American Presbyterian und Genesee Evangelist.

American Bresbyterian

GENESEE EVANGELIST.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1862.

JOHN W. MEARS. MAY THANKSGIVING BE FOLLOWED BY

REVIVAL?

IT is so customary for us to connect humilia-Such appointments we do not intend to disparage. | not conquered. Wherever, in the individual church or presbytery, they seem to be required, let them be made. fessions, sackcloth and ashes.

universally wanting. There was manifest a dis. not have been but for him! position to honor and acknowledge God in our peculiar circumstances, which would have been deepened but little by the observance of a fast, so called. And the spectacle of a large part of the nation, maintaining in the midst of most monstrous rebellion and carnage their wonted thanksgiving festival, going up with the multithanksgiving of whole commonwealths at such a crowns of victory, and triumphs of mercy. time as this. It was an observance which set many to reflecting on the reality and perpetuity extorted from it, not to lessen in your soul the of the divine mercy amid all outward vicissitudes; sense of its heinousness; not to persuade you it brought home the reiterated burden of the into the belief that sin has any tendency to good Psalmist: "For his mercy endureth forever!" not to confuse your minds concerning the dis-It touched many hearts with a sense of ingrati- tinction between good and evil. We admit not tude for the uncounted, unnoticed benefits which the conclusion at which perverted reason may privileges and blessings, civil and religious, which over sin as to increase the happiness and holiness sions. And oh! it led many to turn with new not a reality, not an evil, nothing to be feared. devotion to that great, exhaustless, infinite, foun- On the contrary, its evil is the more intense and tain of mercy which still pours forth its healing alarming, and should be felt to be so, from the tide for human sorrows; to that cross which still very fact that God puts forth his wisdom and out-shines all the glories of earth; to that Saviour might to defeat it and turn its injury against in whom all riches, happiness, and victory su- itself. It is a blot on God's world, a power premely meet. "Thanks be to God," exclaimed that interferes with the glory of God and the many a fervent heart, "for his unspeakable peace of man. But we may escape it. Christ

of sickness. honors his master far more than would a penitential gloom and constant brooding over, forth sweetness." vice, at such a time, from these commonwealths. was peculiarly acceptable to God. And we think few true Christians have waited upon God in these services without a sensible elevation of their following extract is from the first division of his devotional feelings and an increased preparation for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in a copious degree. Pray! labor! fellow-Christian, that this may be the decisive era-the turning of the tide in the history of our churches for the present

THANKSGIVING DISCOURSES.

I From the discourse of Rev. E. E. Adams on "Samson's Riddle" we give the following ex-

But what we have specially to say is-Sin is a destroyer. It is flerce and strong. It eats out the the life of body and soul. It feeds on slain affections—on crushed hopes, and blighted us, and we have sad occasion to ask how much hearts. But for sin there were no grief, no pain, and how long we can afford to suffer for our counno wounds, no poverty, no death. The current try and how much it may be worth to our posteof existence would flow smoothly, sweetly along, rity if transmitted to them in unimpaired and land us on the shores of immortality. It is unity, it is especially appropriate for us to go sin that fills our life with fears, with errors, and back and look over the account and see how much disasters; sin that darkens our view, rends our our country has cost. It will make it easier for bonds of love asunder, beclouds our reason, us to deny ourselves for our country's good in turns our possessions into burdens, and converts the time of its peril if we recur again to the simour world into a desert. Like a huge Bison ple habits and severe economy and stern endurfeeding on the growths of the prairie, trampling ance which characterised our fathers' days. As we its blossoms, scaring and scattering its birds of read again the pages of our country's early history; song .- sin feeds on the life of the soul, wastes as we restore the scenes and events in the midst all its affections, treads down its struggling germs of which our fathers passed their heroic and of hope and happiness, and leaves in its way a faithful lives, we shall lengthen the catalogue widerness of moral death! Like a huge bear, of blessings which have come down to us from dashing into a sacred choir, crushing the tubes, their time and for the continued possession of of the organ, and silencing the breath of praise which we should be willing to pay again the also mingle with the songs of angels. . It is sin a glance at the life of the early settlers as they that causes us to dash against each other "like lived in their rude homes two hundred years ago. ships in a storm,"— that breaks the soul away | Suppose we look in upon the assembly of our from its natural mooring and drives "it out into fathers as they were gathered for a Thanksthe hurricanes." It is sin that fills our sky giving service in the year sixteen hundred sixty-

the law which condemns sin, by the penalties previous night sifted its icy ashes, in beneath that have fallen on sinners, by the Gospel which the doors and between the rudely-matched proclaims pardon through death, and by the boards and beams, and the grave worship-

discipline whereby the soul grows strong, and pure, and hopeful; resisting, and marching upward; seeing more clearly the ideal of perfect life, than they would have learned were the whole earth an Eden, and there went perpetual praise from altars on which a sin-offering was never laid.

