

Editor's Cable.

SMITH. A Summer in Sky. By Alexander Smith, author of "Alfred Hagar's Household," "A Life Drama," "Tieknor & Fields," 16mo, pp. 422. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

A most entertaining book. Varied in contents, fresh, bright and graceful in style, and treating of a primitive society and a rugged nature, but a few hours' sail from the centres of the world's enterprise and intelligence, it has peculiar charms to the lover of novelty in the animate and inanimate world alike. The writer reminds us that he has not altogether forsaken the poetic muse, by a number of graceful poems in the body of the work. But we doubt whether the author of the "Life Drama" has abandoned the highest walks of literature, and we half suspect that these more recent productions are but the results of lighter moods, in the midst of which some serious and worthy undertaking is secretly going forward, for the surprise and benefit of a later era. We should be sorry to believe, that one so gifted had determined to confine his literary activity to a sphere so limited, as that of the writer of novellettes or of the summer tourist.

FERGUSON. Life Struggles in Rebel Prisons. A Record of the Sufferings, Escapes, Adventures and Starvation of the Union Prisoners. By Joseph Ferguson, late Captain First New Jersey Volunteers. With an introduction by Rev. J. T. Cooper, D.D. Philadelphia: James M. Ferguson. 18 mo., pp. 230. Illustrated. Price \$1.

One of the best books of its class brought out by the war. The author was a Christian soldier and a man of intelligence and culture, a noble specimen of myriads of Northern youth, who, from devotion to the great principles of liberty, humanity and patriotism, gave themselves up to the call of their country. A merciful Providence preserved him amid the dangers of the field, and the more fatal influences of captivity under cruel and murderous jailers, and he has done but another part of his duty, in a graphic manner, the story of his own and his comrades' sufferings. We deplore the necessity of such a record, but it is a necessary, and we hope every proper effort will be made to exhibit the judgment of the national heart and conscience upon such outrageous wrong and cruelty.

Mr. J. M. Ferguson has done his work well. The illustrations are quite good. BENNETT. Song of the Rivers. By Emily T. B. Bennett. New York: Dexter & Co. 16mo., pp. 262.

An utter waste of time and materials. There is nothing either in sentiment or versification worth even the poor type or paper of the volume.

PERIODICALS AND PAMPHLETS. LITTLE'S LIVING AGE, No. 1122. December 2, 1865.—Contents: Physical Theory of Another Life; The Belton Estate, Part II.; Recent Poetry, American and English; Lyra Americana; Napoleon Quiescent, etc.

ANCIENT CIVILIZATION ON THE NILE.—An Address delivered before the Franklin and Washington Literary Societies of Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, during the Exercises of the Thirtieth Commencement, July 25th, 1865. By Rev. J. W. Wood, A. M., of the Class of 1837, and pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

THE ASHLAND CEMETERY of the borough of Carlisle, Pa.: Its Origin and Character; with the Address delivered by Rev. C. P. Wing, D.D., on the Occasion of the Dedication of the Cemetery, October 3, 1865.

THE PHILADELPHIA MONTHELLES.—Arthur's Home Magazine, Peterson's Lady's Friend, and Godey's Ladies' Book for December are out promptly and in holiday attire. Godey has a capital Christmas story, taking the part of the children against those who would pass the day in Puritan disregard of its genial associations. OUR YOUNG FOLKS, and THE STUDENT AND SCHOOLMATE for December, both illustrate the wonderful skill of our Boston friends in interesting and profiting the young.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW for October, American Edition. Re-publication of the London, Edinburgh, North British and Westminster Quarterly Reviews.—Contents: Journal and Correspondence of Miss Berry; Life in the Criminal Class; The Rock-cut Temples of India; Life of Carl Maria von Weber; Campbell's Frost and Fire; Posthumous Writings of Alexis de Toqueville; Palgrave's Arabia; The Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland; Sir Thomas Wyse's Peloponnesus; American Psychomancy. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. Philadelphia: W. B. Zieber.

THE BROKEN BUCKLE.

