

social and ethical questions, felicitous of humour and sportive though trenchant satire, delicate illustration and racy anecdote from an inexhaustible literary erudition, and crystal jets of the purest poetry,—such things will repay the careful student of the “Witness” file, but can never be known to the general public. Having done my utmost in the way of compression, there still remained about three volumes of articles, between the claims of which to republication I could not decide. This most difficult and delicate task was performed by Mrs Hugh Miller in a way which commanded my entire approval, and which will, I have no doubt, give satisfaction to the public. Should the present volume meet the reception which, in my humble opinion, it deserves, its issue can be followed up by that of others of closely corresponding character and value.

PETER BAYNE.