

**The Ether of Space.** By Sir Oliver Lodge, F. R. S. Harper & Bros. New York. 1909. Pages 167. Price 2s 6d.

In brief compass Sir Oliver Lodge gives a lucid and popular, though necessarily technical, treatment of a most difficult and interesting subject. According to this volume ether is everywhere and matter is made from ether. Electrons differ from ether as a knot does from the string. One is bound to admit that ether still seems largely hypothesis, though a probable hypothesis. But the subject has much interest.

A. T. ROBERTSON.

**Letters of a Physician to his Daughter on the Great Black Plague.**  
By F. A. Rupp, M. D. The Vir Publishing Co. 1910. Pages 96. Price 50 cents.

It really would seem that this publishing house had about covered the field of "self and sex" studies, but they continue to produce works dealing with the subject. This little volume deals especially with the dangers to matrimony from venereal diseases and the discussion is as clean and modest as such a discussion could be. The information and warning of the book, however, ought to be addressed to parents and to young men rather than to young women, for with them and not the young women rests the possibility of correcting the awful evil. It is impossible to believe that the author actually addressed these letters to his daughters primarily. He obviously had in mind the public. He may have sent them to the daughters. The showing is very horrible and very convincing. The moral iniquity involved should have more emphasis along with the awful physical ills.

W. O. CARVER.

**A Modern Chronicle.** By Winston Churchill. Author of "Richard Carvel", "The Crisis", "Mr. Crewe's Career", etc. Illustrated by J. H. Gardner Soper. New York. 1910. The Macmillan Company. Pages 530. Price \$1.50.

This Chronicle might have been called "Lights on High Society", or "A Study in Heredity and the Corrective Influence of the Proper Rearing and Environment in Childhood", or

"The Power of Love as Found in Peter Erwin", or "The Life of Honora Leffingwell". In the case of the heroine we have a critical analysis of her character and its development. This is a strong book—many think Mr. Churchill's most powerful—and it ought to exercise a wholesome influence over the evils of what is called high society. It is a contribution, indirectly, to the study of divorce.

ALICE S. CARVER.

**Go-to-Bed Stories.** By Lettice Bell. Author of "Tabernacle Talks with Little People", etc., etc. New York. Gospel Publishing House. Pages 170.

These stories are partly from the Bible and follow very closely the Bible accounts, but with a directness and startling interest that give them the most living charm. Scripture references are given freely in foot-notes. Other stories are of events in various lands, all of keen interest for the child. The paper, the illustrations and the whole appearance make this a very delightful volume. The stories are good for the go-to-bed hour only provided you do not want the children to go to sleep.

W. O. CARVER.

**The Roman Assemblies From their Origin to the End of the Republic.** By George Willis Botsford, Professor of History in Columbia University, Author, etc. New York. The Macmillan Co. 1909. Pages 521. Price \$4.00 net.

In recent years there has been an enormous output of literature dealing with the various phases of Roman history. Special attention has been given to the institutions and customs of the Roman people—civil, social, economic, religious and legal. The present work is an excellent example of these studies in particular phases of Roman life. The author is already well known from other works on Greek and Roman history and institutions.

The present work he divides into two parts. Part I is on the "Elements of the Comitial Constitution", in which he treats of the *populus* and its earliest tribal divisions; its earliest social composition, the thirty-five tribes, the centuries and the classes and the political use of the auspices. Part II deals with