

Editor's Table.

ANDERSON. The Hawaiian Islands; their Progress and Condition under Missionary Labors. By Rufus Anderson, D. D., Foreign Secretary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. With illustrations. Boston: Gould & Lincoln. Large 12mo. pp. 450, with index. For sale by Smith, English & Co.

This volume presents all the facts desirable to be known of that remarkable theatre of missionary labors and triumphs, the Sandwich Islands. The careful and painstaking author, Secretary Anderson, is eminently suited to the work of suitably chronicling these facts, having had intercourse with the missionaries by letter for forty years, and having spent, last year, four months upon the islands. We have, first, six chapters of preliminary history, reaching from the discovery of the islands to the visit of the Reverend Secretary; next, an account of the tour itself, covering eight chapters; third, people of the islands; fourth, the ecclesiastical development of the Christian community; fifth, other missions; sixth, present position.

The facts are admirably grouped and perspicuously narrated, illustrating the writer's purpose, "to show what God has been pleased to do on the Hawaiian Islands, through the gospel of his Son and the labors of his Missionary Servants." Among the engravings is a simple chart, revealing, at a glance, the manifold and central relations of the Islands to the great Continent, which form the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Every reader must regret that according to all the indications at present prevailing, the Hawaiian race is likely, ere long, to exist only in such memorials as the volume before us; the native population having diminished from 140,315, in 1832, when the first official census was taken, to 67,084 in 1860. It must, however, be admitted that some faint hope of the appearance of a better state of things may be drawn from the reduced rate of mortality, which has fallen from 65 per cent. to 5 per cent. per annum. Whatever may be in store for these islands, whether from natural agents or from the labors of "Reformed Catholics," Papists and Mormons, their conversion, as an entire country, from paganism to Christianity, and to Civilization is one of the grand facts of the history of Christ's kingdom on earth, that cannot be obliterated.

PHILIPS. The Voice of Blood, in the sphere of Nature and in the Spirit-world. By Rev. Samuel Phillips, A. M., pastor of the Reformed Church, Carlisle, Pa., author of "Gethsemane and the Cross," "The Christian Home" Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston. 8vo. pp. 384. Price \$2.

The solemn significance of blood is recognized as by common instinct, but it is felt with peculiar force by every believer of the Old and New Testaments, and every one who relies upon the sacrifice of Christ for salvation. Mr. Phillips has followed up this sentiment, showing the forms in which it appears, and the important part it has performed and shall perform within and without the church, among heathen nations, in heaven, at the judgment day, in hell and throughout eternity. One cannot but be surprised at the compass and richness of the subject as exhibited under the thorough and skillful handling of the author. The theme is full of instruction and edification, and must engage every Christian heart. The single purpose of the writer, in presenting such a mass of facts, is "to popularize the theory of the atonement through blood and to present it in all its historical and practical aspects, so as to awaken an interest in it and win the heart to Christ."

While cheerfully according to Mr. Phillips considerable originality of design, and freshness and fullness of handling, leading to an encouraging measure of success in the great aim of his book, we are constrained to note a faulty diffuseness of style and needless repetition of the thought which, if corrected, would materially add to its value, while diminishing its size and cost.

The publishers have left nothing to be wished for in the style in which they have brought out the volume, as to paper, typography and press-work.

JACOBS. Notes, Critical and Explanatory, on the Book of Genesis. From the Creation to the Covenant. By Melancthon W. Jacobs, Professor of Biblical Literature and Exegesis in the Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pa. New York: R. Carter & Bros. 12mo. pp. 304. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

A great desideratum is here supplied. For a quarter of a century, in which no part of the inspired word has presented a field of inquiry so interesting or so extensively involved in the researches of natural science, we have had no new commentary upon the Pentateuch in the English language. The wonder is that the Christian community has so long submitted to this neglect on the part of her teachers.

