

Darwin's Great Work.—*The Foundation of Zoology and Phycology Under Microscopes.* By CHARLES DARWIN. Authorised edition, with a Preface to the American edition by the Author, and one by Professor Ann Gray, of Cambridge, Mass. The most perfect edition yet published. The first English edition was contained in a work, now very rare called *fit*; in the reprint, Mr. Darwin included some additions, and sent us the sheets as soon as they were printed, together with many additions in manuscript. As these reached us just as our edition was to be bound in the States, we were obliged to place them on paper printed in the work. This American reader will mark in the title where these additions come in, he will have the work printed by the printer up to the latest point, and a more complete copy than even the latest English edition. Mr. Darwin, not knowing that Professor Gray had written prefaces to the American edition, sent us some of his own, which give the estimate of his own work as analysed modestly but we do not hesitate to say. The book presents the most remarkable collection of facts concerning our domestic animals and plants yet brought together, and for this alone it is of the highest value. Not the least interesting portion of the work, is the (doubtless) reader, in the speculative views of the author. In these the great problems of inheritance, variation, influence of external conditions of life, development, and the like, are put in a new light with remarkable clearness and force. The philosophical results deduced from the discussion of domestic animals and plants find an application in all animals, including the human species. While the work will be one interesting only, but useful to every one engaged in propagating animals or plants, it commands itself more to the teacher and reader who will find suggestions for his thought, and to some of the medical and other learned professions, who cannot fail to be instructed by its contents.

When we consider the extent of the subject of this work was in type, the English publisher's Chronicle has come to hand with an extended notice, from which we extract the following:—“Mr. Darwin's work on domesticated animals and plants, whose appearance we announced a fortnight ago, is one of such importance to both the practical and theoretical gardener, as well as to all persons who attend the garden, to most closely associated, just finished and finally, that it must claim a large share of our attention, so long as civilization lives for the special needs, and the source of information is available. Written in accessible English, using no scientific terms but such as are comprehensible to men of fair education, lucidly arranged, and imbued with occupations are there to not a gardener in the country who has any taste for the history or theory of his art but will give it with pleasure and profit, and that it is difficult to say whether he values it more as a storehouse of facts or as an instrument to observe and to think. Is his employer a sportsman? as will find in Mr. Darwin's pages such information regarding dogs and horses, their breeding and individualities, as never entered the brain of the gamekeeper, sportsman, or master of the hounds. Is he a farmer? here are numerous and observations regarding cattle, pigs, sheep, and goats, which no professional breeder can search for without profit, and which no one of these will believe or care about, but because they are not true, but because most so-called practical men take no interest in animals beyond what immediately concerns themselves. Is my help a hotel keeper, or has she an estate? her garden will have had a wealth of information on domesticated birds of all sizes, colors, and uses, from the common fowl and poultry to the turkey and goose. Lastly, do the master's children seek his advice about their rabbits, pigeons, honey bees, goldfish, or aquarium? If they do, here are observations of natural history about each and all, treated with accuracy, skill and originality. With regard to these zoological subjects, we must further ourselves to recommending the study of them to Mr. Darwin's pages to those who have time to spare, and proceed boldly to express the purpose and method of this remarkable book to us for as it is destined to the English language.”

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