But for sin " the majesty of mercy " had never ome to light; but for sin there had been less sympathy, for there would have been no suffering among men; less benevolence, for want had not counted its victims; less sense and compretion with the prospect of a blessing, that we may hension of good, for evil had not put good in not be prepared to expect a revival in the wake jeopardy; less virtue on the whole, for it had of a thanks-giving service. Our church judica- not been buffetted into strength and greatness tories generally appoint a service of fasting as by temptation; less moral force and development, preliminary to any special efforts for the reviving for the pliances which press into action the moof the Church and the promotion of religion. ral powers of man had not been resisted had

Then take into view, if possible, the more wondrous development of the divine administration! But the point here to be noted is, that a thanks- How much is revealed in and by Jesus Christ! giving need not, in its spirit or in the mode of What a fact was his holy life! What a miracle its observance, be incompatible with true senti- his death! How far above the loftiest concepments of humiliation. It may be quite clear of tions of man is the system of moral good in him! boastfulness; it may truly breathe forth the feel. What experiments were made with life and death ing of simple dependence on divine mercy; it by his authority, and by his own hand! What may rise up from souls in affliction like grateful light did he east on the problem of futurity, the odors from crushed flowers and spices. It may destiny of the body, the nature of the world to be as real a bowing of the soul before God as come! What a prospect yet awaits his Church abstinence, retirement, penitential sighs and con- redeemed from sin and death, happy in the sense of pardon, happy in the gratitude that We hope with trembling that such was the pre. springs from rescue; happy through the discivailing temper of the thanksgiving services held | pline of temptation and sorrow! And who can in many of our States last week. We think the tell how much more happiness, holiness, spiritual disposition to boast, so frequently-exhibited on strength, and rapturous knowledge shall fill the former similar occasions, was almost, if not quite, universe for the fact of redemption, which could

> "The great salvation brought by Jesus Christ, That sank an Adam to reveal a God, Had never come but at the call of sin-No risen Lord could eat the feast of love, Here on the earth, or yonder in the sky, Had he not lain within the sepulchre."

There had not been such intensity of love, but for sins forgiven : never such power of faith; but tude to keep holyday, crowding, as we might say, for the cross in which to trust.—Evil, then, is over the bodies of their slain to the altars of God an instrument in the hand of God "to make the whereon to lay their sacrifice of praise, sending most of us," to give largest development and up their incense of prayer amid the smoke-wreaths strongest vigor to life. Sing though we are bound of battle, this is a sublime manifestation of cour- to hate it as God does, and to resist it even for age in God. It would have been easy to fast, and the sake of the good that shall come out of the to find topics for lamentation and denunciation; trial-is made an instrument, against its natural it had been less perhaps of a trial to our religious tendency, of revealing more of God, and filling feelings. There was something wonderful in the the ages to come with the trophies of love, with

We set before you this view of sin, and of good had never ceased to flow; for the comforts and arrive, that because the power of God so triumphs still remained untouched, amid general convul- of the universe by its own action, therefore sin is has slain it, and sung the triumph. We triumph Even as a cheerful temper becomes the Christon when its chains fall from us and the doors of tian under crosses, and, in a dungeon or on a bed our prison open into day. "Out of the eater comes forth meat, and out of the strong comes

> THANKSGIVING DAY IN OLDEN TIMES. Rev. Mr. March spoke of "Thanksgiving" as a memorial, domestic, and patriotic Festival. The discourse: A district theory. He would need the

Our annual Thanksgiving is a memorial service. It is a festival of grateful recollection, in observing which we call up the joys and sorrows the trials and blessings of the past in thankful remembrance before God; we go back to the dark and troublous period when this anniversary was instituted, and we join our voices with those of the ever afflicted yet ever rejoicing exiles of the wilderness, who sang praises to God amid the storms and the dim woods of the New

