

skill. This study of comparative politics develops a wide correspondence of organization and method of government and a unity of structure and procedure greater than one was prepared to find. It furnishes data for a science of government in its wide national and international relations. This book commends itself to the study of all who make or administer the laws of the nation.

The Christian Consciousness: Its Relation to Evolution in Morals and in Doctrine.

By J. S. BLACK. Boston: Lee & Shepard. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.25.

The author, in the preface, says: "The study of 'Christian Consciousness' is in its infancy, but the study of it is an aid to the development of it. It seems strange at this end of the nineteenth century of the Christian era, that there should be an undeveloped and unused function of the Christian life; a function which not only accounts for moral and dogmatic phenomena, but also makes God more real to men."

This book is an important contribution to the development of the subject. It comes at a time of need. It deals not only with the literature that has hitherto gathered round its central theme, "The Christian Consciousness," but it has also to do with Professor Drummond's "Ascent of Man," and with Benjamin Kidd's "Social Evolution."

The placing of the "Christian Consciousness" along with the Bible, the Church and the Reason as a source of authority may seem revolutionary, but by many it will be regarded as being the formal statement of a position that has to some extent been already granted.

The work is strong, scholarly and very suggestive. It is certainly in the line of religious evolution and will receive attention from a very large number of intelligent Christians who are seeking to reconcile the experience they have attained in spiritual things with the faith of their fathers.

The People's Bible. Discourses upon Holy Scripture. By JOSEPH PARKER, D.D., London. Ephesians-Revelation. Octavo, 463 pp., cloth, \$1.50. New York and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

The distinguished minister of the City Temple, London, Dr. Joseph Parker, commenced work on his "People's Bible," now so well and favourably known in this

country, over fifteen years ago, and it has been a matter of surprise and admiration to observe the marvellous progress of his enterprise as each successive volume made its appearance. The present volume completes the undertaking. The entire work supplies a unique Bible commentary for use of pastors and preachers, as also for every Bible reader. Not a critical, verbal commentary in the general sense of that term, it is full of distinctive and particular features of great value to all. The late Charles H. Spurgeon said: "Dr. Parker condenses wonderfully, and throws a splendour of diction over all that he pours forth. He seems to say all that can be said upon a passage. He is a man of genius, and whenever he has anything to say he says it in his own striking manner." The book of Revelation is treated in the manner peculiarly his own, and is as readable and as easily understood by the young and unlearned as it can be by readers of most mature attainments.

The Red, Red Wine. A Temperance Story. By J. JACKSON WRAY. Author of "Nestleton Magna," "Matthew Mellowdew," etc. Toronto: William Briggs. Montreal: C. W. Coates. Halifax: S. F. Huestis. Price, \$1.00.

Another charming book by a gifted author whose pen is now silent in death. Mr. Wray was a native of the East Riding of Yorkshire, and though he left the place of his nativity more than half a century ago, he often returned thither at the vacation seasons, so that he was well acquainted with the everyday occurrences of the locality. There are many still living who remember the building of the railway between York and Hull, when George Hudson was known by the sobriquet of "The Railway King." Those who read this book will be able to recall some of the occurrences of those days, while others, probably, will think that the author has overdrawn the picture. The labours of temperance people have effected a great change for the better among the social customs in England, though there is much still to be done. We regard "The Red, Red Wine," as the best production of Mr. Wray, and we strongly recommend its perusal to all our readers. Those who have read Mr. Wray's other works will be pleased to see that "The Red, Red Wine" contains a portrait of the deceased author. The manner in which the book is got up reflects the highest credit upon the Methodist Book and Publishing House, of Toronto.