

HISTORY

TWELVE CENTURIES OF ROME.

By G. P. Baker. Dodd, Mead & Company \$4 5 \(^1\)4 x 8 \(^1\)4; 557 pp. New York

Though a complete unit in itself, this is the eighth book in an ambitious series of what is to constitute a literary panorama of the political progress of mankind. Whereas the preceding volumes conceived of the history of the moment as the political biography of the great man of the moment-such as "Charlemagne" and "Hannibal"—here the powers of the individuals have inevitably crystallized into the power of the state. With a remarkable feel for essentials and continuity, Mr. Baker has compressed twelve centuries of Rome into 500 pages, from 735 B.c., when the boundary lines of the city were plowed by Romulus, to 476 A.D., when the city passed into the hands of the Northern kings. The author's treatment of history is popular and sociological, in that it deals with results rather than processes and is interested primarily in the modern significance of past events. In filling in the gaps, which are necessarily many, Mr. Baker performs with fine sympathetic understanding and psychological imagination. You will like the style, vigorous in its bold rapidity, charming in its personal oration. A store of footnotes, sketch maps, chronological tables, diagrams, and portraits enlarged from coins aid the reader. There are a source-guide and an index.

JAPAN IN CRISIS.

By Harry Emerson Wildes. The Macmillan Company \$2 6 x 8\frac{3}{4}; 300 pp. New York

This is a full-length and thorough elucidation of Japan's present political and social difficulties. It is based on Dr. Wildes' first-hand observations in Japan, Manchukuo, Korea, and Formosa, and substantiated and checked by official statistics and interviews with accredited spokesmen. The author clearly illustrates his contention that Japanese assurances and Japanese practices are poles apart, and attempts to probe into the causes that produce these inconsistencies, allowing at the same time full credit to the individual people of Japan in whom he has the utmost confidence. The book is primarily an indictment of political machinery and commercial corruption, both of which existent evils lead Dr. Wildes to the conclusion that more than anything else Japan needs a re-dedication to pure patriotism and a reformation of statecraft. There is an index.

BIOGRAPHY

THE QUEST FOR CORVO.

By A. J. A. Symons. The Macmillan Company \$2.50 6 x 8³/₄; 293 pp. New York

This is a not-altogether-successful experiment in biography. Mr. Symons, having become interested in Frederick Rolfe (self-styled Baron Corvo) through his unusual book "Hadrian the Seventh," has attempted to piece together stray facts about his mysterious career. Corvo died in 1913. His entire life, filled with adventures worthy of Gil Blas, was a tragic comedy in which temperament warred successfully against talent. Original, witty, a brilliant stylist, a man of sound erudition, it was the Baron's destiny to perish in shame, poverty, and exile, due largely to a sexual perversion which was beyond his control. Instead of presenting his material in an orderly manner, Mr. Symons has allowed the reader to accompany him on his quest by setting down his findings as he comes upon them through the means of letters, manuscripts, and interviews with Corvo's friends and relatives. As a result, the Baron is pieced together like a jig-saw puzzle, and is never really brought to life. There is an index.

A TIME TO KEEP.

By Halliday Sutherland.

William Morrow & Company \$3 6 x 8\%; 281 pp. New York

Since the publication several years ago of "The Story of San Michele" it has become quite fashionable for frustrated medical men to write their memoirs. As a result, a substantial body of literature has grown up overnight, most of which-including the present volume-will rot away on the counters of secondhand book stores, unwept, unhonored, and unsung. Dr. Sutherland's career has been less dramatic than the usual run, but certainly not less fantastic, and immeasurably more ridiculous: a vigorous opponent of birth control, his search for truth has led him into the embraces of the Holy Spirit on the grounds that "even the most primitive savages believe in God and a future life." Dr. Sutherland, following the same type of reasoning, is probably also a believer in cannibalism on the grounds that even a good many of the most primitive savages still believe in eating human flesh. Interesting only as a record of what sometimes happens when a Scotchman becomes involved in science.

Continued on page viii

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PARTIAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

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tive organs Processes of conception and

pregnancy Correcting false views on marital conduct.

Special advice to newly-weds

The first union

The most fundamental fact to know about the marital relations

Courting and kissing Avoiding errors of "inno-cence" and ignorance The sterile period

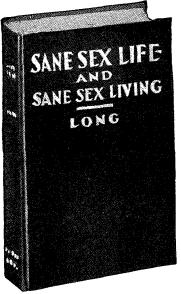
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| will be of great |
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| and happily. It |
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