

SEPTEMBER A CRITICAL MONTH.

Looking over the files of the American Presbyterian a few days ago, our attention was arrested by an editorial of September, 1856, in which the sentiment is advanced, that the present is a critical month with the churches. From the symptoms now exhibited it is argued, we may forecast, with tolerable certainty, their spiritual condition during the whole working season.

Our churches in this city and vicinity have many enterprises in hand. They are likely to be applied to for pecuniary aid in various undertakings, to a degree which will try their already oft, but never valiantly-tried principles of beneficence.

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A FALLEN WORLD.

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THE DIGEST.

Permit me to say to our friends that the responses to our call for subscribers for the Digest of the sets of the General Assembly have been most gratifying, both in number and tone.

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CHANGE OF RELATION.

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ANNALS OF THE FLOOR.

Cases of dependency are not few and far between, as is so often supposed, but even here, in this wealthy city, where so many helps are thrown out, there are many persons who have struggled, using means after means, to rise in society, from care and want, but by reason of their own former, or other misdoings, have been compelled to sink back into their old ways again, filled with despair.

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EDITOR'S TABLE.

NOTES ON NURSING: What it is and what is not. By Florence Nightingale. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Book Store, No. 133 Chestnut St. 12mo. pp. 240. 25 cents.

THE LIFE OF REV. RICHARD KNILL, OF ST. PETERSBURG, BY CHARLES M. BERTH, WITH A REVIEW OF HIS CHARACTER, BY THE REV. JOHN ANGELO JAMES. Published by the American Tract Society, and for sale at the Tract House, No. 629 Chestnut St., Phila. 8mo. pp. 208.

AN INTERESTING, ORIGINAL, STIRRING CHARACTER, IS HERE PRESENTED TO OUR NOTICE. IT IS A PORTRAITURE OF A WHOLE-SOUL CHRISTIAN, MINGLING ZEAL WITH KNOWLEDGE, INTENSE LOVE OF SOULS WITH SURPRISING TACT AND BOLDNESS IN HIS LABORS; AS A PREACHER, WITH NO CLAIMS TO ORATORY, BUT WEeping OFTEN, AND MAKING HIS HEARERS WEEP; THE AUTHOR OF THE TRACT CALLED "THE SWEEPER'S PRAYER," AND THE MEANS, THROUGH TRACTS WHICH HE WROTE WITH PECULIAR FORCE AND FITNESS, OF WHICH HE ASSISTEDLY DISTRIBUTED, OF THE CONVERSION OF MULTITUDES. THE "REVIEW" DERIVES ADDITIONAL INTEREST FROM THE FACT THAT IT IS THE LAST PRODUCTION OF THE VENERATED AUTHOR.

PULPIT THEMES AND PREACHERS' ASSISTANT. Outline of Sermons by the Author of Helps for the Pulpit. Philadelphia: Smith, English & Co. 12mo. pp. 441.

THESE ARE NOT SKETCHES, BUT VERY FULL SKETCHES, INTERSPERSED WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND INCIDENTS, AND ACCOMPANIED BY EXTENDED QUOTATIONS FROM EVANGELICAL WRITERS, MAKING A VERY SUGGESTIVE WORK FOR THE SERMONIZER.

LECTURES DELIVERED BEFORE THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, AT EXETER HALL, LONDON, FROM NOVEMBER, 1859, TO FEBRUARY, 1860. NEW YORK: R. CARTER & BROS. 12mo. pp. 464.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

MR. EDITOR:—Allow me the privilege of acknowledging through your columns, the recent kindness and liberality of the church and congregation of Neshaunay. Having learned that their pastor was about to quit some of his relatives in one of the Western States, they assembled, young and old, by a spontaneous impulse, at his residence, on the evening of September 7th, accompanied by the members of "Tennent School," with their Principal, Rev. M. Long, and after enjoying an entertainment, which some of their friends brought with them, handed him, much to his surprise, a purse of \$176, as an expression of their esteem and confidence.

I feel extremely grateful to my people for this generous and substantial token of their regard, and it is my earnest prayer that they may reap boundlessly of the fruits of righteousness, and all meet in that holy habitation which is not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

THE CHILDREN ON THE PLAINS. By Aunt Friendly, author of the "Jewish Twins," &c. New York: Robert Carter & Bros., 530 Broadway. 18mo. pp. 192. For sale at the Presbyterian House, No. 133 Chestnut Street.

A REAL AMERICAN STORY FOR CHILDREN, DRAWN FROM INCIDENTS OF AN OVERLAND JOURNEY ACROSS THE PLAINS TO CALIFORNIA. THE TWO BRAVE CHILDREN who persisted in going westward with their mule-team alone, when the train of emigrants with which they had been journeying became disheartened, from the inroads of the cholera, and when their own parents had been removed by the same disease, will be followed in their perilous career with the deepest interest by every reader, young and old.

AN EXPOSITION OF THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES. By Rev. Charles Bridges, M. A., Author of the "Memoir of Jane Graham," &c. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, Philadelphia: for sale by the Presbyterian Book Store, 133 Chestnut Street.

THIS IS A PRACTICAL COMMENTARY, CHARACTERIZED BY THE GOOD SENSE AND DEVOUT REGARD FOR THE WORD OF GOD, WHICH WE HAVE LEARNED TO EXPECT IN THE WRITINGS OF MR. BRIDGES. SOME OF HIS WORKS HAVE NO SMALL SHARE IN THE TRAINING OF THE PRESENT GENERATION OF CHRISTIAN MEN AND WOMEN. THE COMMENTARY BEFORE US WILL TAKE ITS PLACE AMONG THEM, AS EQUALLY WORTHY THE REGARD OF SOBER-MINDED CHRISTIANS AND STUDENTS OF THE DIVINE WORD.

COMMENTARY ON THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES, WITH OTHER TREATISES. By Rev. E. V. Rieupeyrou, D. D., Professor of Theology, Berlin. Translated from the German by W. D. Wilson. Philadelphia: Smith, English & Co. 8vo. pp. 488. Including three valuable indexes.

THIS IS A FAR DIFFERENT WORK FROM THE ONE FIRST NOTICED, AND DESIGNED MORE PARTICULARLY FOR THE CRITICAL STUDENT AND PROFESSIONAL EXPONDER OF GOD'S WORD. IT IS THOROUGH AND SCHOLARLY, FULL AND EARNEST, AS ARE ALL OF THE AUTHOR'S EFFORTS. HENGBERG IS USUALLY REGARDED AS THE CHAMPION OF TRADITION, AND OF STRICTER ORTHODOX VIEWS OF THE FOUNDATION OF EXEGESIS, BUT IN THIS CASE HE STROVES HIMSELF AS DISBELIEVING IN THE SUPPOSED ROYAL THORSHIP OF THE BOOK, IN COMMON WITH THE GREAT BODY OF GERMAN EXEGETES, AND WITH PROF. START IN THIS COUNTRY. HE SAYS, "WE HAVE ENDEAVORED TO LAY A FIRMER FOUNDATION FOR THE MORE CORRECT VIEW, AND HOPES THIS TO RENDER IMPROBABLE A REVIVAL OF THE OLD PREJUDICE." [Viz., that Solomon was the author.] There are other exceedingly valuable essays included in the volume, as on the Song of Solomon, Job, Isaiah, Sacrifices, the Jews and the Christian Church. The publishers have conferred a real favor in bringing this volume to the notice and within the reach of those unacquainted with the original.