

or in Pope's, will give, to any intelligent seeker, sufficient insight into the ethics of these "Gentiles who knew not God". This much, however, we may quote, from the article referred to:

"The conception of 'law' is foreign to Homer". Again: "As 'there is no law in Homer, so there is no morality... The heroes of 'Homer are hardly more moral agents than the giants and enchanters of a fairy tale."

To what causes this practical absence of ethics,—non-existence, is, perhaps, a better term,—is due, this is neither the time, nor am I fitted, to decide. A partial parallel might, possibly, be found in the "non-moral" Drama of the Restoration; a better one in a study of folk-lore. But you will, I think, find the best explanation by consulting the "*Doctor Gentium*", S. Paul, who knew his age, Jewish, Christian, Pagan, better than any of his contemporaries. Read, those who will, the first chapter of his Epistle to the Romans, verse 18, to verse 25, and you will understand why Homer, and the heathen world—with few exceptions—knew naught of ethics.

Yet Homer, if you will but listen, gives utterance to the "*De Profundis*" of many a soul setting "*in tenebris et umbra mortis*". And that cry is always worthy of being listened to.

F. W. G.

P. S.—Read Keats' sonnet at the end of Vol. 2 of Chapman's *Iliads*.

The Right of Way.



WELL known Canadian novel, "The Right of Way" by Gilbert Parker, introduces to the reader a young Montreal lawyer who was somewhat addicted to intemperance in the use of his liqueur and openly agnostic.

Charley Steele, or "Beauty Steele" as he was familiarly known, after receiving a curtain lecture in his office, the only one ever administered to him by his proud but beautiful and even-tempered wife "went on a time" and met with an escapade which had important consequences that furnished the materials for this interesting story. He was nearly murdered by being assaulted in a bar-room and thrown into the adjoining river where he was picked up half dead with a deep gash in his head.