

Editor's Table.

Mitchell. Seven Stories, with Basement and Attic. By the author of "My Farm of Edgewood." New York: Charles Scribner. 12mo, pp. 314, laid, tinted paper; bevelled boards. Philadelphia: For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Mr. Mitchell, who has become one of the established favorites of the reading public, has gathered into this volume a number of his magazine articles, and hung them together upon a thread of foreign travel.

Raymond. History of the Administration of President Lincoln. Including his Speeches, Letters, Addresses, Proclamations and Messages. With a Preliminary Sketch of his Life. New York: J. C. Derby & N. C. Miller. 12mo, pp. 496, with Portrait and Index. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Although Mr. Raymond professes chiefly to give documents and public utterances of Mr. Lincoln, the narrative by which he links them together, is one of deep interest, and some startling revelations of the moving forces at work in various periods of the war are given.

Messrs. L. Scott & Co.'s indispensable reprint of the leading British Reviews, continues to be issued and no increase has yet been made to the exceedingly low prices, at which they are published.

The Edinburgh Review for April. Contents: Diary of a Lady of Quality; History of Highways; Basque Country; Human Sacrifices and Infanticide in India; Charles Victor de Bonstetten; British North America; Rifled Ordnance in England and France; Kirk's Charles the Bold; Renan's Life of Jesus.

The Westminster Review for April. Contents: Basin of the Upper Nile and its Inhabitants; Strikes and Industrial Co-operation; Abolition of Religious Tests; Prerogative of Pardon and the Punishment of Death; New Zealand; Taine's History of English Literature; Philosophy of Roger Bacon. Contemporary Literature.

The Atlantic Monthly for June. Contents: A Talk about Guides; The Kalit of Balduca; Life on the Sea Islands, II; Fast Day at Foxden; Prospects; Washington; Irving; The Rim II; The Neva; Robson; The Parallel Roads of Glenroy, in Scotland; Under the Cliff; Seven weeks in the Great To Samite; House and Home Papers; Shakespeare; How to use Victory; Reviews and Literary Notices. A laudatory notice of the unsound speculations of Herbert Spencer mars these notices.

The Eclectic Magazine for June, is embellished with a splendid full length portrait of George Peabody, the Liberal American in England. Its contents include The Dynamical Theory of Heat; Revolutions in English History; Problems in Human Nature; Danish Dutchie; Races of the Old World; Last Days of Dr. Johnson; Nineteenth Century; Mother of the Wesleys, &c. W. H. Bidwell, No. 5 Beekman, St., New York.

views, etc., and 44 autographs, \$130; another edition, with 110 portraits, etc., \$20; Dibdin's "Bibliomania," 2 vols., illustrated, \$720; Irving's "Knickerbocker's History of New York," extended to folio, and illustrated with 275 plates, \$400; a third copy, \$55; "Mary, Queen of Scots," illustrated with 236 portraits, views, etc., \$375. A respectable number of missals realized on the average about \$75 each; one, however, described in the catalogue as "Missale Splendissima," brought \$400. Even the large paper copies of the catalogue are now reported as being worth \$8, and the small ones \$2, the latter being published, we believe, at 50 cents.

A NEW MAGAZINE FOR BOYS.—Messrs. J. E. Tilton & Co., Boston, will soon publish a new juvenile magazine for boys, which they intend shall be superior to any similar periodical here or in Europe.

New Works.—Messrs. Mason Brothers, of New York, announce a Life of Benjamin Franklin, 2 vols., 8vo, by Mr. Farton. Chas. Scribner is about issuing Maine's Ancient Law; Religion and Chemistry, by Prof. J. P. Cook, Jr., and the second series of Modern Philology by Benj. W. Dwight; each in 1 vol., 8vo.

The continental correspondent of Childs' Literary Gazette writes of Book-peddling in France, that within the last eight years 20,000 different works had been presented to the Commission of Book-peddling for their stamp, which allows the work to be hawked everywhere in France.

MANY EMINENT French writers keep their most valuable papers in England. M. M. Guizot, Thiers, Berryer, Count de Montalembert, the Duke de Broglie, etc., keep their important papers in the hands of English friends.

