

a mortal disease for which there is no remedy, it is neither wise nor kind to insist upon forcing his situation upon his attention, unless there is some sort of preparation he can make for the inevitable issue. Pessimism is not a helpful doctrine, either in religion or politics.

C. S. GARDNER.

**Tennyson and His Friends.** Edited by Hallam, Lord Tennyson. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1911. Pages 503. \$3.00, net.

There is boundless charm in the personality of Tennyson. His poetry is so rich in grace and beauty of style and sentiment that it is the wonder of modern days. But Tennyson himself has a winsomeness all his own that was well understood by his contemporaries. There was at times a certain roughness of manner to the stranger, but the initiated who were privileged to get within this outer shell and share the royal hospitality of this great soul learned the real Tennyson. He moved in the best circles of English life and that is the best in the world. It was the best in the true sense, that of culture of the spirit. In that high region Tennyson was at home and at his best. The present beautiful volume reveals to us some of the noble spirits in this mystic circle. It is a joy to a lover of Tennyson to commune in these delightful pages with Tennyson, his brothers Frederick and Charles, Arthur Hallam, Lushington, Fitzgerald, Carlyle, Thackeray, Ward, Spedding, and many more. Lord Tennyson, the editor, has called to his help various friends of his father, who are best qualified to present certain aspects of his private life. The views of Tennyson on many vital topics are given in a most interesting way, as music, science, nature. All in all, it is a book to prize and to enjoy. The pictures are numerous and beautiful and in harmony with the character of the volume.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**Professor Elmslie: A Memoir.** By W. Robertson Nicoll. Hodder & Stoughton, New York and London. 1911. Pages, 186.

Dr. Nicoll has published in a separate volume his beautiful sketch of Professor W. G. Elmslie, which had already appeared