"Who shook the depths of the desert's gloom With their hymns of lofty cheer.' And now when our own great frial is upon which had started toward heaven; -so does sin original cost in suffering and sacrifice. Nothing break in upon the harmonies of our being, and can be better fitted to inspire our hearts with hope hush the voices of hope, and love which would or strength for the great contest of to-day, than

with clouds and the air with hot bolts. It two. The hour of worship has been marked by is sin that maddens the brain, cripples the body; the shadows on the dial plate and proclaimed wastes us with fevers and corruptions, digs abroad by a horn, or a drum beaten on the nearour graves and kindles the everlasting flame! est hill. Some of the worshippers have riseen It is sin that turns from us the complacency of long before the sun, to be there in season, and heaven, closes its doors against us,-draws a have traveled a distance of ten miles by foot in frown over the face of God, and hangs a black bridle paths through the forest. The aged grandpall between us and the light of the blessed parents, the younger or hardier heads of the family and the little children are all there. And And yet such is God's economy, such his as one and another company arrives, there is no glorious purpose and agency of love, that even sound of rushing wheels, no glitter of polished sin has food for the soul. Out of its bitterness or gilded carriages to attract attention. The track sweet waters flow. For the highest good of the mo- which they have followed is such as the wolf or ral world, God must be known. Until his justice the wild bear would make through the wood stood before men in contrast with rebellion, his ho- The "meeting house" is one that has cost them Kness against sin; his mercy triumphing over wenty years of toil and self denial and mutual conjudgment in the sacrifice of his Son, he was not tributions to build. And yet there are no carknown. Even in Eden, there was no sense of justice pets on the floors, no cushions in the seats, no until the knowledge of sin-no trial of virtue until paint on the pews, no plaster on the walls, no the temptation to sin. And since the fall in colored glass, no curtains or blinds to shut out Paradise, man has learned more of God, and the sun, no sheathing outside, no fire from furdoubtless angels have learned more of him, by nace or stove within. The snow squall of the

with their bear-skin mittens as they enter their We have space for aut a w pews. But nobody shivers, nobody complains | Savs one: "Come that the sexton has not done his duty in healing of the soldier and ting the house or providing free ventilation, no camp. You can also see he enthy body is afraid of taking cold. They are men of negro soldiers, and at peace, and they have come there to thank God bayonets, held by black, for the blessings of the Gospel of peace, and yet [In another place, the wr many of of them enter the sanctuary with loaded | travagance, but with, no muskets in their hands. For they have not yet suspect, that the greate ceased to hear tales of massacre perpetrated in different settlements beneath the yellow light of the last October sun, and they know that their of traders in human fle own song of thanksgiving may be be interrupted | books of the regiment wil by the war-whoop of the savage lurking in the rality of our men. neighboring wood. The congregation were all in their places before the hour, and when the minister appeared at the door of the sanctuary, all rose and stood with reverent attention till the man of God had bowed his courteous acknowledge. of God had bowed his courteous acknowledgement of their respect and seated himself in the sacred desk. The service begins, and all the people stand up to praise God, and no organ preludes or accompanies the song with its many-voiced Progress must crush react harmony. No intricate and voluptuous strains the darkness, so it is ord borrowed from the ball-room or the scenes of bachanalian riot mingle with the simple and solemn notes with which they worship God. the North let us join the b Old men sing with their crooked and quavering * * * To live that is to mbat injustice; that voices, and young men and maidens swell the is to love God and your ne ibor; that is to prochorus with strong vehemence, and little children listen with reverend awe, and they would think it profanity to suggest that the singing fire, the ardent love of cour y, which claims the is not such as becomes the rules of God's house. aid of all her children. To ve, that is to die for The prayer that follows the psalm is longer than the triumph of an idea; the is to be born again the sermons of our day, and yet the aged patriarch of four-score years, and the feeble women, if any such there could be in our fathers' days, and the little children, all stand with reverent and unmurmuring fortitude to the close. Again the psalm of thanksgiving rolls its rude numbers through twenty stanzas, and the swell of united voices rises louder with every strain till the beams in the wall and the naked rafters in the roof, tremble American flag, we can and vill be a wall of fire n unison with the service of song in the house of the Lord. And then the sermon through neads, divisions, and subdivisions, exposition, docrine and application winds its slow length an nour and a half beyond what the languid auliences of our day would think endurable; and yet those men of iron nerve, and adamamantine aith, like it the better for its length. They go nome to their late thanksgiving dinner with special gratitude that here, in this western wil-

derness, the word of God is not bound.

