

sung it "The Jewel Song," from "Faust." Her third song "Mia Picirella," a beautiful Italian ballad by Gomez, fairly captivated everyone, and a soufelt portrayal of the Scotch ballad, "Robin Adair," brought still another encore, this time the fair cantatrice's national song, "Souvenir de ma Jeunesse," the audience not being contented until the singer again acknowledged their enthusiastic plaudits with a heartfelt rendering of "Home, Sweet Home." De Pachmann, who is perhaps the most thorough exponent of Chopin's music yet heard in Toronto, delighted his audience with his facile execution and easy, graceful technique, his scale passages, runs and trills being the perfection of pianism. In the Schumann numbers this great pianist was almost equally successful, giving every evidence of that depth of feeling so necessary to a proper conception of the great composer's gigantic compositions, and for which he was vociferously applauded. Mr. Ernest Willett, who has just completed his studies abroad, and is a native of Chambly, Quebec, made his first bow in Toronto. His violin playing lacks the *verve* and finish of a great violinist, yet his infliction of loss of sight being allowed for, his playing gave pleasure by his facile bowing and technique. Messrs. Suckling and Sons are again to be congratulated for promoting the highest interests of the musical art in Toronto.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

SERMONS: By Canon Reiner. London: Swan Sonnenschein; Toronto: Rowsell and Hutchison. 1892.

The author of this pretty volume, we understand, is Anglican Rector of Barrie in this Province; and he has given us a volume of excellent, brief, terse discourses, with which we may assume that he has already edified his congregation. It is an excellent thing for the Christian pastor thus to put into the hands of his people a permanent record and memorial of his teaching; and Canon Reiner's thoughts are quite worth being preserved in this manner. The sermons do not seem to be selected on any particular plan, but the subjects are of wide interest. They are "Calvary," "The Holy Spirit," "Rest," "Things Not Seen," "Why Sleep Ye?" "Charity," "The Body the Soul's Scaffolding," "Forsaking of Sin," "Love not the World," and "Ploughing."

ON EVOLUTION, ALSO COMMON SENSE VERSUS CRITICISM. Two lectures. By John Dignum (Warrington, England). Toronto: Williamson and Company.

Doubtless some people know who John Dignum is. Turning his neuter appellation into a nominative, he is *dignus honore* for looking at his themes in a common sense light. He does not deny the possibility of a process of evolution under Providence, but presents very fairly the arguments of Sir William Dawson, the late Professor Nicholson and other Christian scientists, against the theory of spontaneous evolution and generation. Similarly, he calls the advocates of the so-called Higher Criticism—such as Ewald, Kuenen, Knobel, Wellhausen in Germany and Holland, and Cheyne, Driver, Gore and Robertson Smith in Britain—to the bar of history and common honesty. The world is getting a little tired of the specialists' "You don't know anything about it" argument. Once the theologians had that all to themselves, and abused it. It will not do them any harm to have the neologians retorting, and putting them on their mettle to reply. John Dignum writes temperately, and the Canadian edition of his lectures is a tasteful production.

THE POT OF GOLD. By Mary E. Wilkins. Illustrated. Boston: D. Lothrop Company. Price, \$1.50.

Wide renown Miss Wilkins has already gained for herself through her realistic stories of New England life, and it is safe to predict she will add to it through this, her first book written expressly for children. A delightful originality pervades the whole volume. Children cannot fail to appreciate and revel in the mine of imaginative wealth opened to them in these choice tales. In the fairy stories, and in those which are not fairy stories, pictures from the broad field of human life are most skilfully drawn. Behind all the fun and merriment, the authoress veils serious truths, which, at the end of the narratives, leaves the reader athinking. The cold adventures of Dame Penny's poor little scholars will set the teeth of the little ones chattering sympathetically. And what imaginative child would not be delighted at the origin of pumpkin pies and Christmas presents, as set forth in the stories of "The Pumpkin Giants" and "The Christmas Monks"? By the vividly pictured troubles of the little hero of "A Plain Case" we cannot help thinking he was drawn from real life. The final narratives are of child-life in the old New England days. The book is well illustrated by W. L. Taylor, Childe Hassam, Barnes, Bridgeman and other artists, and in its binding of robin's-egg blue with an embossed gold and silver design, this volume, with its clear type and good paper, is, in truth, a triumph of the book-binder's art.

CATALOGUE OF PREHISTORIC WORKS EAST OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS. By Professor Cyrus Thomas. Washington: Government Printing Office. Pp. 246, 8vo, 17 plates.

