

religion I am unable to approve and I am especially unable to accept the theory that ethical conscience is a delayed product by way of evolution of the law of tribal custom. The idea of redemption in religion is almost overlooked, which surely is unexpected in the Philosophy of Religion. But the defects of the book are chiefly negative and it is always possible to find fault. Apart from a too critical balancing of ideas and so a lack of definiteness the positive elements of the work are mainly quite satisfactory. It has the advantage of readable size. For class work it is well adapted.

W. O. CARVER.

The Gods of India: A Brief Description of Their History, Character and Worship. By the Rev. E. Osborn Martin, for 13 years a Wesleyan Methodist Missionary in India and Ceylon; with 68 illustrations and map. London: J. M. Dent & Sons. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1914. xviii+330 pp. \$1.50 net.

The author has undertaken one of the most difficult tasks in the study of religion. Worship could hardly be more complicated than in India today. The multiplicity of gods, the varieties of their legends, the confusion of their mythology, the unconcern for consistency and logic, all make difficult in the extreme any satisfactory account of India's gods. Our author has not undertaken a scientific study but a popular presentation. He is giving us not so much the results of personal investigation and reflection as a collection of stories, accounts and views gathered from leading writers. He has systematized his material and classified the gods so as to make as intelligible as may be to occidental readers the really incomprehensible workings of religion, superstition and folk lore in a richly varied group of Orientals.

The illustrations are good and contribute greatly to the interest and value of the book. And while the work is not one to satisfy scientific students of religion it brings to the average reader more, and more nearly what he wants, of the Hindu thought of deity than he will be able to find within the same compass elsewhere.

W. O. CARVER.