

BOOK NOTICES.

Dr. Hickok's *Empirical Psychology** in undoubtedly a remarkable work, in many senses of the term. To begin with, the style is elaborately obscure. What possible meaning for instance can be attached to the following sentence that begins a paragraph upon Sentientcy (p. 105): "This is the original need in the spontaneity that beyond an instinctive rule it take (*sic*) on a sentient sway, and elevate (*sic*) itself in a new kingdom to the sovereignty of sense-consciousness." Next, as to the matter of the book, it is an attempt to deduce a system of theology from the facts of psychology. "It has been a special design," we read in the Preface to the Revised Edition, "to make this edition a ready and helpful introduction to a *spiritual philosophy* by which universal human experience shall become a complete systematic science." What Dr. Hickok means by "universal human experience" may be gathered from the following analysis of the work. First of all, the subject is divided into three parts,—the Intellect, the Susceptibility and the Will. The Intellect is resolved into the Sense, the Understanding and the Reason; the Susceptibility is separately considered as the Sentient, the Psychical and the Rational Susceptibility; and the Will is similarly treated. The work ignores almost everything that has been done in Psychology hitherto, draws distinctions where Scientific Psychologists see none, and assumes as facts of experience what are merely the results of association. It may be fairly called "empirical" for it is utterly unscientific.

Dr. Hudson's short *Discourse on Daniel Webster*† is well worth reading. It will enable the lover of truth to learn the case that the great orator's partisans have to set against the indictments of the Devil's advocate. Dr. Hudson begins by showing that Webster was the one imperial intellect of the American nation, one of the world's great men, and one of the world's great orators, the other worthies being Demosthenes, Cicero, Chrysostom, Bossuet, Chatham and Burke. After a short account of Webster's great qualities of mind and heart, we come to the consideration of his chief faults and these Dr. Hudson considers to be Webster's over-anxiety to become President of the United States and his carelessness in money matters. His great service to the nation was his defence of the Union against Nullification and against Peaceable Secession. He was thus at once the great Expounder and the great Defender of the American Constitution. The differ-

**Empirical Psychology or the Science of Mind, from Experience*; by Laurens P. Hickok, D.D., LL.D. Revised with the co-operation of Julius H. Seelye, D.D., LL.D., President of Amherst College. (Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston.)

† A Discourse delivered on the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Daniel Webster, Jan. 18, 1882, by the Rev. Henry N. Hudson, LL.D. (Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston.)