You have read in history of that hero who, when an overwhelming force was in full pursuit, and all his followers were urging him to a more rapid flight, coolly dismounted to repair a flaw in his horse's harness. While busied with the broken buckle, the distant cloud was swept down in nearer thunder; but just as the prancing hoofs and eager spears were ready to dash upon him the flaw was mended, and like a swooping falcon he had vanished from their view. The broken buckle would have left him on the field, a dismounted and inglorious prisoner; the timely delay sent him in safety back to his comrades. There is in daily life the same luckless precipitancy, and the same profitable delay. The man who, from his prayerless awakening, bounces into the business of the day, however good his talents and great his diligence, is only galloping upon a steed harnessed with a broken buckle, and must not marvel if, in his hottest haste or most hazardous leap, he be left ingloriously in the dust; and though it may occasion some little delay beforehand, his neighbor is wiser who sets out all in order before the march begins.—Rev. J. Hamilton.

Rural Economy.

WHERE FAT AND FLESH COME FROM.

They come from the earth and the atmosphere, collected by vegetation. Grass contains flesh; so does grain. The animal system puts it on from these. Vegetation, then, is the medium through which the animal world exists; it can exist in no other way. When grass or grain is eaten, the fleshy constituents are retained in the system: so also the fatty substance, the starch and sugar, from which fat is made. Some grains have more flesh than others; so of the qualities that make fat. In a hundred parts of wheat, according to Piesse, are ten pounds of flesh; in a hundred parts of oat-meal, nearly double that amount. Hence oats are better for horses, on account of their flesh-forming principle, rather than fat, as muscle is what a horse wants. For fattening purposes, however, corn and other grains are better.

When the flesh itself is eaten, the system but appropriates what is already formed, but would as readily take it from vegetables as from flour. The flesh-making principle—or the flesh itself, in its constituents—goes to form cheese in the dairy; for cheese and butter are entirely distinct. The same kind of food is equally good for the production of either. This is a point of considerable interest, and is not yet fully explained—indeed, is yet in its infancy. And a plant in its different stages of growth has a different effect. The fat of the plant is held in reserve for the seed; nothing is wasted in leaves, wood, &c.; and the precious seed must have it. Hence when this takes place, the stalk is comparatively worthless to what it is prior to the change. And the fat cannot be appropriated so well in the seed as when it is diffused through the stalk. Tender herbage, therefore, is the best; and when secured before the direction of the oil takes place, so much the better will be the hay.—Colman's Rural World.

MUTTON THE MEAT FOR FARMERS.

The cheapest meat for farmers is mutton. It may safely be said it costs nothing. The wool that is annually sheared from the body of every sheep, richly pays for its keeping. In this climate it costs less to keep sheep than at the North, on account of the shortness of our winters. There is there the increase—an item of great importance. The increase is so much clear profit. From this increase the farmer can get all his meat for the year if he likes. Or he may save the lambs and take some of the older sheep in their places. The pelt of the sheep, if killed for mutton, is also saved and sold, which is worth nearly as much as the sheep would sell for.

It is also the most convenient meat to have on hand. In the warmest weather a farmer can take care of one sheep after being killed, without letting it spoil. With beef this is not so easy.

One hand can kill and dress a sheep in an hour. It takes but little time or trouble to kill a sheep, not near so much as to kill and dress a hog or a beef. On account of convenience and economy, we say keep sheep and live upon mutton.

We have said nothing about its being the healthiest food. This is admitted. It needs no arguments or facts to prove it. It is true that pork is the chief meat of farmers. It is the unhealthiest of all, whether fresh or saturated with salt to preserve it sound.

Let every farmer keep sheep. They are the most profitable stock on the farm. The hog's back only yields bristles, while the sheep's yields downy wool. All that you feed to the hog is gone, unless you kill it, while the sheep will pay you for its keeping with its fleece yearly. The hog is a filthy, voracious animal—the sheep, gentle as a dove and neat and cleanly.—Rural World.

USEFULNESS OF THE OWL.