correspondent to the rude and reverent simplicity

with which they worshipped God in the sanctvere made familiar with the sacred scriptures, pathizers are the only and infant lips learned to lisp the most profound offended at the employment formulas of faith and the most elaborate state-pare they any different sorter ments of doctrine. There were no books on do- North, denounce this means mestic education; no juvenile or young men's associations, to protect the young against temptation. The path to knowledge was not strewn with flowers, nor did parents buy the obedience of their children with gifts and many indulgences. And yet the young rose up and uncov- Rev. and dear Sing ered their heads to honor the aged; obedience o parents was the law of the house; the speech, American and Foreign Uristian Union is prosethe manners, and the daily conduct of the youth cuting its works both a bome and abroad with ful members of the family, were characterized by much encouragement, considering the "troublous" espect for everything sacred, venerable, and times "on which we have fallen. In addition true. When the family gathered around the to sustaining fifteen or twenty missionaries in the table for the simple and substantial meal of morn- chief cities in our own country, we now have ing, midday, or evening, all stood with reverent three excellent laborers in South America, and attention, while the head of the household in- expect soon to have a fourth in that field. We roked a blessing upon the bounties of divine are on the point of sending an humble and deprovidence. And when the meal was finished, voted missionary to laber among the Hollanders all rose and stood with equal reverence, while in Northern Belgium and Sough Holland, under the same voice "returned thanks" for the bless- the direction of the Belgian Evangelical Society. ings received. And neither blessing nor thanks- He is a native of Amsterdam put came to this giving failed even when the harvests were blighted country with the colonists the have settled in and lean famine looked in at the cabin-door.

Parents did not then work their life long to bring up their children in elegant idleness. The laughters secured health and strength for all N. J. the faithful performance of all the labor necessary, superintendence of the Rev. to feed and clothe the family, and keep the rude ence, is going on well. We house in the neatest and most comfortable order. aries in Piedmont, in the Island of Elba, in Flor-They never needed to read the lying advertise ence, in Sienna, in Breseia, ments of quacks and pretended professors of the Italian Protestants and sever healing art in the vain hope of finding some of the Waldensian Church. physiological, medicinal, or mechanical invention we assist, as we are able, thus with which to support the failing powers of life, ties, besides maintaining ou and prolong a feeble and helpless existence. The at Paris, and giving some aid the muscles and give physical tone to the system. They swung the axe all day against the thick trees of the forest. They tore up the hard soil with the spade and the plough. They piled up miles of stone wall to fence their fields; with their own hands they split and hewed every beam, board, and timber that went into the construction of their houses. They bore the heat of summer, and the damps of night, and the storms of winter, without suffering as much from the excess of temperature as we do in our ceiled nouses.

(To be concluded.) THE GARDES D'AFRIQUE.

This is the title of the regiment of Free Color ed men which Gen. Butler has recently raised in New Orleans. They recently passed out the

admirable moderation and with all needed cour in the Kangaroo in the service of our Society. age, and although they have not been in action. they have courted danger, and done their duty well. It is passing strange to see these men on Mr. Constantine on the occasion. The night the Lafourche, standing sentinel upon some previous to his leaving us we had a most interhedge, when the once wealthy and still proud esting farewell-meeting in Dr. Asa D: Smith's planter passes with his splendid equipage. The church, at which excellent addresses were delivnegro soldier bids the traveler "Halt," examines ered by the Rev. Drs. Parker and Crosby, the his pass, and bids him return or proceed, as the latter a Professor in Rutger's College, and one case may be; it is a strange and wonderful re- of the best "Grecians" in our country. And volution, scarcely to be comprehended by the now we are called on to help in another entersight or understood by the reason. * * * * prise in Greece, about which however I have not As the first negro regiment ever mustered into time to speak to-day, service was in this department, and as their an

pers quietly brush the snow from their seats asm for the cause in with they are enlisted. EAGERNESS OF THE SOLDIERS FOR BELIudge of the well-be-

siasm of the parade you can see, hfulness we the regiment are whiter than their d Let it be known that we have no ceive everybody in the ca

Another makes the f ing shrring appeal to his fellow Africans my race, do you re-ur General? Where ready to march to the battle for the right to h their blood the sacred standard of lib let every one of us take h put himself in the ranks. Let us ha n the future. ed by God. From for us the question

this terrible war must spr of life or death, justice of To the legions lions of the South. tion of all Slavery; the end f all servitude; that is to kindle in the hearts the timid the sacred in posterity;" and much

Victor Hugo strain.

