

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

to give the required "proof" is quite evident. It is impossible to resist the conviction that he is either subject to the delusions of his own desires or that he is practicing a shrewd legerdemain of logic on his readers. He continues, for example, to use witnesses after showing that they have been convicted not only of incompetency in some cases, but of actual fraud in other cases.

If this is the best showing that can be made we are yet a long way from being able to claim demonstration for the contentions of the psychics and their dependents that they are in communication with the spirit world on the basis of material manifestations.

W. O. CARVER.

The Science of Living. By William S. Sadler M.D. A. C. McClurg & Co. New York, Chicago, San Francisco. 1910. Price \$1.50 net.

The sub-title of this book is suggestive of its main purpose—and this may well commend it to the preacher—"The Art of Keeping Well". The author, a physician and lecturer on hygiene, has in mind primarily the man who is well and wants to keep so. He is foot-loose, committed to no "school", and steers free of fads, but he gives what seem to this reviewer to be sound physiological and psychological reasons for the rules of health he lays down. Especially valuable is the section dealing with foods, giving their full value, describing prevalent adulterations and telling how to detect them. The pages are copiously illustrative, with apt and luminous drawings.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Spirit of America. By Henry Van Dyke, Professor of English at Princeton University, Hyde Lecturer, University of Paris, 1908, 1909. Hon. LL.D., University of Geneva, Hon. F. R. S. L., London. New York. 1910. The Macmillan Company. Pages xv+276. Price \$1.50 net.

America has had no greater literary master than Henry Van Dyke. This means that he has the insight of a prophet, the sympathy of a priest, profound moral conviction and high artistic skill. These were brought into play in interpreting for