PHILÀDELPHIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1864.

Miscellaueous.

A GRACEFUL LIFE AND A TRANQUIL DEATH.

We copy from The Congregationalist the following notice of the late Professor Silliman :

Others will dwell upon the scientific and intellectual reputation of the venerated Professor Silliman, the father of and especially of the exemplification in on bigh to assist him in his duty. in his life and conversation of the beautiful grace of Christian gentleness. manhood, the suavity of his manners was proverbial; but in his last years, how clearly this rare and noble quality of Christian mildness shone out. It was a soft halo around the majesty of his old age, lending it a higher glory, and attracting to it the love and admira-tion of men. Those frequent expressions in the New Testament-"But we were gentle among you ;" "the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men ;"." the wisdom that Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness;" "now I myself beseech you power.

him daily, can never forget his unweastranger coming to the city was net arms around him, and burst into a flood glected by him, when he could pay him of tears. any attention, or do him a service; and his smile and cheerful word were given to all, young or old, rich and poor. How many do we see in our energetic, national life, who are full of activity and of moral strength and heroism-though not more so than was our revered friend ness which so beautified his whole nature, and which was the outworking of the inward principle of love-the love that was in Christ himself.

On a serene morning, more like a golden October than November day, when the whole nation was beginning its song of praise and thanksgiving to God, our friend and father, a true friend, also, of his country, and of its real greatness and freedom, passed from us. He lived only half an hour after waking but in that short half hour he seemed to be almost inspired to say those things that showed the true spirit of his mind, and that are precious for the comfort and recollection of friends. He made a prayer containing many earnest expressions of gratitude and praise. He said to his wife that his voice was stronger than usual, and that he should read at family prayers a longer psalm they ever were before. Now they of praise than common, for God had scatter blessings all around them; and stead of being a simple fruit, is really im so many mercies. While

pray in my family." "Not to-night," said the tempter; you don't know how to pray. You variably disclose more or less congestion have never prayed much. You are un. occasioned by lacerating the cellular acquainted with the language of prayer. Wait and learn how first."

tan.

He passed into his dwelling, and into his library, and there, before God, his heavenly Father, and in the name of American science; I would wish to say the Lord Jesus, he poured out his heart and movement connected, with sheep is only a word of the qualities of his heart, and asked for strength and grace from

When he met his wife that evening, she saw at once that a great change Even in the fire and strength of his had taken place in him, and she saw it with awe, but said nothing. At length he said :

"My dear wife, would you have any objections to our having family worship?" After a moment's surprise and hesi-

tation she said with true politeness : " Certainly not, if it is your pleasure."

draw up under the gas-light, and let us read and pray."

He read a chapter, and then kneeled is from above is first pure, then peace-able, then gentle;" "the fruit of the right in their seats, and he felt that he was alone on his knees. He lifted up his eyes to God, and cried out in the by the meekness and gentleness of bitterness of his soul, "God be merciful Christ;" these expressions we now better to me a sinner." And gathering understand. We see their meaning and strength, he went on in his prayer, pouring out his most earnest cries and The friends and neighbors of Professor supplication that God would have mer-Silliman who were in the habit of seeing | cy on his beloved wife and sister. So earnest, so importunate was that prayer ried attention to those little acts of that God would show his converting courtesy, and unselfish kindness, which grace and power on the spot, that the show the heart. He never failed in one heart of his wife was melted and overof these, when younger men would have come, and she slipped from her seat thought themselves fairly excused. He upon her knees beside him, and putting would cross the street to speak a kind her arms around his neck, ere she was word to a friend; he would go out on a aware, she burst out into one agonizing cold winter evening to make a visit of cry to the Lord Jesus for mercy on her neighborly goodwill, or sympathy in soul; and then the sister knelt down by time of sickness and affliction; no his other side, and she, too, put her

He continued to pray; he devoted himself and those with him to God. He confessed and bewailed his and their manner of life hitherto; he pleaded the promises of God to all those that seek him, and with unspeakable joy he made mention of the amazing grace of God in -who yet lack that greater quality, the pardon of his sins, and he besought and more mature, of Christian gentle. that they all might find and obtain to gether peace and forgiveness through a crucified Saviour.

