Gorrespondence.

OPEN AIR PREACHERS.

NO. IX. REV. WILLIAM TAYLOR, AND HIS OPEN AIR MEETINGS IN CALIFORNIA.

BY EDWARD PAYSON HAMMOND.

It is pleasant to notice that this subject of open air meetings for the masses is claiming the attention of journalists on this side of the water.

A recent number of Montreal Witness quotes the following from the Canadian

"The plan of building churches and trying to get the masses to come to them has always been that preferred by religious men, but the plan of going to the masses has always been the most successful, and surely it is the closest imitation of Christ. Now, we would ask, what hinders the trying of this plan in Canada? Why do not earnest men everywhere attempt it? What would be the difference in the attendance upon a religious meeting called for any given church, schoolhouse, or hall, and a meeting called for the open air? The latter would, doubtless, be far the largest, and probably the most readily impressed, whilst the speakers would be more likely to rise to the importance of the occa-

sion.
"It may be thought that our climate is not for onen air so suitable as that of England for open air meetings, but it is really, we think, more suitable. There is much less rain here, and with the exception of the intense cold of some days in winter, there is scarcely any time when an audience could not pass an hour in the open air if so minded. The French Canadians hold their political meetings at the church doors, and Protestants are equally able to bear the open air. It may be objected that our speakers have not the requisite strength of voice for the open air; but this strength comes by practice. Many ministers of England or Scotland have made open air preaching a part of their duties of late years, and we have heard of no one being injured thereby. In Wesley's and Whit-field's time there was no lack of voice for open air meetings, and we cannot think that the human race has deteriorated.

'These suggestions are thrown out with great diffidence, in the hope that they may lead to reflection, and if deemed expedient some of our numerous, earnest, and able ministers of the gospel in Canada, of all denominations, may try the plan of going to the fields and lanes, the highways and hedges, and "seeking" those who will not "come" to them."

The career of Rev. WILLIAM TAYLOR shows that he practically believed in truths like those expressed above.

For some years he preached to the surging masses in the land of gold and crime. The account which he gives of his first sermon in the open air in THE STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO can but interest our readers. He says:-

"On the 3d of December, 1849, I announced to the congregation in 'our Church on the Hill, that at three P. M. of that day I would preach in the open air on Portsmouth Square, known more familiarly as the Plaza. It was regarded end of such a course of procedure, by the self to his mission. But at first nothing as a very dangerous experiment; for the gamblers were a powerful and influential party in the city, and the Plaza was their principle place of rendezvous, and the Sabbath the best day of the seven for their business. The Plaza was nearly sion, a stranger called on me, and re- who had been the Rajah's tutor in surrounded by gambling and drinking- quested a private interview. Said he to Hebrew and Greek. houses. The gamblers occupied the best houses in the city, and had them furnished in the most magnificent style. Each house employed a band of the best music the country could afford. The walls of these houses were hung with splendid paintings; 'the tables' contained 'piles' of gold and silver; the musicians occupied a high platform in the rear end of the saloon; the 'needful' was served out by 'a gentleman of the bar, in one corner, near the entrance. where many a jolly circle drank to each other's health the deadly draught. These places, especially at night, all night, and on Sunday, were crowded with moving masses of humanity, of every age and complexion. So powerful was this class of men in the city, that I do not remember of ever hearing of one of them, in those days, being arrested, even for murder. Now, should a poor preacher presume to go into their midst, and interfere with their business, by thrilling every house with the songs of Zion and the peals of gospel truth, he would be likely to wake up the lion in his lair! When the appointed hour arrived, I took and trembling. I felt every moment as with me my 'sweet singer in Israel,' the though some dreadful calamity or judgpartner of my youth, who has stood by ment was about to befall me. I was me in every battle; and down I went to the field of action. I selected for my pulpit a carpenter's work-bench, which there seemed to be literally a heavy mist they had all this time been under a delustood in front of one of the largest gam- before my eyes, which made everything sion. Gradually and reluctantly did they bling-houses in the city. I got Mrs. T. and another lady or two comfortably seated in care of a good brother, and taking the stand, I sung on a high key,

