THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1865.

Editor's Sable.

GREENE: Historical View of the American Revolution: By George Washington Greene, author of "Historical Studies," "Biographical Studies," etc. pp. 459, 16mo. Boston: Ticknor & Fields, Pub-lishers; 1865. For sale by J. B. Lippin-cott & Co., Philadelphia.

Too much can scarcely be said in praise of this volume of lectures on various aspects of the Revolutionary struggle. Written and delivered during the early part of our own conflict, they are full of practical Pastor. present interest. But the author has shown such sagacity in selecting his topics many little-known, but valuable, and often thrilling facts and phases of that great struggle, and shown such a lively sympathy with its objects, that a permanent interest and value attach to his work. The list of topics is as follows: The Causes and Phases of the Revolution; Congress; Congress and the State Governments; Finances of the Revolution ; Diplomacy of the Revolution; The Army-the Campaigns of the Revolution; The Foreign Element; The Martyrs of the Revolution ; The Literature of the Revolution. The appendix contains a chronological outline, statistical tables of great value, and an address of army officers to General Greene on the violation by the British of the cartel for the exchange of prisoners.

COUNTRY PARSON: The Graver Thoughts of a Country Parson. By the author of "Recreations of a Country Parson." Sec-ond Series. pp. 322, 16mo. Boston: Ticknor & Fields, Publishers; 1865. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Phila.

These discourses are not without attraction in the smoothness and grace of style, the transparency of the thoughts, and the good sense of the suggestions. But there is far too much of the merely thoughtful essavist, and too, little of the preacher, in , them, to save them from dulness as sermons. They are not eloquent; their adaptedness to accomplishing the immediate practical results of sermons is small; they, in a word, lack power. To thoughtful minds they are instructive. One cannot read the sermon, for instance, on the "Expectancy of Creation" without having one's finer sympathies stirred. As essays, "Graver Thoughts," they may pass ; even then, however, with a regretful remembrance of the "Recreations" which entertained us so, four or five years ago. As sermons they can never attain consideration.

LIFE IN HEAVEN : There faith is changed into sight, and hope is passed into bliss ful fruition. By the author of "Heaven our Home," and "Meet for Heaven." Boston: Roberts Brothers. 16mo., pp. 273. Laid paper.

This is the third of a series of books which has enjoyed an enormous circulation in Great Britain. The design is to embody and popularize, by the aid of the imagination, proceeding from Scripture premises, the heaven of the Bible. The in- perfectly healthy surroundings, yet more tention of the writer seems to be sincere. and considerable boldness and ingenuity is shown in the effort to give vividness to our conceptions of the place of eternal blessedness, but we must say the well-meant idea is quite "run into the ground." Four whole chapters are given in detailing imaginary conversations or soliloquies of Isaiah, Paul. Newton, Milton, Pollock, and others in heaven. We were startled by the resemblance of the last part of the work in plan and in presumptuousness at least, to the absurd simulated speeches and addresses put into the mouths of the departed heroes and philosophers of mankind by those arch-deceivers, the professional spiritrappers. Two whole chapters are largely occupied with the merest repetitions in describing, one after another, the parting by death and the reunion in heaven, of parties of various degrees of relationship, parents and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, &c

Philosophy; Lord Macauley and William Penn; The Fall of Richmond Heard in Europe—From the English Press—From the French Press-From the German Press; The Siege of Richmond; The New Testament; Abraham Lincoln's Visit to New York; Canadian Clouds; Napoleon's Difficulties in Mexico; Poetry; Short Articles. THE NAMELESS CRIME: A Discourse

delivered in the First Constitutional Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Sunday night, April 23d, 1865. By Rev. H. Dunning,

ADDRESS delivered on the occasion of the Funeral Solemnities of the late Presiand has presented them in such connec- dent of the United States, in the First Contions and attitudes, has brought out so stitutional Presbyterian Church, April 19, 1865. By Rev. H. Dunning, Pastor.

Rural Economy.

THE HUSBANDMAN'S PRAYER.

FROM REV. MR. PRITCHARD'S BRITISH POEMS. Thou great Creator of this earth, That gave to every seed its birth; By whom our fields with showers are blest, Regard the husbandman's request.

I'm going now to till my ground, And scatter there my seed around, Which I no more expect to see, Unless thy blessing sow with me.

In vain our seed around we throw, In vain we harrow where we sow : Except thou dost our labors bless, And give the grain a due increase.

Not one of all my barn supplies Will ever from the ridges rise, Unless thy blessing doth pervade The buried corn, and shoot the blace.

Let then thy blessing, Lord, attend On all the labors of my hand; That I with joy may reap and mow A rich return for what I sow.

Open the windows of the sky, And shower down plenty from on high; With fat of earth and seed sustain, And raise a spear from every grain.

Let not our sins thy vengeance move To turn our heaven to brass above; Or harden into iron our earth, And o'er our fields to spread a dearth.