This illustrated book is issued by the Bureau of Ethnology attached to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, and its author is one who knows more, from personal

observation, of the mounds and earthworks of North America than any other who has appeared before the public. Since the time of Lewis and Clark, materials for a full catalogue of such ancient works have been accumulating, chiefly in the archives of the Smithsonian Institution, inasmuch as almost every student of prehistoric remains in the United States has been in the habit of sending an account of his discovery to Washington. Of late years, however, the Bureau has made a systematic survey of such remains. For the United States, Professor Thomas' work is admirably done; but, unhappily, he is far behind the age in regard to Canada. Of the magnificent work performed by Dr. David Boyle and his able coadjutors of the Canadian Institute for the Province of Ontario, Professor Thomas knows nothing, although the Annual Reports must be in the Smithsonian library. Neither is he familiar with the labours of the Rev. Dr. Bryce and his colleagues of the Manitoba Historical and Scientific Society in that western province, the prehistoric remains of which I believe to be older than any in the United States, inasmuch as one great mound-builder wave entered the famous effigy region of Wisconsin from the north-west, some time in the eighth century A.D. To condemn the Catalogue, because of its omissions regarding Canada, would be unjust in the extreme, since they are largely the result of our apathy in matters archaeological in the past. It is time, however, that the Smithsonian Institute should know of the good work being done in two provinces of our Dominion.

THE EVOLUTION OF LIFE, OR CAUSES OF CHANGE IN ANIMAL FORMS. A STUDY IN BIOLOGY. By Hubbard Winslow Mitchell, M.D. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Toronto: Williamson and Company.

This well printed and bound 8vo. volume of 460, xxi, pages and 130 excellent illustrations is the work of a busy medical practitioner, who dedicates the book to his wife and favours the public with his portrait in the frontispiece. Dr. Mitchell is versed in geology, palaeontology, present-day biology and astronomy; and to those who believe—as he seems to think all scientific men believe—in Evolution of the out-and-out Darwin, Haeckel, Vogt and Schmidt school, it will be exceedingly acceptable. His work gives evidence of abundant reading and accurate observation, and, from his standpoint, there is little to object to in his reasoning. The struggle for existence, natural and sexual selection, climatic change, nutrition and all the factors that are supposed to have helped in geological time in the transmutation of one species into another, are set forth learnedly and lucidly. One cannot help admiring the ingenuity of the naturalist, who dispenses with a Creator by a logical effort of the imagination, and the grand-impressive dogmatism that sweeps away the hundred and one failures, which the wisest of those who accept Evolution as a working theory have not failed to point out in the efforts of its devotees to exalt it to the rank of scientific fact. Dr. Mitchell may be quite truthful, as he regards truth, in shutting his eyes to the objections, that of itself the homogeneous cannot become heterogeneous, that the mineral has never produced the vegetable, nor the vegetable the animal, that in historic time species have not changed places, and that the spiritual nature of man contains elements which no earthly alchemy could transmute from the physical. For those who like that kind of thing, "The Evolution of Life" is the kind of thing they would like. A few years ago his book might have gone down. It will need readers in country places, far back, to swallow it now.

HUMANITY IN ITS ORIGIN AND EARLY GROWTH. By E. Colbert, M.A., formerly Superintendent of the Dearborn Observatory, and (*ex officio*) Professor of Astronomy in the (Old) University of Chicago. Price \$1.50. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Company.

Ex-Professor Colbert, now apparently on the staff of the Chicago Tribune, is of opinion, like Lord Bolingbroke of old, that the world does not know history; hence he has written this book to teach it, which is kind of him. He has read a book on Evolution, another on primitive culture and the arbitrary ages of archaeological science, a third which was a manual of the ancient history of the East, and then he fell in with the infidel treatises of Inman, Gerald Massey and Forlong, to which he added his own peculiar astronomical and astrological lore. Mr. Colbert is a deist of the old English type, putting Painism and Ingersollism into a supposed scientific form. His 400 pages are well printed and bound, and some of them are well written and contain actual facts. His resolution of Jehovistic and Elohistie adoration into sun-worship, and his confounding of Christ with other promised teachers, show that he has either read Forlong's "Rivers of Life," or some rehash of that unscientific rubbish. What he says about our Saviour's prophecy of His own subjection to the power of death is characteristic of the whole book. "Notwithstanding that important failure to verify not only an alleged typical happening, but an alleged promise by the Son of God himself, Brother Moody in the present enlightened age often quotes that text as proof positive that the story about Jonah is a narration of actual fact which it is rank heresy to doubt." In this enlightened age, the most enlightened people believe in miracle, and the morally best people and the most benevolent people. Even Mr. Colbert, in the end of his book, by his credence in astrological predictions, affirms, like the spiritualists, faith in a most unworthy and debased form of the supernatural.

So much for the gullibility of sceptics. Where God is, there is miracle, of necessity.

OMAHA AND PONKA LETTERS. By James Owen Dorsey. Pp. 127, 8vo. Washington: Government Printing Office. THE THEGIHA LANGUAGE. By James Owen Dorsey. Contributions to North American Ethnology, Vol. VI., pp. 794, xviii., 4to. Washington: Government Printing Office.

