

The task of establishing a relation between science and religion is usually left to the theologian. It is very gratifying to find now and then a scientist who sees the same opportunity and feels the same responsibility. When that scientist is one of eminence and ability and at the same time one who understands clearly the positions and values of religious faith it is especially to be welcomed that he contributes to the adjustment and mutual advantage of the two realms for the general service of humanity. The author of this volume speaks with the voice of authority in modern science and with the voice of experience and appreciation in religion. The reader will be glad to accompany such a guide in such topics as these, among others: "Influence of Science upon Religious Thought," "Principles of Biology," "Evolution," "Heredity," "Evolution and Evil," "Science and Miracle," "Evolution and Immortality." It is a notable and welcome volume. It should do as much for scientists as for preachers, for the scientist cannot escape religious duty in the social organism.

W. O. CARVER.

Spiritual Law in Natural Fact: By J. C. Armstrong, D.D. Philadelphia, The Griffith and Rowland Press. 1913. 128 pages, 50 cents.

In this little volume Dr. Armstrong has not undertaken the pretentious task of showing at length the divine force and presence in natural law. That fact is only partially and generally discussed. His is the more practical and more widely useful work of illustrating and enforcing spiritual laws by illustrations and suggestions from natural law as seen and used in every-day life. In this way he enforces such topics as accountability, prayer, sin and salvation. It is a book of parables and exposition of parables as well as of apologetics based on natural law. It is a delightful little volume.

W. O. CARVER.

The World We Live In: Or Philosophy and Life in the Light of Modern Thought. By George Stuart Fullerton, Professor of Philosophy in Columbia University, New York. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1913. xi+293 pages. \$1.50 net.

This is a trenchant and altogether vigorous indictment of all forms of modern philosophy, including pragmatism, for unreality and separation from actual life in their dealing with the problems of being. "The World We Live In" is "Everybody's World" and a philosophy that soars in the air and presents as fact what is unintelligible, and, when explained, unreal to the every-day man, is no true or practical philosophy of existence. The volume presents a fine plea for conservative regard for the traditional forms of thought and faith, as products of history and so not essentially irrational. The continuity of history does not free us from the "jolts" of new truth, but does exempt us from the demand that all the past be treated as superstitions and worthless. "The will to believe," resting as it does on the more fundamental "will to live," is to be treated not alone with reverence because of sentiment but with respect because of worth.

The author writes with a fluent, popular style influenced by a playful and bantering humor that makes reading easy.

W. O. CARVER.

The Fitness of the Environment; An Inquiry into the Biological Significance of the Properties of Matter: By Lawrence J. Henderson, Assistant Professor of Biological Chemistry in Harvard University. In Part Delivered as Lectures at the Lowell Institute, February, 1913. New York. The Macmillan Company, 1913. xv+317 pages, \$1.50 net.

Natural selection by the living organism in evolution has its counterpart in the fitness of the environment for the action of metabolism. For half a century the scientific stress has been wholly on the selection, to so great an extent as usually to overlook and ignore, sometimes to deny, the fitness and its significance in biological evolution. Thus natural theology and theological reasoning were outlawed in many learned circles.

The present volume on an extensive scale of detailed argument discusses the properties of matter and shows the scientific necessity for recognizing the neglected factor. The argument is conclusive and gives distinct footing in science for a contention never given up by the theologian.