

Book Notices.

Savonarola : His Life and Times. By WILLIAM CLARK, M.A., LL.D., Professor of Philosophy at Trinity College, Toronto. Crown 8vo. Pp. 352. Gilt top. Chicago : A. C. McClurg. Toronto : William Briggs. Price \$1.50.

The age in which Savonarola lived was one of the most splendid in the history of European art and literature. Even during the darkness of the Middle Ages the lamp of learning was fanned into a flickering flame in many a lonely monkish cell, and the love of liberty was cherished in the free cities of the Italian peninsula. One of the most conspicuous figures of that period was the brave-souled Savonarola. As one walks the streets of the city of Florence, and especially as one visits the narrow cell at San Marco in which Savonarola wept and watched and prayed, and as one proceeds to the great square where his intrepid spirit ascended in a chariot of flame from the martyr's funeral pyre, one seems brought into living contact with the hero-soul who, four hundred years ago, spoke brave words for God, truth and liberty, and who counted not his life dear unto him for the testimony of Jesus.

The dominant personality of Savonarola and the stirring period in which he lived form the theme of Prof. Clark's noble volume. The learned professor has made this subject his study for years. He has not taken his information at second-hand, and, while availing himself of the many lives which have been written of the hero of his book, he has gone to original sources. He has studied the works of Savonarola himself, and the contemporary and more recent writers who throw light on that important period.

The book is one of absorbing interest. Like some stately tragedy, the great events chronicled move to their sombre crisis with much dramatic vividness of narration. Our

author depicts the stirring events connected with the public life and death of the Monk of San Marco. This volume is a contribution of permanent value to what we may claim as Canadian literature. There are a number of well translated extracts from the vivid writings and sermons of this great preacher who so stirred the heart of Christendom. Not merely to theological students, but to all who would understand the inner life of Florence in the fifteenth century, and one of the great religious movements of the ages, we heartily commend this admirable volume. We would like to quote the touching account of the martyrdom of Savonarola, but the space at our command will not permit.

Lux Mundi: A Series of Studies in the Religion of the Incarnation. Edited by REV. CHAS. GORE, M.A., Principal of Pusey House, Oxford. From the fifth English edition. Crown 8vo. Gilt top. Pp. 441. New York: The United States Book Co. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price \$1.75.

This book is the theological sensation of the day. That it has attracted an extraordinary degree of attention in Great Britain is apparent from the fact that it has reached the fifth edition within a year. It is much more advanced and even revolutionary in its position, than the famous "Essays and Reviews" which in their day attracted so much attention.

The book consists of twelve essays written by eleven clergymen of greater or less prominence of the Church of England. It is characterized by several remarkable features, among which we may mention the frank acceptance of the doctrine of evolution, a liberal concession to the new theology, especially on the subject of inspiration, and, as a consequence, of modern criticism of the