

THOUGHTS ON THEISM.*—The Theism of the author rests on Agnosticism like that of Hamilton, Mansel, and Spencer. The knowledge that absolute being exists is a necessary intuition of reason; it is "a condition of thought which prompts to a belief in the existence of a Deity, and this appears to be ineradicably rooted in the native substance and structure of the mind." But while necessarily knowing *that* it is, we have no knowledge *what* it is. It is "never known as possessing faculties, or properties, or qualities." We may worship the Absolute as Truth, Wisdom, Love, Spirit, or by whatever names express to us that which is purest and best. Religion and worship are necessary from the constitution of man. But while we praise, adore, give thanks, and bow in submission to the supreme power, we are to expect no answers to prayer nor to enter into real communion with God. The creed proposed for the new Catholic church is: "A belief in the existence of God and in the Religious Nature of Man; and the two great commandments, the Love of God and the Love of Man, as the condition of membership or the regulative principles of the church life." He puts the question in passing whether Calvinism is not more hurtful than atheism. The author proposes that the movement begin by building in London a handsome Gothic church, with stained glass in every window, with suitable paintings and statues, and a choir equal to that of St. Paul's or Westminster Abbey, and that it be open daily as the center of all the benevolent work of the church. He proposes the follow-

* *Thoughts on Theism, with Suggestions towards a public religious service in harmony with modern Science and Philosophy.* Eighth thousand. Revised and enlarged. London: Trübner & Co., Ludgate Hill. 1880. Paper covers: 81 pages. Price one shilling.

ing order of public worship. Organ voluntary: Hymns: Dedication to higher religious life: Adoration, praise, thanksgiving to God, acknowledgment of dependence, resolves to be more truthful, just, generous, &c.: Anthem: Silent devotion: Two reading lessons, one from the Bible and the second from "another religious literature:" Anthem: Sermon or discourse: Hymn: Benediction: Voluntary by the organ. The writer is evidently serious and earnest, and is a well-read and able thinker.

WESTCOTT'S REVELATION OF THE RISEN LORD.*—This volume is intended as a supplement to the author's "Gospel of the Resurrection." It consists of eleven short studies of the various appearances of our Lord after his resurrection. The articles are spiritual and practical rather than historical and critical. The author attaches a distinct and peculiar significance to each appearance; that to Mary Magdalene was the revelation through love, that to the two disciples going to Emmaus was the revelation through thought, that to Thomas was the conviction of faith, that to the disciples assembled in the evening with the doors shut was the giving of the commission and charter of the church, and so on. Some of these suggestions seem fanciful and far-fetched.

STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST.†—This volume consists of eighteen "studies" on the prominent events and aspects of our Lord's life on earth. They were originally prepared as a series of Sunday evening discourses, while the author was a minister in Aberdeen. They appear to be published in the form in which they were originally delivered and retain the characteristics of such discourses. They are not exhaustive and critical discussions on the gospel history, but, at most, attempts at reaching points of view from which the life of Christ may be understood in its true significance. They are excellent reading for the household.

* *The Revelation of the Risen Lord.* By BROOKE FOSS WESTCOTT, D.D., D.C.L., Regius Professor of Divinity, Cambridge. London and Cambridge: Macmillan & Co. 1881. xvi and 199 pages. Price \$1.75.

† *Studies in the Life of Christ.* By the Rev. A. M. FAIRBAIRN, D.D., Principal of Airdale College, Bradford, and author of "Studies in the Philosophy of Religion and History." New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1, 3, and 5 Bond street. 1882. viii and 359 pages. Price \$1.75.

THE CONFLICTS OF THE AGE.*—This volume comprises four articles, published in different numbers of the North American Review, and republished, "with a few additional paragraphs, because they reflect the opinions of the age." The anonymous author shows himself well read on the subjects discussed, and presents clearly and forcibly the theories in question and their necessary issues. The discussion is sprightly, incisive, and witty; and whoever begins to read it will be likely to read it through.

BELIEFS ABOUT MAN.†—This volume is a companion to "Belief in God" published by the same author last spring. The topics discussed are, What is Man? Origin of Man: Sin and Salvation: Is Man Free? The Motive Forces of Human Life: The Law of Progress: The Earthly Outlook: Is Death the End? They are discourses preached Sunday mornings to the congregation to whom the author is minister. The author is a vigorous thinker and has a striking way of putting things. He is sometimes mistaken as to the facts on which he rests his arguments. He does not acknowledge man's free-agency beyond the power, like that which a brute has, to do as he pleases. He advances no further as to the future life than to say that existence after death is not impossible, and to present some reasons why we may hope for it. He says, "I have no belief in *spirit* which means nothing," but thinks an ethereal body may be developed within the present body and live after death. One's faith and spiritual insight must be at a minimum, if he can be lifted by the book to any higher spiritual trust and hope, or to any greater moral purity and power. To us its moral and spiritual influence is depressing and deadening.

BARTH'S RELIGIONS OF INDIA.‡—This work is based on an article published in 1879, in the *Encyclopédie des Sciences Religieuses*. It is here presented in an amplified form, and with num-

* *The Conflicts of the Age*. 1. An Advertisement for a new Religion. By an Evolutionist.—2. The Confession of an Agnostic. By an Agnostic.—3. What Morality have we Left? By a New Light Moralist.—4. Review of the Fight. By a Yankee Farmer. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 743 and 745 Broadway. 1881. 90 pages.

