



REVIEWS AND BRIEF NOTICES

History, Philosophy, and Ethics of Biology	46	Anatomy and Physiology	65
General Biology	48	Cell and Molecular Biology	65
Paleontology	50	Genetics	68
Ecology	54	Microbiology	71
Conservation Biology	57	Botany	71
Evolution	59	Zoology	72
Behavior	62	Human Biology and Health	76
Neurobiology	64	Miscellaneous	78

HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, AND ETHICS OF BIOLOGY

NIETZSCHE'S ANTI-DARWINISM.

By Dirk R. Johnson. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press. \$85.00. x + 240 p.; index. ISBN: 978-0-521-19678-9. 2010.

It takes courage to write a book about Friedrich Nietzsche's "anti-Darwinism." After all, we have good reasons for thinking that he never read a single word of *On the Origin of Species* or *Descent of Man*. This resolute disregard of Darwin's own writing stands in stark contrast to his familiarity with the primary sources that informed his "anti-Platonism" and "anti-Kantianism." Thus, to treat Nietzsche's memorable but relatively meager digs at Darwin and (English) Darwinism as tokens of a systematic *anti-Darwinian* position—rather than, say, viewing them as elements in a more comprehensive *antibourgeois* stance—is to risk overplaying one's hand from the start. Nevertheless, Johnson presents readers with a tightly argued case regarding "the pre-eminence of Darwin for the development and articulation of Nietzsche's philosophy" (p. 1). The full depth of the Nietzschean corpus is artfully mined but, as one might expect, *On the Genealogy of Morals* receives the most sustained attention. In fact, more than half of the book is dedicated to patiently explaining why those who interpret Nietzsche's genealogical masterpiece as a broadly "Darwinian" exercise in evolutionary theorizing are deeply mistaken. Johnson insists that the key to discerning the non-Darwinian trajectory of *Genealogy* lies in its uncompromising assault on the priestly will

to knowledge. He explains: "Through the various forms of 'science,' ascetic wills have found an alternative guise under which to articulate their resentment against life. Indeed, modern science expresses one of the last stages of the ongoing 'slave revolt' in morality" (p. 208).

Ever since Nietzsche's sad demise, his work has been—to borrow a line from Harold Bloom—creatively and ambitiously "misread." In the 1930s, Martin Heidegger found the Nietzsche he needed to bury the Western metaphysical tradition. In the 1970s, Michel Foucault discovered the Nietzsche he needed to excavate the relation between *pouvoir* and *savoir*. More recently, Darwinians of various stripes have found an evolutionary Nietzsche amenable to their local interests. Unfortunately, as *Nietzsche's Anti-Darwinism* makes clear, these contemporary misreadings tend to be merely inattentive.

MATTHEW DAY, Religion, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida

RACE AND SCIENCE: SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGES TO RACISM IN MODERN AMERICA.

Edited by Paul Farber and Hamilton Cravens. Corvallis (Oregon): Oregon State University Press. \$29.95 (paper). v + 234 p.; ill.; index. ISBN: 978-0-87071-576-1. 2009.

This collection represents a diverse series of historical essays, which range from the arcane to the general/assignable, stemming from a 2006 conference. Although well-edited for consistency of style, the contributions present a smorgasbord of works in prog-

The Quarterly Review of Biology, March 2012, Vol. 87, No. 1

Copyright © 2012 by The University of Chicago Press. All rights reserved.

For permission to reuse, please contact journalpermissions@press.uchicago.edu.