The Thegiha language is that dialect of the Siouan or Dakotan spoken by the Omahas and Ponkas, of which the Rev. J. Owen Dorsey has made an exhaustive study. His larger book, a monument of untiring labour, contains the Thegiha text of over seventy myths or fables, twenty historical narratives, and 160 letters, with literal interlinear, and free, English translations. The smaller work adds seventy-seven new letters from all sorts of persons, the whole affording an amount of material for the elucidation of Dakota speech, such as the literature of few aboriginal languages presents. Mr. Dorsey has contributed, from time to time, papers on Siouan Folk Lore to the *American Antiquarian*, and the Rev. Dr. Riggs has done the same; but the collection in this sixth volume of contributions to ethnology exceeds anything yet attempted in that line among the Dakotas. Schoolcraft, in his Hiawatha legends, Kohl, in his Kitchi Gami, and other writers, have amassed a good deal of traditional matter among the Ojibeways; Rink's Tales of the Esquimaux are numerous and interesting, and Fathers Petitot and Morice have enlightened the world as to the legendary lore of the Dene Indians of the far north-west. Dr. Washington Matthews interprets the stories of the Navajos; Mr. Cushing and other travellers, those of the Pueblo dwelling Zunis; and Dr. Brinton, from many sources, has compiled a volume of American Folk Lore. Taking North and South America together, there is published material enough for a score of volumes. We have Brett on the Indians of Guiana, Hartt on those of the Amazon, Bancroft on those of the Pacific States, Markham on those of the Peruvians, and Dr. Couto de Magalhaes on those of the Brazilian Tupis, as well as various collections of Mr. Gatschett. Strange to say, we possess very little knowledge of the folk lore of the Hurons and the Iroquois, beyond the meagre contributions in Mr. Hale's "Iroquois Book of Rites," otherwise a most valuable book, and Peter Dooyentate Clarke's Wyandotts. Mr. Dorsey's collection is by far the best, as in all its naked truth, which often calls for a Latin translation of words and phrases, it presents the *ipsissima verba* of the originals. Mrs. Erminnie Smith devoted herself to the work of collecting Iroquois texts and traditions, but I have not seen the published work, with a copy of which that lamented lady promised to favour me. As a chrestomathy of the Dakota language, the volumes of Mr. Dorsey cannot well be surpassed. Many students who waste time over Anglo-Saxon, on the one hand, and Sanscrit, on the other, would do well to master Thegiha, or Iroquois, by the Book of Rites, or some Algonquin dialect such as the Cree or the Ojibeway. Both as a mental exercise, and as a means towards literary reputation, the study of the aboriginal tongue would offer the greater advantages.

AMONG the valuable papers issued from the Johns Hopkins Press have been an account of that curious religious community, "The Bishop Hill Colony," by Michael A. Mikkelesen, A.M.; and a valuable and instructive paper on "The Character and Influence of the Indian Trade in Wisconsin," being a study of the trading-post as an institution by Professor Frederick J. Turner, of the University of Wisconsin.

A FINE sketch of an eminent United States' art collector, and of the success which has attended his efforts, is that entitled "Walters Collection of Art Treasures," by Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, in the *Magazine of American History* for April. "The Expansion of the United States," by President Warfield, and "The Territory West of the Mississippi River" are articles of historical bearing. C. H. Crandall, in the fine poem "Old Trinity Chimes," appeals to a pure and lofty sentiment. The Hon. Charles K. Tuckerman gives a personal reminiscence as an abbreviated correspondent of the London Times.

MANY a Churchman will read with interest S. B. Whitney's article on "Surplised Boy Choirs of America," in the *New England Magazine* for April. The illustrations add greatly to the attractiveness of the article. "Women's Work in Astronomy at Harvard" will find many woman readers. An article of local concern to Canadians is that on "The Micmac Festival of Cape Breton," by J. H. Wilson. "Early Visitors to Chicago" is a timely contribution, rendered valuable by the profile portrait of La Salle as well as the *fac-simile* of his autograph.

THE *Cosmopolitan* for April has a number of entertaining as well as instructive articles. "Genoa, the Home of Columbus," the opening article, accompanies the frontispiece. "The Monument to Columbus, Genoa," by Murat Halstead; "Torpedoes in Coast Defence," by A. M. D'Armit; "Homes of the Renaissance," by Wallace Wood; "The Crew of a Trans-Atlantic Liner," by William H. Rideing, and the two contributions of a Russian character, that on the famous "Count Leon Tolstoi," by Madame Dovidoff, and "Princess Ratazanoff," by Casimir M. Podgorski, are all good reading. George Macdonald has a fine little poem, entitled "A False Prophecy," in this number.