

LITERARY NOTICES.

* * * We have to congratulate the author on the ability he has displayed in writing on a subject confessedly beset with difficulties, and in meeting on his own ground, and so fully answering the arguments of so accomplished a logician as John Stuart Mill. It was indeed a hazardous undertaking for a young author like Mr. McCaig to measure lances with the great metaphysician, but after a careful consideration of the question as presented in Mr. Mill's book, and Mr. McCaig's answer, we are bound to say that the latter, in our opinion, has the best of the argument. He has approached the subject only after a thorough investigation, and from the premises which he carefully lays down he follows with a mass of argument and evidence which no candid mind can resist. The criticism is searching and severe, but it is never uncourteous. It is more comprehensive than Mr. Mill's work, and widens towards the close to the great principles underlying the whole question, which are very ably handled, in language well chosen and vigorous.—*Guelph Mercury*.

"This reply is from an anonymous but able pen, and makes a strong answer to the specious philosopher, and most thoroughly exposes his sophisms, his contradictions, his unwarranted assumptions, his broad conclusions from narrowest premises, his seeming ignorance of human nature, his overlooking of the real causes of woman's woes and indication of imaginary causes, his loosening of all moral ties in society, his defiance of all history and experience, and his boundless egotism and self-assurance. A calm consideration of the views here advanced would surely make many of the well meaning but rash enthusiasts in the "Woman's Rights" movement pause on the threshold of the attempt to revolutionize the family and the state, and shrink back from the sad but certain consequences which would follow upon its success."—*Chicago Advance*.

An anonymous author here furnishes the *alteram partem* to Mr. Mill, with a cogency and breadth of judgment that cannot fail to command respectful consideration. He states Mr. Mill's case quite fully in the first hundred pages, with accompanying criticism, and then proceeds to join issue. He notices the singularity that Dr. Bushnell should be taking one side of the argument at the instant when Mr. Mill was elaborately presenting the other, and regrets that Mr. Mill's essay should be of a nature to find its first friends in those most anxious to set all law and morals at defiance. He comments, too, on the fact that the rational legislation advised cannot free itself from the hold of feeling and affection, and the extravagant method of reform advocated. The investigation of Mr. Mill's argument is pursued in a sharp and remorseless manner along its whole current, until the claim of equality is itself considered, when all the arguments are accumulated against it, and it is alleged that women would gain nothing by