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The Evolutionists: American Thinkers Confront Charles Darwin, 1860-1920

By David J. Hoeveler

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 278 pages. Charles Darwin published his monumental treatise *The Origin of Species* in 1859. It has proved to be a major contribution to scientific theory but highly contentious as well. In the United States, more than in any other country, Darwin's theory of evolution became, and remains, a matter of political controversy, from the famous monkey trial of 1925 to efforts, even in the 21st century, to diminish its influence in American public schools. Many people think of the Darwinian disputes as a matter of science versus religion. This book looks back to the first half-century or so of the Darwinian reception in the United States and portrays a much more complex situation. It shows that among many religious thinkers evolution received a welcome and formed the basis of a new theology. *The Evolutionists* reminds us that America's most prominent scientist furnished a thoroughgoing criticism of Darwin. *The Evolutionists* has a special feature in its chapter structure. After examining the pre-Darwinian world of European science and then reviewing the career of Darwin, it offers pairings of American thinkers in the several categories of American thought...



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