

traits of character illustrated in the careers of intrepid pioneers in the world's thought and action, clear through to the last on "The American Soldier," an appreciation of the patriotism, intelligence and courage of that "noblest specimen of the fight hero," the little volume constitutes "a human document," a book of life vision and action, which will surely prove inspirational and helpful not only to our young people who need it, but also to pastors, teachers and leaders of the young who will give it serious study.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Menace of Immorality in Church and State—Messages of Wrath and Judgment. By Rev. John Roach Straton, D. D., pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, New York City. New York, 1920. George H. Doran Company. 253 pp.

New York, or at least some right considerable part of it, was not long in finding out that Straton had come. In Virginia this earnest, angular Georgian did not keep quiet, but he started no great sensation. When he went from Norfolk to the Calvary Church in our metropolis he almost immediately got to be a first page head-liner.

He saw the dark side of city society and its social sins and he began to make a noise. He felt that stern messages were needed and began forthwith to cry aloud and spare not. "We have," he says, had such a flood of books characterized by superficial optimism, so many sermons designed to please, crying 'Peace! Peace! when there is no peace,' that I felt even more strongly that it would be timely to bring together a group of sermons on the shortcomings of the church and the awful sins of modern society, in the light of the sterner teachings of God's word." He has a dramatic conciseness, a bold definiteness, a picturesque vividness that never fail to awake great interest. He draws on current newspaper accounts, historical events and lessons and a generous reading of the literature of reform for his material.

There are sixteen of the sermons. They are not exactly models of the homiletic art; nor types for Biblical exegesis; but they do stick to the subject and, one fancies, to the audiences who heard them. Some of the subjects are: "What Sort of Preaching Does the Modern World Need? A Frank Introductory Message," "Slaves of Fashion: The Connection Between Women's Dress and Social Vice," "Dogs Versus Babies: The Shadow of a Great Sin," "The Reestablishment of a Right Home Life, the Mainstay of the Republic," "The Great American Gambling Craze," "Will New York Be Destroyed if it Does Not Repent?" "A Real Hell for Real Sinners." These will let my reader see of what sort are his topics and I haven't found a dull page nor an unmeaning one. There are styles and manners. This is one and it will repay study in this example of it.

W. O. CARVER.

The American Red Cross in the Great War. By Henry P. Davison. Macmillan, New York, 1920. 302 pp. Illustrated. \$2.00.

No piece of work done during the great war won more universal praise than the American Red Cross and no man in the world, perhaps, is so capable of telling that story as Henry P. Davison, chairman of the War Council of the American Red Cross. In this volume the far reaching and multifarious activities of the American Red Cross in the great war are described with a wealth of accurate detail which Mr. Davison alone could give. Stories of special sacrifice and devotion, of which there were legion, had to be omitted. The history of the work was the main purpose. The author proposes to set forth "the scope, character and effect of the American Red Cross during the great war," and he carries out his aim in a great way. Every page bristles with facts dear as life to the American heart. The author not only dedicates his book to the millions of women, children and men who labored through the Red Cross, but all the royalties from its sale he gives to the Red Cross. This book should be in every American home.

F. M. POWELL.