

makes his point clearly and it is one that Christian people ought to see in this time of criticism and serious testing.

The American Girl and Her Community. By Margaret Slattery. Boston: Pilgrim Press, 1918. Pp. 170. \$1.25.

Miss Slattery knows girls; she speaks with wonderful energy; she writes with force. This is a vital book. The single chapter, "The Girl at Home," is a remarkable combination of accurate observation, keen reflection, and searching conclusion. Any girl reading this will discover new values in the meaning of life; any mother will discern new worth and responsibility in the home life of her daughter. Miss Slattery emphasizes the social claim of the community upon American girls. She sets forth the definite fields for service clearly, concretely, and persuasively. No reader can leave the report of the yearning in the heart of the seventeen-year-old girl, living in the crowded sections of a great city and working in a corset factory, without a kindled heart and a deep desire to give her "more room." It is this tense human feeling in Miss Slattery's book which gives it peculiar value.

Captain Bickel of the Inland Sea. By Charles Kendall Harrington. New York: Revell, 1919. Pp. 301. \$1.75.

Probably no Christian worker in many a generation has been more successful in winning great numbers of people to the Christian life than has Captain Bickel, commander of the famous "Gospel Ship." Dr. Harrington has vividly described the Captain's personality—a combination of intense earnestness, passionate love of common folk, and quiet humor, which gave him almost immediate access into the otherwise closed lives of these Japanese islanders.

This book might well be called a chapter in *The Modern Acts of the Apostles*, for here was a veritable apostle of the strictly Pauline type—divine call, vision of a broad work, and all. It seems as if nothing could have prepared him more thoroughly for his work than just the

stern and varied circumstances which fell to his lot. All the keen intellectual power and physical vigor which he inherited from his parents, all the skill and daring which he learned as a roving sea-captain, and the patience, sympathy, and tact which characterized his earlier work as a missionary and publisher in America, Germany, and England—all this power came into full use in solving the almost insuperable difficulties which faced him in the Inland Sea.

The story of how he overcame Shinto and Buddhist prejudice, how he transformed whole towns and villages, how he won the confidence and friendship of business and professional men, of police officials and statesmen even; how the thousands of island folk watched for the Little White Ship with its American flag and kindly captain as a great event in their lives; how the captain and his wife endured endless suffering and hardship for the sake of the work; and finally how splendidly the conservative island folk rallied to the support of Captain Bickel and his great missions—well, few novels hold the attention better and arouse greater admiration than does this account of an exceptional career. All Japan knows the *Fukuin Maru* (Gospel Ship). Thousands of Japanese mourn the loss of the great American sea-captain. The islanders vow that they will raise up "a thousand Captain Bickels" to emulate his splendid Christian example.

The One Great Society. By Frederick Lynch. New York: Revell, 1918. Pp. 223. \$1.25.

This is an informal and delightful book of personal impressions and recollections. Dr. Lynch has met many of the distinguished men and women of the passing generation. He has reported here with the skill and style of the trained journalist his appreciation of this "one great society." Edward Everett Hale, Andrew M. Fairbairn, George P. Fisher, Booker T. Washington, and Washington Gladden are names that indicate the variety of subjects included in the volume. Dr. Lynch is discriminating in his judgments, as well as kindly. Occasionally he is redundant, as on pp. 26, 27, where he should have condensed more carefully his reference to Brooks's *Perfect Freedom*.