

He does not seem to recognize the difference between a *cleavage* in consciousness made by dogma and the ceremonial knife, and the *cleavage* which is the inevitable consequence of realizing that one has fallen short of the divine standard of purity and life. It is therefore a reflection on parental training for children to discover that they are "lost" and in need of a Savior. The child must be taught that he is saved, not that he is lost and may be saved. That we must prevent our children from going far into sin is evidently our duty, but that we should teach them that they are already in the kingdom, already saved even before they believe, is by no means clear. In fact the author is ambiguous at the vital point; that is, the salvation of the child. He rightly says that the child is in a "safe condition," if not in a "saved condition," "he is savable." It is argued that the psychological effect of infant baptism upon parents, and the future of the child justifies the practice of the rite. Some valuable glimpses into human nature are presented and helpful methods of teaching suggested.

Part III is devoted to *The Book*. Dr. Robinson is a thorough-going Christian evolutionist and an adherent of the new criticism which is Higher Criticism somewhat toned down in its conclusions but adhered to in its fundamental principles and general documentary application. As a higher critic he is conservative, constructive and vitalistic. In the closing chapters he is quite practical as he opens the "Gates to the Old Testament," points out the "Roads to the Gospel" and turns "Some Keys" to New Testament revelation. Word studies throw flash lights upon many passages.

B. H. DEMENT.

By-Products of the Rural Sunday School. By J. M. Somerndike, Philadelphia, The Westminster Press, 1914. 169 pp. 60 cts. net.

We already have a comprehensive Sunday School literature but there is room for this informing and well-written volume by Dr. Somerndike.

The by-products of the Sunday School are rich and varied as revealed in the creation of higher ideals for material, social and educational improvement. Such topics as the following are discussed: The Expulsive Power of the Rural Sunday School, Communities Redeemed, How Churches are Developed, Training Workers for the Kingdom, Recruits for the Ministry and Missionary Service, and Social Effects of Sunday School Work.

The book abounds in photographic illustrations which indicate the various types of Sunday School work and the progressive transformations it effects in different communities, especially in the mountains, on the plains and in mining camps.

As a result of the work of one small Sunday School three preachers, two teachers, one lawyer, one doctor, have been sent out to bless the world, while several members of that school are now in college. The Sunday School exalts the standard of life and inspires noble achievement.

B. H. DEMENT.

The Pew and the Pupil. By Robinson P. D. Bennett. Philadelphia, The Westminster Press, 1914. 165 pp. 75 cts. net.

In Part I Dr. Bennett, an efficient Presbyterian pastor, discusses "Bridging the Chasm" or Why? and How? to bring the Sunday school and the church closer together. He shows the importance and method of drawing the pupil to the pew and the pew to the pupil. The church and the pupil alike need a more intimate fellowship.

It is interesting to note that the author refers to three ways of entering the church; by birth, by baptism and by confirmation. Such a position is confusing to one who is accustomed to consider the simple, direct teaching of the New Testament on the subject. Traditions and ecclesiasticism have a strong hold on some people, and Baptists still have a message for the world and a mission in the world.

The second part of the book consists of brief, practical sermons for the junior congregation.

B. H. DEMENT.