

gift of being able to place relative values upon things, the gift of proportioning, of properly balancing. The spirit of these essays is sweet and sane, reverent and uplifting. Mr. Mabie advocates "the gospel of a full and rich life, fed from all the divine sources of truth, beauty, and power," and believes in duties nobly met and work thoroughly done. — Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.

In Cairo and Jerusalem.

Miss Mary Thorn Carpenter in her "Eastern Note-Book" has written a delightful and eminently readable guidebook to Cairo and Jerusalem. Avoiding the perpetual temptation of fine writing which besets all writers of travels, she still manages to convey the color and glow of "the gorgeous East." The most interesting chapters are those which describe "A Day with the Copts" and "In a Coptic Cathedral;" here, where Miss Carpenter deals with unfamiliar facts, she shows excellent qualities of observation and discrimination. In no accessible book can be found such interesting details about "the descendants of the faint pictures of fair saints, gilded on the missals of their church," as Miss Carpenter gives. The book is well illustrated. — A. D. F. Randolph & Co. \$1.50.

Studies in Modern Music.

The theory of musical criticism apart from the uncritical standard of "likes and dislikes" has always been a very abstruse subject to the lay mind. Mr. W. H. Hadow in this volume goes as far to elucidate this science for those not versed in musical theory as any writer has done, and yet there are pages after pages in his book which are quite unintelligible to the music lover whose education has stopped short of "thorough base" and "counterpoint." Apart from Mr. Hadow's theory he gives three very interesting studies of modern musicians. The essay on Chopin is excellent, but covering well-known ground is less attractive to the general reader than the sketches of Dvorak and Brahms, whom Mr. Hadow considers to be the direct successor of Bach and Beethoven in scope and in the dignified ideals of his art. — Macmillan & Co. \$2.25.

The Heresy of Cain.

This is a series of twenty-one admirable addresses about practical duties, and especially the bearing of Christianity on the many social problems of our busy modern life, by George Hodges, dean of the Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge. Matters of daily conduct in our relations with others, the relief of poverty, sanitation, and civic duties, are some of the topics discussed vigorously and thoughtfully. High praise is due to the clearness, terseness, and force of the author's language. Much of the book may be heartily commended for lay use in churches temporarily without a pastor as well as for private reading; not all of the statements will please the theologians. — T. Whittaker. \$1.00.

Master and Men.

The first seven beatitudes are here treated, by William Burnet Wright, in an original and interesting manner. Certain startling contrasts between the precepts of the Master and the practice of his nominally Christian followers are first presented. The author then takes up the beati-

A History of Painting.

The object of Mr. John C. Van Dyke's book is to provide a "concise, teachable" history of art "for classroom use in schools and colleges." As such the book is admirable; it is even interesting to the general reader, as Mr. Van Dyke's criticisms on famous painters and paintings are always clearly and tersely stated and are broadly and liberally conceived. The one hundred and ten reproductions of typical paintings from the days of Egypt to Mr. Chase's latest portraits are far beyond the average text-book reproduction and are really artistic. The artists embraced in this compendium represent effectively every art cycle from the beginnings of historic art to the latest French Impressionists, not even forgetting the Boston Art Museum instructors. Yet the book is far more than a mere catalogue of names. — Longmans, Green & Co. \$1.50.

My Study Fire.

The second series of Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie's essays contains some representative faces, worth studying with special reference to the places in literature of the men portrayed, Flaubert, Matthew Arnold, and Petrarch. Mr. Mabie has not many equals in spiritual insight. Few are they to whom it is given to understand and also to interpret. He is optimist enough to make one more in love with life and with humanity. He intensifies that passion for nature, which may be and is among the purest and sweetest, the most solacing and enduring, that man is capable of and conscious of. He is a guide into new realms of thought and beauty. He helps to a better understanding of the world's great writers. His own vision is clear, and he has the

tudes and gives to each a chapter of discussion and a chapter of illustration by way of biography of some man selected to exemplify the quality. These heroes are Moses and St. Paul, Socrates, King Alfred, George Fox, General Gordon, and George MacDonald. The sketches are exceedingly eulogistic, and there is reason for wonder at the distribution of the various qualities which Christ pronounced blessed. Regarded as an attempt to reconcile the contrasts set forth at the beginning, the book is disappointing, yet the many striking and occasionally eloquent passages and the interest of its sketches of character render it entertaining and suggestive.

—Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.