

BOOK REVIEWS

I. PRACTICAL.

The Pleasure of Reading the Bible. By Temple Scott. Mitchell Kennedy, New York. 1909. Pages 47. 50 cents net.

The author disregards the authoritative value of the Bible for religion and theology and deals with it solely as a means for giving pleasure. The Sermon on the Mount, for instance, he says, can be read for the purpose of fortifying a faith in Christ; but it can also be read for the sake of the beauty of its literary form, its noble language, its suggestive influence on the mind for cherishing inspiring ideal. The pleasure from such reading of the Bible is the purest and most satisfying of all pleasures, he argues, "because it affirms and fulfills the self". The little book will easily take its place along side not only of such popular works as Senator Beveridge's book on *The Bible as Good Reading*, but of Professor Moulton's *Modern Readers' Bible* and *Short Introduction to the Literature of the Bible*. It gives in an appendix a finely selected list of books for aid in such Bible reading as it advocates and illustrates.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Our Baptist Sunday Schools, Their Present Position and Possible Development. By Ernest Price, B.A., B.D.,

The Baptist Child and World Conquest. By T. E. Ruth, with introduction by Rev. Vincent. The Kingsgate Press, London. Sixpence net. Pages 95.

These are two essays on the English Baptist Sunday schools. The first was a prize essay and the second was thought by the adjudicator to be worthy of a second prize. It is published but in part. They give in brief space an excellent view of the Baptist Sunday schools of the past, a survey of their present

status and an inspiring outlook and a trumpet call for further development and efficiency in the future.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

The Unfolding Life. A Study of Development with Reference to Religious Training. By Antoinette Abernathy Lamoreaux. The Sunday School Times Co., Philadelphia. 1908. Pages 188. Cloth, 50 cents.

Marion Lawrance says this book will command a place by the side of the highest grade books on the subject (Introduction). Miss Annie Williams says there is no better for the students of childhood and the teachers of children. It presents the purest psychology and the best pedagogy stripped of all mystifying technicalities, and clothed in language which even a child can understand. The gifted and consecrated author disclaims any attempt to add to the knowledge of child study or psychology, and aims only at interpreting certain of their fundamental facts and principles with reference to religious training. That she is mistress alike of these facts and principles and of the art of interpreting and applying them to her subject, will be clear to any intelligent reader of her book. She is here rendering the highest service to the great army of teachers and mothers.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Child and His Religion. By George Dawson, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Hartford School of Religious Pedagogy, Chicago. The University of Chicago Press. 1909. Price 82 cents.

The fact that man has a religious nature, or rather has a capacity for God, is receiving profound and extensive consideration in all schools of thought in our shifting century. In four lengthy chapters Prof. Dawson has discussed in an able and charming manner the following vital problems:

Chapter I, Interest as a Measure of Values; Chapter II, The Natural Religion of Children; Chapter III, Children's Interest in the Bible; Chapter IV, The Problem of Religious Education. The book is strikingly provoking. It is certain to elicit thought and interest, which is an admirable quality. There is both instruction and inspiration between its lids. You can-