

Here and there some of his inferences from statistics and legislation may be amenable to objection or criticism, but the main lines of his arguments cannot easily be controverted. The purpose of his volume is the furtherance of social righteousness, especially in cities. In every case he bases his teachings upon the principles of the religion of Christ. (T. Whittaker, New York.)

A book called *Spiritual Law in the Natural World: A Metaphysical and Psychical Exposition of the Operations of the Holy Spirit and Other Agencies*, by J. W. Thomas (Longmans, Green & Co., New York), was a distinct disappointment to us. We had long ago, after the appearance of Professor Drummond's famous book, hoped that some one would write a work on precisely this subject. We took up the volume with interest and began reading with avidity; but, alas! the book was hopelessly dry. Its method is a combination of purely superficial reasoning and conventional religionism. It is stuffed with theological assumptions from beginning to end, and is lacking in scientific spirit. The chapter on "Conscience," however, has a new thought, as well as that on "No Total Depravity." On the whole, in the realm of philosophy and theology, which are one and the same thing, the writer has taken a stride backward. He is probably correct in his belief that not one of his suggestions involves the relinquishment of any of the old fundamental, evangelical dogmas that he dearly loves and cherishes.

It has been said that the Middle Ages had religious doubts, but that our time is afflicted with religious doubt. This is probably so true that one of the problems of the religious teachers of our day is to solve the question, not only of "pangs of nature," "sins of will," and "taints of blood," but also "defects of doubt." The Rev. John W. Diggle has undertaken to discuss *Religious Doubt: Its Nature, Treatment, Causes, Difficulties, Consequences, and Dissolution*. (Longmans, Green & Co., New York.) His object is twofold: first, to persuade doubters not to be content with doubting, but to examine critically the causes of their doubt; and, secondly, to persuade believers to treat doubters and doubt with broad charity. Through many closely printed pages the author forges on, saying many good things in a world of words. We believe that religious teachers who have to deal with doubt will have the patience to undertake the labor of reading this book, but we despair of persuading a doubter to attempt the task.

While Miss Helen Jastrow was translating from the French *Selected Essays of James Darmesteter* (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston) that distinguished Jewish Orientalist of France died, and at the early age of forty-five. After Renan's death, Darmesteter was easily the first of the French Orientalists. He was a son of a poor Jewish bookbinder, and his parents desired him to enter one of the learned professions. He early made his mark as a scholar, and his French translations of the Zend-Avesta, with a Commentary, may almost be called the final version of the Bible of Zoroastrianism. The essays in this volume were selected with a view of illustrating the several sides of Darmesteter's erudition. They are brilliant and suggestive as well as learned; the translation is smooth and easily managed. A preface in the way of a sketch of the life and work of James Darmesteter has been added to the volume by Professor Morris Jastrow, Jr., of the University of Pennsylvania. It is judicious and complete.

Professor Alfred Wiedemann, of Bonn, has put forth, through the press of G. P. Putnam's Sons, an unusually interesting and learned little work on *The Ancient Egyptian Doctrine of the Immortality of the Soul*. Professor Wiedemann has correctly traced in short compass the main lines of the development through centuries of the doctrine of immortality among the ancient Egyptians. He gives a clear analysis of their psychology in the earlier and later times, and a description of their views or speculations on the state of the soul after death. The book contains many and appropriate pictures which illustrate or prove the points he makes. To these things he confines himself, without attempting to determine to what extent the Egyptian doctrine of immortality originated in Egypt, or was influenced by the neighboring religions. For a small book it contains an amazing quantity of well-digested and well-arranged matter.

