cates of the English plates. In spirit and tone the work is admirable, and the names of its editors are sufficient guarantee of its scholarship. As compared with Lange, it is more compact and concise, and more in sympathy with American thought. In comparison with Jameson, Faussett, and Brown, it is more liberal—perhaps the theological critics would say more lax—but it is also more scholarly. On disputed questions it gives a brief summary of the views of different interpreters fairly, though always as a preface to the views of the author. The notes of Professor Rawlinson on the construction of the Temple, though very brief, give this portion of the work an exceptional value. On the whole, though both the form and the expense of the book interfere with its serviceableness as a popular commentary in the strict sense of that term, it is one which the Biblical scholar can ill afford to be without.

Estes and Lauriat have rendered the lay students of the Bible a real service by their popular edition of Professor MURPHY'S *Commentary on Genesis*. His admirable treatises on the first three books of the Bible have been long known to the professional scholar, but not to that large number of Bible students who are unacquainted with the Greek and Hebrew text. The new translation on which his notes are based gives the English reader as nearly as may be the advantage of an acquaintance with the ancient Hebrew; and the commentary itself, though deservedly an authority among Biblical scholars, is so clear and simple in style as to be admirably adapted to the wants of non-scholastic students. We hope that the rest of Professor Murphy's commentaries may be given to the public in the same form.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

THERE are two aspects in which Mr. CHARLES DARWIN is to be regarded, and in respect to which the value of his contribution to the world of letters must be measured. He is equally remarkable as an observer and as a philosopher. It is his philosophy which has attracted the greatest attention and provoked the greatest criticism, and the conclusions which, from a wide range of observation, he deduces and embodies in his last work, *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals* (D. Appleton and Co.), will probably provoke more. But as an observer Mr. Darwin has rendered a service to the cause of science which the future will not fail to recognize, whether it accepts or rejects his philosophical deductions; and no one of his books shows more strikingly his praiseworthy spirit and his indefatigable research than this his latest treatise. Of his spirit we have a striking illustration in a single sentence on page 66. "Our present subject is very obscure, but, from its importance, must be discussed at some length; and it is always advisable to perceive clearly our ignorance." It is this perfect readiness to confess partial knowledge and even ignorance, and to report (as on page 114) facts which militate against his theory, and this without pretending always to explain them, which has given Mr. Darwin such an influence among candid men. His research and original reports give his works an interest which their scientific hypotheses could not alone impart to them, and which belongs to no author who is content only to philosophize without taking the trouble also to observe. Thus, in the volume before us, we have not only an immense number of facts respecting the expression of emotion in animals and man gathered from other treatises and the author's own observations carried on ever since 1838, but also a record of observations prosecuted by disinterested witnesses all over the world. In 1867 Mr. Darwin circulated printed questions, sixteen in number, relating to emotional expression, which he gives in his introductory chapter, and which were sent to various observers in Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America. From thirty-six persons, several of them missionaries, answers were received, and the information thus gathered certainly throws much light on the problems which Mr. Darwin discusses. Whatever may be the verdict of posterity respecting the philosophical hypotheses of which Mr. Darwin is the most distinguished representative, there can be no question as to the value of such a work simply as a report of facts, whose value is enhanced because it embodies the testimony of many distinct and disinterested witnesses. Indeed, the book is mainly devoted to a report of facts, though they are grouped around three propositions which Mr. Darwin proposes as explanatory of emotional expression. The book appears to have no definite dogmatic purpose; though the author expresses his conviction that the "study of expression confirms to a certain limited extent the conclusion that man is derived from some lower animal form, and supports the belief of the specific or sub-specific unity of the several races." It is a book which will be read with interest, and may be studied with profit even by those who are most skeptical respecting the conclusions which the author thinks may be reasonably deduced.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Treaty of Washington: its Negotiation, Execution, and the Discussions relating thereto, by CALEB CUSHING (Harper and Brothers), comprises, in a treatise of 250 pages, a full history of what the author properly designates "one of the most notable and interesting of all the great diplomatic acts of the present age." We were prepared to believe that much of the newspaper discussions on this subject had been blind, and founded on ignorance; but Mr. Cushing's book has surprised us by its disclosures of the extent of that ignorance. It gives an account of the entire proceedings, from the inception of the treaty to the final award, penned by one who was in a condition to know fully the whole course of the interior history of the arbitration. In the light which it throws upon the subject, the negotiation of this treaty, and the course of the United States government respecting it, reflect even greater credit than the public have generally supposed, not only on the present national administration, but on republican government, which is shown to be every way adequate to deal with the most profound and perplexing questions of diplomacy. While Mr. Cushing is severe on some acts and persons (Sir Alexander Cockburn, for example, whose previous history accounts for his singularly unjudicial conduct), and is throughout warmly and enthusiastically American and republican in his sentiments, his book is written with a calmness and candor which befit the theme, and give a certain judicial weight to his