

In London, to which Adam Smith paid repeated and prolonged visits, he had many attached friends, some of whom also visited him in Scotland. He was specially intimate with Sir Joshua Reynolds, Gibbon, and Burke. Samuel Johnson, with whom Smith had a quarrel—a solitary case so far as Smith is reported—but with whom he was later on amicable terms; Boswell, who had, during his student days, in Glasgow, been a pupil of Smith's; Pitt, then young and just rising into fame; Shelburne "of the sleek countenance and the beadyeye;" Sir Gilbert Elliot and Windham who, along with Burke, were among the managers of the impeachment of Warren Hastings; the Franklins, father and son; Bentham, then a young man eager for disputation; Samuel Rogers, the banker and poet; David Garrick, the actor. These were among Adam Smith's friends and acquaintances in London; a group sufficiently distinguished and sufficiently diversified to show the catholicity of Smith's temper and the versatility of his mind. In France and Switzerland, in which Adam Smith spent about three years, from 1767-70, he met most of the distinguished men and women. He saw much of the great Turgot, then Intendant of Limoges; met the Duc de Richelieu; visited Voltaire at Ferney; knew the group then known as the *Economistes*, and frequently joined in their discussions in the rooms of Dr. Quesnay, the King's physician. There he met Guernay, Morellet, Dupont de Nemours, Mercier de la Rivière, and the other members great and small of that famous group. At Paris also Smith frequented the "Café de l'Europe," otherwise the hospitable house of the Baron d'Holbach, who entertained everybody of note who passed through Paris. He frequented also the house of Helvétius and the salons of Madame Riccoboni, the novelist, of the witty Madame Boufflers-Romié, and of Mdlle de l'Espinasse. He knew Mirabeau, the Elder, the Friend of Man, the Neckers, d'Alembert; indeed most of the men and women who by action or reaction laid the train that made the Revolution.

Adam Smith is described as having shy but agreeable manners, as speaking bad French, as playing whist indifferently, as conversing in a rather professorial tone, as having no capacity to discriminate character, as having, in beginning a lecture, an awkward and stumbling delivery but as warming into eloquence as he became possessed by his subject. To these human traits he added some humane ones: he was unostentatiously benevolent, and he was habitually charitable in his judgments.

Mr. Rae's life reveals all these things and a great many more. It is moreover filled with good stories about Smith and his friends. The great merit of the book is that it is packed with material; there is no mere wordspinning. The one defect is that there are in places indications of rather careless writing. As regards Smith's indebtedness to others, Mr. Rae shows fairly conclusively that the men to whom Smith was most indebted was Francis Hutcheson, professor of moral philosophy at Glasgow, while Smith was a student there, and a vigorous promulgator of the doctrine of individual liberty which Smith afterwards made his own. The life is undoubtedly the most entertaining biography of the season.

JAMES MAYOR.

### Darwin and After Darwin.\*

THE poor public may be excused if sometimes it has found it difficult to make out exactly what Charles Darwin attempted and accomplished. Darwin complained that even the experts, Hooker and Jyell, misunderstood him. Herbert Spencer is only this month complaining that Lord Salisbury—himself a chemist of no mean attainments—has aided popular misapprehension in his recent famous utterance on Christianity and evolution. Finally, Mr. Romanes finds that Mr. Wallace—the co-discoverer with Darwin of "Natural Selection"—and other leading biologists are doing Darwin gross injustice by employing his name to cover their one-sided following of his teaching.

The aim of the present treatise is therefore two-fold: (1) to make clear that Darwinism (as opposed to the ultra-Darwinism of Wallace and Weismann) maintains that "natural selection" has been the main, but not the exclusive means of modification; (2) to examine the evidence for and

against Weismann's theory of *Heredity* and Wallace's doctrine that the principle of *Utility* must necessarily be of universal application where the modification of species is concerned.

If these two last doctrines can be maintained then "acquired characters" are not transmitted and the Neo-Lamarckians must give up their doctrine that the "effects of use and disuse are inheritable." In this case pure Darwinism (as Wallace, etc., persist in mis-calling it) triumphs, Natural Selection reigns alone, and Darwin is shown to have been wrong in ascribing anything, as far as regards the modification of *species*, to the Lamarckian factors.

In favour of Darwin's position and in opposition to his later and one-sided followers, Romanes stoutly maintains that the evidence is in favour of Darwin's wider teaching, which stands as a mean between the Ultra-Darwinism of Europe and the antithetic school of Neo-Lamarckians in America. Commonsense as well as evidence seems to be in favour of this view, which also has the support of other great names. The introductory chapter is very interesting; the body of the book, though of course technical, is also interesting, as indeed is everything than Romanes handles. This volume has a good portrait of Romanes and is in every way well got up. It is only about half the price of the English edition.

### Letters to the Editor.

#### THE COPYRIGHT ACT AND CANADIAN AUTHORS.

The following letter has been addressed by Mr. W. D. Lighthall to the Minister of Justice:—

MONTREAL, Nov. 27th, 1895.

HON. SIR HIBBERT TUPPER,  
Minister of Justice,  
Ottawa.

DEAR SIR,—In connection with the proposed Copyright Act, I desire, as a Canadian author, having publication relations with English and American publishers, to say a word from the point of view of those situated like myself.

We have hitherto been silent, or almost so, in the discussion between the Canadian publishers and the other parties, chiefly, I think it will be found, because we do not wish to embarrass a Canadian interest.

The two salient points, however, in which we should be remembered are, in my opinion, first, that the number of authors having more or less of such relations, some of them quite important, is much larger than is generally supposed, and their interests are increasing rapidly; second, the chief point which would touch them would be any exclusion or hampering of their publication rights in Britain or the United States.

Should the present or any other Act produce that result it would cause wrong and a persistent outcry. Insofar as it does not have that result we are not materially interested, though pretty unanimously desirous of fair play all round.

Yours truly,  
W. D. LIGHTHALL.

#### THE HYAMS CASE.

SIR,—The letter signed "Fairplay Radical," in your issue of 22nd inst., seems to me to require some reply. This reply may, perhaps, in some ways be more effectively given by a layman than by a lawyer. From the point of view of "Fairplay Radical" it would appear that law and commonsense are mutually exclusive. A reply by a lawyer might therefore naturally be regarded as debarred by the nature of the case. Your correspondent proposes to prove four things:—1st. That the exclusion by Mr. Justice Street and by Mr. Justice Ferguson of evidence regarding an alleged attempt to insure for a large sum the life of the wife of one of the defendants was an error. 2nd. That "in time past, great judges have disregarded precedents which handicapped justice, and have made new and common-sense law." 3rd. "The wisdom of underpaying the judges of our superior courts which presents our getting the best men." 4th. "The necessity of having jurymen of greater intelligence in difficult cases." I prefer to take these topics in inverse order.

4th. There is much to be said, no doubt, by way of criticism of the jury system; but it would surely be a libel on Canadian jurymen to say that they are less intelligent than any other. Jurymen are not supposed to

\* "Darwin and After Darwin: A Discussion of Post-Darwinian Questions." Part II. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Company.