

the work for themselves. We can cordially commend those which we have not, as well as those which we have, brought under the notice of our readers, and trust that this volume may ere long be succeeded by another from the same able and experienced pen.

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*An Essay on the Physiology of the Eye.* By SALOM HENRY SALOM. Salom and Co., Regent Street. 1873.

In undertaking to investigate the theory of visual perception, the author of this essay set out with this maxim, that psychology is a science of observation, if not of experiment; that since we can observe the mind in connection with the body, we cannot hope to ascertain psychical laws, except as connected with physical phenomena. The doctrine which he upholds is, in the main, an extension of Berkeley's "Theory of Vision," from the perception of large areas—phenomena observable, to that of small areas—phenomena not observable. It may be briefly summarised thus:—

The eyeball is in a constant state of reflex or involuntary action; its action is due to the dynamic force of light acting through certain elements of the retina on the entire retina itself; the motions of the eyeball thus produced arouse, through the orbicular-ocular muscles, feelings of muscularity identical in kind, although diminutive in degree, with those excited when we voluntarily determine ocular direction; these small motions are precisely cognate with the larger one, considered by Berkeley, and similarly correspond with the other muscular exercises whereby a man born blind attains his knowledge of form and position; and thus, without any voluntary effort on our part, are we constantly aware of visual space properties.

It seems to us an exceedingly well-reasoned essay, and we regret that we are prevented on this occasion from giving, as we had intended to do, a summary of the author's arguments.