

Good Without God is the title of a rationalist pamphlet by Robert Chamblet Adams, President of the Montreal Pioneer Freethought Club. It is an arraignment of current Christianity from the standpoint of the freethinker, technically so called. (New York: Peter Eckler, Publisher. Pages, 113. Price, 25 cents.)

The phallic derivation of religion has been briefly and vigorously treated by Jabelon in a pamphlet published by Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton Kent & Co., of London. Many of the author's analogies are far-fetched and uncritical. The exposition is not without its pertinent remarks, but it is hard to understand that from the 1400 books and papers which the author says he used in the preparation of his essay more apposite material could not have been adduced and sounder conclusions reached on this important subject. (1902. Pages, 48.)

The literary diary of Ezra Stiles, President of Yale College during the Revolutionary War, having recently been issued by Scribner's of New York, Mr. George Alexander Kohut has taken advantage of the occasion to cull from the work passages relating to the Jews and Judaism. It appears that Dr. Stiles was a passionate Hebraist, going so far as to compel his family to learn the sacred language, and presenting his graduates on graduation day with a small edition of the Bible in Hebrew and Greek. His diary, therefore, has afforded much material in commendation of Jewish ideals and traditions. (New York: Philip Cowen, Publisher. 1902. Pages, 155.)

NOTES.

We just learn on the authority of Prof. A. H. Sayce, that the Assyriological scholar Father Scheil is said to have unearthed the Code of Laws of Hammurabi, the Biblical King Amraphel and contemporary of Abraham. A picture of Hammurabi was published in *The Open Court* for April, 1902, page 210, in the article "Babel and Bible" by Professor Delitzsch.

We learn from *The Indian Mirror* of July 26th last that the orthodox Hindus have agreed to discuss the evils of Hindu child-widow remarriage at Benares, in a conference where the orthodox as well as the liberal partisans shall be duly represented. Several Maharajahs will be present, and the Maharajah of Calcutta will preside. Three English gentlemen well versed in Sanscrit and Hindustani will be appointed as umpires, and all parties have agreed to accept their decision. The Vedas will be used as authoritative books, and no other language will be spoken except Hindi and Sanscrit, the latter for purposes of quotation.

Attempts have been made to reform the Hindu customs through laws, but the best course seems to be that the reforms should come from the Hindus themselves, and be endorsed by representatives of the orthodox parties.

MAJOR JOHN WESLEY POWELL.

DIED SEPTEMBER 23, 1902.

As we are going to press, we find in the daily papers the following dispatch from Washington, dated September 23:

"Prof. John Wesley Powell, director of the bureau of ethnology, who died to-day at Haven, Me., was well known in Illinois, where he lived in early life,