

CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

Continued from page xxx

life in the South prior to and during the Civil War. They are all very feeble, and of little historical value or literary merit.

OUR TIMES: *America Finding Herself.*

By Mark Sullivan.

Charles Scribner's Sons

\$5

9 x 6; 668 pp.

New York

The first volume of this intimate history, "The Turn of the Century," was published rather more than a year ago. Mr. Sullivan devotes the first half of the present volume to a "survey of the average American's stock of ideas, so far as those ideas came to him through his early education." Much space is devoted to the public schools of the 80's, and to the school-books used in them. The author, as in his first volume, has unearthed an immense mass of interesting and amusing material, and it is presented very effectively, with many illustrations. The second half of the book covers the political and social history of the United States between 1900 and 1905—the gaudy Roosevelt era. There is an especially good chapter on the long fight for pure food laws.

RELIGION

THE NEW REFORMATION: *From Physical to Spiritual Realities.*

By Michael Pupin.

Charles Scribner's Sons

\$2.50

8 x 5 3/8; 273 pp.

New York

After a chapter on scientific method and four on the gradual development of the fundamental theories of physics, Dr. Pupin proceeds to argue that "our Christian faith sees in the life and teaching of Christ the highest spiritual reality which our belief in God, the fountainhead of all spiritual realities, planted in the soul of man." What this "highest spiritual reality" may be he does not explain. He is, indeed, somewhat vague about the whole matter, as physicists always are (consider the cases of Millikan, Lodge, Crookes, etc.) when they deal with religious concepts. Dr. Pupin thinks it is improbable that anything "resembling this spiritual world exists also in the consciousness of lower animals," for the reason that "man worships, animals do not."

GOD AND PAIN.

By George Stewart

The George H. Doran Company

\$1.35

7 1/2 x 5; 130 pp.

New York

A vague and somewhat mushy discussion of the problem of evil. The author resorts to poets for his materials, and is apparently unfamiliar with the vast literature on the subject by professional theologians. Nevertheless, it will make a useful book for clergymen in search of matter for reassuring sermons.

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THE RADIANT STORY OF JESUS.

By Alphonse Séché.

The Century Company

\$3.50

8 1/8 x 5 1/2; 381 pp.

New York

M. Séché starts off with the astounding theory (at least to English-speaking persons) that the four Gospels are "redundant" and that reading them is "tiresome." Obviously, he suffers, as a Frenchman, from the fact that there has never been a decent translation of the Bible into French. In English there is no such difficulty: the Authorized Version is one of the glories of the language. Thus M. Séché's laborious effort to put the Four Gospels (with some help from the Apocrypha) into a continuous narrative goes for naught: the original is much better. He attempts no revision of that original, but accepts all its statements as fact. He even puts down unblushingly the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1. The translation into English is by Helen Davenport Gibbons.

THE FORGOTTEN BOOKS OF EDEN.

Edited by Rutherford H. Platt, Jr.

Alpha House

\$2.95

8 3/8 x 5 3/4; 262 pp.

New York

A collection of apocryphal and pseudoevangelical writing, hitherto unobtainable in a single volume at a moderate price. It includes the first and second books of Adam and Eve, the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs, the fourth book of Maccabees, and the Psalms and Odes of Solomon. The last-named, known only in a Syriac text, was discovered so recently as 1909 by J. Rendel Harris, a Cambridge scholar. There is a preface to the volume by Dr. William N. Guthrie, rector of St. Mark's in the Bouwerie, New York.

BIOGRAPHY

PORTRAITS IN COLOR.

By Mary White Ovington.

The Viking Press

\$2

8 x 5 1/2; 241 pp.

New York

Twenty sympathetic sketches of Negro men and women, all of them living. Those dealt with are James Weldon Johnson, Marcus Garvey, Max Yergan, Mordecai W. Johnson, Lucy Laney, Robert Russa Moton, W. E. Burghardt DuBois, Scipio Africanus Jones, Walter White, Robert S. Abbott, Maggie Lena Walker, Eugene Kinckle Jones, Louis Tompkins Wright, Ernest Everett Just, George Washington Carver, Janie Porter Barrett, Langston Hughes, Paul Robeson, Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller, and Roland Hayes. "I have written of no one," says the author, "whom I have not met and seen at work."

ALFRED E. SMITH: *A Critical Study.*

By Henry F. Pringle.

Macy-Masius

\$3

9 x 5 3/8; 402 pp.

New York

This is by no means a campaign biography, but an

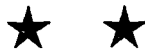
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THE AMERICAN MERCURY

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OUR TIMES



America Finding Herself

by

Mark Sullivan

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