

Constantinople was, during the period covered, probably the most important of all cities in its influence upon the course of Christian history. It was the first city of the world to have Christian worship exclusively, it was the home of the emperor and the political capital of the world, it was the storm-center of the great Arian controversy, and the platform for some of the greatest preachers of Christian history, notably Chrysostom and Gregory.

The book is divided into two parts. The first deals with the more external features of the history by the imperial reigns beginning with Constantine and extending to Theodosius II who died in 450. The second part deals with the inner life of the church, the state and society, under such heads as the following: The City, the Bishop and the Clerical Circles, the Emperor and the Court, the Social Classes, the Amusements, Education and Culture, Art, and Piety. The work is admirably done, and the volume is very valuable. The century and a quarter covered by the book is a very important period in church history, and in dealing with the church politics of the various emperors the author has necessarily brought under review much that bore on the work of the church throughout the world at that time. The book, therefore, not only illuminates the religious history of Constantinople, but also is an important contribution to universal church history.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

**American Ideals, Character and Life.** By Hamilton Wright Mabie. New York, 1913, The Macmillan Company. ix+341 pages. \$1.50 net.

This volume brings to us the first lectures in Japan under the arrangement for "exchange of professors," as it is called, between Japan and America. The plan is the same as that with France and Germany and one is continually comparing, as he reads, these with the lectures of Henry Van Dyke in Paris and published under the title "The Spirit of America." These lectures constitute a bright outline history of American life, social, political, literary and artistic. The history is sketched with masterly skill and although dealing with matters familiar

to every well-informed American the lectures are so illuminating and suggestive that I found myself reading every word. One is the more led on to do this by the fine mechanical execution of the work.

Mr. Mabie has with delicate success cared for the feelings of his Japanese auditors and also expressed the stalwart spirit of America. Perhaps one may be allowed to think the Lecturer lacking in the proper sense of proportion in his criticisms on American art. He seems to have allowed his sarcasm and his facile gift of expression to lead him beyond the limits of good taste if not also of good judgment.

With rare exceptions his political interpretations are all that could be wished. There are these rare exceptions. Occasional slips of author or proofreader surprise. It is a book in which every good American can rejoice while he learns better to understand himself, and his land, and his folks.

W. O. CARVER.

**Greeks in America. An Account of their Coming, Progress, Customs, Living and Aspirations. With an Historical Introduction and the Stories of some Famous American-Greeks.** By Thomas Burgess, Member of the American Branch Committee of the Anglican and Eastern Orthodox Churches Union. Boston: Sherman, French & Company, 1913. 256 pages. \$1.35 net.

The above copy of the title-page indicates quite amply the scope of Mr. Burgess' work. And the work is well done. It is a thorough and sympathetic study of the Greek population of America. I have been surprised to find how large and important a group it constitutes. Surely we need just such studies of the various immigrant groups to be found in our variegated American life. Such studies will prove to be helpful in the practical efforts for the solution of our immigration problems and also in the broader scientific study of the American population.

C. S. GARDNER.

**Renaissance and Modern Art.** By W. H. Goodyear, M.A., Curator of Fine Arts in the Museum of the Brooklyn Institute. New York, 1913: The Macmillan Company. 50 cents.