#### Editor's Table.

Publishers will confer a favor by mentioning the prices of all books sent to this Department. PORTER ON THE HUMAN INTELLECT.

The thinking mind of New England still leads the speculative movement of our country. And little Connecticut, a mere patch upon the map of the Union, continues, as of old, to be the generous nurse of a large proportion of the thinkers of New England. Her elm-embowered literary capital, New Haven, is gathering, from generation to generation, associations that bid fair to rank it with the groves of Academia. While Cambridge tends, as it would seem inevitably, to the more æsthetic and literary side of culture, and while its deepest thinkers are only ambitious to be thought oracular, in New Haven there has ever prevailed a conscientious and scientific spirit, which has aimed to grasp and present in communicable, pedagogic form, the truth of man's spiritual nature and existence. Prof. Porter, Prof. Fisher, and Prof. Day are living examples of this practical, healthful, orthodox tendency. But Prof. Porter's volume. just issued, is and will be its monument. No such complete, comprehensive, and valuable metaphysical treatise has appeared, we venture to say, in the English language, and very few out of it. Morell's History of Philosophy is the only one that approaches it, and that does not claim to be, or to furnish, as this does, a system. Prof. Porter, in a comparatively small compass, gives us here a system of spiritual, theistic philosophy, a view of cotemporary and antecedent opinions, and a critique of such as he feels bound to oppose. It is a complete metaphysical library in itself; and the choice of types is such, that beginners, as well as more advanced students and private readers, may use it with equal ease and profit.

It must be admitted that, since the days of Hamilton, the weight of intellect engaged in metaphysical studies has been upon the side of materialism. A dark shadow seems to have been gathering upon the continent and in Great Britain, under the influence of such names as Comte, Stuart Mill, Bain, Buckle, and Herbert Spencer. Prof. McCosh, who has rendered such valuable services in this conflict, is no longer on the ground, but is with us in this country. Neither Prof. Porter nor Prof. McCosh can be said to equal, in originality, force of genius and popularity of address, the Corypheuses of materialism we have named. Prof. Hickok, formerly of Schenectady, more closely approaches the European materialists in the orginality of his conceptions, but his system can scarcely be termed popular. Prof. McCosh has not attempted to give us a system, but to carry on a controversy. On the whole, Prof. Porter's "Human Intellect" is the best service rendered to spiritual and theistic philosophy for a generation, if no more. It is a convenient storehouse of facts and weapons on every aspect of the question; it is as guarded against the vagueness of idealism as against the grossness of ma terialism; it is clear and natural in style, copious and happy in illustration, and taking the line of the French rather than the German met aphysicians, it quite strips metaphysics of its conventional repulsiveness, and makes it an attractive study. So we felt sure Prof. Porter would make it, when more than twenty, years ago, we sat at his feet with a chosen company of youth, whose thirst for knowledge could not be quenched with the ordinary course of study, and whose aspirations he guided and encouraged by his quickening, sympathizing instructions. We are scattered afar now, but there is not one of us living who will not rejoice at this matured and precious fruit, which crowns the career of nearly a quarter of a century then just begun. 8vo., pp. 700. Price, \$5.

#### McCOSH'S WORKS.

Very appropos to the arrival and inauguration of Dr. McCosh as President of Princeton Col. lege, his publishers, MESSES. CARTER & BROS., have re-issued the valuable series of metaphysical works which bear his name. These are: First, THE METHOD OF THE DIVINE GOVERNMENT, his earliest and most successful work, of which eight editions have been issued in England; a work designed to exhibit and explain the Government of God in Providence, and in the conscience of man. Second, TYPICAL FORMS AND SPECIAL ENDS IN CREATION, in which Nature is so artfully questioned as to yield surprising and beautiful responses as to the great laws of order and adaptation which regulate it, and which point upward to the mind of man and the revealed word, as higher theatres for the illustration of the same truths. Third, THE IN-TUITIONS OF THE MIND INDUCTIVELY INVES-TIGATED, a treatise upon a special branch of mental philosophy, which is of the highest importance, and which greatly needs to be elucidated and placed upon the basis of ascertained truth. Dr. McCosh not only vindicates the existence and high place of intuition, but gives us a science of this part of the functions of the mind, guarding it as well against exaggeration as undervaluation; something hitherto unat tempted in the degree to which it is here successfully carried. Fourth, An Examination OF MR. J. S. MILLS'S PHILOSOPHY, BEING A DEFENCE OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH. In this argument, the dangerous positions of the positive, materialistic philosophy, now so prevalent in

England, are examined in all their bearings upon the great fundamental truths of a spiritual philosophy. Both of these last are in their second revised editions. To read them, is to enjoy a pure and delightful mental stimulus, and a high moral inspiration, not procured at the expense of intense application to decipher obscure and oracular utterances, or to disentangle complicated periods. All is bathed in the clearness of a mind which has thought out its problems before attempting to convey them to others, and which has conscientiously as well as naturally aimed at perspicuity in style. The externals of these volumes are substantial and attractive. The typography of the last is positively luxurious. The whole set, 4 vols., 8vo., covering 2,000 pages, in fine cloth, bevelled boards, is priced at

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