

gone so far in making religion philosophical as to do violence to the essentially Christian ethical principles in the Atonement and personal experience in forgiveness, and so in the essentially Christian principles of life.

Urchristliche Apologie. Die Älteste Auferstehungskontroverse. Von W. Baldensperger, Professor an der Universität Glessen. Strassburg. 1910. J. H. Ed. Heitz.

A significant address vigorously setting forth the initial struggles of Christianity for a place in the world while antagonized by Jewish and heathen thought. In the first period the Personality of Jesus, His resurrection and His church were antagonized on much the same grounds as now, and the victory then has great value for the present crisis. Notes give citations from various sources.

III. RELIGIONS AND MISSIONS.

The Land of the White Helmet: Lights and Shadows Across Africa. By Edgar Allen Forbes. New York. 1910. Fleming H. Revell Company. Pages 356. \$1.50 net.

Mr. Forbes is peculiarly gifted in the two qualities requisite for a writer of travel stories: he sees accurately the more important things and he so sets them down as to make you see them. But he is far more than a merely descriptive writer taking his reader on a holiday jaunt. He is a keen student of world affairs and while he constantly jostles you with a sly humor and amuses you with moving pictures of life's pageant in the Dark Continent, he interprets for you the political schemes, social principles and moral tendencies that are at work. He traveled in French Africa and he undertakes to tell of what he saw and what he learned about it. But no part of a continent can be known without some knowledge of all of it. The position of the French cannot be understood in Africa apart from the possessions of the other powers. All this Mr. Forbes knows and he has made splendid preparation for his task. He writes with an easy indifference to the

demands of elegance of style but always with the readiest facility for putting effectively his thought and his picture. He is the reporter and is not even afraid of a slang phrase if it will make more vital the idea.

than rewarded". When an author works in that spirit the

A most entertaining and instructive volume is the outcome and with it the managing editor of *The World's Work* will add a host of new friends to those who already knew somewhat of his powers of insight and description. It is not a missionary volume but sounds the ethical note at every turn and does fitting honor to the missionaries.

W. O. CARVER.

Persia and its People. By Ella C. Sykes, author of "Through Persia on a Side-saddle". With twenty illustrations. New York. 1910. The Macmillan Company. xi+356 pages. \$2.50 net.

The author has made two trips to—and through—Persia, occupying some three years. She has read to good purpose the best works on Persia. She has had extensive personal intercourse with notable men intimately acquainted with the country. Best of all she has a genuine enthusiasm for Persia and for the story she has to tell of it. When you read the book you enter into fullest sympathy with the statement in the preface: "If the public finds half as much pleasure in reader is sure to sit at a feast.

A good survey of the history, the topography, the ethnography help to get a setting for the more personal and vital reading my book as I have had in writing it I shall be more features of the work. There are descriptions of all sorts and classes of the people, their occupations, pastimes and pleasures; their religions, morals and immoralities; their education, culture and ignorance; their foibles, follies and filth. We have accounts of travel and pictures of scenery. All in all it is a book to delight in and learn from.

W. O. CARVER.

Les Religions Orientales dans le Paganisme Romain. Conférences faites au Collège de France par Franz Cumont. Deuxième édition revue. Paris. Ernest Leroux, Éditeur. 1909.