Prof. Jacobs' work will be welcomed, we are persuaded, much as bread is welcomed by the hungry; they are not over-critical as to quality, and

as it only reaches to the end of chapter 18, it is likely there will be a clamor for more. But should the public pause for deliberate inquiry, they will be confirmed in their first estimate of the book. It manfully faces the current objections raised by Colenso and his school of critics, as well as carefully and candidly weighs the questions raised by geology and the opponents of the Unity of the human race. The introduction contains an instructive general view of these objections, so that the body of the work is left free for the more specific work of the commentator. The author adopts the view of the absolute ages of the world found in Augustine and Theodoret among the fathers, and embraced, as he asserts, most commonly among students of the Word at present, to the effect that the vast geologic age and revolutions belong to the period described by Moses, as "In the beginning," and are not to be made contemporary with the Six Days of Creation. These days he holds were literal days, with their distinct acts of creation, subsequent to the latest geological era.

The author shows commendable acquaintance with the best extant literature on the subject, yet makes no idle parade of learning, but aims simply to acquaint the student with the mind of the Spirit in the Word. It is a noble undertaking, and one that promises to honor the divine author of the Sacred Record. We commend it cordially to Sunday school teachers and others.

THE MARTYRS OF SPAIN AND THE LIBERATORS OF HOLLAND. By the author of "The Schoenberg-Cotta Family." New York: R. Carter & Bros. 10mo. pp. 400; illustrated. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

The author of the very successful "Chronicles of the Schoenberg-Cotta Family" is still working, with great rapidity, the vein of thought opened in that volume. Leading incidents and personages in the heroic times of the church are made the centres of an imaginary play of private and domestic life, from the narrow but commanding loop-holes of which a glimpse of the times and their phenomena, as they appeared to the every-day observer, is opened to us. An extraordinary delicacy and tact, a finely cultured domestic nature and a warm Christian spirit, present themselves in the pages. One may well at times find himself bewildered by the adroit and elegant interweaving of fact with fancy, and may require an occasional pause to enable him to extricate the real history from the narrative. But a little experience will make it easy to draw the lines. The attempt to produce a true and vivid impression of the times, of the habits of thought, feeling and intercourse, prevailing at a given crisis in the affairs of the church, is praiseworthy, and must gain for these periods a new interest in the eyes of the readers.

The period covered by this volume is one not familiar to the majority, and yet it is crowded with thrilling incidents and deserves to be better known.

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

MRS. WARNER. Casper and his Friends. By Amy Lothrop. New York: R. Carter & Bros. 18mo. pp. 262; illustrated. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

A continuation of the "Ellen Montgomery's Book Shell" series, the earlier numbers of which have been cordially welcomed in our columns. Casper and his friends are even more interesting than the other characters of the series, and seem adapted to older children—say of 8 and 10 years.

McLeod. Sea Drifts. By Mrs. Georgie A. Hulise McLeod. New York: R. Carter & Bros. 18mo. pp. 264; illustrated. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

The incidents of this volume, though simple are told in language of remarkable grace, and the lessons inculcated, though not profound, are salutary. A very good book indeed for school girls.

PAMPHLETS, MAGAZINES, &c.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW for July, 1864, (L. Scott & Co., New York; for sale by W. B. Zieber) opens with an article on John Eliot, an English orator and patriot of great distinction and influence with the people in the time of Charles I. His life, by John Forster, just published, brings out many particulars of that stirring era, which are skillfully presented by the Reviewer.

Much of the material is found in Eliot's own MSS., which have hitherto been regarded as well-nigh unobtainable. Mr. Forster, however, has overcome all obstacles and given us a valuable addition to the history of those times. "The Queen's English" reviews the recent discussion on correct speaking and spelling between Dean Alford and a Mr. Moon; also a work on the same subject by Henry H. Breen. A number of sensible suggestions on the subject are offered by the Reviewer. "The Result of Post Office Reform" gives a full view of the improvement in the postal system of England. We learn from this article that the post offices in that country are not only agencies for the transfer of

