

Book Notices.

Darwinism: An Exposition of the Theory of Natural Selection, with some of its Applications. By ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE, LL.D., F.L.S., etc., with Map and Illustrations. Cr. 8vo, pp. xvi-494. London & New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.75.

To Dr. Wallace as much as to any man is due the credit of discovering and working out the laws of natural selection, which have wrought such a change in the whole circle of the sciences in recent years. Yet of this we find no mention in this volume in which he expounds and elucidates with admirable skill the doctrine of development as taught by Darwin. He employs a strictly scientific method. It is, we think, impossible to candidly examine the evidence without accepting the conclusions as to the origin of species, at least of many species, by modification through environment, or by "concurrent adaptation," to use the happy phrase of Dr. Dallinger. Dr. Wallace deals frankly with difficulties, and gives almost innumerable illustrations from his vast acquaintance with nature corroborative of his conclusions. The book is one of fascinating interest. The chapters on the struggle for existence; the vindication of the ethics of this struggle on the principle of the greatest happiness of the greatest number; the chapters on the origin and uses of colouring and mimicry in plants and animals; the problems of variation and heredity are exceedingly instructive. Dr. Wallace differs widely from Darwin in his theory of the moral development of man. His is a distinctly theistic evolution. He recognizes at least three stages in the development of the organic world, when some new cause or power must necessarily have come into action. The first is the change from inorganic to organic—the impartation of that mysterious thing called

"life." The second, still more marvellous and still more completely beyond all possibility of explanation by matter, its laws and forces, is the introduction of sensation or consciousness. The third is the existence in man of his spiritual nature, the love of truth, the delight in beauty, the passion for justice, the thrill of exultation with which we hear of any act of courageous self-sacrifice—these, says Mr. Wallace, are the workings within us of a higher nature which has not been developed by means of the struggle for material existence. For the origin of these intellectual and moral faculties we can find only an adequate cause in the unseen universe of Spirit.

The outcome of this book, written in the purest scientific spirit, is, that behind every secondary cause sits God, the great First Cause of all things. If the undevout astronomer is mad, no less is the undevout biologist. Sir William Herschell was unable to account for the law of gravitation except as the constant exercise of the Divine Will. So the wondrous working of the laws of life are but the expression of the immanence of God—His omniscience and omnipotence and omnipresence throughout the universe which He has made.

Florida Days. By MARGARET DELAND, Author of "John Ward, Preacher," etc., illustrated by LOUIS K. HARLOW. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Cloth, full gilt. Price \$4.00.

This book comes to us fragrant with the breath of the South, and its exquisite coloured plates glow with the golden light of the land of the palmetto and orange. Mrs. Ward is known to fame as the author of one of the most successful of theological novels, recently reviewed in these pages. In this elegant volume she writes with the intense apprecia-