

The first number of the *Periodical Press Index* (3), dated May 15, 1889, is before us, and it seems to us to supply what many must have often felt the want of. In these days, when magazines and periodicals of all sorts are pouring from the press, both at home and abroad, and when much learning and vast stores of information are published in this form rather than in ponderous treatises, it is of very great use to be able to find the locality of articles on various subjects, and this the *Periodical Press Index* enables any one to do with the utmost possible ease. It is called a monthly record of leading subjects in current literature, but the present number embraces a vast range of subjects, from railroads in Columbia to hunters' sires; life insurance, hay fever, ornamental designs for initial letters; Christian ethics, Buddhism, Mohammedanism, Mysticism, Nature Worship; and indeed it is difficult to say what cannot be found by its means. The Index is given in two forms—(1) A Subject Index mainly on the lines of Mr. W. E. Sonnenschein's *Best Books*; and (2) A leading Key-word Index, the value of which is enhanced by references to the principal divisions and sub-divisions of the Subject Index. And as it is foreseen that a monthly index would in course of time become irksome of reference, arrangements are made to supplement the monthly parts by an additional yearly volume, on a plan which will obviate reference to each part month by month. Considering the amount of research and the great care required in printing, the price is very moderate.

The Church and Scepticism (4) is a pamphlet replying to a paper read at the Pan-Presbyterian Council, July 5, 1888, by Dr. Marcus Dods. The author stoutly and with a good deal of learning maintains the older view of the Inspiration of the Scriptures; and he says that "the unbelief of the modern pulpit has not a little to do with the unbelief of the pew, and the scepticism of the press and the platform with that of the outside world. Not only some scientists, but even some preachers of Christianity and popular writers of the day, live in a murky atmosphere of doubt, and breathe a spirit of unbelief, which like the simoom of the desert poisons all on whom it blows. There are doubts at the very bases of their soul, head-doubts, heart-doubts, doubts at their fingers' ends, and at every pore and portal of their being. . . . They falsely assume that the life can be really right when the head and heart are wrong. They are morally wrong in teaching that a good moral life, without a right head or a right heart, is sufficient. And they are logically absurd in drawing a positive conclusion from the conditional premiss."

(3) *The Periodical Press Index*. Monthly. Price 13s. per annum, post free. London: Trübner & Co.

(4) *The Church and Scepticism*. By the Rev. James Scott, D.D., LL.D. Edinburgh: James Gemmell. 1889.