

of taste can appreciate the excellence of the literary style and contents; but we have the testimony of unimpeachable witnesses as to the accuracy of its historical representations. Thus Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes declares to the author: "The careful studies and the picturesque descriptions of localities, persons, habits, modes of life, virtues and failings, beliefs and principles of action, you have given in these pages make it one of the best delineations of New England life; one of the best, at least, that I have ever found in the course of my reading." And Mr. T. B. Aldrich tells us that, "when our great grandchildren's grandchildren shall wish to know what a New England town was like in the early part of the nineteenth century, they will have to get 'Quabbin.'" It is unnecessary to supplement testimonies of such value; and we will only add that this book will certainly give its readers pleasure, knowledge and food for thought.

#### TRANSACTIONS OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE, December, 1892.

Here is a pleasing testimony that this valuable society is carrying on its useful work with unremitting energy. We wish we could add, with adequate public support. The present instalment of the Transactions is of unusual interest as containing not merely an account of the Summer Session at Penetanguishene, but in particular, the consolidated and amended Regulations of the Institute. We ought to draw special attention to the papers on Canadian Wild Flowers by Mr. Beadle, on St. Columba, by Dr. MacNish, and on Dene Roots by Father Morice. A very slight abstract is all that is given of Professor Campbell's paper; but it will prepare those who were interested in his work on the Hittites for the publication of further researches on the same subject.

**A WOMAN'S PHILOSOPHY OF LOVE.** By Caroline F. Corbin. Price \$1.00. Boston: Lee and Shepard; Toronto: Williamson Book Company. 1893.

There can be no question of the importance of the subject of this book, or of the need of a careful and serious treatment of that subject. There is nothing more sacred than love, there is nothing the abuse of which is more destructive, and there is hardly anything which is treated with greater levity. It is, therefore greatly to be desired that some well-qualified person should take in hand what we may call the scientific treatment of this great theme; and Mrs. Corbin has very considerable qualifications for the endeavour. She dictates the book to her four sons and she tells that the work is the outcome of thirty-five years of thought, study and experience. She says quite truly that it is not a book for babes nor for persons of a darkened and purient mind, but we may state our conviction that anyone who can get anything like evil out of it must be in a very bad way. The three divisions of the book are the following: 1. Love as the Divine Life of the Universe; 2. Love as Embodied in the Home; 3. In its World-wide Relations. It is impossible to give an analysis of the book which has many subdivisions; and extracts would hardly do justice to the writer. In all respects the sentiments move in the highest plane, and the sacredness of marriage is powerfully set forth. Not only does Mrs. Corbin contend for the permanence of marriage in general, but she seems to object to divorce under all and any circumstances. No doubt, this is the ideal state of things; the only question that suggests itself is the possibility of working such a theory in the present state of the world.

**A REVIEW OF THE SYSTEM OF ETHICS FOUNDED ON THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION.** By C. M. Williams. Price \$2.00. New York: MacMillan & Co. Toronto: The Williamson Book Co., 1893.

This book is by no means light reading, but it is written with care and it gives us a good summary of the principal books

which propound evolutionary systems of Ethics. Moreover, if the author is, as we imagine, an American, he is quite free from those faults of literary taste which make a good many even of the philosophical works published in the great republic somewhat distasteful to those who have been brought up on English models. The book is a well written book; and, although its summaries are very much compressed and therefore not very easy of digestion, still it will give the reader what he wants on the subject of which it treats. Part I. is historical, beginning with Darwin, going on to Wallace, Haeckel, Spencer, and others, and ending with Alexander. The second part is a rather full discussion of the principles of Evolutionary Ethics. Some of these topics are handled in a way that rather makes our heart sink. Let us not be misunderstood. We are quite willing to concede all and more than all that Evolution can claim. We not only admit all the ascertained facts, as every rational being will do, but we are disposed to admit a great deal more of the theory than can be said to be already proved. But supposing that we were to admit the whole theory as explaining the physical order of things to which we belong, we should not be one step nearer to the explanation of how or why nature unfolded itself in that particular manner; nor should we be justified in denying that the foundation of all was a spiritual principle in nature. So with regard to Ethics in particular, we have no objection to a doctrine of Evolution which does not deny the existence in mankind of the moral principle which is unfolded in the course of ages; but for an Evolution which denies this, and therefore denies Liberty, Immortality, and God, we can have nothing but loathing and horror.

#### THE BIBLICAL DOCTRINE OF SIN.

By Professor J. S. Candlish, D. D. Price 1s. 8d. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark; Toronto: Presbyterian News Co., 1893.

This is one of Messrs. Clarks' excellent handbooks for bible classes, and devoted to a subject of great interest and importance. As might be expected from a writer of Dr. Candlish's ability, the treatise is about as good as it could be made within the limits. There is only one part in which we should desire a slightly different treatment. When the law of conscience is spoken of as being enforced by the command of God, we think the connection is made a little too external. The law of man's reason is what it is because man's reason is a finite reproduction of the Infinite Reason.