Hear the goyal proclamation, The glad tidings of salvation.

effect. The people crowded out of the gambling houses, and gathered from every | to the brightness of morning. I praised direction as though they had heard the cry, 'Fire! fire! fire!' By the time the | been up in the mountains ever since. I echoes of the song had died on the have had but few public religious privi-chiefly after the style of the English breeze, I was surrounded by a dense leges, but have had my private prayers, natural theology. Yet no permanent crowd, to whom I introduced the object and have been recommending religion to satisfaction for the religious wants of the of my mission.

found attention given to every sentence row I expect to embark for China; and I of the sermon that followed. That ser- wanted to get some tracts and religious religion. Repentance and prayer would the days of thy youth," "Except ye be mon proved to be the first of a series of books for distribution aboard ship. I feel be sufficient, without any mediation, for as this little child," &c., "Out of the nearly six hundred sermons preached in as though I ought to do all I can in the these streets, the confluence of all the cause of Christ, for his great mercy to former set of views, just abandoned, all various creeds, and isms, and notions, me, and for the great desire he has given the emphasis was laid upon the good- town, New Jersey. He was a stranger and feelings, and prejudices of the repre- me to see poor wandering souls consentatives of all the nations, Christian | verted." and heathen. And yet, through the restraining providence of Him who sent where his open air services have been me, and the good common sense of the people of California, I have never lost a congregation, nor suffered any serious

of fire, though often, as in this case, a false alarm, starts you. You run as though the salvation of the world depended on the race. I come to you here every Sabbath with an alarming cry, the danger of which, I warn you, is more dreadful than the burning of all the cities on the globe at one time, and I never raise a false alarm. I cry, fire! fire! fire! hell fire! It is breaking out in our very midst every day, and sweeping down the souls of your neighbors into the hopeless depths of the burning lake beneath, whence 'the smoke of their torments will ascend forever and ever!' Why do you not run, and fly as from the brink of hell, and take refuge in the cleft Rock of the Gospel, the 'Rock of Ages,' in which, if you abide, the conflagration that shall consume the universe shall not singe a hair of your heads? The decisions of this day may probably decide the question with you forever."

In every city opportunities are constantly occurring, by which thousands who seldom attend the house of God might be led to hear of a crucified and risen Saviour.

Mr. Taylor seems to have been one of those men leady to seize upon every oc-casion to warn men to "flee from the wrath to come."

No one can help being interested in the account which he gives of the circumstances under which he preached in San Francisco upon

THE DEATH OF BELSHAZZAR.

"On Sunday morning, January 4, 1852, I stood on the deck of the steamer Webber, at Long Wharf, and announced their caste. as my text: 'In that very night was Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans slain.' Nearly opposite to where I stood on the other side of the wharf, lay the steamer Empire, which had been chartered to The Empire was steaming up for her Sunday excursion. My song drew to the side of our boat a large crowd, while the embarkation of the honorable legislators drew an equally large crowd to their boat, but I had the whole of both parties within the compass of my voice, and I preached to the Empire party more especially.

"I illustraed, by the life of Belshazzar, that a Sabbath-breaking, licentious, drunken man, was utterly unfit for any official position in the gift of any respectable nation; and to elect men and most venerable institutions of God, the holy Sabbath, was a wicked absurdity, and a burning shame to the Ameri-