KING VITTORE EMMAUELE has given to the public library of Naples the famous Firmiana collection of engravings in 221 folio volumes, which contains engraved copies of the most celebrated works of all the masters of every school of painting. This collection was formed by Count Firmian, a Governor of Lombardy in the latter part of last century; he sold it to Marie Caroline of Austria (who made great additions to it), and it went from her into the hands of the ex-royal family of Naples, who placed it in one of their palaces.

DARWIN'S ORIGIN OF SPECIES.—M. Flourens has published "An Examination of Darwin's Origin of Species," in which he not only attempts to demonstrate the error of Darwin's theory of the continual transformation of species, but to overthrow Lamarck's theory of our origin from polypses.

Whereas in the Providence of God this congregation has of late been enabled to pay off its entire church debt. Therefore, Resolved, That we have renewed cause for deep felt gratitude to almighty God, who put it into the hearts of the people to contribute so liberally, and that the thanks of this congregation be hereby tendered to all who have contributed, and especially to Mrs. Henry King for her very liberal contribution, and to Wm. S. Marx, Esq., through whose indefatigable exertions the subscriptions to this object were so speedily secured and the whole matter brought to so desirable and successful a termination.

Correspondence.

FROM A CHAPLAIN IN BURNSIDE'S DIVISION.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., May 18th. Bro. MEARS.—The strange vicissitudes of army life bring me to date my letter from this rebel town again. I have written to you from North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and Mississippi, and now once more from Virginia, on my third visit to Fredericksburg—first, before we joined Pope in his retreat, when the town was in our possession; then, about the time of the first battle of Fredericksburg, under Burnside, when the rebels were in possession; now, when the town is filled with wounded from the battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House.

The town is one vast hospital; public and private houses crowded from roof to basement with the victims of this horrid strife. The agents of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, are seen everywhere with the green ribbon of the former or the metal badge of the latter, ministering to the bodies and souls of wounded and dying men. Here is our Brother Aikm... of Wilmington, busiest among the busy, in the basement of a church filled with sadly mangled human forms.

Chaplains cannot do the work. They are generally to be found at the brigade and division hospitals on the field, where the wounded are first brought and from which they are forwarded as speedily as possible to this place or to Washington. If a chaplain comes here, he must look up the wounded of his own command who are scattered through, perhaps, twenty hospitals, in various parts of the city, so that his time and strength are frittered away in the mere motion from place to place.

But I see that already the work is wearing on them. The care-worn face, the drooping form, and weary step, show that in these abundant labors they are wearing down, and I rejoice that they may soon exchange this work for the quiet and rest and regular meals of home.

On the Sunday between the fight at the Wilderness and the fight at Spotsylvania, exhausted with the heat and dust and confusion of a march, rendered doubly wearisome by the contrast with the holy calm of a Sabbath at home, I stopped at a well around which was gathered a crowd of thirsty soldiers, and found a delegate of the Christian Commission, drawing up the bucket, time after time, to fill the canteens and cups, of eager men with clear refreshing water; emblem of that living water, which whosoever drinks, shall thirst no more.

Great good are both these Commissions doing, and I hope that a benevolent public will not let either lack a dollar necessary for their work; but I wish that Christian men would remember that one is Christian and the other merely Sanitary; that one is for the body and the other for both body and soul; that one seeks worldly means of increasing its funds, and the other Christian means; that the influence of the one is for Christ and the other against him. You may think me unnecessarily captious, but I am sorry

when I see Christian men choosing to be identified with that which is not Christian, when they have an opportunity of choice where their influence shall be felt.

I have for years opposed this unequal yoking of believers and unbelievers in benevolent associations, for it throws the influence of Christians in the wrong scale. When any matter comes to a vote, the world always has a majority, and Christians unexpectedly find themselves compelled to sustain some modified form of gambling, or aiding and abetting some sinful amusement, by which money is wheedled out of unwilling givers.

