

BOOKS

A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON A COMMON EXPERIENCE.

The Mastery of Grief. By Bolton Hall. Published by Henry Holt & Co., New York. 1913. Price, \$1.00 net.

In the headings of the twenty-two chapters that make up this flexible, easy-to-handle book, Mr. Hall has set down the human ills to which he ministers the antidote of rational common sense with a cheerfulness that proves the personal test of his prescribed remedy. It is not a patent and may be used freely—the more freely, the more swift and certain the recovery of lost mental balance.

A. L. M.



THE MAKING OF A NEW ORDER.

The Theory of Social Revolutions. By Brooks Adams. Published by the Macmillan Company, New York 1913. Price, \$1.25 net.

Does the agitation for recall of judges and of judicial decisions indicate a social revolution? That it does seems quite convincingly shown in "The Theory of Social Revolutions," by Brooks Adams. Mr. Adams shows that the courts have favored the privileged or, as he prefers to call it, the 'capitalistic' class. The movement to place them more under popular control is a movement against privilege. The social changes which he declares imminent may be guided, he says, "as Washington guided the changes of 1789." But of this there does not seem much prospect. The Republican convention of 1912 indicated an uncompromising spirit on the part of the privileged. Speaking of this affair, Mr. Adams says: "Roosevelt's offense in the eyes of the capitalistic class was not what he had actually done, for he had done nothing to seriously injure them. The crime they resented was the assertion of the principle of equality before the law, for the equality before the law signified the end of Privilege beyond the range of the law." Chapters devoted to judicial functions and the records of American courts show how these courts have become strongholds of Privilege. Concrete examples are given of discrimination in cases alike in principle, but differing in power or popularity of the interests involved. These unmistakably show that the tendency of the Supreme court, as well as of other courts, is to do what is popular, regardless of principle, unless there should be a powerful monopolistic interest involved. The opponent of the Recall who demands concrete evidence of discrimination can be accommodated by reference to Mr. Adams' book. That obstinate resistance to change causes disaster is shown in chapters in

which incidents of the French Revolution are produced as examples. The opposition of the nobility to the moderate proposals of Turgot was very like opposition of modern privileged classes to similar reasonable proposals. The opinion of the court quoted by Mr. Adams, by which Turgot's proposed highway impost was declared unconstitutional sounds like an extract from a speech by ex-President Taft or some other typical standpatter. Mr. Adams has made a valuable addition to progressive literature. He has given us a book which ought to set the most obstinate Bourbon to thinking—if anything can produce such a result.

S. D.

PERIODICALS

The Single Tax Review.

The January-February number of the Single Tax Review (150 Nassau St., New York) contains an accurate account of the national conference at Washington by John T. McRoy, which is alone sufficient to make the issue an interesting one. Then there is a reply to "The Case Against the Single Tax," the article in the January Atlantic Monthly by Professor Alvin Saunders Johnson of Cornell. The reply is by Professor J. A. Demuth of Oberlin College and ably meets Professor Johnson on his own ground as a professional economist. The bi-monthly news of the movement and other news items are interesting and encouraging, and this by no means completes the list of good things within the 64 pages.

S. D.



A prominent railroad man hurried down the lobby of a Birmingham hotel and up to the desk. He had just ten minutes in which to pay his bill and reach the station. Suddenly it occurred to him that he had forgotten something.

"Here, boy," he called to a negro bellboy, "run up to 48 and see if I left a box on the bureau. And be quick about it, will you?" The boy rushed up the stairs. The ten minutes dwindled to seven and the railroad man paced the office. At length the boy appeared.

"Yes, suh," he panted, breathlessly, "yas, suh; yo' left it, suh."—What to Eat.



"What does your father do for a living?" asked one little girl.

"Why," replied the other, "he takes up the collections in church."—Chicago News.



Gallant Major: It's glad I am to see ye about again, me dear lady; but what was it that was troubling you?

Convalescent: I was very, very ill, major, through ptomaine poisoning.

Major: Dear, dear, now! What with that an delirium tremens you never know what to eat or drink nowadays.—Punch.