

THE PHILOSOPHICAL REVIEW.

PHILOSOPHY IN FRANCE IN 1928.*

THE book which deserves to be mentioned first in any review of recent French philosophical works, because of the interest and persistence of the problems with which it deals, as well as the intellectual vigor and clarity it manifests, is M. Édouard Le Roy's *Les origines humaines et l'évolution de l'intelligence*.¹ It is a sequel to his preceding volume, *L'exigence idéaliste et le fait de l'évolution*, which appeared last year in the same series. Both are based upon courses of lectures given at the Collège de France, where M. Le Roy now occupies the chair that M. Bergson left vacant at his retirement. He is also one of the most faithful expositors of Bergson's thought, but he is more than an expositor; for besides his marked and decided personality M. Le Roy has the special originality of uniting in himself a broad and accurate knowledge of positive science (for he is agrégé in mathematics) and an equally extensive knowledge of theology, developed in the process of writing and defending against his numerous critics his famous work, *Dogme et Critique*, the best known expression of the modern spirit in French Catholicism.

The same breadth of mind and the same faith both in religion and positive science are in evidence when he approaches the questions of evolution and the origin of man. Like nearly all contemporary French biologists he has not the least doubt that the higher animals have arisen by a gradual process of change from the simplest forms of life and that man is descended from the higher animals. The interest of this work lies in its reconciliation of the idea of evolution with a most pronounced Christian ideal-

* Translated by Glenn R. and Dorrice R. Morrow.

¹ Boivin, *Bibliothèque de la Revue des Cours et Conférences*.