

discussion (with statement of the divisions in advance) and a more or less formal conclusion. The strict uniformity is monotonous to an American reader. An American preacher would disregard the form, sometimes at least, for the very sake of variety whether anything else were gained by it or not. As to conformity to homiltical rules these sermons are irreproachable.

But what of their substance? They are generally excellent in spirit; evangelical and spiritual. There is no depth of thought, no great and moving eloquence; but there is religious truth interestingly expressed. Especially in Pastor Wieber the master of a very striking way of putting things. His clearness, freshness and animation of style are suggestive of French influence, though he is by no means lacking in German seriousness. His statement of his divisions is particularly happy.

There is much to commend in these sermons; but yet they confirm the impression that German preaching is not up to the level of German production in other departments of literature.

C. S. GARDNER.

V. MISCELLANEOUS.

Altchristliche Städte und Landschaften. I. Konstantinopel. (324-450). Von D. Dr. Victor Schultze. A. Deichert'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Leipzig, 1913. 292 pages. Mk. 15.

A careful study of the principal cities and regions in which Christianity made its earliest conquests would contribute immensely to our knowledge of ancient Christianity. The volume under review is intended to be the first publication of an undertaking, which, it is to be hoped, will be extended to a great many of the leading Christian cities and regions of the ancient world. The Christianity of some regions is very little known, and everywhere there is much detail which could be brought out greatly to the enlargement of our knowledge. Such investigations as these also give vividness of conception which is very desirable and very difficult to attain from the literary remains only.

Constantinople was, during the period covered, probably the most important of all cities in its influence upon the course of Christian history. It was the first city of the world to have Christian worship exclusively, it was the home of the emperor and the political capital of the world, it was the storm-center of the great Arian controversy, and the platform for some of the greatest preachers of Christian history, notably Chrysostom and Gregory.

The book is divided into two parts. The first deals with the more external features of the history by the imperial reigns beginning with Constantine and extending to Theodosius II who died in 450. The second part deals with the inner life of the church, the state and society, under such heads as the following: The City, the Bishop and the Clerical Circles, the Emperor and the Court, the Social Classes, the Amusements, Education and Culture, Art, and Piety. The work is admirably done, and the volume is very valuable. The century and a quarter covered by the book is a very important period in church history, and in dealing with the church politics of the various emperors the author has necessarily brought under review much that bore on the work of the church throughout the world at that time. The book, therefore, not only illuminates the religious history of Constantinople, but also is an important contribution to universal church history.

W. J. MCGLOTHLIN.

American Ideals, Character and Life. By Hamilton Wright Mabie. New York, 1913, The Macmillan Company. ix+341 pages. \$1.50 net.

This volume brings to us the first lectures in Japan under the arrangement for "exchange of professors," as it is called, between Japan and America. The plan is the same as that with France and Germany and one is continually comparing, as he reads, these with the lectures of Henry Van Dyke in Paris and published under the title "The Spirit of America." These lectures constitute a bright outline history of American life, social, political, literary and artistic. The history is sketched with masterly skill and although dealing with matters familiar