

Periodicals.

The *Critical Review* for July has a great number of very careful notices of the latest books in philosophy and theology, in all their various departments Professor Cheyne's Isaiah receives favourable and appreciative notice from Principal Whitehouse, although the reviewer regards Cheyne's methods as being somewhat subjective. Prof Iverach speaks very favourably of Professor Watson's "Comte, Mill, and Spencer." Among other books reviewed favourably are Briggs's "Messiah of the Gospels," Combe's "Grammaire grecque du Nouveau Testament" evidently a work of great merit, Drummond's "Via, Veritas, Vita," Kidd's "Morality and Religion," already reviewed at length in these columns, and Gladstone's Psalter. An article on Douglas's attempt to prove the unity of Isaiah questions the conclusion, Jones's Philosophy of Lotze is commended, and so is the fourth volume of the translation of Hefele's Councils.

Captain Alfred T. Mahan, since the appearance of his "Sea Power in History," has been declared by European authorities the first among naval tacticians. In the August *Century* he draws some "Lessons from the Yalu Fight," based upon an account of the battle appearing in the same number and written by Commander McGiffin of the *Chen Yuen*. Captain Mahan's conclusions bear upon problems that confront the constructors of ironclads for every maritime power. While recognizing the value of heavy guns for attack upon the motive power of the adversary, Captain Mahan says that the rapid-fire gun of moderate calibre has established its position as the greatest offensive power in naval warfare. He also favours the view that a given amount of tonnage in one or two, or in a few big ships, possesses a decided advantage over the same, or even a greater amount, divided among several. Captain Mahan says that the battle proved that armour is actually a far better protection to vessels than is indicated by trials of the testing-ground, where, for purposes of extreme proof, all the off-chances are given to the gun.

The August *Atlantic Monthly* contains several articles which are of great interest. One of the best contributions is by Jacob D. Cox on "How Judge Hoar Ceased to be Attorney-General." Mr. Cox was a member of Grant's Cabinet with Judge Hoar, and this paper is an important chapter in American recent political history. Percival Lowell, in his fourth paper on Mars, tries to answer the questions, Is Mars inhabited, and, if so, by what kind of people? The second of Mr. Peabody's papers is on French and English Churches. A Poet's Yorkshire Haunts will delight every friend and reader of J. Russell Lowell, as in it will be found descriptions of the regions the poet loved. Among other features are "The Political and Professional Life of a French Macon," by J. M. Ludlow; "A Talk over Autographs, Fourth Paper," by George Birkbeck Hill; "President Polk's Diary," by James Schouler; "The Wrongs of the Juryman," by Harvey N. Shepard; and "The New Art Criticism," by Mary Logan. Fiction is well represented by two instalments of powerful serials, and a delightful anonymous sketch entitled "A Woman's Luncheon." Poems, exhaustive book reviews, "Comment on New Books," and the "Contributors' Club" complete the issue.

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