me: 'Do you remember preaching from A union took place in 1828, between the deck of a steamboat at Long Wharf, the little company and another body, the nine months ago, from a text concerning | the resultant body being the "Brahma the destruction of Babylon, and the death of Belshazzar? That was the time to which I allude,' said he; and then related the following facts concerning him- of original hymns and reading and expoself: 'I was up to that morning a confirmed Universalist; and was withal a very wicked sinner. As I was walking leisurely down the wharf that morning, My Universalism all vanished like smoke; and I felt that if I died then, I should faith. certainly go to hell. For some time I name of Jesus Christ, for pardon.' So I should wake up in hell; and every day three dreadful weeks I continued to pray; that my burden of sin was gone; and instead of fearfulness, and a nervous "The novelty of the thing had a moving tremor, I felt all the vigor of renewed youth. The mist of my eyes gave way all my associates. Jesus has been very sect was obtained from these sources. " Perfect order was observed, and pro- precious to my soul all the time. To-mor-

> Mr. Taylor has since gone to Australia, very successful.

MEN may cheer themselves in the morning, disturbance:

"Once on the Plaza the congregation was disturbed by a false alarm of fire, when disturbed by a false alarm of fire, but part the takes with a configuration of the existence of this disturbed by a false alarm of fire, but part the takes with a dozen in the false with the morning, and they may pass on tolerably well perhaps, without Good at noon; but the cool of the existence of this disturbed by a false alarm of fire, when distur

ERN HINDOOS.

The enlightenment or intellectual awakening among the native Hindoos, especial of Bengal, which has already resulted in estranging thousands from the heathenism of their fathers, without bringing them to Christianity, originated in two distinct sources. One was the English government schools, the first of which, called "The Hindoo College," was founded in Calcutta, forty years ago. These first threw light upon the confusion of Hindoo systems of history, geography, and the sciences generally. With them fell the religion inwoven with them. In the course of ten years, there arose a formal crusade against superstition, priestcraft, and the like. But the educated youth had only learned negations in all this. Religionitself had gone by the board with the faith of their fathers; men made open avowals of atheism. So stood the case in 1830, when Dr. Duff arrived in the country, and set himself to stem the flood with all his might. He commenced a course of lectures and public conferences, which resulted in gaining over no small number to Christianity. Many of these persons are still laboring as catechists. preachers, or ordained ministers, in the employ of the Free Church, or of other denominations. And Dr. Duff's labors had their influence upon the others. Atheism fell into disrepute. A sort of deism came in its place, to which its advocates sought to accommodate, as far as possible, the usages of Hindooism, with the object especially of maintaining

About this time another and a distinct movement came to light. Its author was the distinguished Rajah, Rammohun Roy, a man of great natural gifts, and brilliant attainments. He had thoroughly convey a company of California legislat studied Sanscrit, Hebrew Arabie, and tors on that day to Vallejo, the seat of Greek, in order that being thus acquainted the legislature of the State at that time. with original sources, he might be able to judge for himself, as to the merits of the different systems of religion. By this process he became a thorough and avowed monotheist. Towards the Gospel he had great respect. He made a selection from the New Testament, and published it, at his own expense, in English and Bengalee, under the title of "Maxims of Jesus, our guide to happiness." According to his conviction, however, this very same true religion was already taught in the Vedas, but in a great measure corrupted by the later Shastas and the prevalent Hindoo polytheism of the day. to make our laws, whose brains were (Puranaism) just as happened to the addled with brandy, and who showed so same truth in the Gospel, by the abuses little respect for one of the highest laws of the Roman Catholic Church. Now, as Luther put the light again upon the candlestick, so the Rajah believed himself called to be the reformer of India. can people. I illustrated, further, the And with body and soul he devoted him-Mene, Tekel, Peres, the numbering, but mistrust met him on every hand. weighing, and dividing of the Chaldean Only a few adherents attached themkingdom, and the slaying of her wicked selves to him, the very first of whom. strange to relate, was a renegade mis-"A number of months after this occa- sionary, the English Baptist Adams,

Samadsch."

Every Sabbath a service was held in Calcutta, accompanied with the singing sition of the Vedas.

