

Book Notices.

Current Religious Perils, with Preludes; and Other Addresses on Leading Reforms, and a Symposium on Vital and Progressive Orthodoxy. By JOSEPH COOK. 8vo. Pp. 435. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$2.

This is in every respect the most noteworthy volume of the Boston Monday Lectures. It is about one-half larger than the previous volumes, and much of it is printed in briefer type, and the subjects it discusses are of paramount importance. The lectures and preludes are upon the following topics:—Waste of Opportunity the Chief Peril of the Church; Modern Novel Opportunity in Philosophy; in Theology; in Ethical Science; in the Spiritual Life; in Comparative Religion; in Christian Union; in New Political Outgrowths of Christianity; Leaders or Misleaders in High Places; Lord's Day Lawlessness; the Indian as a Political Cripple (with a brief Address by Bright Eyes); National Perils from Illiteracy; Creed and Deed among Church-Members; Henry Ward Beecher as Preacher and Reformer; Men, Money, and Motive in Missions; Perjury and Disloyalty among Mormons. There is also a series of supplementary addresses by Mr. Cook on Scriptural and Speculative Standards of Orthodoxy; Arbitration as a Remedy for War; the Future of Cities and of the Liquor Traffic; Slavery and the Saloon in Politics; Promises and Perils of the Temperance Reform; the Death of Wendell Phillips; John B. Gough as Orator and Reformer; as well as the following:—High-Caste Widows, an Address by the Pundita Ramabai; Woman in New Japan, from the Rev. C. S. Eby, of Tokio; Prohibition in Canada, by J. Macdonald Oxley, of Ottawa. The symposium represents the opinions of over a score of the foremost ministers of the United States and others.

We find no lectures so well repay careful reading as those of Joseph Cook. We have just finished reading his brilliant lectures on the Occident and Orient, and we do not know any two books packed so full of striking thoughts expressed with such epigrammatic force. The themes of the present volume are of even greater practical importance, and will be a most valuable addition to any pastor's or layman's library.

Man a Revolution of God. By the Rev. G. E. ACKERMAN, A.M., M.D., D.D. 8vo, pp. 396. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.50.

This is no hasty production. It is, the author tells us, the result of nine long years of study and preparation. It is written with the earnest desire to help the honest doubter over his difficulties—that the young, especially, may be helped off, or rather *kept* off, the shoals of unbelief. The author treats man first in his physical aspects, and finds in his physical relations a stamp of the Divine. He examines the different scientific theories of his origin and antiquity—as spontaneous generation, evolution, natural selection, etc., and shows the correspondence of the highest science and the revelation of Scripture. He examines next man's physical structure, and many of its special adaptations, and shows the teleontological argument based thereon. He next examines human speech, the origin of languages and of words, with their moral significance, and deduces therefrom an additional illustration of the Divine. Man's mental characteristics, and his will and moral nature, then pass under review, the evidence of his Divine origin becoming more cogent with every step. Finally, his intellectual and moral achievements, his sublime religious aspirations, and his spiritual regeneration and adoption into the household of God, are