

readers. His *Budget of Paradoxes* is a rare collection of scientific oddities with running comments of the most pungent humor and interest from the witty pen of their editor. The Open Court Publishing Company has published two of De Morgan's books *On the Study and Difficulties of Mathematics*, and *Elementary Illustrations of the Differential and Integral Calculus*, and considers them among the most valuable of its Mathematical Series.

The only living representative of this truly remarkable and brilliant family is the scientist William De Morgan, who by a strange anomaly happens to be best known to the general public by two or three delightful novels, *Alice-for-Short* and *Joseph Vance*, which have attained popular favor, though they represent only hours of the author's recreation after a busy life of scientific research. He is recognized as having re-invented for the use of modern times the forgotten art of producing luster pottery.

### BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTES.

RELIGION AND HISTORIC FAITHS. By *Otto Pfeleiderer, D. D.* Translated from the German by *Daniel A. Huelsch, Ph. D.* New York: Huelsch, 1907. Pp. 291. Price, \$1.50 net.

This book comprises a course of lectures on comparative religion (introduced by three on the general subject of the philosophy of religion), which was delivered before the theological department of the University of Berlin in the winter of 1905-1906. Most of Dr. Pfeleiderer's published lectures have been on philosophical or religious themes which bore particularly upon some aspect of the history of Christianity, but in this volume after treating of what religion really is and its relation to science and the conduct of life, he discusses in turn each of the great world-religions—those of Egypt, Babylonia, and the ancient Greeks, as well as the present-day faiths of China, India, Israel, Islam and Christendom. Dr. Pfeleiderer was a student under Professor Baur at Tübingen, and considers him the first to have applied the scientific method to the study of theology. Pfeleiderer himself was a visitor to the St. Louis exposition as a member of the Congress of Arts and Sciences and is well known among liberal theological circles here. He was an honored guest at the recent Congress of Liberal Religion at Boston, and is now engaged as a lecturer at Harvard University with other University engagements in the East.

COENOBIVM. *Rivista Internazionale Di Liberi Studi.* Lugano, 1907. Price, 15 fr. per year; 3 fr. per number (bi-monthly).

*Coenobium* is a new periodical published by Enrico Bignami which is devoted to the special purpose of the ideal of a contemplative religious life after the fashion of monasteries. It is, however, not limited to the ideals of Roman Catholic monks, but takes a bolder view and considers the same religious sentiments of others who are not believers in the Roman Catholic Church. The subject-matter treated in this periodical, accordingly, is very varied, and devotes a good deal of space to non-Christian religions, especially Buddhism. So far four numbers have appeared in which philosophical as well as religious questions have been treated. Any one interested in the periodical should for further details address the editor, Enrico Bignami, Villa Conza, Lugano, Switzerland.

ENSEIGNEMENT ET RELIGION. Etudes philosophiques par *Georges Lyon*. Recteur de l'Académie de Lille, ancien maître de conférences à l'École Normale Supérieure. Paris: Félix Alcan, 1907. Pages, 237. Price, 3 fr. 75.

Since the dissolution of the Concordat, and the separation of Church and State, France has passed into a new phase which demands the solution of new problems. One of them, and we may say, not the least of them, is the problem of teaching religion in school, and Monsieur Georges Lyon, a prominent educator in France, being director of the Academy of Lille, has undertaken to review all the difficulties of the situation and make his propositions, which we do not hesitate to say are desirable and will most likely prove acceptable to the government. He is not an extremist, not an enemy of the Church. He preaches moderation and justice. He would have been disheartened if he had written his book a decade ago, but he feels encouraged by the progress made of late, and hopes that his aims will be realized within reasonable time.

The first part of the book is devoted to the subject of the contrast of State institutions and religious thought, and examines how and in what spirit a professor appointed by the State should teach his pupils if he has to deal with religious facts. Since the rupture of the Concordat many difficulties have been removed, and the State has now a free hand to do what it will naturally deem to be right. The conclusions of the author are practical and simple, though he is not likely to be countenanced by the pretensions of extremists on either side, and his conclusions may be summed up in three words: tolerance, liberty of thought, and respect.

In the second part of his book M. Lyon criticises those philosophers who would introduce spiritualistic notions, and would replace the old religious views by a new, and what we would call an unsectarian, religion based on a primitive theism. He concludes his volume with an appeal to the ideal of tolerance, and takes as his standard the English philosopher Locke, whose educational ideal he deems most practical, and especially suitable for the present condition of France. He hopes that the future of France will be bright. The realization of his aims, he says, is not chimerical. The progress made of late in the establishment of international good will, the realization of the Hague tribunal, all seem to guarantee the progress of a healthy natural development. The mere thought of universal peace, he thinks, if but realized by every one of us, will help to bring about a better future which will be the long hoped-for realization of the cherished dream of the idealists of former ages.