Another says the regi

Landing, is 800 to 845 stre He says: "We have not, as yet, he the pleasure of exchanging shots with the energy. But we are still and death to the enemies this country, our birth-place. When we were enlisted we were hooted at in the streets of N w Orleans as a rabble of plebeians and cowards. I am proud to say

it, at La Fourche

It is in the deepest abyse of American Slavelands of South Carolina, the this stern light of And the domestic life of our fathers' days was liberty is appearing, this to of retribution is rising: It is here, in the a southwest, and not in the North that the insue prejudices against he negro soldiers ;

LETTER FROM D

R. Nov. 22, 1862 I am sure you will be pleased to learn that our

ve now mission-But now the attention of the

Otho directly and indirectly greatly hindered the preaching of the Word and all other efforts which form of the new government into be monarchical

or republican. On the 1st inste the Rev. 6 orge Constantine, Opelousas Railroad in the movements made upon the sugar regions, in the S. W. coast of Loui- Dr. King's Bible class, but resident in this various regiments are in convalescent camps and siana. The Correspondent of the New York country for several years for the purpose of pross as paroled prisoners, for whom there is no chapecuting his classical scientist, and theological lain legally provided. I have personal knowledge The black troops, so far, have behaved with studies, sailed, with his excell at American wife, of many thousands of men who are thus situated. of the Executive Committee, that were given to in the form of reading by benevolent persons

[A correspondent, on duty as a distributor of eligious reading in the army, volunteers the following cogent reasons for sending the American a thousand white Presbyterian and other cow or white hands. soldiers. Presbyterian and other religious reading to the oldiers.] Washington, D. C., Nov. 25, 1862.

As you are making an effort, and your readers doubtless readily responding to the call, to cirthat we re- culate your excellent paper among the soldiers but that the sight of the army, it may be interesting to learn somethisfy you of the mowho has had considerable opportunity of witneswho has had considerable opportunity of witnessing the facts. Good, religious reading may be said to be one

of the great wants of the better class of our sol-

diers. This want is greatly increased by the peculiar circumstances of many of the men. They have long been separated from the usual faciliothers, rise! ties of gratifying a taste for reading, which is one of the prominent characteristics of Northern men, -especially the reading of the Daily newspaper. Persons at home, who now look as regularly for the morning or evening newspaper as they do for their meals, have only to suppose themselves as separated for a brief season from that one privilege, and they can to some extent imagine how thousands of intelligent men feel who are for weeks and months deprived of nearly all reading facilities. What intellectual craving, how monotonous the daily incidents of the camp, how blank must be the life of men thus isolated from social and business intercourse! Add to this, many of these men when at home were in the habit of reading works of a scientific, historical and religious character,-many of them were useful Christians and practised daily devotional reading. Now the facilities for such enjoyments are not within their reach, and the sights and sounds which daianxious, as we have ever en, to show to the ly come before them are frequently of a repulsive world that the latent counter of the African is nature. Then affliction and privation often give aroused, and that; while lighting under the a serious turn to the thoughts of many who with excitement—perhaps a degree of thoughtlessness -rushed into military life. In the absence of Christian counsel, such individuals turn to reading; or having a little reading of a religious that if any cowardice has ben exhibited since we left Camp Strong at he Louisiana Race Course, it has been exhibited since to a present want. This train of thought need to a present want. This train of thought need be pursued but to a brief extent to awaken interreboune Station on the new have marched, burning bridges and despoying culverts." means of intellectual enjoyment and the gratification of the higher wants of the soul. And how easily transported and how well adapted to these ends are the rich columns of the large

weekly Christian newspaper! As an illustration of this desire for reading uary. There was no Sabbath school instruction; the black man are being see away. Verily the matter of the kind alluded to, a short time since, and weekly or monthly gazette, "Well Spring," or air of the extreme South is more congenial to whilst distributing comforts among needy sol-"Child's Paper" found its way to the family. And the negro and more favoub to his elevation, diers in a camp composed of many thousands of yet the Sabbath day was kept holy; the young than is that of the middle stes. Rebel sym- convalescent men, I drew out a bundle of old remission, and holding up some of the papers,] remarked, "Here are some old Methodist newspapers: are there any Methodists here?" And immediately dozens of voices were heard exclaiming. "Here! here!" and many hands were extended to grasp the papers. So it was with various denominational papers, as I announced their titles. And in a few minutes large nackages were distributed among the eager multitude and still the demand was for more.

