

other continually, to the detriment of the rules of logic and æsthetics. I also venture to put forth the iconoclastic suggestion that the illustrations be removed. Even if they were good, the taste which incorporated them in a serious work might be impugned, but as they are quite indifferent, there is absolutely no excuse for them, and in their total they do not weigh as much as three or four excellent reproductions of original portraits.

FERDINAND SCHWILL.

*A Cycle of Cathay, or China South and North, with Personal Reminiscences.* By W. A. P. MARTIN, D.D., LL.D. (New York, Chicago, Toronto: The Fleming H. Revell Company. 1896. Pp. 464.)

DR. MARTIN, until recently President of the Tung wen College at Peking, is so well known to all foreigners who have within the last thirty years visited the capital of China, his intimate knowledge of Chinese is so universally acknowledged, and his long acquaintance with most of the statesmen, who have risen to prominence in connection with foreign affairs since the opening of Peking to the western world in 1860, has been such an unique privilege, that his reminiscences of the cycle he has passed in Cathay, contained in the present volume, could not fail to prove of considerable interest.

The first part of this book is taken up with the Doctor's missionary experiences in southern China extending from 1850 to 1858 and is, I fear, of but little interest to the reader of the present day, who has become thoroughly familiar with the experiences of that class of foreigners in China. It is noteworthy that the Protestant missionary in the fifties was, as his successor of the present day still is, much given to losing the guileless young neophytes in the abstruse mazes of Christian theology. Thus Dr. Martin tells us (p. 69) of some of his, probably illiterate, catechists being examined for admission to a church on "the mystery of the hypostatic union of persons in the Trinity"—which in this special case was the more to be deplored as the teacher himself appears to have professed heterodox views on this unfathomable mystery.

The second part of the work is devoted to the Doctor's life in Peking, from 1860 to 1893, during which he was President of the Government College and semi-official legal adviser of the Foreign Office, and contains much of interest on the progress of western studies in China and on the notabilities of the capital. The pages devoted to Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of Maritime Customs, to Prince Kung, to Li Hung-chang and the Marquis Tseng are peculiarly interesting and give, I think, an impartial and fairly correct appreciation of the character and services of these eminent men. It is but just to note, however, that the Doctor is not always impartial in his estimation of men. His criticisms (p. 184) of Mr. W. B. Reed, our first minister to China, on whose staff he served as assistant interpreter, during the negotiation of the treaty

of 1858, are peculiarly harsh, and the writer's asperity is apparently due only to the fact that the minister claimed for himself the honor of the insertion in the treaty of the so-called "toleration clause," which the author thinks belonged to himself and to Dr. S. Wells Williams, the legation interpreter, though he lessens the importance of this clause on another page by stating that it had been inserted in previous treaties and that the Chinese government had therefore already committed itself to the principle it denounced.

A number of chapters of this book are more or less borrowed from or implied by the Doctor's previous works, especially his "Hanlin papers;" in fact, this book, itself a compilation of short papers published in various periodicals, may be considered the principal authority of the writer for many of his most interesting statements, as for example on the Jews of Kai-feng Fu, Chinese education, philosophy and Confucian ethics.

*The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents.* Travels and Explorations of the Jesuit Missionaries in New France, 1610-1791. The Original French, Latin and Italian Texts, with English Translations and Notes. Edited by REUBEN GOLD THWAITES, Secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Vols. I. III., Acadia, 1610-1616. (Cleveland: The Burrows Brothers Company. 1896, 1897. Pp. xiii, 319, 310, 301.)

The edition of the *Relations des Jésuites* published by the province of Quebec in 1858 has now become somewhat scarce. Its three stout octavo volumes contain only the letters inserted in the Cramoisy series (Paris) from 1632 till 1672, with two or three additional ones. It is a fair reproduction of the original text, but without annotation. The O'Callaghan edition, subsequent to the Quebec one, is far superior to it, yet not complete.

The Thwaites edition, now being published, will mark an epoch in the historical literature of North America because of the abundance and value of the documents reproduced and the vast erudition utilized by the editorial staff, the taste displayed by the printer and the careful arrangement. The original French, Latin and Italian texts in which the various letters, narratives, descriptions, etc., were written are given with English translations and notes, making the collection a full record of small as well as great facts connected with the history of the early explorations of Acadia, Canada and all the northern groups of the United States. Mr. Thwaites will cover one hundred and eighty years with his sixty volumes of this rare and valuable literature: rare because it is next to an impossibility to gather all the scattered fragments into one hand, and valuable if you calculate either their high market price or the treasure of knowledge they add to our studies. Mr. Thwaites properly observes that "The story of New France is also, in part, the story of much of New England, and of the states whose shores are washed by the Great Lakes