

Last month Evolution pressed itself upon the notice of the readers of the Talks in connection with Max Müller's Science of Thought ; now it appears in connection with Ethics in Professor Schurman's Ethical Import of Darwinism.⁵ The key to this book is found in the beginning of the sixth chapter, where Professor Schurman says : " As Saul, the son of Kish, was looking for his father's asses when he found a kingdom, so Darwin, the epigon of speculative utilitarianism, was casting about for supports to his more than dubious theory of conscience, when his glance fell upon this vast promising, though yet uncultivated, domain of historical ethics." He maintains that ethics, as a science, is a branch of history, and that a speculative ethic is valueless. He allows that there must be laid in consciousness a foundation for ethics, both discriminating and deontic, but holds that no human being knows *a priori*, what ought to be. Professor Schurman is thus at war with Dr. Calderwood, and, I think, rightly at war. While conceding the evolution of ethical creeds, the author of the Ethical Import of Darwinism does not admit a gradual development of conscience from an obscure bestial beginning, such as the systems of Tylor and Lubbock would require. On the contrary, he shows in his last chapter, which deals with the question of marriage historically, and in which he criticizes the works of MacLennan and Morgan on the family, that in the United States, with all the boasted enlightenment of the present day, society is retrograding in regard to this divine institution. Professor Schurman meets Darwin and his followers at every point, and proves himself an able opponent of the utilitaria . origin of morality. This work is worthy of attentive study, although it is a preparation merely for a new ethical system drawn from history, and not such a system itself.

Dr. Taylor, of Broadway Tabernacle, has delivered another set of lectures to the divinity students of Yale. The lectures are published under the title of the "Scottish Pulpit."⁶ There are seven in all ; the first lecture being historical and introductory ; the second dealing with John Knox as a preacher ; the third, with Melville, Rutherford, Dickson and Livingstone ; the fourth, with Leighton and the field preachers (strange companions !) ; the fifth, with the Moderates and Evangelicals, Blair, representing the former, and the Marrow men the latter ; the sixth, with Chalmers ; and the last with the pulpits of the Dissenting Churches. In this last lecture the Reformed Presbyterian Church is represented by Dr. Symington, the original Secession by Dr. McCrie, the United Seces-

⁵ The Ethical Import of Darwinism, by Jacob Gould Schurman, M.A., D.C.L., &c., Professor in Philosophy in Cornell University : New York, Charles Scribner's Sons : Montreal, W. Drysdale & Co.

⁶ The Scottish Pulpit, from the Reformation to the present day, by Wm. Taylor, D.D., LL.D. : New York, Harper & Brothers : Montreal, W. Drysdale & Co.