But an exclamation which was particularly impressive to a Pennsylvanian, was that which escaped from the Germans. As I called out the name of the German "American Messenger" and other publications in that language, hundreds eagerly cried out. "Heah! heah!" Indeed. this class of soldiers have been particularly deprived of religious reading in their own language. Scarcely any, but the American Tract Society, issue publications for them. A few days ago, upon inquiring of a chaplain of a large hospital in Washington as to the degree of interest manifested by the men at the distribution of American Messengers, &c., and especially by the Germans, he replied, with animation, "It was delightful to see the gratitude of the men, especially of the Germans. It does me good to give them anything of the kind. Indeed, it makes a Gerthe trials and responsibilities of woman's life, in Italy, the work of the ociety, under the man laugh all over his face to get such reading E Hall at Flor- in his own language?"

Christians all over the country, in organized and individual capacities, are doing much towin Naples,—all ards meeting this want for reading among our of them members soldiers. I presume you have learned that the hilst in France Christian Commission have contracted for 40,000 missionary socie- of this month's issue of the American Messenger, American Chapel with the hope of greatly increasing the number o an effort that is in subsequent months. This is, in addition to sons had no need of boat or ball clubs, bowling- making in behalf of the peo o in the "High the many thousands of the regular edition issued alleys or gymnasiums, with which to strengthen Alps," to whom Kelix Neff pached in his day. by the American Tract Society. These papers Executive Com- are circulated monthly in the hospitals and army mittee is beginning to be the ned to Greece, a and navy of the country,—besides vast quantities country which fairly comes we him the scope of other publications. And yet the want is far our society, and the more so wice the American from being supplied. Even of this monthly Board has almost abandoned as scarcely com- reading (think of it, reader, good reading only ing any longer within the legitimate range of once a month) only one copy can be given to their labors. The revolution which is now going about five men in the largest hospitals, or one to on in that country will, we trust, contribute each tent! Frequently have I witnessed the much to open a more reflectual door" there for greatest disappointment of the men as they rethe gospel. The constitution is good enough, ceived what appeared a very limited distribution but the wretched government of the Bavarian of what all were so eager to obtain.

And another fact which renders a supply of religious reading very urgent is, that many of require public meetings of air sort. We hope the soldiers are so situated as at times to be total that all that will now be changed, whether the tally deprived of the ministrations of a chaplain. Squads are detached for special duties; fragments of regiments are in hospital tents at a distance: pickets are for days together out on duty: batwho rarely hear any preaching, and whose only I send you herewith a copy of the Instructions religious instruction: is that which is furnished Surely, your readers do not need any further friends with the weekly visits of the American

> (For the American Presbyterian.) FOR THE SOLDIERS:

PRESBYTERIAN HOUSE, PHILADELPHIA. OUR good people are doing a great deal for Yours very truly,
R. BATRD. the soldiers. Naturally, the wants of the body excite the warmest sympathy, and call forth the REBATED.

REPAIRD.

REPAIR

to the Presbyterian House, Philadelphia, will be Saviour. used as the donors indicate.

Some extracts from letters on this subject may not prove uninteresting.

The following letter from a chaplain in the field has been forwarded to us. We shall send prayers. him a small supply of the "Soldier's Friend." and more hereafter, if we have the means of so

"A soldier of the regiment to which I am attached who was on guard before my tent showed me, a short time since, a copy of the Soldier's Friend' which had been presented to him by a pious friend before leaving home. He seemed to prize it highly, carrying it in his coatpocket, and now and then stopping to read out of it. On examining it, I found it so well adapted to the soldier's wants, comprising as it does within a small compass, meditations and passages for each day in the month, and selections from Psalms and Hymns, that I resolved to write and see, if you had a few copies to spare for my boys. Many books and tracts have been furnished me by the Tract Society, but I have the sincere milk of the Word. If you have any ecpies for distribution, a package directed to me at Washington, D. C., will come to hand and be gratefully acknowledged by myself and regiment.

are pious, consistent followers of Jesus. We perceptible for good. I feel that it is good for the ministers of Christ to go down into the camps and mingle with these men of the musket, and & Co. cheerfully endure the privations and hardships of camp-life, since by so doing we may be instrumental in saving some and do our part in stemonly to temporal but to eternal death." Very truly yours, "

Chaplain 13th N. J. Vols. A lady, who has devoted herself with untiring zeal and devotion to the comfort and spiritual

"I would have immediately acknowledged the receipt of the package of books received from you, but I wished to wait until I could give you some account of the way in which they were dis-

itiny, were retained for the 'Library,'-one, to loan as library stock; the other, to loan in a private way-by my own hands. I filled a basespecially for them.

