

its preparation, critical reference has been made to the most recent literature, and while the consideration of new works necessarily is brief, yet enough of the results of the latest investigation is given to make the book of immediate value to the student. While the writers of the various departments are not in sympathy with mere theological novelties, yet nothing is omitted which should have a place in such an annual survey. The necessity of noticing that which seems to be new, and which claims to be better than the old, naturally gives prominence to radical teachings and criticisms, but it is of these things, especially, that the student and pastor desire to be advertised. The discussions cover exegetical, historical, systematic, and practical theology. They present such a summary of that which is agitating the theological world as makes the volume indispensable to the pastor and the student who keep abreast of the times and have an intelligent apprehension of the drift and progress of ideas.

Rambles and Reveries of a Naturalist.

By the REV. WILLIAM SPIERS, M.A., F.G.S., F.R.M.S., etc. London: Charles H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs.

This book is a fine example of science made easy to even unscientific minds. The author describes his holiday rambles amid some of the fairest scenery of Great Britain, and interprets the significance of nature's mysteries and enigmas. In some of the chapters he reads the revelations of the stony pages of the past; in another he describes the marvellous forms of life in a wayside pond; in another he leads us forth star-gazing through the "Tuscan artist's optic tube" into the depths of heaven; in another he peers through a microscope into the world of the infinitely small; and everywhere he discovers the handiwork of the Divine, and looks through nature up to nature's God. We have peculiar pleasure in commending to our readers, especially to our young readers, this admirable volume. The book is well

illustrated with cuts which make more clear the teachings of the text.

Talks with Ralph Waldo Emerson, with a hitherto unpublished portrait. By CHARLES J. WOODBURY 12 mo., cloth, gilt top, \$1.25. New York: The Baker & Taylor Co.

The writer of this book, who had exceptional opportunities for access to and intercourse with Mr. Emerson, has furnished the latter's admirers and lovers of culture generally, a service of the highest value in preparing this faithful record of the poet's opinions, freely and spontaneously expressed in conversations on current thought, literature, philosophy, and criticism; his views as to what knowledge and culture are most worth; and his thoughts about contemporary writers and workers. The book is at once an epitome of his philosophy and a commentary upon the time and society in which he lived.

Practical, Sanitary and Economic Cooking. By MRS MARY HENMAN ABIL. Prize Essay published by American Health Association.

A good deal of social and economic reform is destined to have its root in the kitchen. Many of the ills of life, physical and moral, spring from poor food and bad cooking. The little book under review is the best statement that we know of, of the scientific facts as to the elements of food composition, the due proportions of blending them and of preparing them for the maintenance of a sound mind in a sound body. We commend the book as a sort of gospel of physical well-being.

Under the Palms and Among the Pimento Groves. By the Rev. HENRY BUTING. London: Charles H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs.

This is a graphic story of life in the West Indies, in the old slavery days before the emancipation of the negroes in 1838. It illustrates the triumphs of the Gospel even under