

BOOK NOTICES.

REGENERATION. By Edmund H. Sears. Boston : Crosby, Nichols & Co. Sold in Montreal, by C. Bryson, St. Francois Xavier Street.

THIS is an Essay of 248 pages, prepared at the request of the Executive Committee of the American Unitarian Association. Although produced under such auspices, and written by a Unitarian minister, it is not bound to the common track of Unitarian controversy. It is well conceived and well written, in tone eminently Christian, recognising the deep and dreadful human experience of sin, and indicating the gospel instrumentalities for its removal, and for spiritual renewal. We need scarcely say that it rejects the Calvinistic dogma of hereditary *guilt*. But while it does so, it accepts the idea of transmitted propensities to evil. At this point it becomes distinguishable from the views taught by a large class of Unitarians. From some orthodox quarters great satisfaction has been expressed at the appearance of this book, on account of its assumed approach to more profound views of human nature, and of the significance of the Gospel in relation thereto. Without vouching for all the positions of the Essay, we can truly say that we welcome its approach, and are thankful to the Unitarian Association for having given it to the public. It is not possible, we think, for any one to give it a deliberate perusal without being quickened to serious thought on that most momentous of all subjects — the salvation of the soul. Tenderness toward old dogmatic land-marks is not a characteristic of our times. Modern Calvinism is fast yielding up the stronghold of the ancient creed, and advancing to views of Christianity more humane, more reasonable, and more scriptural. The influences which are modifying Calvinism may modify other forms, and by destroying sectarian peculiarities, leave the broad truths of the Gospel obviously common to all. So let it be.