

BOOK NOTICES.

WOMAN: HER MISSION AND LIFE. By Adolphe Monod, D.D., late Minister of Paris, France. New York: Sheldon, Blakeman & Co.

Dr. Adolphe Monod was one of the most eloquent and earnest preachers in France. His work on *Woman, her Mission and Life*, has been translated, with a Biographical sketch of the author. It is a very interesting, instructive, and suggestive volume. No female can read it, we presume, without being refreshed and stimulated, and led to feel the importance of her position, and the true nobility of her nature. If Dr. Monod does not believe in woman's superiority to man, neither has he any faith in her inferiority. In speaking of the *place* which God has assigned her, he says: "It is not an inferior place. Woman is not only a helper for man, but a helper like to himself. She ought then to march along as his equal, and it is only in this condition that she can bring to him the assistance which he requires." Page 20. Without woman, even Paradise would have been to Adam a desert, and life but a solitude. Again he says: "And do not her intellectual powers hold her equally distinct? It is sometimes asked whether they are equal to those of man. They are neither equal nor unequal; they are different, having been wisely adapted to a different end. For the work reserved to man, woman has faculties inferior to those of man, or rather she is not adapted to it. I speak here of the rule, not of the exceptions." Page 26. Christianity has always been the best friend of woman; it has done much more to elevate and bless her than all the means of improvement put together. To use the language of Monod, when it has "restored" her "to God, to man, to herself, so worthy in her submission, so noble in her humility, so strong in her gentleness, gathering all the gifts she has received to concentrate them to the service of humanity, with an ardor which we hardly know how to exhibit except in passion, she obliges us to confess that she who effaced our primitive holiness is also she who now offers of it on this apostate earth the brightest image." Page 41. Woman, in whatever position she is placed by Providence, whether her sphere be high or low, can, if she will, fill it with honour to herself and advantage to others. She can be faithful and useful in her mission. Many are apt to say, "if I had the time, or the talents, or the wealth of Mrs. So-and-So, I would be more faithful than she is." But this is not the case, for if we fail to fill with propriety and honour the station which we occupy, we may depend upon it there is a strong probability, if not an absolute certainty, that we would be unfaithful in any other