

has combined the two methods of getting at his subject and then has handled it with personal independence. He has not taken things for granted. Giving discussions of the various topics that will be most interesting and illuminating for the intelligent reader, Dr. Bashford writes as one who knows, citing copiously the authorities for confirmation but always making the impression of independent agreement rather than dependent quoting. China, to be sure, is vastly too big for one man to know it in twelve years, or in a life time, and without any parade of the fact the reader is made to know when the author depends on first class authorities and when he writes out of his own experience.

The eighteen chapters treat of China's place in, and relation to, the world, of its inner life, industrial, commercial, educational, social and religious; of literature and philosophy; of law and politics; especially of the modern revolution in China and of the international and world phases of China's new era.

Japan's position in the East and in the world inevitably comes in for review and while the author thinks somewhat more kindly of Japan than the facts seem to me to justify, his diplomatic method of speech is to be commended and there is no compromise in the matter of Japan's haughty injustice and her disposition to take advantage of the European war to press her own selfish advantage.

There is no more comprehensive and helpful discussion of China in the literature. The book is most welcome. It is not that it is new so much as that it is confirmatory and gives a sort of total view that is very desirable at this time. One often will feel in reading it that one wishes to have many questions answered, but all along one will be getting the main outlines of the movement of the great Chinese people as they swing slowly into a new era in the history of the world, affecting at the same time the history of all the rest of the world.

W. O. CARVER.

Kingdom Preparedness—America's Opportunity to Serve the World. By Bruce Kinney, D.D., Author of "Mormonism." New York, 1916. Fleming H. Revell Company. 159 pp. 75c net.

Dr. Kinney has for many years been an energetic and thoughtful superintendent of home missionary work in the central western section of our country. This volume contains addresses which sum up the results of his study and reflection on God's plan and providence in the making of our country; on the tasks and responsibilities of the Christian forces here, and on the wider world-outlook of America's meaning. There are many references to recent and current events and the perspective of these does not always fully commend itself but the religious principle and application are true and pertinent.

The style is that of popular address with stories and phrasing that sometimes are better suited to that style than to the literary demand of a printed book.

But this earnest, thoughtful dealing with home problems of Christian duty is such as will interest and do much good in the reading of it. The several lectures are on "Providential Preparation for Our Task," "Who Is My Neighbor?," "Is Ours a Christian Nation?," "Home Missions and the Coming of the Kingdom," "Modern Problems in the Unfinished Task," "America's World Obligation."

For the average reader this is a noble volume well calculated to stimulate healthful religious reflection and action.

W. O. CARVER.

The Centennial History of the American Bible Society. By Henry Otis Dwight. New York, 1916. The Macmillan Company. 2 vols. 605 pp. \$2.00 per set.

At the end of a hundred years of blessing and service the American Bible Society, whose centennial was celebrated in May, tells its story through the facile pen of its able and devout secretary, Dr. Dwight. It is an inspiring story told with reverent awe and grateful thanksgiving. The society has helped to place God's word within the minds and hearts of people speaking one hundred and sixty-four different languages; has sent its colporteurs into many lands where they were pioneers and helpers; has given invaluable aid to missionaries and missionary societies; has helped to make the Bible the most popular book in all the world.