

Paradoxical Pain. By Robert Maxwell Harbin, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.S., Author of *Health and Happiness*, etc. Boston, 1916, Sherman, French and Company, xiv-|-212 pp. \$1.25 net.

This volume is packed with wisdom founded on wide information. The author, a physician, is a scientist in the physical sphere who has not lost his bearings nor forgotten that the physical is but sphere and atmosphere for the ethical and spiritual. He apprehends that evolution in the physical realm does not at all imply similar evolution in the psychic sphere; and experience shows that this similar evolution is not to be found. The age of great advance in knowledge of things has not added to the wisdom of interpreting things in relation to life. "Knowledge has stuffed us, while we have been starved for wisdom."

It is very important that we learn the true nature and way of happiness. Part of this learning consists in the right interpretation of pain. There are two sorts, pain that promotes good ends and pain which hinders and destroys. The latter alone is evil. The work proceeds, through thirty-three short chapters to discuss various sorts of pain and their uses. The work is one to be studied and the study of which will illuminate the mind, steady the heart troubled over so much of pain in life and summon the soul to seek the highest and noblest ends by means of all the experiences that belong to one's growing life and the growing life of the race. Truly it is a good book.

W. O. CARVER.

Men and World Service. Addresses delivered at the National Missionary Congress, Washington, D. C., April 26-30, 1916. *A Survey of Achievement; A Council of War; A Summons to Advance.* Laymen's Missionary Movement, New York, 1916. v-|-350 pp.

If one wants to know, and to feel, the power of the current awakening of lay interest in the Kingdom of our Lord he will get it best from this volume. If one wants to know the actual facts about the significance of the Laymen's Movement let him read and ponder this volume. If one wants some of the greatest Missionary addresses he will find them here. One finds still here

rather too great a number of ministers, secretaries and, so-to-say professional missionary laymen; and would wish that more sincere, pure, everyday laymen had been called on to speak to us. Thus the Convention and its report would appear less a call to move and more the expression of an actual movement.

The greatest advance of the Kingdom is awaiting a general laymen's movement. Once get that and the conquest of the world is begun in earnest. Every pastor ought to get this volume for himself and get it into the hands of his laymen.

W. O. CARVER.

Christian Certainties of Belief: The Christ, the Bible, Salvation, Immortality. By Julian K. Smyth, Author of "Footprints of the Saviour," "Holy Names," "Religion and Life," "The Heart of the War," etc. New York, The New-Church Press. xi-|-123 pp.

This little volume is an ideal of propaganda for the Swedenborgian Church. It seeks to identify essential Christianity with the fundamental teachings of the "New-church" cult and to defend the common essentials in a day of doubt and questioning. Now that type of apologetic is the best type and this work is well done. While the reviewer cannot accept all that is implied, nor quite all that is said, he can see the merits and value of the method and can praise the skill with which the plan is executed. A discriminating reader can use it advantageously; an unskilled reader may imperceptibly be led into admiration for one-sided views of basal truths.

The Holiness of Paschal. By H. F. Stewart, B.D., Fellow and Dean of St. John's College, Cambridge. The Hulsean Lecture, 1914-15. Cambridge: at the University Press, 1915. 150 pp. 4s. net.

This volume, the Hulsean Lectures, 1914-'15, is a most scholarly discussion of the characteristics, the controversies, the theology and the religion of Blaise Paschal. It is based on careful, painstaking and incisive study of Paschal's Letters, the Thoughts and other writings; and takes account of all the Paschal literature. Extensive, detailed reference notes are made taking the reader back to the sources. Any student of Paschal will find this volume of the highest order.