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Landmarks of Scientific Socialism (Anti-Duehring). By FREDERICK ENGELS. Translated and edited by AUSTIN LEWIS. (International Library of Social Science.) (Chicago: Kerr. Pp. 266.)

THIS is a reissue of Engels' polemic against his fellow-countryman, Eugene Duehring, translated and condensed into some 240 pages by Mr. Austin Lewis, who supplies an introduction and appendix to the treatise. It would be superfluous to examine in detail such a work by so well-known an author, which has been before the public for a life of more than thirty years. Engels himself accurately described its scope in his preface to those three chapters abstracted from it, which appeared together as "Socialism, Utopian and Scientific." "I had to treat of all and every possible subject, from the concepts of time and space to Bimetallism; from the eternity of matter and motion to the perishable nature of moral ideas; from Darwin's natural selection to the education of youth in a future society." All these topics and many others (somewhat condensed by the editor) we traverse; and under the author's guidance, trace the absurdities of Herr Duehring's "system" of Philosophy and of Political Economy and Socialism successively, in his views of the scheme of the universe, of cosmogony and physics, of natural philosophy with the "natural philosophical half-poetry" on which modern science is built; of the stability of eternal truths in morals and law; of the origin of evil which is somehow elucidated by the example of the cat ("There is no mystery then about evil if one can detect a mysticism in the cat or any other beast of prey"); of the basis of equality; of free-will; of the conception of progress—the "negation of negation"; of the philosophical reconstruction of economics as a whole; of the theory of value, and of socialism. Engels is not an antagonist sparing in blows, and his summary on p. 107 of the previous chapter on "organic nature" is typical of his whole attitude towards the would-be socialist of the non-Marxian school. "If the last chapter . . . be read, the empty, self-contradictory, assertive, oracular, stupid, circuitous, absolute nothingness of the final result lead one to the conclusion that Herr Duehring talks about things of which he knows very little, and this conclusion becomes a certainty . . ." Elsewhere he is said to be "silly and incompetent," "one of the most conspicuous types of those absurd pseudo-scientists, who to-day . . . drown everything with their noisy nonsense."

Beyond its interest as a study in polemics, what is the value

of the work (avowedly written for a special purpose) which justifies its reissue now? Neither Herr Duehring's conception of time and space, nor even Herr Engels' refutations thereof are of special value after the lapse of thirty years. "The battle has long since rolled away from the ground on which Engels fought," the present editor readily admits. It is as defending the ideals of the two opposite conceptions of socialism, the ethical and the utilitarian or economic, that the duel of the two protagonists can still be followed with some profit. "According to this view" (that of "all English and French, and of the earlier German socialists") "socialism is the expression of absolute truth, reason, and justice, and only has to be perceived in order to vanquish the world by reason of its truth." Duehring is all for "eternal truths" which shall convert the world to Socialism; Engels will have none of such weapons, nor, indeed, of "conversion" in any form. His faith is rather in "economic development," which, "without exception and inexorably . . . has attained its goal," and leads inevitably to Socialism. Duehring and Engels were neither the first nor will they be the last to approach the subject of Socialism from different standpoints. Perhaps the ultimate opposition between the two schools is less diametric than Engels thought.

Controversy brings out the points of a case, and amidst his diatribes on Herr Duehring, Engels finds leisure to present the doctrines of Marx in brief. The sections on Political Economy and Socialism supply the reader in a forcible and concise form with all the orthodox tenets of Marxism—and for this alone the translation should be of interest. There is the materialistic interpretation of history. "Let our ideologist dodge all that he can, the historical reality which he has thrown out of doors comes in again at the window"; the "doctrine of increasing misery" (the present system of production and distribution "has produced the daily sharpening antagonism between the continually less numerous but constantly richer capitalists and the more numerous, but, on the whole, continually poorer propertyless wage-workers"); the insistence on "class-consciousness" as an engine of progress, the orthodox theory of value, depending on "average labour-force" ("only so far as is socially necessary does private labour comprehend human labour in general"—an explanation which justifies the editor's comment on the probable incapacity of the "man in the street" to follow the author's point of view), and of surplus value, the elucidation of which is "the crowning glory of the work of Marx." In some eighty

pages of this edition Engels enunciates these familiar theses afresh and with immense vigour; disposes in a few energetic strokes of the arguments of the orthodox economist, and sweeps aside as absurdities the attempts of Herr Duehring at compromise and at gradual reformation of the present social system. Here we have less vindictive abuse of Duehring (we would wish that the editor had spared us even more than he has of the diatribes in the earlier chapters), and can therefore see the positive lines of the Marxian system. For this reason, as was said, the reissue will not be without value in a series of the type of the present.

Mr. Lewis is better as editor than as translator. He contributes a good introduction of some fifteen pages on the general lines of the book, with a brief appendix at the close. He points out very fairly in what details his author is not "up-to-date," but upholds the latter's main position warmly, and justifies his views as harmonising with the spirit of the twentieth century. But the English of the translation is open to considerable criticism—the quotations given above are fair specimens—the punctuation leads to ambiguity in some cases (as at the top of p. 52), and the book abounds in small misprints and omitted words.

VIOLET BUTLER

La Monnaie. By A. DE FOVILLE. (Paris : Lecoffre, 1907. Pp. 242.) *La Science Économique* (Troisième Édition, entièrement refondue). By YVES GUYOT. (Paris : Schleicher, 1907. Pp. 531.)

M. DE FOVILLE has a great advantage over most writers on this subject, in having a practical knowledge of it. He has studied Money as Director of the French Mint. The subject had indeed engaged his attention before his appointment to that office, in 1893. He had already computed the amount of money circulating in France by a method which was discussed in the *ECONOMIC JOURNAL* in 1892 (p. 168). It may be interesting to record here some of the results obtained by the latest application of that method. In 1903 the total value of the gold money in France (including foreign coins) was 4,800,000,000 francs; that of silver (at its "par," or nominal value) not so much as half this sum. Since 1903 additions have been made to the gold currency, but M. de Foville doubts whether it has been brought up to half the total amount of gold coin issued from the French Mint since the year 1795, a total of some 10,000,000,000 francs. We infer