

lution. Here is the gist of Mr. Moody's position :

"When men form corporate organizations or make agreements they do not form monopolies. They may take advantage of monopoly in one way or another, but they do not create it. The monopoly itself is rather a social product, which exists with the consent of society, and men in business take advantage of it where found, just as they take advantage of any other factors for the purpose of achieving their ends. . . . Monopoly is the mother of our entire modern industrial civilization. It is institutional and men must reckon with it."

"The weakness of all this (anti-trust) legislation lies in the fact that while it pretends to aim at the 'regulation' of monopoly, it really never touches the monopoly, and simply frustrates the natural growth of modern economical means of production and distribution."

"The modern trust is the natural outcome or evolution of societary conditions and ethical standards which are recognized and established among men to-day as being necessary elements in the development of civilization."

One can agree with all this without accepting the deduction that it is "largely because of the existence of monopoly power" that "wealth is to-day produced and massed with greater economy of expenditure and greater aggregate result than ever before in the history of mankind." And even if this deduction is true, there comes the larger question whether material progress is the greatest and most desirable end.

However, Mr. Moody did not intend to write a book on ethics, but a book on the trusts, and he has succeeded so well in the latter task that it were hypercritical to cavil at his references to the attributes of monopoly. Besides, those who accept our prevalent standards of ethics will have to accept his conclusions, and perhaps this is the only lesson Mr. Moody wishes to enforce.

He who believes in monopolies has no just cause of complaint because the other fellow got one first, or has gobbled up all of them. And he who thinks he is willing to abolish monopoly may have a farther road to travel than he dreams of.

A. C. P.

#### \* "POOR?"

This is one of the least "bookish" of recent works. Its style is absolutely unconventional. It is at times even unpleasantly colloquial. But the author has chosen his medium deliberately—it is the language of a workingman to workingmen.

\*Poor? A New Political Standard for a New Democracy For a Millionaire Age. By A. N. Unknown. 345 pp. cloth. Price \$1.50. Continental Publishing Co., N. Y.

The writer's fundamental notion is the conception of a new democracy built upon the workingman's consciousness of his own powers, his place in society, the overwhelming character of his domination. "Rulers never rule and oppress, nor can rule and oppress the masses, but are always ruled by the masses." This truth he terms "the foundation rock of a new democracy," and is inclined to esteem its value to the social order as ranking with the Copernican system in its relation to the astronomical order.

Much of the work appears to be a personal revelation; it is autobiographic in form, and the philosophizing is interspersed through a sort of running narrative of the author's experience and his struggles with poverty.

While we cannot accord to the germ theory of the book the merit of a "discovery," since it is not so new as the author imagines, yet its assertion and reiteration are of value. The anonymous writer is evidently a Single Taxer, and his reference to Henry George on page 124 is worth quoting:

"Few men have accomplished more in a lifetime. Few men have so highly honored human nature—from a sturdy start with a trade to a nation mourning his loss. Few men have so persistently laid their life-work at the feet of the masses. The sublime spectacle presented to mortal man is a noble, wholesome life, teeming with efforts vigorous and persistent, for the good of others.

"Such was the life of Henry George; and to the good fate of our human kinship was it that he touched the heart strings of a nation."

J. D. M.

#### \* NEW EDITION OF "MOONBLIGHT."

Mr. Dan Beard's "Moonlight" was written and published several years ago, and did not fail to make an immediate impression. We are glad to welcome a new and handsome edition from the press of Albert Brandt.

The book has a charm beyond the more widely read novels of the day, not merely because the author surveys the miseries and sufferings of humanity from the standpoint of the Single Taxer, but independently of this, as an interesting chronicle of personal experience allegorical in form, and because of a style that is wholesome, intimate and simple. Dan Beard has for years illustrated the works of Mark Twain, a much greater literary artist and as true a democrat. Sitting thus at the feet of the master he has caught something of the inspiration of the master's genius.

\*"Moonlight and Six Feet of Romance." By Dan Beard. Illustrated with fifty pictures by the author. 256 pages. Introductory study by Louis F. Post. Price, \$1.25 net; by mail, \$1.35. Albert Brandt, publisher, Trenton, N. J.