

Code of Hammurabi, and aligns himself with the scholars who attribute most of the Hebrew culture to the influence of Babylonia on the civilization of Western Asia. He then follows the usual radical treatment of Deuteronomy, Ezekiel and the priestly laws.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

**Discoveries in Hebrew, Gaelic, Gothic, Anglo-Saxon, Latin, Basque and Other Caucasic Languages.** By Allison Emery Drake, Sc. M. M.D., Ph.D. The Herrick Book & Stationery Company, Denver. 1907. Three-quarters Morocco; red edges; 9x6 inches. Pages vi+402. Price \$6.30 net.

Dr. Drake has expended time and money in the production of a learned work written to show that the Semitic and the Aryan languages are akin. In the Semitic group he uses Hebrew chiefly, though he shows acquaintance with Arabic and the other Semitic languages. For comparison with the Hebrew he adduces most frequently Gaelic, Basque, Gothic, Anglo-Saxon and Sanskrit, with none of which the reviewer has sufficient acquaintance to test the author's accuracy in the comparison. The reviewer is more at home in the Semitic languages, and in Greek, Latin, German, French, Italian and English. The general impression made by a careful examination of the book is that the author has made the comparison of the Semitic and the Aryan tongues less of a philosophical heresy than it was before he entered the arena. An original and independent mind is often needed to lift scholars out of the ruts and Dr. Drake is certainly original and courageous. He does not hesitate to bring forward new theories of kinship in the case of words in the Greek and Latin field, which has been thoroughly worked over by some of the greatest of modern philologists. Dr. Drake is fair enough, however, to let the uninitiated student know when he is preaching philological heresy. The timid can then retreat to cover, if they so desire.

It would not greatly surprise the reviewer to see a revival of interest in the study of comparative philology with a wider inclusion of languages than has been common in recent years. If a man could but live to a patriarchial age, he might hope to

know enough to trace more fully the relations of the great groups of earth's tongues to one another. Dr. Drake's book is a good beginning, and it is to be hoped that able philologists like Nöldeke will bring their stores of learning and keen critical insight to bear upon the questions raised by Dr. Drake.

JOHN R. SAMPEY.

**Are the Dead Alive?** The Problem of Psychical Research that the World's Leading Scientists are Trying to Solve, and the Progress they have Made. By Fremont Rider, with Statements of their Personal Belief by Sir Oliver Lodge, Andrew Lang, Count Leo Tolstoi, Sir William Crookes, Dr. Cesare Lombrosi, Dr. Charles Richert, Dr. V. Maxwell, Dr. Filippo Bottazzi, Professor William Barrett, Camille Flammarion, William T. Stead, Professor William James and others. New York. 1909. B. W. Dodge & Co. Pages xvi+372. Price \$1.75 net.

Such is the imposing title page of this pretentious book. We must not conclude that all these eminent names are placed on this page with the knowledge and consent of their owners. It is entirely legitimate to quote published statements from anyone but it is a questionable use of their names to place them on the title page of a work they have most likely not seen or heard of.

For a generation now some eminent men of science have been giving attention to the so-called "psychic phenomena" by which those who appropriate this term mean the phenomena, actual or feigned, of spiritualism and kindred matters. The most striking outcome of this scientific attention is the conviction that scientists are little more judicious and no more judicial than other cultured people.

This volume professes to sum up judicially the present status of the answer that can be made scientifically to the demand of many minds for demonstration of spiritual existence apart from human bodies. A vast amount of material is brought together and made available for use by any who care to investigate it.

The author seems to aim to discount and discredit this evidence so far as it is unreliable under the most searching tests, but his grim determination to hold on to a residuum sufficient