

Asia "and ecclesiastically to the Nestorian and Jacobite churches."

The result justifies neither the title nor this introductory limitation of the field; but rather falls between the two conceptions. There is some vagueness about the earlier lectures on this account. Much of the discussion applies to all the "churches," and some to only one or two, and with some changes of the factors involved. In treating Islam, moreover, there is not maintained sufficient clearness of distinction between general facts of the faith, and facts applicable to one or another sect of Islam. Features of some sect are sometimes treated as if characteristics of the whole.

There is wide reading, sympathetic handling, careful reflection manifest in this work and the work is an addition of value to the popular literature of a subject too little familiar to American Christians.

W. O. CARVER.

Japan To-day.

By James A. B. Scherer, Ph.D. Formerly Teacher of English in the Government School at Saga, Japan; Now President of Newberry College, South Carolina; Author of "Four Princes; or the Growth of a Kingdom." With Illustrations. Philadelphia and London. J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1904.

This little volume, 323 pages, is done on good paper, in splendid type, and with twenty-eight full-page illustrations that are well executed. The reading matter is interesting and informing, some of it misinforming. The author constantly seeks to be amusing and quite generally succeeds, but his success is sometimes at the expense of exactness. There is no comprehensive view of "Japan to-day" but rather a lot of sectional snap-shots. These are highly entertaining and if one knows, and remembers, the limits to which these views apply he will learn much. The author quotes freely from other works on Japan, sometimes at considerable length.

Altogether the book is bright and sparkling without being new.

W. O. CARVER.