The food of owls consists almost entirely of rats, mice, and field mice. Many of the smaller species destroy multitudes of nocturnal insects, and but few of the birds are destroyed, comparatively, by any of the species. Those that are most diurnal in habits partake somewhat of the nature of the hawks, and kill birds, which they pursue and capture while on the wing. But the little injury done by these is but trifling when compared with the benefits they are constantly doing by destroying the noxious animals, which, as we have already said, constitute the greater portion of their food.

We all know that mice do infinite mischief during the winter season in gnawing trees, hedges, etc., and numerous inventions and appliances have been recommended for the protection of trees against their ravages, nearly all of which are found to be impracticable. A writer in a recent number of the Canada Farmer states that a gentleman who had several hundred pear trees, just coming into bearing, had them nearly all destroyed by mice. Now, should not the owl, which assists the farmer in his labors by destroying animals which are destructive to his interests, be protected and regarded as a friend?—Western Rural.

COST OF BREAD.

A barrel of flour will yield 300 pounds of bread; 343 pounds can be obtained by judicious management. The writer has proved this by experiment repeatedly. As it is notorious that the dearest flour is not used by bakers, but what is called "baker's flour" and "strong" and "weak" flour, it is plain they can afford to give more than 7 to 8-ounce loaves for five cents. The price paid for bread now is about ten cents the pound. A barrel of flour even costing \$15 will yield therefore at this rate, \$15 profit. How much more does it yield, then, when it costs but \$8, or even \$10. Is not the profit then made large enough to allow 12 ounces, at the least, for a five-cent loaf? will any baker say why not?—Boston Transcript.

The professional opposition to others' sin does not release a minister from the struggle with his own.—Robertson.

MINISTERIAL RECORD.

MONTHLY.