Boys! would any of you like to have one of sale at the Presbyterian Book Store; these little books?' The men with one eager mind stepped forward and reached out their PETER SMITH. These are plain, direct and hands; and when the supply failed, I felt so sad homely letters on the points in dispute between at disappointing the rest, that the tears would Arminians and Calvinists, the writer representinvoluntarily come in my eyes. I then handed ing a Presbyterian minister addressing a Methothem the basket with the remaining tracts and dist. Although on some points, extreme views told them to take them. They quickly disposed of Calvinistic doctrine are advanced, we have no of them, as they could be so easily carried.

your kindness and trouble. There is a sad feel- pp. 188. ing in my heart that I had not enough for all: but I am thankful that some precious words have been carried to the camp. Poor fellows! they

A pastor in a western city says: at least could not get at them; but this little country. book I could have in my pocket and read little snatches at a time. My mind was exceedingly depressed and disposed to gloom; but I got great and which glory in his kingdom were those which best met my case. I went over and over it day after day as I had strength, and blessed you for putting it together in that shape."

A minister in Western Pennsylvania writes: "In September, when about fifty volunteers the Greek Language a study, which are not left us to fill up company G of the 83d Regi- found elsewhere. We are satisfied "there is no ment, I handed the only copy of 'The Soldier's royal road to science;" nor, to a thorough Friend' which I had to a young man not a pro- knowledge of the Ancient Languages. But fessor of religion. In a letter written to me and there are advantages to be derived to those who dated 'Antietam Ford, Md.,' he says: 'And here have not had such opportunity, from those who let me thank you again for that neat little book have. This book presents these, in a conspicu-"The Soldier's Friend." When I received it I ous form Mr. Desilver has done good service did not know its value. But on perusal I found to the community by publishing the classics, in it a friend indeed to the soldier in his lonely a similar form, to this brook. We have first hours. Its reflections teach him his duty to his here, an Interlineal Translation placed side by God; its Hymns cheer him on to a performance side with the Orginal Greek: In the translaof that duty, though reverses meet him at every tion, the words are transposed so as to suit the

for your kind remembrance of me and my work. on the left, and the Greek, as originally writ-Especially do I feel grateful for the form and ten, with our common Version, on the right manner of it—the bestowal of these tokens so hand page. We have, also, critical notes at the

tens of thousands-both in camp and hospital, is indeed such a friend to him that when poswill most gratefully receive what we long to give, sessed they never part. I am constantly cheered but can only give as means are put at our dis- by the discovery that one and another has given posal for this purpose. Any contributions sent his heart to God and consecrated himself to his

"I beg that you will express my obligations as well as gratitude to the Committee for their great kindness towards us, and the hope that they will not cease to remember us in their

"I shall be happy, at all times, to be remembered by tokens such as those in your package, which I acknowledge with great thankfulness. "Very sincerely and truly,

Will our friends aid us in meeting such calls?

Mew Zublications.

MESSRS. TICKNOR & FIELDS have issued another (we believe the last) of Theodore Winthrop's posthumous works, " The Canoe and the Saddle" with "Isthmiana," books of travel among the Indians of the Maine frontier, and upon the Central American isthmus. The scenes and characters are fresh; the style free-jaunty. one might say, the lightness and jocosness of seen none of their publications that pleased me tone grow wearisome at length; there is an opeso much, or contained in the same space more of rose trifling kept up from beginning to end which helps to weary the reader; yet the entire novelty of the successive scenes, and the occasional bursts of really fine writing and wholesome sentiment draw the reader on in spite of "Our regiment numbers 840 men. Many himself. Of "Isthmiana," it is expressly said that the author has never revised it; and allowhold prayer-meetings in the different tents as ance must, of course, be made for crudeness of often as possible, and their influence is plainly style. The volume is got up in a style to correspond with the others from the same writer. 16mo; pp. 345. For sale by J. B. Lippincott