Several years later, after Rammohun Roy's return from his journey to England, the sect received many additions I heard you singing, and went into the from graduates of the Government schools, crowd, through curiosity, to hear what who had become convinced of the unwas to be said on the occasion. While tenableness of their atheism. A vigoyou were preaching, a strange fearful- rous movement was made for the spread ness, which I cannot describe, came over of the new faith, a newspaper established. me. I felt a smothering sensation at travelling preachers sent out, schools my heart, and thought I was dying. founded, &c All this time the Vedas were recognized as the foundation of their

But the Vedas contain no trace of knew not what to do. I came very near Monotheism, but a sort of Sabeanism, or crying out: but something seemed to worship of the elements. Fire, air, say to me, 'Pray, pray to God, in the water, and the sun are the objects of reverence according to this authority. began earnestly to pray: For three It is only modern commentaries that have weeks I suffered a constant fearfulness drawn by a philosophical process from these books, not monotheism, but pantheism. These facts became constantly clearer, as scientific inquiry was pursued, afraid to go to sleep at night, lest I until at length the adherents of the Brahma Samadsch could not deny that look dark and dreary. But all these relinquish their faith in the supreme authority of the Vedas. At this crisis. and suddenly, while I was praying, and Unitarian, works from England and trying to trust in Jesus Christ, I realized | America, particularly those of Parker, came into place. There was an utter aversion to a written revelation. The "Book of Nature" was put in its place. For several years, the papers and writings of the sect were full of proofs of the God for his pardoning mercy. I have attributes of God, particularly His goodness, the proof being drawn from nature, A new step was the acceptance of

the salvation of men. While under the mouth of babes and sucklings." ness of God, and His righteousness was there. He spoke to the church in the the latter attribute alone was made dren's meeting." We observed the stage prominent. All have broken God's law, of inquisitiveness and surprise pass away. it partly here, but part he takes with close there was a complete breaking country he has already made severl jour-

I said :-My dear sirs, how quickly a cry | "THE ENLIGHTENMENT" OF THE MOD- | literal sense, or no. Of course he will | less than fifty hoped in Christ. Their | Berendt, who is already familiar with the if he has borne the largest part of it they sang "I love Jesus," with raptuhere. At the close will come everlast- rous delight. These children never saw ing happiness—in one case sooner, in Mr. H. until a few hours before. We another later. This is the view at have heard him between fifty and a present entertained by the Brahma hundred times, and have never heard the Samadsch, and which perhaps a majority Gospel adulterated by the slightest adof the graduates of the Government mixture of error or ism. We know hunschools profess, or at least very nearly | dreds of these little "lambs of the fold," approximate. But the numerous fluctu- and we never knew such "continuance ations through which the sect has passed, | in well doing" as they exhibit. We intimate that we have not yet seen the happened to see a little girl meet Mr. H. end of the movement.

Christian Work expresses himself very favorably in regard to the Brahma to me." He did see her, for children Samadsch. He recognizes in their never escape his observation. When she worship a devotion and an order quite said, "Oh! how do you do, Mr. Hamforeign to the Hindoo. They are extra- mond?" Taking her by the hand, said ordinarily interested in religious confer- he, "Do you love Jesus?" She said, the lectures of missionaries. Our readers may remember that not long ago, a lecture was delivered by the Bishop of Calcutta on the Greek play of Aristophanes, called "The Clouds," in which Socrates and the Athenian youth, and philosophers are introduced. Loud applause greeted those portions of the lecture in which a parallel was drawn between these educated young Hindoos and the youth of Athens, and the earnest exhortation not to go astray again, in breaking loose from old errors, was received with marks of assent. And when Dr. Duff's name was mentioned, as their Socrates, who would lead them in the path of true wisdom, it was greeted with hearty applause. It is to be hoped that this movement of "Young Bengal" will result in a still closer and a practical approach to true evangelical Christianity.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

