

A Manual of Church History.

By A. H. Newman, D.D., LL.D., Professor of Church History in Baylor University. Two volumes. Price, \$1.75 per volume. Vol. I., pages 638. Vol. II., pages 724. Vol. I., 1901. Vol. II., 1903. American Baptist Publication Society. Philadelphia.

All Baptists have a right to be proud of this monumental work of Professor Newman. There is no better church history by anybody. That is a very large statement, but it is true. We have here broad scholarship, grasp of details, sweep of vision and movement, due proportion, and a clear style with marvellous condensation. Dr. Newman has a judicial mind and is fair to the facts and forces in Christian history. There is a wealth of fresh and accurate bibliographical material with each section, and both volumes have excellent indices. Baptist scholars have not done their part in the field of general church history, but Dr. Newman has done a notable part himself. It is an achievement to have a Baptist scholar put the Revolution of Luther's time in proper relation to the preceding history and interpret it in the light of the results. Half of Vol. II. is devoted to this great epoch. The various Anabaptist movements of the continent and of England are properly recognized and satisfactorily treated. In a word every intelligent pastor should have these two volumes in his library. They are not Baptist in tone nor Pædobaptist save as Dr. Newman has to meet Baptist ideas and history. He treats all denominations fairly. The Publication Society has done its work in the usual excellent fashion.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

A Manual of Christian Theology.

By Alvah Hovey, D.D., Professor of Apologetics and General Introduction in the Newton Theological Institution. Second Edition. Silver Burdett & Co. New York, Boston, Chicago.

This admirable manual of theology in its second edition contains as a distinct feature, not included in the

previous edition, an extended section on Christian Service. A smaller work issued some years ago on this subject had already indicated Dr. Hovey's fondness for the theme. He has taken a departure in introducing it into his manual of theology which ought to be adopted by many who write theologies hereafter. Among the topics discussed in this part of the volume, which covers about seventy pages, may be named the following: Christian Service in the Family Life (Ch. I.), in Neighborhood Life (Ch. II.), then follows a long chapter on Church Life, and Chapter IV. is on the Lord's Day, and Chapter V. on the Period of Growth and Service.

We say this is a wise departure in a theological manual. What is more important than the relation of theology to life? Is it not true that a peculiar danger lurks in the habit of introducing students to the subject of doctrinal theology wholly divorced from its practical bearings on life? The mind thus tends to become fixed in the tendency to view them apart. In some institutions courses in Christian ethics are joined to those in theology. This or something after the order of Dr. Hovey's section on Christian Service in theology proper is very necessary.

The many well-known excellencies of Dr. Hovey as writer and theologian reappear in this edition of his manual. Few theologians have equalled him in judicial breadth of mind, combined with self-restraint and humility of spirit. He has succeeded well in stating his positions and by discussions of them in language which is in great measure free from the usual technicalities of books on theology. Among many illustrations of this, attention may be called to his discussion of depravity and the nature of sin (p. 160ff.). Dr. Hovey's view as to the Person of Christ is akin to that of Dorner. As human Christ was capable of growth. The limits of the human intelligence was as essential to the incarnation as the perfection of the divine intelligence. Both ele-

ments, divine and human, were concerned in all he did as mediator. The action of the higher nature was confined within the limits in which the action of the lower could take part. The human faculties of Jesus shared the knowledge of the divine as to all that his Messianic work required at any stage of its earthly progress (p. 239). Dorner's view is that the incarnation was gradually accomplished, the divine being communicated to the human in increasing measure to the end of the earthly career of Jesus.

Dr. Hovey was keenly alive to the urgency of the problems which have been introduced by the onward march of science, and modern philosophy. He faces them in turn as the development of his subject demands. Extreme radicals in theology will not agree with his conclusions but those conclusions rest upon more secure foundations as a result of his long and patient study. Few careers have been more quietly beneficent than those of the late lamented author of this manual of theology. Hundreds of his old students and others will welcome this volume as a substantial addition to the stock of their theological literature.

E. Y. MULLINS.

The Story of the Nazarene in Annotated Paraphrase.

By Noah K. Davis, Ph.D. Fleming H. Revell Co. Chicago. 1903. Price, \$1.75.

This is a book of unusual interest. The theme is, of course, of unending value. The months are few when a new Life of Christ does not come from the press. Most of these find a place and use. The attempt might as well be given up for good to set forth the full story of Jesus of Nazareth in all its historical and theological bearings and implications. The new light that floods us continually makes it more and more impossible. The best that can be hoped for is a faithful presentation of some phase of the great Life. Dr. Davis has undertaken to