

ticism and theology—not, it must be remembered, the traditions of religion. Professor Huxley often thought that he was contending with religion, when, as a matter of fact, he was contending with systems of theology, which is a very different matter. (Appleton.)

HISTORY

Mr. Archibald R. Colquhoun's "China in Transformation" is a contribution to current history which has immediate interest for all English and American readers. It is a chapter in the new development of the Far East; and in that story of expansion in which nearly all the Great Powers play their part, Mr. Colquhoun writes from the standpoint of an ardent Englishman. But he has gathered his facts with so much intelligence, and they sweep so extensive a territory, that his book must not be classed with those hurried journalistic treatments or situations and conditions which any crisis in political or diplomatic affairs brings to the surface. It is a book for all those who wish to keep themselves informed of the larger movements of their time. (Harper.) In the same class, although a book of more effectiveness and brilliancy of style, must be placed Mr. Benjamin Kidd's "The Control of the Tropics," the substance of which was contained in an article contributed by Mr. Kidd to the columns of *The Outlook* early in the present season. Mr. Kidd is a thorough believer in the development of the tropical countries under the direction and control of the peoples in the temperate zone. (Macmillan.) Dean Worcester's "The Philippine Islands" is the most elaborate and comprehensive work of the kind which has yet appeared; a substantial volume, summing up in an orderly way the results of a thorough study of the Philippines, their geography, topography, and their moral, physical, and commercial characteristics and possibilities. From one point of view it is a tract for the times; from another point of view it belongs with the most serious literature of foreign observation and study. (Macmillan.)

Miss Grace King's "De Soto and His Men in Florida" is a characteristically strong piece of work, well constructed, full of the dramatic spirit, and breathing the very atmosphere of adventure and heroism. Miss King knows the Spanish origins well and lovingly; she is in touch with the old Spanish quality of daring, audacity, and love of achievement; she knows the spirit of Spain at its moment

of greatest exaltation, and that spirit she has transferred out of the old chronicles into this modern narrative, which is all movement, vivacity, and life, with the reality of history behind it and with the deep human interest of a chapter from the book of life, evoked by the skill and the insight of a thorough artist. Miss King's book will be read for its intrinsic interest. It ought to be in the hands of every young American, for it is one of the books which has something to teach American boys and girls, not only of the early history of their own country but also the quality of life which went into the exploration and colonization of the continent. It covers but a single episode in that early history, but the episode presents in miniature the great qualities which made the subjugation of the continent possible. (Macmillan.) Colonel Higginson's "Tales of the Enchanted Islands of the Atlantic" carry the reader behind history into that dreamland of mythology and legend in which the spirit of the race reveals so clearly its hopes, its fears, and its dreams of possible achievement. Colonel Higginson had a rich field, and has taken some charming material from it. (Macmillan.) A local historical study of special interest to New Yorkers is Mrs. J. K. Van Rensselaer's "The Goede Vrouw of Mana-ha-ta," a study of what might be called the mothers of New York—the women of the earliest colonial time, whose descendants have become eminent in the social and political history of Manhattan Island. Mrs. Van Rensselaer has gone to the homes of the early Dutch colonists for the sources of their later history, and, by disclosing the qualities of the women in those homes, has made us understand the characteristics of the metropolis from the earliest to the latest day. Her book is a delightful foot-note to the more elaborate histories of the country. (Scribner.)

Mr. Cy Warman's "The Story of the Railroad," the latest addition to the "Story of the West" series, so successfully edited by Mr. Ripley Hitchcock, follows in point of time "The Story of the Cowboy," and describes the building of the first transcontinental lines of traffic across the Far West. The story has all the interest of a romance, so full of adventure, daring, and sheer human pluck is it; so full also of inventive genius. It is a book which shows how commercial enterprises are in their very nature moral enterprises as well, as involving for their success the higher possibilities of character.

(Appleton.) Readers of "Scribner's Magazine" have followed for months past Senator Lodge's "The Story of the Revolution," which now appears in two substantial volumes, and will undoubtedly be recognized as one of the best popular accounts of the Revolutionary period which has yet appeared. Mr. Lodge is an ardent patriot, whose patriotism has sometimes taken on an aggressive tone not without a touch of provincialism, but this quality does not detract in the least from his work, which will receive fuller attention. (Scribner.)

"The Great Salt Lake Trail," by Colonel Henry Inman and Colonel William F. Cody ("Buffalo Bill"), not only preserves the famous Indian scout's recollections of life and adventure along the route of the Mormon exodus, but tells again in a fresh and truth-loving way some of the most interesting chapters in the history of the marvelous colony in the desert. As compared with most writers on Mormonism the authors' attitude is distinctly sympathetic, and they speak of the blossoming of the wilderness under the efforts of the Mormons as "the product of a faith equal to that which inspired the Crusader to battle to the death for the possession of the Holy Sepulcher." But this sympathetic attitude has perhaps brought the authors nearer to the truth about the Mormons than if a hostile bias had kept them from getting at the better part of the colony. The book, however, is not a book about the Mormons, but a book about border life and frontier enterprise. Colonel Cody's stories of this rapidly disappearing phase of our civilization are told with evident faithfulness and a good deal of spirit. The book is well illustrated, and will be valued by all who care for the picturesque period it depicts. (Macmillan.)

EDUCATION AND DRAMA

President Eliot's volume of essays entitled "Educational Reforms," recently reviewed at length in these columns, and President Gilman's "University Problems in the United States" (Century), represent the ripe experience and professional study of two of the foremost educators which this country has produced; both are important contributions to the literature of education and to the discussion of what is perhaps the most important question now before the American people—the constitution of its educational system and the spirit of its educational life.

That brilliant play "Cyrano de Bergerac"

has now appeared in three separate translations, of none of which it can be said that it perfectly catches the accent and reproduces the quality of the original, because the original is essentially untranslatable; and yet in the case of none of these translations is there any serious misreading of the spirit and vivacity of the play, its wit and poetry. The Doubleday & McClure Company announce that they are paying the author a royalty upon the sales of their translation. The latest translation is that which comes from the hand of Mr. Howard Thayer Kingsbury, and is the one used by Mr. Mansfield in his striking and interesting interpretation of "Cyrano." (Lamson, Wolfe & Co.)

POETRY

No reader who cares for light humor will fail to read Mr. Oliver Herford's "The Bashful Earthquake, and Other Fables and Verses"—a taking book of easy and comfortable rhymes, of somewhat uneven merit, as all humorous rhymes must be, but, on the whole, very successful. Mr. Herford is a born wit, whose *bon mots* are the delight of the New York clubs, and are to be found floating about detached from their author in all parts of the country. (Scribner.)

The season has been singularly unfruitful in volumes of verse, and the few which have appeared have not been significant. Exception must be made, however, to the volumes by Mr. Bliss Carman and Mr. C. G. D. Roberts, already noticed in these columns, and to the new volume by Mr. Richard Watson Gilder with the title "In Palestine, and Other Poems"—a small and characteristic collection of the thoughtful, refined, and ardent verse of one of the most sincere, aspiring, and conscientious of contemporary American poets. (The Century Company.)

RELIGION

Dr. Lyman Abbott's "Life and Letters of Paul the Apostle" substantially reproduces, with some extensions, the series of chapters which appeared in The Outlook last year. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) Professor William James's lecture on "Human Immortality" is very compact both in size and thinking. It is an eminently suggestive discussion of the question whether the function of the brain in its relation to the creation of thought is one of production or of transmission. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

Mr. Granville Ross Pike's book, "The Divine Drama," is an institute of theology,