

thoroughly done and should serve as a stimulus and model for similar work under other auspices elsewhere. The investigation covers all Protestant denominations represented in these countries, every phase of Christian work and activity. The general conclusion of these investigations is that the country church is relatively declining in efficiency and influence, judged by every test which can be scientifically applied to it. This includes membership, attendance on services, pastor's salary, benevolences, etc.

The remedies suggested are Improvement in Country Life, A Program of Social Service, An Effective Country Ministry, Church Co-operation, Organization for Social Service, etc.—this of course, along with the continued vigorous preaching of the Gospel, the pressing of Sunday School work and all the present agencies for doing the spiritual work of the kingdom.

The book is one to study. It will alarm and stimulate, and point the way to possible improvement. It ought to be on every preacher's desk, and be the impulse to great improvement in our country churches.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

#### V.—BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

**Introduction to the Books of the New Testament.** By W. C. Allen, M.A., and L. W. Grensted, M.A. Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York. 1913. 302 pp.

The authors are uncertain who wrote the Gospel of Matthew, though they claim a very early date for it, possibly A. D. 50. The genuineness of the Johannine writings is maintained as is that of the Pastoral Epistles. 2. Peter is considered pseudonymous, though with spiritual value. There is much of freshness and force in the volume. It is a popular treatise, but is based on real scholarly research and is not full of crotchets.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**Griechisches Neues Testament.** Text mit kurzem Apparat (Handausgabe). Von Hermann Freihers von Soden. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen, 1913. 436 pp. 5 Mk.

The tragic death of Prof. von Soden this winter has given added interest to this handy edition of the Greek New Testament with critical apparatus, giving in condensed form the results already published in his great work: *Die Schriften des Neuen Testaments in ihrer ältesten erreichbaren Textgestalt hergestellt auf Grund ihrer Textgeschichte*. I. Teil: Untersuchungen; II. Teil: Text und Apparat.

It is a matter for gratitude that both the *magnum opus* and the handy edition of the New Testament were brought to completion before the death of Dr. von Soden. No one could have shown more diligence and zeal in reworking the whole field of textual criticism. The new nomenclature adopted has not received general acceptance among scholars and it is doubtful if it ever will. But the labor has not been in vain, for its very independence gives freshness and force to the results reached. In the main von Soden's text agrees with that of Westcott and Hort. But at certain points he shows a whimsical turn that one regrets. For instance in Mt. 1:16 he boldly adopts the text of Lewis' Manuscript (Syr<sup>s</sup>) which states that "Joseph begat Jesus" (von Soden has a misprint here, *παρένος* for *παρθένος*), though he retains the flat contradiction of this statement in Mt. 1:18 (the usual text here). But students of the Greek New Testament will be glad to have in such convenient form and delightful type this great achievement of von Soden.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**The New Testament.** A New Translation. By James Moffatt, D.D., D. Litt, Yates Professor of New Testament Greek and Exegesis, Mansfield College, Oxford. George H. Doran Co., New York, 1913. Second Edition. 327 pp. \$1.50 net.

The second edition came within a month of the first and tells its own story as to the demand for this new translation by Dr. Moffatt. He is one of the ablest of modern scholars, an omnivorous reader, and with a wonderfully alert intellect. He had already translated the New Testament for his "Historical New Testament," but we have here an entirely fresh and independent piece of work that challenges attention and excites interest