funds by money orders, from place to place, but have actually grown into Banks of Deposit, in which a total of four million seven hundred thousand pounds have been placed, of which nearly three and a half millions remain to the credit of the depositors. Other articles are: "The History of our Lord in Art," "English Horses," "Public Schools," "Life of Edward Livingston," the American statesman, in which the critic avers, and we suppose, believes his statement, that "the master-passion of a prosperous family in the New World is to prove its descent from one of traditional nobility or gentility in the old!" "De Rossi's Christian and Jewish Inscriptions" is a critical examination of some of the points raised by the inscriptions in the catacombs of Rome. "Eugenie de Guerin" describes the character of a pious French girl, whose talents were of a high order, and whose Journal and Letters received the prize of the French Academy, and have gone through ten editions in two years. The critic says she is "an Antigone of France, sublimed and ennobled by the Christian faith." Her countrymen have not scrupled to compare her style to that of Pascal himself. The piety of this article probably was designed to counterbalance the "liberalism" of the concluding article of the number, which it precedes. "The Three Pastors" is a stout defence of the late decision of the Privy Council and an assault upon the positions of the defenders of orthodoxy in the Church of England. We long ago pointed out the leanings of the Edinburgh towards the philosophical and critical heresies of the day. Its managers evidently regard themselves as set for the defence of this school, now so rampant in England, and suffer no opportunity to pass without exhibiting their preferences. Indeed, of all the four republished in this country, the Quarterly Review is the only one that can be regarded as uncompromisingly upon the side of evangelical truth and scriptural authority.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for September (same publishers and dealers), contains: Chronicles of Carlingford; conclusion of the Perpetual Curate. Cornelius O'Dowd, Part VIII. Rev. Charles Kingsley and Dr. Newman. Tony Butler, Part XII. The Alphabetical. Letters from the Principalities, No. III: Prince Couza's Coup d'Etat. The City of Gold.

THE CONTINENTAL MONTHLY for October, contains among a number of articles of miscellaneous character, two on the Moon, denying the revolution of that luminary on its axis and accounting for the brilliancy of its appearance by the supposition that masses of snow and ice eternally cover a large part of its surface. There is an ingenious article on the Scientific Universal Language, by Edward B. Freland, in which the elements of thought as propounded by logicians are brought into connection with supposed elements of language with a view to eliminating the foundations of a Universal Language.

THE LIVING AGE for October 1, contains a rich list: The Judges of England; The Clever Woman of the Family; Wire-Pulling Politicians—Mr. Thurlow Weed (from the London Spectator); Guizot's Meditations; French Nunneries; Robin Adair; Prof. Ferrier; Songs of the Freedmen; Short Articles; Poetry. Price \$8 per annum.

SOLDIERS AND RELIGION.

In these days when, on so extensive a scale the army of our country has become the field of a Christian harvest, it is delightful to find the same work going on in other parts of the world. We have just read, from the Montreal Witness, an interesting report of a farewell supper given by the Young Men's Christian Association of that city to the Grenadier Guards, about to return to the old country to be discharged. The religious experiences recounted are so confirmatory of the value of Christian labor in the army, that we transfer them, without hesitation to our columns:

There was, says the Herald, a very pleasant reunion on Monday night, (Sept. 12,) at the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, on the occasion of the departure of the Guards. The Committee of that active Society had invited the Christian soldiers of the Garrison, and especially of the departing regiments, to supper, and the rooms were filled. The greater part of the guests belonged to the Grenadier Guards, a number were Fusiliers, and several men of the Artillery came to bid their fellow-soldiers good-bye. The officers-bearers and Committee of the Association, interspersed among the soldiers at table, attended to their wants.

After supper, Mr. Claxton, President of the Young Men's Christian Association, explained that this was not the first social meeting they had enjoyed with the pious soldiers of the garrison, with whom they also had pleasing communion and fellowship in prayer-meetings, and efforts to extend the kingdom of their common Lord. It was therefore judged appropriate that they should

have this opportunity of bidding each other farewell.

He then called upon Mr. Dougall, who said that in Scripture we read of soldiers who crowned Christ with thorns, and buffeted him, and of soldiers of whom Christ said: "I have not found so great faith; no, not in Israel!" The same classes were, doubtless, to be found still in the army. There were those who poured contempt on Christ, and those who followed and served him with great faith. In fact, to be a Christian at all in the army, he supposed required great faith. They would soon be among their relations and friends in Britain, and they would find them in many cases occupying different ground from themselves in temperance and religion. In such circumstances, their trials would be great; but he asked them to remember that it was only those who persevered to the end that would be saved; and they might by consistent conduct win many over to the good way. They had been highly esteemed here; and well-behaved soldiers, who had brought themselves off, had, he believed, readily found employment wherever line they were best fitted for. Now, he wanted them, when they got home, to speak a good word for Canada, and send us the best class of emigrants,—to tell their friends that there was something here besides bears and savages, and that only those who indulged in liquor were frozen to death in Canadian winters. He wished them a safe and prosperous passage, and bade them farewell.