We cheerfully give place to the following communication, premising that the article to which exception is taken, advocated the endowment of agricultural colleges for instruction in the sciences relating to farming, proposing only that students should be sent to some good farmer for instruction in practical

READING, February 9th, 1865. REV. JOHN W. MEARS:-In your issue of February 2d, I notice an article entitled "Learning Farming," copied | ite with them all. At the close of the from "Moore's Rural New Yorker." I must beg leave to take exception to the told the story of the Cross. He requested author's first statement-viz: that he 'knows of no institution where practical them, and many gave their hearts to farming is taught." I do know of such an institution, and as a student, a graduate, and since, an assistant professor in such institution, I feel that I should be untrue to my duty, if I made no effort to circulate a knowledge of its existance and aims. I refer to the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania.

This college is located upon a farm of four hundred acres in Centre County, Pennsylvania, and is an institution designed for the instruction of farmers in scientific and practical agriculture.

farm, and in this time they have an op portunity of testing by practice the theories which they have heard propounded in the class-room.

The institution is, as yet, by no means what it is intended to become; it came into existence under many difficulties, and it has been struggling against difficulties ever since; but it is gradually advancing in point of usefulness.

Every year since its opening, in 1859, it has shown a marked improvement from year to year, and now that its endowment is becoming available, its greatest drawback, "want of funds," is melting away; and with this drawback removed, the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania will rise, and bids fair to maintain the position it has thus far held,—that of the leading agricultural college in the United States.

I remain very respectfully, C. ALFRED SMITH.

MR. HAMMOND AMONG THE CHILDREN. We have recently received the following letters from Newark and from Hackettstown, N. J.:

THE CHILDREN'S EVANGELIST. We have read with great interest the article on the first page of your last preachers and preaching for a half century, and we had fallen into the impression that the Gospel was principally adapted to the adult mind, in spite of the numerous texts of Scripture which teach very differently. The success of Mr. Hammond lets in a flood of light upon such Intuition as the sole ground of the true texts as "Remember now thy Creator in

Recently we met him in Hackettssuffered to lie in the back-ground, now, morning, and in the P. M. held a "chilall deserve punishment accordingly. The as well as that of laughter. We watched sinner himself must suffer it. He can do | the effect of the application. At the sciousness of guilt, and so makes a hell quirers, and believe that at the end of dictionary, he repaired to Providence, where lectures on the history of Protestantism, in

in the streets of Newark, a few weeks The Calcutta correspondent of the ago. Her little eye sparkled, and said, "Oh! how I wish he would speak since you was here." "How old are you?" German Church, in Market street." In reply to the question she gave a German glistened in her eye, and she tripped homeward to tell that she had seen Mr.

With, Rev. Dr. ARNOT, of Glasgow, whose remarks you quote, we have often envied Mr. Hammond his power The seals to his ministry among chiltitle of the CHILDREN'S EVANGELIST. That he may live long to bless the children of other communities and train other children's evangelists, is the prayer A GRATEFUL PARENT.

HACKETTSTOWN, N. J., Feb. 7, 1865. MR. MEARS.—Dear Sir :-- Mr. Hammond commenced his labors with us on Sunday, Jan. 15th. A meeting was held in the afternoon, at which many children were present. Mr. H. addressed them particularly. They were very much interested, for he has a happy faculty of pleasing and interesting children. He has a seemingly inexhaustible fund of anecdotes of children he lias met in different parts of the world, and his love for them makes him a favormeeting many were weeping, as he had the Sabbath school teachers to speak to Jesus that afternoon.

We had a meeting in the evening with a still increasing interest, both with quire to be copied by another. For all children and older persons. On Monday purposes of transferring from paper to steel, morning, at eight o'clock, a prayer-meeting was held in the Methodist Church, both denominations meeting together, and they continued to do so during Mr. Hammond's stay. In the afternoon another children's meeting was held in the same place, and in the evening Mr. H. preached in the Presbyterian Church; and when those who desired the prayers To this end, students are required to of Christians were asked to rise, quite a labor three hours per day upon the number rose for prayer. On Tuesday we had meetings, morning, afternoon, and evening, with an unabated interest. On Wednesday morning Mr. H. addressed the children for the last time. The meeting was a very interesting one, and the children showed, by their attention, that their hearts were in their work.