The submission was complete; the surrender was fully made; repentance and faith sprang up together in the hearts of all the three, and as they rose from their knees, it was to acknowledge each to the other what new determinations and resolutions and consecration they each had made during the progress of that first prayer in the family, in that parlor, of all they were and all they would be, or should be to Christ.

Since that first prayer in the parlor, God has been daily acknowledged in the same place by the same circle.

Then out from that circle they go from day to day in their walks of usefulness, and on their errands of mercy in this great city, seeking out the per-ishing, ten thousand times happier than long as eternity endures will they re-

it, and trust God for the rest. I must times literally torn from the flesh, and even where this extent of injury is not inflicted, killing and skinning would intissue between the skin and flesh, and thus prove how much nursly unnecces-"No, no, I must pray to-night, I will sary pain and injury has been inflicted pray to night. Get thee behind me, Sa. on an unoffending and valuable animal, by the ignorance or brutality of its at-

tendant. It cannot be too strongly enjoyed that gentleness in every manipulation the first and one of the main conditions of success in managing them. They should be taught to fear no injury from man. They should be made tame and even affectionate-so that they will follow their keeper about the field-and so that, in the stable, they will scarcely rise to get out of his way. Wild sheep are constantly suffering some loss or deprivation themselves, and constantly occasioning some annoyance or damage to their owner; and the modern system of winter stable-management, it is diffi "Bring me a Bible then, please, and cult to get them through the yearning season with safety to their lambs .-Practical Shepherd.

FIGS.

But few persons who are familiar with dried figs, as they are imported in drums, would recognize them in their fresh state. They resemble a pear somewhat in shape, are very soft, and are filled with a sweet mucilaginous pulp, which is considered very delicious by most persons, though some do not like it at first, but afterward become very fond of it. In the climate of New York city, figs may be grown with fair certainty of making a crop every year, if a little care be taken. Plants may be had at the nurseries, or may be started from cuttings. They should have good soil and be allowed to grow in the bush form. At the approach of hard frosts the roots are cut around with the spade at a distance from the plant equal to about half its height. This root pruning prevents too rampant growth of the branches in spring, and also facilitates the laying down of the plant. The plant is bent over, and secured by pegs and covered with a layer of earth sufficient to protect both root and stems from injury by frost. In the Middle States, covering with a barrel or with straw is found to be sufficient. Cutting out decaying or crowded branches and shortening the overgrown ones, is all the pruning required. It is a common impression even among cultivators, that figs produce fruit without ever blossom. ing. They do blossom, but in a very curious manner. Both staminate and pistillate flowers are found in the same ig, each raised on a little stalk. This bag is botanically called a receptacle. We are familiar with a large flat receptacle in the sunflower, where the small flowers are crowded on its upper surface. If we imagine the sunflower receptacle to be drawn up to form a bag, with the little flowers all inside, we shall get an idea of the structure of the fig. When the fig ripens, the remains of the flowers and their stalks, and the receptacle itself, all become sweet and pulpy, while the pistils of the pistillate flowers ripen and become *fruits*, though com-monly called seeds. The fig, then, in



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continuing to speak words of simple but deep affection to his wife, he expired before he had finished a sentence which he twice repeated; and thus full of praise to God, and love and kindness to all, he passed from earth into heaven. If his love was great, his death had in it something of the sublime.

BEGIN BIGHT.

by persons in their position in life, The wife and sister looked on this husband, and brother with mute astonish-

acknowledge and honor him every-

member that first prayer-meeting in the parlor.—Power of Prayer.

CATCHING AND HANDLING SHEEP.