Sergt. Henshaw being called upon, spoke with much feeling, saying the soldiers present were carrying away more from Montreal than they had brought to it, for they came without Christ and were going away with him. He thanked the Young Men's Christian Association for all their kindness, and especially for the use of their rooms for prayer-meetings, and he prayed on parting, that the blessing of God might rest on them and their labors.

Private Dicks, who was next called upon, referred to what had been said about soldiers who obtained honorable discharges, getting the employments that they were best acquainted with, but that would not be his case. He had been a brewer, but was now a teetotaler, and would rather sweep crossings than have anything to do with the liquor trade. Allusion had been made to the voyage, and he had been thinking that unconverted comrades would be having their meetings on ship board for drinking and love songs, and should not the Christian soldiers have their meetings for singing songs of Zion and the love of Jesus? He also expressed earnest thanks to, and good wishes for the Association.

The company then sang the hymn beginning, "Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah!"

Dr. Evans, of the Artillery said he was happy to see so many of his own corps present to bid the Guards good-bye, and exhorted pious soldiers to devote the time they had formerly spent in taverns to the improvement of their minds. They should read extensively, not religious books merely, though they were the best, especially the Bible, but books of biography, travels and science. "Improve yourselves in every way," said he, "that is my advice to you." He would give them a parting motto which he had transcribed for them, "Onwards, upwards, heavenwards, higher, higher, looking unto Jesus."

Sergt. Major Davies being called upon, said they would need courage to avow their Christianity, for he well knew the trials to which they would be exposed. When he (Sergt. Davies) was brought to Christ some years ago in London he met a brother sergeant who asked him sneeringly if he had turned religious. "Yes," he replied, "I have turned religious." "And are you going to be a Methodist?" "Yes, I am going to be a Methodist." "And you will now be brother Davies?" "Yes, I will henceforth be brother Davies." Thus he had taken his stand at first and had never since been annoyed on account of his religion, and he exhorted all to do the same.

Ex-Sergeant Herbert said he had formerly been a non-commissioned officer in the Guards, but was now a city missionary. He felt deeply at parting with his old comrades, many of whom were now brethren in Christ, and some of them his own spiritual children. They would have trials in the army, but not so severe as he had. He was at one time the only man in the battalion who would own himself to be a Christian, and he suffered much ridicule and annoyance on that account, but thanks be to God there were quite a number since they came to Montreal who confessed Christ. He prayed that they might be kept steadfast through the power of Divine grace.

The President here introduced a Persian gentleman, Mr. Perkins, son of Rev. Dr. Perkins, missionary at Ooroomiah, who said he would carry the remembrance of this delightful meeting through life, and counted it a privilege to join in the prayers and good wishes of those present. He said Christians were one in feeling, aims and language, though of different nationalities and separated by thousands of miles. Doubtless those whom he addressed were proud of their uniform and their country, and a British soldier abroad who should be ashamed to own his country would be justly despised; but it was more disgraceful for a Christian to be ashamed to own Christ. He hoped they would always stand up for Jesus wherever their lot was cast.

The hymn "Say Brothers will you meet us?" was then sung, all standing up, and the officers-bearers and members of the committee taking the soldiers by the hand.

This happy meeting was closed by prayer and the benediction by Rev. Wilberforce Caulfield, who promised that the departing soldiers would be specially remembered at the Morning Prayer-Meeting.

Advertisements.

U. S. 7-30 Loan.

The Secretary of the Treasury gives notice that subscriptions will be received for Coupon Treasury Notes, payable three years from Aug. 15th, 1864, with semi-annual interest at the rate of seven and three-tenths per cent. per annum,—principal and interest both to be paid in lawful money.

These notes will be convertible at the option of the holder at maturity, into six per cent. gold-bearing bonds, payable not less than five nor more than twenty years from their date, as the Government may elect. They will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000, and all subscriptions must be for fifty dollars or some multiple of fifty dollars.

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