Rev. Dr. Sprague, of Caldwell, spent a few days with us after Mr. Hammond left. Many hearts have been turned to Jesus. Last Sabbath was communion, and about sixty united with the Presbyterian Church, and many more think they have found Jesus, but will wait until another communion season before joining the Church. Since our revival has commenced, clergymen and others from a distance, hearing of the work here, have come, saying they wished to have their own hearts revived. We hear of good news from many churches around us, where the spirit of God is working. With the hope that much good may yet be done here, and that other places may share in the blessing

I am yours respectfully.

Literary Ltems.

NEW RELIGIOUS MONTHLY .- Rev. J issue with the above heading. It has Ma Sherwood, editor of the American Presbeen our privilege to see very much of byterian and Theological Review and Eclec-Mr. Hammond, and to observe his tic Magazine, proposes, on the 1st of May, method with children. With none but to commence the issue of a new periodical, the simplest fundamental truths of the to be called "THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY Gospel, he certainly does possess the Monthly." He will be assisted by the power to fascinate, lead and direct the best religious writers in the country. children's mind to Christ, beyond that of The Magazine will be unsectarian, but any man with whom we have been ac- thoroughly evangelical. Doubtless there quainted. We have been familiar with is room for a work of this sort, in which talent of a high order may be profitably employed. The great success of Good Words and of Dr. Guthrie's Sunday Magazine, in England, may well suggest the inquiry whether there is not a field among the evangelical Christians of our own country. Some foreign aid might well be called in by Mr. Sherwood.

YUCATAN.—A dictionary of the Maya language, now and centuries ago spoken in this country, was compiled by a Franciscan monk, somewhere between 1570 and 1600. It contains 20,000 words. It was brought to New York and sold, and is now in the possession of a gentleman in Providence, R.

I. Dr. Berendt, a German physician and naturalist, who has resided for the past twelve years in Mexico and Central America, lately returned from those countries with a view to prepare himself for a thorough exploration of Yucatan, in which for himself, whether there is one, in a the inquiry meeting that followed, not he is now engaged in copying it. Dr order to support himself.

get through his repentance soonest there, countenances were radiant with joy, and spoken language of the Mayas, intends making himself acquainted with the language as written and spoken three centuries ago, when he will set out on his explorations. He learned, when there, that the interior abounds with ruins, some of great extent, which neither Waldeck. Stevens. Norman, nor other travellers visited, and which are only known to the natives. They will not gratify the curiosity of travellers by making these known; but to a doctor familiar with their language, manners, and customs, they will readily communicate all they know. We believe no traveller or writer has visited Yucatan during the last century who knew the language of the people. It was the opinion of Messrs. Stevens and Catherwood, as well as the most intelligent men in Merida (the capital of Yucatan) that the Maya was the language of the ancient people of the country, and, consequently, the language of the hieroglyphics ences, and listen with deep attention to "Oh, yes." "How long?" "A year—ever which are sculptured on the numerous monuments, and which are also found upon She replied: "Ten years." "Do you ancient manuscripts preserved in the great belong to the church?" "Yes, sir; to the European libraries. Dr. Berendt hopes, with the knowledge of the language as it existed three centuries ago, he may be enname. We saw her watch Mr. H. until abled to discover some clue to these remarkable hieroglyphic inscriptions. Few are out of sight, while a tear of delight aware that the Maya language is now taught in the schools of Yucatan, and that many books are printed in it.