As nearly every operation of practi-cal sheep husbandry is necessarily attended with the catching and handling of sheep, I will make these the first of those practical manipulations which I

A young man of fashion, of wealth and education, of high social position in hands about the neck; or by seizing one one of the fashionable avenues in this hind leg immediately above the hock great city, found out in the progress of this revival that he was a sinner, that round it at the same place. When thus he had a soul to be saved or lost. He caught by the hand, the sheep should be felt himself on the verge of ruin, and drawn gently back until the disengaged the brink of eternal despair. He was hand can be placed in front of its neck. bowed down under the load of his sins The crook is very convenient to reach bowed down under the load of his sins as a grievous burden. He sought relief and found it not. The requirements of the law stared him in the face, and he felt justly condemned. His heart was it and thus putting the rest to flight; filled with sorrow. His countenance and a person accustomed to its use will bore the marks of woe. Day after day catch moderately tame sheep almost on which he rides is of a perfect model, he went about with his head bowed anywhere with this implement. But it, and his sword is of a modern pattern. down like a bulrush, and day after day must be handled with care... It should Varoni, the god of the sun-a brilliant the burden became more and more be used with a quick but gentle motion piece of art. his crocodile is of conner insupportable. What should he do? -and the caught sheep immediately Whither should he fly? He had at drawn back rapidly enough to prevent home a young wife whom he loved as it from springing to one side or the other he did his own life, and more than his and thus wrenching the leg, or throwown life. She was, like him, devoted ing itself down, by exerting its force at own me. Doe was, me nm, devoted to the pleasures of the world, the world the state of the world, the world the state of the either of which may occasion a severe lateral strain on the leg. When the sheep is drawn within reach, the leg ment at the great change that had held by the crook should at once be

come over him. One day, in one of our meetings, that burdened young man found his burden. A sheep should be lifted either by removed, faith in Christ sprang up in placing both arms around its body, im his soul, found his repentings kindled mediately back of the forenegs; or by his soul, found his repentings kindled mediately back of the tore legs; or by might found his that the physical material to physical material material to physical material material to physical material precious to his soul. He believed that behind the hind legs; or by throwing God, for Ohrist's sake, had forgiven his one arm round the fore parts and tak-sinstende determined that he would ing up the sheep between the arm and never be ashamed of Christ. He would the hip; or by lifting it with the left arm under the bricket, the right hand grasping the thigh on the other side, so where. The opportunity—the time and place soon came. He was returning to his home in the evening. "Now," said he, "I must bonor and obey God in my family. I must set up family worship." "Oh, no," said the tempter, "not yet. sheep or lambs; and a change between had a prime physique, the German Don't be in's hurry. Take time. Get them all operates as a relief to the 40.75 per cent. and the Irish 35 per s little stronger, and then you can go catcher who has a large number to cent. He arrived at the conclusion that

a nucle suronger, and then you dan go handle, on better." "I must begin to-night. I do not Under no circumstances whatever know what my wife and sister will say; should a sheep be seized, and much less but it is a duty; and Lam resolved to do lifted, by the wool. The skin is some-

vhich are produced by many differen flowers, and it is the substance which surrounds them which popularly passes for the fruit.—American Agriculturist.

IDOLS MANUFACTURED IN ENGLAND.

John Bull often gives a hit at Brother Jonathan, as being ready to turn his enterprise in any direction, without much regard to principle, so long as it pays. But we have yet to learn that any Yankee-clock maker or tin-peddler bas turned his skill to the manufacture of idols. That species of Hgendity is in reserve, for canny Englishmen, who make a penny out of the Hindoos by manufacturing any number of godg to order. In Birmingham, England, there is an establishment expressly devoted to the business, which advertises Tts wares in a. Calcutta, paper after this may family out of the gode of the dead. pays. But we have yet to learn that demons, splendidly designed-the giant piece of art; his crocodile, is of copper and has a silver tail. Bouberon, the god of wealth ; this god is of superior workmanship the manufacturers have expended upon it their best skill. Also, other small demi-gods and inferior divi nities, a very large assortment. Credit will not be given, but a discount made for cash payments."

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From Rev. J. S. Herman, of the German. Reformed Church, Kutztown, Berks County, Pa.

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