Tourists in Egypt and students in Egyptology will be glad to know that Maspero's *Manual of Egyptian Archaeology* has appeared in a new and revised edition. The translation which was originally made by the late Amelia B. Edwards, with the assistance of Mr. Flinders-Petrie, has been retained, but with additions and revision made by M. Maspero himself. The work itself is very thorough in its scope, though condensed into one portable volume. It covers a description of the civil and military architecture, of the temples, of tombs, of painting, sculpture, and of the industrial arts. It is illustrated with over three hundred apt pictures, many of which are fresh. This volume also contains adequate accounts of the main archaeological results of recent Egyptian excavations. The orderly arrangement of the book, coupled with its full index, renders it a most useful handbook. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.)



Literary Notes

—Mr. Ruskin has just celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday. His health is reported as fairly good.

—Mrs. Flora Ann Steel, whose novels on India have attained such a deserved reputation, thinks "The Potter's Thumb" the best of her books.

—It is announced that a volume of romantic incidents in the history of Kentucky is being prepared by Mr. James Lane Allen, the author of "A Kentucky Cardinal."

—We learn that the "Quatre Portraits"—the title of M. Jules

Simon's forthcoming volume—are to be those of Renan, Cardinal Lavigerie, Kaiser Wilhelm, and Lamartine.

—In the poem "Mutation," by Priscilla Leonard, published in The Outlook for February 15, the ninth line should read "And the *new* yearnings of each day," the word *new* having been inadvertently omitted.

—We learn that the biography of Phillips Brooks, which had been begun by his brother Arthur, will be completed by Professor Alexander V. G. Allen, of the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge. There could be no better biographer of Bishop Brooks than Dr. Allen.

—The volume of autobiography which M. Jules Breton has written will bear the title "Un Peintre Paysan." The book will contain an account of the artist's early struggles, also much information upon the many famous members of his craft with whom he has come into close contact.

—Mr. E. T. Cook, who has been appointed editor-in-chief of the London "Daily News," is a young man to fill a position which such men as Forster, Dicey, Hill, Lucy, and Robinson have had, but his brilliant career on the "Pall Mall Gazette" and subsequently as editor of the "Westminster Gazette" will undoubtedly be continued in his new field.

—The most gratifying announcement in the literary world is that of the biography of Dr. Holmes. It will appear in two volumes, with many letters, and the editor will be Mr. John T. Morse, Jr. The work fitly follows the Emerson-Carlyle correspondence, the letters of Lowell edited by Professor Norton, and the publication only last week of Mr. Marcou's "Life of Agassiz."

—The late Eugene Field, despite much hasty work, had a vein of conscientiousness which is well illustrated in a novel now about to be published. Mr. Field wrote the story twelve years ago, but was dissatisfied with its condition when he had finished it. He rewrote it after the space of a year and laid it aside again. The following year he rewrote it again, and up to his death had returned to it several times. There were eleven versions in all. It is fortunate that the last one pleased him. The story is called "The Werewolf."

—The New York "Critic" announces that Mr. Julian Hawthorne has arrived in this city from his Jamaica home. His \$10,000 prize story, "A Fool of Nature," will be published by the Messrs. Scribner, who will restore to it the 20,000 words cut out for purposes of serial publication in the "Herald." Mr. Hawthorne wrote the story in nineteen days, which means that he earned \$500 *per diem* on eighteen successive days, and \$1,000 on the nineteenth. The Messrs. Harper will publish Miss Mollie Elliot Seawell's \$3,000 "Herald" prize story.

—In a recent review, M. Gaston Deschamps mourns about the decadence of popular reading in France, and mourns the more because he is chagrined to find that Germany has shot far ahead in this respect. He declares that the "Gartenlaube" has 250,000 subscribers, "Ueber Land und Meer" more than 100,000, "Zur guten Stunde" more than 100,000, "Daheim" more than 100,000—that is to say, about 600,000 subscribers for what he calls the "Revue Protestantes." To these must be added the more than 60,000 subscribers to the Catholic reviews, "Deutscher Hausschatz" and "Die Alte und Neue Welt."

