

The theory of evolution has brought about "a fundamental, a cosmical, a world-transforming change. Nevertheless, in my opinion, it is a change of a non-theistic, as distinguished from an a-theistic kind. It has rendered impossible the appearance in literature of any future Paley, Bell or Chalmers, but it has done nothing in the way of negating that belief in a Supreme Being which it was the object of these authors to substantiate. If it has demonstrated the futility of their proof, it has furnished nothing in the way of disproof."

The irreconcilable antagonisms revealed between the painful struggle for existence on the one hand, and of the moral sense on the other, have come to the religious mind "with a shock of terrified surprise." "The religious thought of our generation has been more than ever staggered by the question—Where is now thy God? But I have endeavored to show that the logical standing of the case has not been materially changed; and when this cry of Reason pierces the heart of Faith, it remains for Faith to answer now, as she has always answered before—and answered with that trust which is at once her beauty and her life—Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself."

Pauperism, a Picture; and the Endowment of Old Age: an Argument.
By CHARLES BOOTH. London and New York: Macmillan & Co.
12mo, pp. 355.

It cannot be said that this is the best, though it is the latest, of the books written by Mr. Booth on the condition of the poor in London, but anything from his pen on this subject is well worth reading. A person listening to a debate in the English House of Commons, was surprised at the attention which was given to a speaker who hesitated and stammered, and seemed to have extreme difficulty in getting out what he had to say. He asked a person who happened to be present, and who knew all about the House, how it was that this gentleman was heard so attentively. The secret, he said, is, that that gentleman knows more about the subject than any other man in England. They care nothing about his style, but they are intensely interested in his matter, because he happens to be the very highest authority on the subject that he is discussing. And this applies to Mr. Booth's books, to this extent, that if they were not nearly as well written as they really are, they would be worth reading, simply because this author knows more about the subject to which they refer than anybody else; and no one who desires to understand it can afford to be ignorant of what he has written.

The first part of the book, as indicated by the title, consists of a picture of pauperism, but we shall be disappointed if we look for some fine descriptive writing setting forth the picturesque or pathetic aspects of the subject. It is, in fact, made up of a series of hard facts extracted in the main from written records of parochial relief. The grouping of these facts may be inferred from the headings of the chapters: "Pauperism at Stephney," "Stories of Stephney Pauperism," "Charity at Stephney," "St. Pancras," "Pauperism at Asby-de-la-Zouch," "On the Enumeration of Paupers," "The Causes of Pauperism." While the facts grouped under each and all of these headings are of great scientific value to those who know how to use them, the last of these chapters, that on the causes of pauperism, possesses considerable popular interest.

The second part of the work, that which deals with the endowment of old age, is the most interesting and the most important. The first thing that is likely to impress the mind of the reader in the perusal of the several chapters into which this part of the book is divided, is the extreme difficulty