

Pressensé, the Coquerels, father and two sons, and Roseeuw [*sic*] St. Hilaire," Miss Traill says :

An austere simplicity in language, a profundity in thought, and an absolute sincerity in moral conviction, render these writers, in my opinion, the greatest that France has known.

We may not entirely agree with Miss Traill in these and similar views, but we cannot deny their value as revelations of personal taste, and as indications of generous and wholesome impulses.

MISS TRAILL'S STUDIES IN CRITICISM.*

IN looking through this volume we have been chiefly impressed with the author's liberality of spirit, her sincerity, and her uniform adherence to high moral standards. The marks of scholarship are not profound, but Miss Traill has evidently read much and thought a great deal. She considers such topics as the advantages of metaphysical study, the characteristics of French literature, genius in relation to religion and morality, history in literature, the perception of truth as dependent on character, and "the decline of art" as a process of bringing art into harmony with modern ideas. On all these subjects she has something suggestive to offer, and in all she seeks continually to find those ethical and religious motives which exercise an elevating influence over mankind.

Miss Traill is not afraid to proffer her own judgment whenever it is called for. She accounts for "the otherwise inexplicable failure of Goethe's influence" by the fact "that what we learn of his life from his friends (though it is hard to believe G. H. Lewes was a friend) disgusts us forever with the man and all that he had to do or say"; and on the same page with this remark we find the following :

For a while people said : "What *is* the matter with Carlyle?" Now the very children are beginning to tell us : "Nothing in the world except that he was not a Christian."

Of "Edmond Schérer [*sic*], Vinet, Monod,

* Studies in Criticism, By Florence Traill. Worthington Co. \$1.50.