—The book on which M. Clemenceau, the French Radical leader, has for some time been engaged will probably bear some such title as "The Two Sieges of Paris." At any rate, the subject matter of the work deals with events in the capital during its investment by the Germans, and subsequently, when the army of Versailles was fighting its way into the capital. Another history of the Commune, written from quite a different standpoint, is that which M. Alfred Duquet has under way. M. Duquet has just concluded what has been called the best history in French of the Franco-German War. It is expected that his new work will be complete in two volumes.

—The "Pall Mall Gazette" describes Mr. Hall Caine's style as a combination of the "Bible and Daily Telegraph." The "Gazette" is delighted to find that its surmise is confirmed by Mr. Caine himself. He says in "McClure's Magazine," "Whatever strong situations I have in my tales are not of my creation, but are taken from the Bible. 'The Deemster' is the story of the Prodigal Son. 'The Bondman' is the story of Esau and Jacob. 'The Scapegoat' is the story of Eli and his sons, but with Samuel as a little girl; and 'The Manxman' is the story of David and Uriah." The "Gazette" adds: "Samuel as a little girl suggests infinite possibilities in the way of the Bible turned into fiction."

—The "Publisher's Weekly," reviewing the books of 1895, says that the year just passed has been the most productive of any in the history of the American book trade. 5,469 books were registered, of which 368 were new editions; in 1894 only 4,484 books were registered, but this showed an increase of nearly one-quarter. Turning to Great Britain, we find a publication of 6,516 books for 1895, an increase of 31 over 1894. On the contrary, in France there was a decrease from 13,007 books in 1894 to 12,927 in 1895. The statistics of Great Britain are obtained from the London "Publishers' Weekly;" those of France, from the "Bibliographie de la France."

—According to the New York "Tribune," Mr. S. R. Crockett, the novelist, has been telling how hard up he was when he was a student in Edinburgh. He lodged with a friend over a great coal station, and he used to go out in the evening and pick up the coals which the carts had dropped in the streets. "Sometimes," he says, "I grew so bold as to chuck a lump of coal at a driver, who invariably looked for the biggest lump on his load to hit back with, which was what I wanted. Thus the exercise warmed me at the time, and the coal warmed me afterward. And occasionally we got a large enough stock to sell to our companions, and buy a book or two. But I wish, here and now, solemnly to state that I never, never condescended to lift a lump off a cart, at least hardly—well, unless it was manifestly inconveniencing the safety of the load or overburdening the safety of the horse, you know!"

[For list of Books Received see Table of Contents]

The Home Club

How to Keep the Baby Warm

By L. M. Boynton

I have a little son about a year old. He is a very active boy, and I have taxed my brain to devise ways of keeping him covered in his bed and in his carriage.

First I sewed up his long flannel nightgown at the bottom. But as he grew older, and winter came on, this was not enough. He is a good sleeper, but a dozen times in a night he would either kick off the coverings, or, if they were fastened, manage to crawl out from beneath them. He often made no sound as he uncovered himself, and if I slept soundly, and did not examine his state at least once in an hour, he was apt the next day to have a little cold. I do not believe in a warm sleeping-room, although usually the thermometer does not go below fifty degrees. I tried using very light coverings—a soft down quilt and a puff—but his active little feet soon removed them.

But a few weeks ago I read in a book of Arctic travel of "sleeping-bags," and the next day I arranged one. I took an old, soft, easily washed blanket, which I doubled and sewed up into the form of a bag. Then outside I put a little larger one, also of soft, warm material. They are so arranged that they are easily separated for airing and washing. That night I put on the baby's little flannel nightgown over a light knit shirt. Over these went one of his washable sacques. His diapers were of soft Canton flannel, like those he wears in the daytime. Then I dropped him into his "sleeping-bag," which was large enough for a great deal of activity on the part of the sturdy little legs, and fastened the bag with flat safety-pins to the sacque just under the arms. That night I slept without "feeling" of him even once, and he did not make a sound all night long. He has not had a cold since I adopted this plan, although we have had some severe winters.