THE POET'S JOURNAL BY BAYARD TAYLOR is one of the most exquisite in design and execution of any of the issues of the American ming the tide of evil which flows in an endless Press. The Plan of the principle portion of the stream through our camps. Let the brethren at volume reminds us of Tennyson's In Memorian, home pray for us and give what aid they can to being a series of distinct brief poems each retheir brethren who are daily going down not fleeting the prevailing sentiment of some era or event in the poet's life. They all centre around the poet's wife-" the mistress of Cedarcroft"to whom they are dedicated. A marvelous delicacy of thought and expression, a refined and truly poétic appreciation of nature and human instruction of the sick and wounded in the great life and a singular sweetness and transparency of military hospital in West Philadelphia, writes to language mark these poems; albeit they are of the earth, earthy; there are but stray and uncertain glimpses of any higher light than that of natural affection and worldly content.

The publishers have put the dainty sentiments into equally dainty outward shape-tinted paper, faultless typography and bound with bev-"The two books entitled Martyrs of the elled edges. 16mo; pages 204. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. Philadelphia, for sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

ket with the tracts and the 'Soldier's Friend,' working, is a valuable and timely book, planned and went early one morning to the Hospital. I and written with no little skill. Its design is to parted with a good many tracts in different exhibit the earnest purpose of a young, mother-Wards, and then sought out those going to rejoin less's girl, with a worldly-minded father, to entheir regiments, to whom I gave copies of the gage in the work of evangelizing the neglected Soldier's Friend, reserving that dear little book children of the city. Her trials, her conscientious obedience to an unsympathizing father, and "As I went on to the 'knapsack room,' where her success are described in a deeply interesting the men who were being returned to regimental and profitable manner. It will prove peculiarly service were, for the purpose of putting on their attractive to all engaged in such benevolent laequipments, I stopped at the door and said bors. New York: A. D. F. Randolph.. For

LETTERS OF REV. JOHN SMITH TO REV. hesitation in commending the work to those who "If I could tell you how grateful I felt in seek instruction on the subjects, or ready that hour to be your almoner of the precious weapons in controversy. Published and for sale words of Jesus, it would more than replay you for by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia: 16mo;

MAGAZINES, PAMPHLETS, ETC. THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for December is were glad of a little kind remembrance from a more interesting and perhaps abler than for a parting friend; for these men who have lan- month or two past. "Life in the Open Air" guished in hospitals for months are not full of continues Theodore Winthrop's last work, since the flush of fight as when they first went forth, issued entire by Messrs. Ticknor & Fields. Dr. and I think they are more ready to take the O. W. Holmes gives an amusing account of the difficulties attending a search for one's friends "I have written you a longer note than I in- who may have suffered caustalities in the army, tended; but my heart bleeds and mourns over under the title; "My hunt for the Captain." my countrymen, and I never feel willing to let Mr. C. L. Brace, groups in an effective manner what he considers the evidence for the existence of "the Pre-adamic man:" one of those articles "I want some of your Soldier's Friend' for in which the conductors of the Atlantic, about use in our camps,—say as many as you can send twice a year (not so often as formerly) wrong and for five dollars. By the way, I had opportunity insult their evangelical thinking readers who to test the value of that little book the past sum- imagine they are buying a literary organ, but mer. Being a wretched invalid and travelling, find themselves in the hands of a clique aiming I could not well carry a bible and hymn-book to reproduce the Westminster Review in this

[Communicated.]

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN, IN GREEK depressed and disposed to gloom; but I got great to which is appended A Critical Annotation; thoughts of comfort out of those pages,—the also, The Authorised English Version of the psalms which raised up my mind to God in praise Protestant Church, and A Comparative View of the Catholic Translation from the Vulgate; together with Historical and Grammtiacal Notes, v Geo. William Heilig. Philadelphia: Charles Desilver, 1229 Chestnut street.

This book presents facilities for reading the

Gospel of John to those who have never made natural order of construction. Then, the author-An excellent and most laborious chaplain, in ised English Version is side by side with the acknowledgement of a package of publications Original Greek unchanged—so that, upon opening the book, we have before us the Greek in "I know not how, sufficiently, to thank you order with a translation, verbatim under each word,