The Expository Times for March is a good number. There is an article on the Kingdom of God by Professor Haupt which is worth much more than the price of the number. Several papers, like that on the Ministry of Elijah and that on the Moral Teaching of the Sermon on the Mount, are not quite up to the level of the magazine; but most of the smaller articles, like the "Great Text Commentary" of the month, are excellent. Our readers will perhaps remember our favourable mention of Prof. Iverach's paper on T. H. Green. We are glad to see that similar essays are promised on Lotze, Vinet, Godes, Dillmann and others.

**DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY.** Edited by Sidney Lee. Vol. xxxiii. Leighton Lluclyn, New York: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: Williamson Book Co., 1893.

The first name in the new volume is that of Alexander Leighton, the father of the saintly bishop. Alexander Leighton was most cruelly treated by the Star Chamber under Charles I and apparently by Archbishop Laud; he was, with his narrow puritanism, a very trying kind of person. Most surprising, perhaps, it is that he should have such a son as Robert Leighton, the story of whose life is told here very well by Dr. Sprott—a new contributor, we imagine. "As saint, author, and peacemaker, Leighton presents a combin-

ation of qualities which has called forth almost unrivalled tributes of admiration. Of the Lelands there are two deserving of special mention, namely the antiquary (d.1582) and the author of the work on the English Deists (d.1766). They do not seem to have been connected.

A brief, but sympathetic notice of Mark Lemon gives an account of the first editor of Punch, who is now discovered to be the editor of several other publications of the less importance. Lempriere, author of the Classical Dictionary which every school-boy used up to the beginning of the Smith regime has a column allowed to him.

More than ten pages are given to the Lennoxes, most of them descended from Charles II and Louise de Keroualle, the first being Charles Lennox, first Duke of Richmond, ancestor of the present Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

Speaker Lenthall is handled well by Mr. C. H. Firth. It is quite wonderful to read of his experiences in his position of Speaker, and how cleverly he avoided dangers and difficulties from which it must have seemed almost impossible to escape. It is, however, quite intelligible that he should have looked back with great disgust upon his political career, especially as he quitted a lucrative practice at the Bar when he became Speaker. A good many Leslies or Lesleys are here commemorated, not the least of them being Alexander, first Earl of Leven, who learned the art of war under Adolphus and led the royal troops against Cromwell at Dunbar. The memoir is well written and full credit is given to the military abilities of Leslie. But we think the fault of attacking Cromwell at Dunbar should hardly have been left at his door, if other accounts are to be trusted. There is a good article by Mr. J. M. Rigg on the Norwood article by Mr. J. M. Rigg on the juror, Charles Leslie, author of books once well known, the "Short and Easy Method with the Deists" and other similar works. Among other important Leslies, and there are a good many of them, we may note, lie, Bishop of Ross (d. 1596).

The editor has a good article on a writer once famous, Roger L'Estrange, now little known except by frequenters of old book shops, who may occasionally pick up an old volume with his name on the title page. According to Clarendon, he was "a man of good wit and fancy very luxuriant, and of enterprising nature, and Pepys calls him 'a man of fine conversation, I think, but I am sure most courtly and full of compliments.'" We rather wonder at no mention being made of Sir Thomas Lethbridge who impeached Sir Francis Burdett in the House of Commons; but perhaps he did nothing else of any importance. Charles Lever, whose name we find to have been Charles James Leices kindly and generous treatment from Dr. Richard Garnett. Some Levisons and some more Leveson-Gowers follow. Mr. Leslie Stephens gives a very interesting and judicious account of George Henry Lewis, a writer of distinction, but more interesting to the ordinary reader as the guide and teacher of George Elliot. There is also a very good article on Sir George Cornewall Lewis; and one by Mr. Leslie Stephens on "Monk Lewis," once so famous, now almost forgotten. Perhaps we ought at least to refer to Mr. Knight's article on "Gentleman Lewis."

Passing over Layburns, Lloyds, Llwyds, and Liddells, we pause at the name of Henry Parry Liddon, Canon of St. Pauls, who died in 1890, having perhaps, the widest reputation as a preacher of any clergyman in the Church of England. The writer, Canon Scott-Holland, does full justice to his subject as a man and preacher. Almost immediately after comes a memoir still longer and more weighty, of Joseph Barker Lightfoot, late Bishop of Durham, the most eminent biblical critic of this age and of many ages, who gave us almost ideal commentaries on some of the Pauline Epistles. The article is by Professor Hort, who has also joined the majority. An article of some length and wide learning was given to J. Lilburne, political agitator, to whom full justice is done at the same time that his contentious spirit is illustrated by an epitaph published in 1857: "Is John departed, and is Lilburne gone!"