Adams, J. Baile, Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Hamilton Union, N. Y., Oct. 25. Baird, Samuel J. D.D., Pres. O. S.—Appointed agent of the Am. Bible Soc. for Virginia. Barber, Daniel M., Pres. O. S.—Died in Milton, Pa., Oct. 30, aged sixty-five. Beach, David E., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Granville, Ohio, Nov. 14. Beadle, E. R., Pres. O. S.—Installed over Second Church, Philadelphia, Nov. 12. Beckley, G. H., Luth.—Transferred from Woodsboro, Md., to Shippensburg, Pa. Branch, Henry, Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Fort Deposit, Md., Nov. 7. Bridge, Daniel J., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Sidney, Ohio, Oct. 31. Brooks, A. L., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Peoria, Ill., Oct. 25. Brown, Wm. R., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Georgetown, Ky., Sept. 26. Campbell, W. W., Pres. O. S.—Installed over Seventh Street Church, Washington, D. C., Nov. 4. Case, Calvin, Ref. Dutch.—Resigned pastorate at West Hurley, N. Y. Clements, Alexander, Pres. O. S.—Installed at Fort Washington, N. J., Nov. 17. Duffield, George, Jr., Pres. N. S.—Installed over Second Church, Galesburg, Ill., Oct. 29. Dunlap, C. H., Pres. O. S.—Resigned pastorate of North Pres. Church, Allegheny City, Pa. Falconer, Wm. C., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed over Palestine and Columbian Churches, in Ohio, Oct. 11. Ferrier, Edsall, Pres. O. S.—Elected Prof. Eng. Lit. and Hist. in Washington College, Pa. Fillmore, J. O., Pres. N. S.—Resigned pastorate of Park Church, Syracuse, N. Y. Findley, Samuel, Pres. O. S.—Installed pastor at Miami City, Ohio, Nov. 3. Fleming, W. A., Pres. O. S.—Installed at Marietta, Pa., Nov. 7. Franklin, W. S., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Camden, N. Y., Oct. 3. Frisell, C. C., Pres. N. S.—Taken charge of N. Y. Depository of Am. Tract Soc. of Boston. Fullerton, J. H., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Sandusky, Ohio, Oct. 31. Gerhart, E. V., D.D., Ger. Ref.—Installed pastor of College Church, Lancaster, Pa. Gesner, Oscar, Ref. Dutch.—Ordained and installed at Rocky Hill, N. J., Nov. 9. Goodenough, Arthur, Pres. N. S.—Ordained evangelist, by the Presb. of Delaware, N. Y., Oct. 31. Handy, Wm. C., Pres. O. S.—Resigned pastorate of Buckingham and Eden, Md. Harvess, George, Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Princeton, N. Y., Oct. 26. Hazard, O. H., Pres. O. S.—Installed over Second Church, New Brunswick, N. J., Oct. 26. Heberton, Alexander, Pres. O. S.—Resigned pastorate at Ridley, Pa. Heron, Samuel P., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Warrior Run, Pa., Nov. 24. Horton Francis H., Ref. Dutch.—Ordained and installed at Glenham, N. Y., Oct. 30. Kimball, J., Ref. Dutch.—Resigned pastorate at Fishkill Landing, N. Y. Kram, Josephus D., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Seneca Falls, N. Y., Nov. 14. Kugler, J. B., Pres. O. S.—Transferred from Strasburg, Pa., to Muncietown, Valley, N. J. Laurie, S. T., Pres. O. S.—Installed over Bethany Mission Church, Philadelphia, Nov. 12. Luce, Abraham, Pres. N. S.—Died in Riverhead, L. I., Oct. 23. Lynch, W. F. B., Pres. N. S.—Ordained evangelist at Oakland, Cal., Oct. 8. Merrill, J. L., Pres. O. S.—Resigned pastorate at New Harmony, Pa. Montgomery, Andrew, Pres. N. S.—Ordained evangelist by Presb. of Delaware, N. Y., Oct. 31. Morehead, D. J., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Plum Creek, Nov. 2. Niblock, J. H., Un. Pres.—Ordained and installed pastor at Oshkosh, Wis., Oct. 12. Plumer, W. S., D.D., Pres. O. S.—Installed over Second Church, Pottsville, Pa., Nov. 19. Pomeroy, John J., Pres. O. S.—Installed over Upper Octorara Church, Chester Co., Pa., Nov. 14. Preston, J. B., Pres. N. S.—Taken charge of church in Cape Vincent, N. Y. Read, Edward G., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Madison, Wis., Nov. 11. Reed, A. C., Pres. N. S.—Resigned pastorate at Elbridge, N. Y. Reigart, Samuel W., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Sunbury, Pa., Oct. 17. Schaff, Philip, D.D., Ger. Ref.—Resigned professorship in Theo. Seminary, Gettysburg. Schlieder, Fred. E., Ref. Dutch.—Ordained and installed at West Leyden, N. Y., Oct. 18. Scofield, W. C., Pres. N. S.—Installed over Central Church, Newark, N. J., Nov. 1. Strong, Selah B., Ref. Dutch.—Ordained and installed at Rochester, Ulster Co., N. Y., Oct. 26. Thorburn, A. M., Pres. N. S.—Installed at Ogden, N. Y., Nov. 21. Van Allen, Charles E., Pres. O. S.—Ordained and installed at Middle Smithfield, Pa., Oct. 31. Wilson, R. W., Pres. O. S.—Died in Bloomington, Ohio, Oct. 31.

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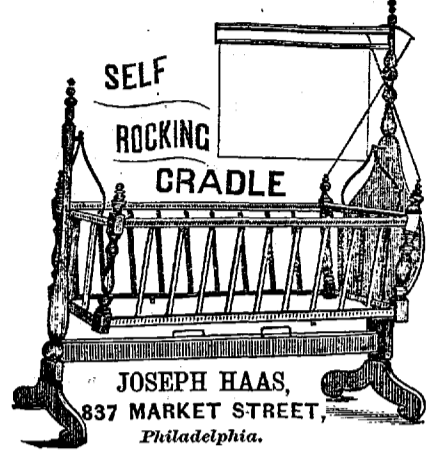
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