

IV. SERMONS AND OTHER MESSAGES.

Evangelistic Sermons. By J. W. Porter. Fleming H. Revell Co., 1920. \$1.50 net.

Dr. Porter has been a busy pastor in a large church for years but has been much sought. He is a great orator, an energetic worker and is considered by many to be one of our great preachers. The sixteen sermons which constitute this small volume are selected from the large number of evangelistic sermons preached by the author during his useful ministry. In this volume the old, fundamental gospel themes are dealt with in the usual way. Such themes as "Sin," "Faith," "Repentance," "Heaven," "Hell," "Judgment," etc., are forcefully presented. These sermons are not written sermons in the technical sense. There is more of the "rapid fire" of the preacher than the finish of the scholar. The sermons are largely "topical" where any plan is followed. They are made quite readable by quotations and by illustrations taken largely out of the author's experience. The volume, while not a contribution to sermonic literature, will live and be read because of the earnest presentation of truth in its pages.

F. M. POWELL.

The Man Who Dares and other inspirational messages to young people. By Leon C. Prince. The Abingdon Press, New York and Cincinnati, 1920. 260 pp. \$1.00 net.

An appeal to Young America that originally took form in oral delivery, now put forward in book form with the hope that the messages may win as hospitable a reception from the reading public as originally they received from many audiences here and there composed chiefly of young people. From the first chapter on "The Man Who Dares," dealing with the dominant

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.