forth the man, with all his varied interests and marvellous activities, before the general reader rather than for the student of religious history. The work loses nothing in value or popular interest in this attempt. In fact, Prof. Winchester has done his work admirably. There is not a dull page in the book. If it induces the ministry of his own and other denominations to study afresh the life of the great reformer, it will render a good service to the kingdom of God.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

### **Proceedings of the Baptist Congress for 1905.**

Price 50 cents. Baptist Congress Publishing Co., New York.

These papers are always live and interesting and serve to accent the diversity of opinion among Baptists on current questions.

A. T. R.

### **First Two Decades of the Student Volunteer Movement.**

The Student Volunteer Movement, 3 West 29th Street, New York.

The rapid growth of this movement is well set forth in this report.

A. T. R.

### **A History of the Inquisition of Spain.**

By Henry Charles Lea, LL. D. In four volumes. Vol. I, pp. 620. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1906.

Henry Charles Lea is perhaps better known in Europe than any other American historian. His works on the "Inquisition of the Middle Ages," "Auricular Confession and Indulgences," "Sacerdotal Celibacy," etc., are

quoted as authorities in the lecture rooms of the German universities. Liesure, wealth and native ability have made it possible for him to obtain and utilize the published and unpublished sources to a rare degree that gives him a unique place among American historians.

The present work, of which only the first volume has as yet appeared, is to be an exhaustive treatment of that terrible engine of oppression and destruction known as the Spanish Inquisition. It is in a sense a continuation of his "History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages." As was to be expected this first volume manifests the same exhaustive and painstaking work we have learned to look for in Dr. Lea's productions. The conclusions are based almost wholly on original sources, some of which had never been utilized before. It falls into two broad divisions, first the "Origin and Establishment" of the Inquisition, and second, its "Relations with the State." After sketching in a masterful manner the disorders that prevailed at the beginning of the reigns of Ferdinand and Isabella, he sets forth the gradual development of the persecuting spirit in Spain under the fostering care of the church. It was directed against the Jews and Moors and finally resulted in the expulsion from Spain or the forced conversion of all of both races. The genuineness of these *conversas* or "new Christians" was doubtful, and the Spanish Inquisition was set up primarily to hunt out and destroy these suspected Christians. Its establishment began at Seville in 1480 and it was gradually extended over all Spain. It differed from the Inquisition elsewhere and also from the previous Inquisition in Spain in that it was controlled neither by the bishops nor by the Dominicans, but by the pope and the crown and at times was largely independent of both these powers. It was the exercise of irresponsible power that made it so terrible.

The work is too detailed for popular reading, but for those who wish to really understand the Spanish Inquisition it will prove to be indispensable.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.