

and "to resurrect," but what are we to say when we find among the list that most happy expression "to belittle," and that indispensable term "shortage"?

On several occasions the Archbishop shows signs of professional prejudice. He falls foul of the Renaissance as a return from Christian to Pagan Art. Although he has Mr. Ruskin for an ally in this, we must enter our protest against his canon of criticism. Art is a world by itself, Christianity, Paganism, are accidents to it, and are not in any way essential to its well-being. It exists in a different sphere altogether from religion, and its re-birth is happily so termed from the fact that under the leading of the great Italian master-minds the recently discovered Greek statues, and the human form itself, then first became the models of excellence and the exemplars of study instead of the angular impossibilities of the early Christian Schools of Sculpture. Naturally enough, Modern Science also comes in for a rap over the knuckles. Sometimes (as at page fifty-one of English, Past and Present) Darwinism is dismissed with a phrase, barely covering the sneer that is too plainly intended. We are told that, in the case of words at least, the rule as to the "survival of the fittest" does not always obtain. An interesting lecture might be written on this text, showing how persistently a wrong meaning is forced upon a scientific theory, on account of the want of precision in the catch-word by which that hypothesis is generally known to the vulgar. Every orthodox opposer of the doctrine of development is prepared to prove that throughout the realm of nature, whether we look at men, emotions, morals, or words, the absolutely fittest does *not* survive, but on the contrary a lower type often supplants the higher. This achieved, there is a flourish of trumpets over the defeated hypothesis. It is however a hollow triumph, a triumph of words and not of facts. The position which was intended to be assailed remains intact, for it does not rest upon the survival of the absolutely fittest, but of the form which is fittest in relation to its surrounding circumstances. It is abundantly plain that in many

cases the lower type of man or of word will be best fitted to survive and will survive accordingly. Given a convict settlement, with Shakespeare and the slang dictionary for its sole literary pabulum, and one can prophesy very easily whether the poet's or the pick-pockets' phrases will have succumbed in the struggle for existence after a few years; and which parts of the dramatist will have contributed a few words to the rogue's vocabulary. Hamlet's language may be the noblest and fittest for men and angels, but a few low words out of Pericles, or a curse or two from the lips of Caliban, will have approved themselves as fittest for a community very far removed from being angels or even men.

It will be readily understood then, that Trench dismisses the "urang-utang" theory of man's development as incapable of satisfactorily explaining the growth of language. It could hardly have been expected that he would have done otherwise, but none the less may we venture to predict that no complete hypothesis will ever be framed that will explain everything so thoroughly as that which supposes the slow and natural growth of man's body, mind, moral qualities, emotions and language from a creature, low it may be in its actual attainments and functions, but mysteriously great in its God-given capacities for improvement and progress.

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THE TEACHER. By J. R. Blakiston, M.A., one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. Macmillan & Co., London.

PRACTICAL HAND-BOOK OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND TEACHING. By F. E. Harding, M. C. P. Thomas Laurie, Edinburgh.

HUGHES' HAND-BOOK OF EXAMINATION QUESTIONS in Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar and Analysis. Hughes & Co., London.

It is not necessary for Mr. Blakiston to inform us, as he does in his preface, that his manual is the result of twenty-five years' experience in educational work; every page attests extended practical acquaintance with the work carried on in elementary schools by an active, searching, and unbiassed mind,