

(1) THE series of articles commenced by Archdeacon Farrar upon Prophecy, and evidently intended for future publication in some work upon the Minor Prophets, is sure to attract considerable attention. The aim of the first paper is to correct what the writer calls "The Vulgar and Traditional Notions about Prophecy," and to practically eliminate the supernatural element (as the idea is usually understood) from the Old Testament prophecies, as the following specimens will show:—"The burdens' or 'oracles' of the prophets on heathen nations, and the denunciation of their own countrymen, are based, not on any definite vision of the future, but on the unchangeable verities of the Divine government. They were always fulfilled in the spirit, is the general idea, because they were based on moral certainties; but in the letter, and in minor details, they are often falsified." "Inspiration is neither infallibility . . . nor abnormal miracle . . . ; it is the inmost harmony of the spirit of man with the Spirit of God within the sphere of human limitations."

IN the *Morality of Nations* (2) Mr. Hugh Taylor applies the doctrine of evolution to the theory of ethics. He says it is "from studying actual phenomena that the sociologist sees the failure alike of theory and religion to affect (*sic*) any change in the general course of the world's movement, and is hence led to infer the operation of other causes than the hope of heaven, conformity to a moral law, or the reasoned and conscious pursuit of happiness itself." These are the principles Mr. Taylor strives to prove in his work, but although there is some acute reasoning, a good breadth of thought, and a considerable amount of learning noticeable in the work, we cannot say that he is successful. The work is constructed more on popular than scientific lines; and yet is too scientific to be popular, and far too vague to be convincing.

THE *Flashes from the Welsh Pulpit* (3) are neither very bright nor far reaching, they consist mainly of illustrations which show no great amount of wit, learning, or research. The introduction gives a fair *résumé* of the theological aspect of Wales, and there is an interesting account of a sermon by John Jones, of Talysarn, which gives the idea that manner is more powerful than matter in respect of Welsh preaching.

(1) *The Homiletic Magazine*. March Number. James Nisbet & Co.

(2) *Morality of Nations*. Hugh Taylor. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. 1888.

(3) *Flashes from the Welsh Pulpit*. Edited by Rev. J. Gwynoro Davies, with an introductory paper by Rev. T. C. Edwards, D.D. Hodder & Stoughton. 1889.