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THE APOSTLES' CREED.

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Aberdeen, Scotland.

I believe in God the Father Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

For the title borne by this document there was early invented a brilliant justification. The twelve apostles, it was believed, after the ascension of their Lord but before any of them had gone forth to evangelize the world, met at Jerusalem and, by a common impulse or inspiration, uttered in succession the twelve articles of which, it was assumed, the Apostles' Creed was composed. Certain of those by whom this report was transmitted from generation to generation went so far as to assign to each apostle the exact words which had issued from his

OUTLINES OF MISSIONARY HISTORY: *By Alfred DeWitt Mason, D. D.*
Lecturer on the History of Missions in Union Missionary Training
Institute, Brooklyn, New York. Price, \$1.50 net. George H. Doran
Company, New York.

The author tells us that "This book has grown out of a necessity;" that "for some years past it has been the annual privilege of the writer to conduct a class of students through a short course in the History of Missions;" that "his endeavor has been to acquaint them sufficiently with the topic to induce a further interest in it without burdening the memory with a mass of dates, names and incidents which might soon be forgotten;" that he could not find a suitable text book; and that "in this book the attempt has been made to so combine a reasonable fulness of detail with some vividness of description and with the personal touch which accompanies a biographical treatment of the topic that not only the student but the general reader may be led to pursue the subject further as time and opportunity may permit."

We have read the book from start to finish with not a little interest. It has many stimulating paragraphs. It has many paragraphs and some sections which could be used with good effect in missionary talks. It deserves a place in the study of many a pastor and stimulator of mission work. There are however, many inaccurately given dates. There are typographical errors. The outline of the developing attitude of the church toward missions can hardly be said to be definitely and adequately given. Other things might be truly said of the book showing defects. Nevertheless it is one of the more helpful of the many books coming out on its general subject. Particularly, in the views of the work which have been going recently in the several greater mission fields, will the busy pastor find bits of information sugarcoated which he can use with good effect upon his people.

THOS. C. JOHNSON.

THE WORLD WORK OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: *By David McConaughy.* Pp., 267. Price, 50 cents. Philadelphia, The Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, 1912.

This book is intended especially for use within the pale of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. It is a proposal course of Mission Study and training for church officers and workers; designed especially for members of church missionary committees, brotherhoods, woman's missionary societies, young people's societies, and councils of religious education within the churches of that denomination.

The work consists of two parts. Part first, sets forth the missionary enterprise of the church; describes the mission of the

church, its agencies for the conduct of missions, and the countries abroad for which it is responsible, the missionary force, funds and administration, methods and achievements. Part second deals with the plan and work of the church missionary committees.

The book contains much matter and many suggestions of great value.

T. C. JOHNSON.

COMING TO THE COMMUNION: *A Manual of Instruction for Preparatory Classes and Private Study.* 79 pages, duodecimo. Price, 10 cents Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, 1912.

The special design of the book is for the use of pastors who may wish to place in the hands of inquirers such information as it contains, or who may desire a handbook for the instruction of classes preparatory to the communion.

The book presents six brief studies, relating to Christian faith and profession, to the Church and the sacraments, and to Christian life and service. Quotations from the Scriptures, the Standards of the Church and their Revised Hymnal have been presented with each study, to be used as illustrative matter or, preferably, memorized. Brief prayers, gathered from various sources have been given with the several studies.

The work strikes us as well adapted to its expressed purpose—sane, helpful, Christian and Presbyterian.

THOS. C. JOHNSON.

THE INTERMEDIATE CATECHISM: Price, 5 cents. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, 1912.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in session at Louisville, Ky., 1912, took action in regard to this catechism as follows:

1. The Assembly approves the Intermediate Catechism prepared by its committee and directs the Board of Publication to print it for distribution.

“2. The Assembly continues the Committee with the request that it receive suggestions and make such revisions as, in its judgment, seems advisable, and report to the Assembly at Atlanta in 1913.

We have read this catechism with considerable care; and have arisen with the conviction that the children we know would, after having committed to heart the Children's Catechism, lose by being put into this Intermediate Catechism, instead of into the Westminster Shorter Catechism. The definitions of the Shorter Catechism at once inform and fortify as these do not. Even where a new and valuable question has been introduced, the answer is imperfectly given. For example, in answer to question 29, “What is our