> GERMAN.—The best modern German Commentary on the Old Testament, which, as yet, has made any considerable progress, is that of Keil & Delitzsch, which for years over children. It is unique—peculiar to has been going through the press at Leiphimself, and certainly very remarkable. zig. It is both orthodox and scholarly. It embraces, thus far, the five books of Moses, dren may be counted by thousands in in two volumes, and the books of Joshua, New Jersey alone. Mr. H. deserves the Judges, Ruth, and Samuel, also in two volumes-all these by Keil. A commentory on Job by Delitzsch, has also appeared. The books of Kings, by Keil, and Isaiah, by Delitzsch, are announced as in progress. Whatever portion of the work, says a critic. we take in hand, the result in every case is edification, confirmation of our faith in the eternal truth of the word of God, and a better acquaintance with the depths of its glorious wisdom and knowledge.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Photolithography.— The process of photolithography, invented and patented by Mr. John W. Osborne, of Melbourne, Australia, is said to be one of great practical value to publishers. It consists in the copying of pen drawings, maps, line engravings, or wood-cuts, by the camera, upon a transfer paper, which readily transmits its impression to the surface of the lithographic stone. The use of this paper and the mode of its preparation constitute the features of the invention. Since 1859 it has been in use in Australia by the Government in the publication of their maps, effecting an immense saving of time and expense. The great advantage gained by this method is that the artist is, in effect, his own engraver; his work does not recopper or stone, this is said to be the best method extant.

Tacitus.-It is reported that the lost books of the "Annals of Tacitus," so long lost and so much regretted, have been discovered in pulling down an acient edifice in Catanea. They relate to the reign of Cali-

Eliza Cook .- This lady, whose muse has been silent for a long time, has lately published "New Echoes: and other Poems," of which the English critics speak well.

Education of Women.—There is a project now on the tapis for establishing a Working Women's College in or near London. This has risen out of the success of the Workingmen's College, which has been ten years in operation. The instruction is to be given in the evening, by female as well as by male professors, all of them volunteering, and already \$1500 a year has been subscribed, and a suitable house taken. John Stuart Mill, Professor Cairnes, Professor Maurice, and other men of progress are among the patrons of this institution. The intention is excellent, and the advantages which the working men of London have derived from this description of instruction guarantee like results to

FRENCH ITEMS.—Handsome Payment of Authors.—From the Paris correspondent of the American Literary Gazette we learn that a new publishing firm from Brussels is likely to make a complete revolution in the position and fortunes of authors. "I allude to Messrs. A. Lacroix, Verbeckhoven & Co. They have firms not only here and at Brussels, but at Leipzig and at Leghorn. They published M. Victor Hugo's 'Les Miserables,' for which they gave him a princely fortune. They are paying our authors handsomely, and will soon gather around them the best French writers. M. Jules Simon has deserted Messrs. Hachette for them, and I hear of other authors about to follow his example. They intend introducing into France the best English and American authors, and have several authors busily engaged in this undertaking. All of the late Mr. Hawthorne's works are to be published by them in a French dress-all which have not been published here. "Transformation" will open the series. You may believe the wretchedly-paid French authors are delighted with the prospect of better in-

M. Renan's absence in Egypt will last some nine months. He travels entirely at his own expense, (it had been stated that he was sent out by the government). He lost his sister (the Mlle Henriette Renan, to whose "soul" his "Life of Jesus" is dedicated) while making his explorations in the East. As an amanuensis was necessary, his wife insisted upon accompanying him and acting as his secretary, thus adding another example of woman's true love and valuable assistance even to scholars, to be placed by the side of Mrs. Grote's, and, more touching still, Mrs. Napier's name. Mme. Renan is a niece of Ary Scheffer.— The Correspondence of Napoleon the First costs the French Government \$10,000 a volume. As sixteen volumes have been published, this brings their cost to \$160,-000. Rev. A. Coquerel, Jr., lately excluded for heresy from the National Reformed pulpit of Paris, has petitioned the minister of Public Instruction for license to deliver