Keep, I say, the world and the church distant in this matter of benevolence, as in all Christian duties, and give all honor to worldly men who seek to benefit the soldier in their own way, even if it be not our way; but why should we give our sanction to the worldly means by which they seek to accomplish a good end? Let us go to the sick and wounded soldier in our distinctive character as Christians, not with food and clothing and labor only, but with the Gospel as well; not saying, "Here's a poor devil that wants a shirt, and we must give him one;" not warning off the Christian from a dying man, lest talk about religion should frighten him and hasten his death; but with all words of gentle Christian courtesy to the hungry and naked, and offers of a dying Saviour to all dying men.

I had intended to write more about the campaign thus far, and our march hither; but must delay it till my next, which shall be written in a few days. D. G. M.

WHAT IT COST TO BE A CHRISTIAN IN THE EARLY CHURCH.

Another scrap from ancient history. In ancient times, most of the commerce of this world was carried on in the Mediterranean Sea alone. Small trading vessels exchanged the products of Asia Minor or Egypt with those of Italy, France and Spain. Religion followed in the tract of commercial enterprise in those days, much as it does now; so that from Smyrna and other Eastern ports, the early Christians carried the Gospel to Lyons and other ports in the West. Persecution was an additional stimulus to the spread of the Gospel, although in the newer Western regions, less known than the Eastern, it did not immediately commence. As early as the second century, however, a fearful persecution began at Lyons under the reign of Marcus Antoninus. The fury of the persecuting multitude, the governor and the soldiers, was expended upon pious men and women alike. Among the holy women was one Blandina, of humble station in life, who made no boasting or pretension of her willingness to suffer; so that her friends feared that on account of the weakness of her body, she would not be able to witness a good confession. She was endured however with so much strength and fortitude, that those who successively tortured her, from morning to night, were quite worn out with fatigue, and owned themselves conquered and exhausted. After some days were allowed her for partial recovery, she was taken to the amphitheatre along with many other Christians, to be torn by wild beasts for the entertainment of the assembled thousands.

For some reason, the beasts left her untouched, while her constancy and firm faith greatly strengthened the other martyrs who were dying around her. On the last day of the spectacles, Blandina was again brought to the Arena with Ponticus, a youth of fifteen. They had been daily brought in to see the punishment of the rest. The mob were greatly incensed by their continued firmness and contempt for suffering; so that no pity was shown, either the sex of one or the tender age of the other. Their tortures were aggravated by all sorts of methods.—Ponticus soon died, when poor Blandina was enclosed in a net and thrown to a wild bull—under whose tossing she at last breathed out her soul.

In the next century a remarkable instance occurs at Smyrna, during the persecution of Decius. A Presbyterian named Pionius, was much beloved and respected, both by the church and the surrounding heathen. The officers of the Government had high respect for him, using their best endeavors to induce him to sacrifice to the idols and so to save his life.

On his way to prison he addressed the multitude, much as Stephen the first martyr had done. He endeavored, with burning words to convict men of sin and bring them to feel the need of a divine Saviour. The magistrates and people plead with him to renounce his faith. He was taken from prison, and forced with a rope around his neck, to the Idol Temple, where every persuasion and artifice were used to induce or compel

him to sacrifice and thus save his life. He was finally sentenced to be burnt alive. The martyr went to the stake cheerfully, thanking God that he had been preserved from idolatry. After he was stretched and nailed to the wood the executioner said to him. "Change your mind and the nails shall be taken out." "I have felt them," replied Pionius. "I hasten, O Lord, that I may sooner be partaker of the resurrection." While the fire was burning around him, he said "Amen: Lord, receive my soul," and so fell asleep.

How joyous must have been his reception in the arms of that Saviour upon whom he had been relying through such fearful trials!

We, Christians of the Nineteenth Century cannot but feel humbled when we think of what it cost to be a Christian in the early church. How many of us, or rather how few of us would endure torture or persuasion as did Blandina or Pionius. G. W. M.

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Kent's East India Coffee. And would not be without it on any account." THE Rev. C. LARUE, an eminent clergyman of the M. E. Church, now stationed at Halsey street, Newark, says of

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NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

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