† *Beliefs about Man*. By M. J. SAVAGE. Boston: George H. Ellis, 141 Franklin street. 1882.

‡ *The Religions of India*. By A. BARTH, Member of the Société Asiatique of Paris. Authorized Translation, by Rev. J. Wood, Edin. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1882.

erous annotations which add much to its value. The author calls attention to the peculiarity of his view that the Veda is of sacerdotal and not of popular origin. Into the question of the origin and antiquity of caste he does not enter, but describes the system as it came to exist. Another question which he avoids is that of the relation of the Aryan Religions of India to other systems of faith, as Christianity and Islamism. The main topics are: The Vedic Religions, Brahmanism, Buddhism, Jainism, Hinduism. These are handled with great ability and erudition. The work is probably the best on the subject.

INDEX TO NEANDER'S CHURCH HISTORY.*—Index-makers who do their work well, belong with dictionary-makers, with accurate chronologers, and with other benefactors of the world to whom scholars are duly grateful, let mankind, generally, be never so oblivious of their services. In the volume before us, some diligent hand has set down, with considerable fullness, the topics noticed in the great work of Neander on the History of the Church. The book contains a third more references than are found attached to the several volumes of that work. Students need not be told that they will find in this copious and well-printed Index a faithful and valuable aid in their researches.

THE ORIGIN OF RELIGION AND BUDDHISM.†—This volume includes six Lectures with an Appendix. The special titles are: The Place of Buddhism in the Development of Religious Thought, The Pāli Piṭakas (Buddhist Scriptures), The Buddhist Theory of "Karma" (the Substitute for Transmigration of Souls), Buddhist Lives of the Buddha, Gotama's Order (the Buddhist Ascetics), and the Later Forms of Buddhism. Of the learning of the author of this volume on the themes which he handles there is no doubt. He is a clear writer and brings forward information of much value. We are not so well pleased with his theories respecting the origin of religion, and his comparison of Hindoo beliefs with other creeds. He adopts the theory that Animism was the earliest form of religion, and appears to be an adherent of the unverified hypotheses of Tylor and his school of Anthropologists.

* *Index to Neander's General History of the Christian Religion and Church.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1881.

† *The Hibbert Lectures*, 1881. The Origin and Growth of Religion, as illustrated by some points in the History of Indian Buddhism. By T. W. RHYS DAVES. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1882.

PROF. D. CADY EATON'S TRANSLATIONS OF SELECTIONS FROM FRIEDERICH'S "BAUSTEINE" will be found by students of Greek sculpture in this country, who have not access to the original, to be of great value. The work of Friederichs is but a collection of simple descriptions of the plaster casts in the Berlin Museum, yet, as that museum contains casts of all well known ancient statues, the Bausteine is, in fact, a critical history of all Greek sculpture from the beginning—gradually unfolding the principles that led to its perfect development, and following it through its degeneracy to the end. Prof. Eaton says of Friederichs, that, "better than any other writer, he hit the happy mean between prolixity and barrenness. His descriptions are satisfactory and do not fatigue. Moreover, his mind was so well-balanced and his disposition was so modest, that his writings are free from controversy and egotism. His statements are always calm, because he loved art better than his own opinions of it." Prof. Eaton is publishing these "Selections" in numbers, two of which are before us. In the second of these numbers will be found Friederichs' description of the sculpture of the Parthenon. Prof. Eaton's notes add materially to the value of the book to students of art in this country.

RICHARD GRANT WHITE'S "EVERY DAY ENGLISH."* — Even those who do not by any means accept all the dicta of Mr. White upon the subjects upon which he writes, can wish for this book a wide circulation. It is lamentable that with all our schools, and all our educational apparatus, so many errors in grammar, and in pronunciation, are to be heard every day, even from persons who suppose that they belong to the educated classes. Fortunately, at the present time, a fresh interest seems to be awakened in the correct pronunciation of English words, and the correct use of the English language, and it is to be hoped that this book will help to instruct the multitudes who are sadly in need of its teachings.

THE ART AMATEUR.—The frontispiece of the February number is a "Decorative Dream" of St. Valentine's Day. Other noticeable illustrations are a full-page drawing of Vibert's "Roofers," owned by W. H. Vanderbilt; a page of pencil studies by Gérôme; fifteen engravings of Minton pottery, including a

* *Every Day English*. By RICHARD GRANT WHITE. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. 1881. 12mo. 512 pp.

dozen tiles decorated by Solon, and pictures of the studio scene in "Esmeralda," an old German kitchen, and some very curious Spanish embroideries. The designs for china painting and embroidery are fresh and attractive. Noteworthy features in the table of contents are "An Æsthetic Pretender" (Oscar Wilde), "The Dudley Gallery," the picture "Collection of John Jacob Astor," "Tapestry Painting," "Embroidery for Bedrooms," "La Chaumière Indienne" (the cottage home of two artists in rural France), "A Boudoir of the Eighteenth Century," and "Artists' Views on Woman's Dress." Four dollars a year: 35 cents a number. Montague Marks, publisher, 23 Union Square, New York.

MAGAZINE OF ART.—The number for March contains engraved pictures of the Nuremberg Madonna and of Delpérée's painting of "Luther at the Diet of Worms." The other articles are "Alnwick Castle;" "Book Decorations, historical and artistic;" "Belgian art;" "Unfulfilled Renown;" color in dress; antique spoons; Nuremberg art; each fully illustrated with the finest of wood cuts. Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co.: New York. Yearly subscription \$3.50, single numbers 35 cents.