Encouraged by my success in this, I sewed up his new eider-down coat at the bottom, leaving it long enough to rip and hem when he begins to walk. Now I don't have to look every few minutes to see if the blankets are loose in the carriage, nor feel anxious when he is out with the maid for fear she'll forget to tuck him up.

I try to keep the floors warm, but, even with the furnace, on these cold days there are draughts which must be uncomfortable for little folks who can't be kept always perfectly dry. I found in one of the stores some little cheap flannel drawers—not enough wool in them to make them shrink badly—and I bought a number of pairs of the size for a three-year-old child, and put them on over his diapers and down under his woolen stockings. I have enough pairs to be able to change them often if they get damp, and dry them up quickly or have them washed.

I found very simple, serviceable "creepers" could be made with almost no trouble. The regulation "creeper" is not pretty, is some trouble to make, and is not close enough to the little legs for warmth. But petticoats were being ruined, and the long skirts hindered progress in creeping, and something must be done. So I purchased plain cotton drawers for a child of three. I got them for nineteen cents, which was less than the cost of the material for a real "creeper." I took a tuck in the binding, which I have let out from time to time, and, shortening the legs by making a wide tuck, I gathered them and ran in an elastic, and the result was a pretty ruffle below the knee.

I put the dress and petticoats smoothly around the baby, and over all placed the drawers, fastening the binding in the back through several thicknesses with one of his gold safety-pins.

The effect is a really pretty little bloomer costume, which is very comfortable and easy to creep in. With a half-dozen of these, which are washed almost as easily as a handkerchief, the baby can always look perfectly fresh and clean, and yet spend his days on the carpet.

Milk Supply

The Board of Health of New York City has taken the final step, so far as its authority extends, to protect the city from the

sale of impure milk. All dealers within the limits of the city must have a permit or license from the Board of Health. This permit must be held by all dealers, grocers, dairymen, and delivery-wagon men. The step taken is a logical one. It is useless to investigate the conditions at the dairy farms if care is not taken to follow the milk to the consumer. This last decision of the Board of Health does this.

A Step that Measures a League

There are a great many women who silently doubt the business ability of women. The reason they doubt it is because the two businesses in which women have been employees and employers are the two fields of labor in which there is the greatest demoralization, the least adjustment between demand and supply—dressmaking and domestic service. The problems are the same everywhere, and the solutions are as difficult in one community as in another. The dressmaking problem is another story. This one is the nearer and more difficult one of domestic service. The solution of this problem is to come from the mistress, not the servant. The mistress must bring her best intelligence and a high degree of altruism to bear on this problem, with infinite patience controlled by sound business sense. In short, woman must turn the executive ability which she is using so freely for the benefit of the outside world to bear on this problem which so closely affects her home life.

The Civic League of Philadelphia, which has so positively affected the conduct of municipal affairs in that city, has now turned its attention to the domestic servant problem. The housekeepers have formed an organization, with its own employment bureau. They have a regular fixed price for each department of domestic service, and one for the several grades of general housekeeper. A servant whose name is enrolled in the association's books is there because her employer is ready to vouch for her. Her record is kept, and she knows that only a violation of certain fixed laws will remove her name from what becomes in time an honor roll. The unreasonable mistress, who is constantly changing servants received through this honor list, finds it more difficult than ever to get servants. Not only are uniform wages paid, but uniform privileges are extended. Servants' rooms become important to the careless housewife, for she finds that her ranking as an employer is based somewhat on her care and consideration for those she employs. The association has taken one step that looks to the realization of the dream of many women.