But pour in season on the grain The former and the latter rain; And in proportion due supply The needful change of wet and dry.

Forbid the vermin to devour, Forbid the mildew's blasting show'r; Forbid the tempest to destroy My growing crop and promised joy.

Crown with thy goodness, Lord, the year, And let thy blessing round appear group. Let vales be clothed with grass and corn; And hills let various flock adorning to a

Give to the sons of men their bread; Let beasts with fatt ning grass be fed All things in plenty, Lord, provide, That all our wants may be supplied.

Give us a plenty, Lord, we pray, From fields of corn, from meads of hay; Of fruit from orchard's grafted stocks; Of milk from all the milky flocks.

Thou, Lord, vouchsafe to bless our land, And every work we take in hand; That so with lifted hands we may Return thee praises night and day.

HEALTHY SURROUNDINGS.

Although we may not, without great disappointment, expect, short of Heaven, ealthy surroundings than

DWARF BROOM CORN. James Marford, of Licking County, Ohio, a broom manufacturer, writes the Rural, that he finds the dwarf broom corn preferable to the large variety for several reasons :-- 1. It grows in a sheath and is not so liable to bend down. 2, It is a finer and tougher brush, more durable and easier worked. 3. The same bulk of it will make more and better brooms.

Whatever havoc birds may make among the fruits in summer, during April and May they live upon insects, and the number they destroy is immense. Happy is he who has his graden full of them. Wrens and blue birds especially should be courted and furnished with houses of appropriate sizes; for wrens, boxes 4 by 4 with an inch hole for entrance two inches above the floor; for blue birds, 6 by 6 with 1 1.4 inch hole. Colonize different birds in dif-ferent places, for the wrens are quarrelsome. -Agriculturist.

TO CULTIVATE CUCUMBERS. As I have not seen this mode of cultivating cucumbers in print, I will send it I have tried it with good effect. Take a tight barrel with one head, and make some eight or ten holes, at the bulge of the bar-rel, with a small bit-says three-quarters of an inch-and sink the barrel in the ground level with the surface of the ground.

as the holes, and put on about four inches of straw; then fill up the balance with good, rich loam, and fill the barrel up with water and plant plenty of seed so that you can thin them out to six or eight stalks. In case of drouth put a pail of water in the barrel about once a week. I raised off three bar rels, planted this way, over four barrels of pickles; and if they are well watered, through bearing season, they will bear well

One needs a scaffold to let the vines run on :---Say, take four poles, ten feet long, and set them about four feet apart with me end on the ground, and raise the other some five feet high with pieces of lath or brush laid across, and I will insure that you have no crooked cucumbers.-Rural New Yorker.

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PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE, No. 1094, May 20, 1865.—Contents: Winthrop Mackworth | manufacturer, in order that the labor of Praed's Drawing-room Poety and Filigree securing the crop may be extended."

houses have, are certainly attainable, and would conduce, more largely than any are aware to the health of their occupants. The word "surroundings" leads the mind first to the door-yard. Very important in- STOCKS, BONDS, & C., deed is it that the door-yard-the back door-yard-should be sweet and clean. If all the waste of the dwelling, in wash water, dish water, and slops, etc., is thrown upon the ground in the back-yard, a long spell of warm damp weather in autumn will daily and nightly-emphatically the lastfill the house with the seeds of deadly disease. The remedy for this is either carrying the slops to a distance from the house and emptying them on a pile of absorbents. or conveying them away by an underground drain. If there is sufficient descent, a drain of six inch tile, I have proved, will answer well if clear water is occasionally passed through it in quantities, and copperas water used as a deodorizer. A drain of small tile will in a short time fill up with paste, and

be useless. The next point of defect is want of cleanliness and purity in the cellar. If impure air ascends by every opening fron the cellar into the house, how can the inmates expect good health?

The third place where some farmers' fami-lies fall prematurely into the arms of death, is small unventilated bed-rooms, filled with etc. New York: R. Carter & Bros. pp. and cellar and the state door-yard sleeper's body, and shut tight from night to morning. Typhus fever and malignant dysentery, etc., here find a congenial atmosphere.

There is something, too, in the position stroets. and plan of a house. Let the house front the southeast, so that the front appartments may be cool in summer afternoons, and the back rooms be in the shade in the fore part of the day. This gives coolness for labor, and also for rest. Two appartments in depth are enough; more than that necessarily excludes from a portion of the house sunlight and outside fresh ventilation. An apartment thus situated cannot cherish life. How much of our sickness is caused by unhealthy surroundings which we might remedy or remove, is an interesting subject of inquiry, and might with profit, occupy

SORGHUM FOR SYRUP.

A committee appointed by the Wisconsin State Sorghum Convention to examine and report upon varieties of Sorgho and Imphee, at the conclusion of their report, re-commended "the growing of the large Sorghum for the main crop;" and asserted that "the early Sorghum is valuable and almost indispensable to the grower and