

THE  
PHILOSOPHICAL REVIEW.

---

PHILOSOPHY IN FRANCE (1906).

I.

WHAT appears to me most noteworthy at the present time in the movement of French philosophy, is the increasing number of philosophical works by professional scientists, and the disturbance which these new publications have brought to habits of thought which date back more than a century.

The problems of ethics, which for several years so largely engrossed attention, have doubtless not yet lost their interest. M. Lévy-Bruhl has set forth his position forcibly and clearly in an article in the *Revue Philosophique*; M. Weber has published a very curious practical apology for Stoicism considered as a moral hygiene which is still valuable at the present time; M. Belot has just combined into one volume the articles which I summarized in this REVIEW last year, with the addition of a new and very interesting study on suicide. *Les principes de morale rationnelle* by M. Landry, which is an attempt to effect a synthesis between utilitarianism and ethical rationalism, has given rise to interesting discussions. The manuals of ethics are improving as a result of these practical works. But, nevertheless, the centre of philosophical activity at the present time seems clearly to be concerned with Logic and Science.

"The Library of Scientific Philosophy," in which have appeared the two celebrated works by Henri Poincaré on *L'hypothèse* and on *La valeur de la science*, is rapidly being enlarged by a series of books written by physicians, laboratory men, naturalists, and mathematicians, who feel strongly the need of generalizing. I have previously mentioned, in a preceding article, the