A Housekeepers' Association formed on a community basis for the purpose of securing and training servants is sure to raise the status of domestic service in any community. Cooking-classes will be the natural outcome of such an association, with short practical talks on the several departments of housework to the servants by the women of the association best able to give them. Practice work in table-setting and waiting will follow the cooking lessons. The mistress will be a better mistress because of the new combination of the brains of mistress and maid. The step from practical talks to more scientific work in domestic science is sure to follow. The social opportunities of the maids will be increased through the educational opportunities. Sewing will be the first step toward better all-round training for the cook and waitress. The servants will have their recognized place in the plans made for the winter's campaign of lectures and classes. Changes will not mean disorganization of the whole household, for the new servant will be from the ranks of those whose brains have been recognized and valued as part of the community's stock of intelligence.

So long as the servant can secure the best wages for indifferent service, so long as the mistress will write and sign a recommendation that she knows is not true, so long as she will tolerate dirt, impudence, and disorderliness and pay wages for them, she will suffer. When she joins with others to devise a fair, honest, progressive, businesslike policy toward her neighbors in kitchen and parlor, being willing

to share her knowledge with either when they need it, the solution of the servant problem has been reached. It is not a dream. We live in a wonderful age of self-sacrifice. We need only to limit the field of this spirit and center it on the home of homes—our own—and then to share all that we give it with our neighbors' homes, and the dream is a fact.

Authoritative Questions

The State Superintendent of Education of New Jersey has sent out a circular to the citizens and teachers of the State with a view to obtain the home as well as the school opinion of the public schools. Among the questions were the following:

"Has the character of school boards improved under the township act?" "Has the quality of teachers improved?" "Has the attendance and interest of pupils increased?" "Has the supervision by board or supervising principal improved?" "Has the township act in general been an improvement upon the old district system?"

The Superintendent is to be congratulated. It is stated that answers have been received to about nine-tenths of the circulars sent. This result would indicate that the general average of intelligence in New Jersey is high. In this case the answers approve of the township over the district system.

Any individual or organization that sends out circulars asking for answers and receives thirty per cent. of replies may congratulate itself. Ninety per cent. indicates very active public sentiment in the State of New Jersey on the subject of public education.

Care of the Hair

Perhaps some of our readers can answer the following question:

Will some reader kindly give a remedy for harsh, dry hair and a slightly scabby scalp? Is vaseline good for the hair? A SUBSCRIBER.

Another Sign: "Hips Back!"

I am tempted to make a suggestion for the benefit of "C. C." and a host of other unfortunates who find the care of their shoulders a weary burden.

That thoughtful parent should simply say to his child, "Never mind your shoulders; forget them; put your hips back and your head up, and your shoulders will drop of their own accord into proper position." Try it, either sitting or standing, and see how instantly the spine assumes its proper curves, and how easily the shoulders relax into grace and comfort.

The secret of poise in standing and grace in walking lies in bringing the hips back, and I have seen a child's face brighten with satisfaction at the first trial of this very simple method of rectifying a stoop.

E. H. M.

An Opportunity

The "Springfield Republican" demands the appointment of women as overseers of the poor, because of their peculiar fitness for such work. Women as volunteers have accomplished positive good in the direction of improving the conditions surrounding the dependent poor who are under the care of the State and of municipalities. It can hardly be doubted that official power would increase their influence, and it is worth the experiment. Women are now employed in the care of the dependent poor, and they could talk more freely on many matters in connection with their work with women than could men officials.

A Protest Against Fraud

The sale of filled cheeses has so interfered with the legitimate trade in cheese that the New York Mercantile Exchange has sent a protest to Washington against a bill regulating their sale. The consumers must learn to protect themselves through legislation against food adulterations.

Domestic Economy.—"What's this!" exclaimed the young husband, referring to the memorandum she had given him: "One dozen eggs, a pound of raisins, bottle of lemon extract, can of condensed milk, dime's worth of ground cinnamon, and half a dollar's worth of sugar. What do you want of all these things, Belinda?" "I've got a dry loaf of baker's bread," replied the young wife, "that I'm going to save by working up into a bread pudding. I never let anything go to waste, Henry."—*Chicago Tribune*.