

So out of the past all may gather the lesson
 That Nature tries ever to teach us the way;
 And so we may learn from our errors and sadness
 The way to turn sorrow and gloom into gladness;
 And know that night's darkness e'er heralds the
 day.

CARL J. BUELL.

BOOKS

OUR FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.

The Origin and Growth of the American Constitution. An Historical Treatise. By Hannis Taylor, Hon. LL. D. of the Universities of Edinburgh and Dublin; formerly Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Spain; author of "The Origin and Growth of the English Constitution," etc. Boston and New York. Houghton, Mifflin Company. 1911. Price, \$4.00 net.

Social Reform and the Constitution. By Frank J. Goodnow, LL. D., Eaton Professor of Administrative Law at Columbia University. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1911. Price, \$1.50 net.

A treatise on Constitutional growth from the Hamiltonian viewpoint and with socialistic color, and a report upon court decisions with reference to social reform legislation, go well in double harness. Nothing is lacking to make the team complete but a treatise on judicial constitution-making from the Jeffersonian viewpoint and with individualistic coloring. Following the historical method, "which regards all law, public and private, as a living and growing organism that changes as the relations of society change," Dr. Taylor describes the growth of the American Constitution, from its written form or root which the Convention of 1787 planted, through all its alterations by amendment and court decision to its present national character. Apart from its historical value, which is very great, his volume is especially instructive for its demonstration of the impossibility of a written Constitution except as the root for an unwritten one. Among the historical documents of a richly stored appendix are the New England Articles of Confederation of 1643, and Pelatiah Webster's Constitutional tract of 1783. Dr. Taylor having in the first book of these two found the English speaking peoples in the midst of a transition from political to economic problems demanding creative statesmanship, and getting it with unparalleled boldness, originality and contempt for the past, Dr. Goodnow comes in handily with the second of two books to advise the student, by reference to court decisions, of the extent to which the Constitution as now interpreted judicially is a bar to legislative solutions of economic problems. Among the reforms discussed by him are uniformity of commercial regulation, creation of inter-State corporations, direct legislation, labor laws, monopoly, and taxation.

THE PRINCIPLE OF DEMOCRACY*

God and Democracy. By Frank Crane, author of "Human Confessions," etc. Chicago. Forbes & Company. Price 50c.

The preface says, "This book seeks to show how the idea of democracy is altering the idea of God."

Might it not as well be said that the idea of God is altering the idea of democracy? For, reasoning from cause to effect, we trace the influence of the Infinite Mind on the finite intelligence in the gradual emancipation of the common thought from the insane idea of God inculcated by the old theologies. And we find in the expanding sense of brotherhood among men a reflection of the higher ideal of a gracious and beneficent Power at the heart of the universe.

It is delightful to find democracy defined by Mr. Crane in the larger sense which has always inhered to the spirit of the word, but which has been lost and confounded in the petty struggles of party. To serve and not to rule is the grand ideal which true democracy is forcing upon the world. It is shown by every analysis of the Gospels that Jesus, as a representative of God, "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

"My Father worketh hitherto, and I work," said Jesus.

"And there," says the author of "God and Democracy," "you have the modern, scientific democratic notion of the All-Potent. He is not king, president or millionaire: He is a laborer, a carpenter, a chemist, an artist. He is not typified by the ninnies our conventions have placed at the top of the social ladder, but by the cheerful toilers at the bottom. He is a farmer, raising humanity's food-stuffs. He is the 'hand' who lifts the water from the ocean, carries it over and 'sprinkles' it upon the fields. He is 'the Servant in the House,' scrubbing, cleaning, airing and washing for His household."

"God and Democracy" is a slight volume, but there is pressed into its 72 pages the germ idea and working principle of the universe.

Read it.

A. L. M.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—The Story of the Soil. By Cyril G. Hopkins. Published by Richard G. Badger, The Gorham Press, Boston. 1911.

—Socialism As It Is. By William English Walling. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1912. Price, \$2.00 net.

—A New Conscience and An Ancient Evil. By Jane Addams. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1912. Price, \$1.00 net.

—Beyond War: A chapter in the Natural History of Man. By Vernon Lyman Kellogg. Published by Henry Holt & Co., New York. 1912. Price, \$1.00.