

ideas in the mind of God before creation. It is perhaps worthy of remark, that he has a great esteem for mediæval philosophy though he differs from it radically. There are a great many other contemporary idealists, including Dr. Watson in our own country. Royce considers that at John Hopkins University there is arising a new school of logicians, one of whom Mrs. Ladd Franklin, has, according to the same authority, given the most successful reduction of the theory of the syllogism, that have ever been proposed. If such be so, and we doubt much, then America has given to the world its first great female philosopher!

The number and influence of these men (and women) shows that the Americans, though preferably practical and experimental, can also lend themselves to pure ideal speculation.

But idealism, at its best, could never vie in popularity with that realistic philosophy—evolution. Three times as many copies of Herbert Spencer's works were sold in the United States as in England. Evolution was popularised on this side of the Atlantic chiefly by Youmans (1821-1897), the founder of the Popular Science Monthly. John Fiske (1842-1901), is the most important American evolutionary philosopher. He considers evolution as certain as the Copernician astronomy. He makes God an *anima mundi*. His style is good.

It would be tedious to mention all the upholders of this hypothesis. The strength of the movement may be inferred from the fact that influenced even Catholic philosophers. Father Zalm, S.H.C., wrote a book advocating the theory that the body of man evolved, or could have evolved from low inanimate life, his argument being potential creation. Hostility in religious quarters induced him to withdraw the book.

On the whole American biologists have been evolutionists. Of late, however, evolution seems to be on the decline. It would be unfair to class the greater number of American evolutionists as mere materialists.

During the last twenty-five years in the United States there has been a very characteristic and important philosophical development—Experimental Psychology. The special interest in this subject was derived from Germany. The men most celebrated in this development are not so much trying to overturn the old