

Editor's Table.

CARTER & BROTHER. MAC DUFF. The Shepherd and his Flock; or, The Keeper of Israel and the Sheep of his Pasture. By Rev. J. R. MacDuff, D.D., author of "Morning and Night Watches," &c. 12mo, pp. 275; price \$1.50. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

In a score or more of brief essays, the Scripture idea of the Shepherd and his flock is here elaborated. The topics are such as: The Flock A stray, The Flock Sought and Found, The Shepherd of the Flock Smitten, The Shepherd giving his Life for the Sheep, The Song of the Flock, (Twenty-third Psalm), The Flock in the World, &c. In the well-known, fervid manner of the author—who is the modern Hervey of religious literature—with a view to the most direct practical results, and with a tender sympathy for the inmost wants and trials of the child of God, Dr. Mac Duff handles his theme, which, from the very beginning, has taken the strongest hold on the pious heart of all the emblems of the Bible. The illustrations drawn from modern travel, as narrated by Thomson, Hackett and others, give much additional value to the book. Occasionally we think good taste would suggest a style less exclamatory. Especially might the opening sentence of an essay be criticised, when in the form of this, from page 101: "What a deathless poem the twenty-third Psalm is!"

CONSTANCE AND EDITOR; or, Incidents of Home Life. By a Clergyman's Wife. 18mo, pp. 304. Illustrated. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

A good, instructive, entertaining children's book, full of interest and variety; stirring enough without being sensational; well sustained and long enough thoroughly to enlist the interest of that class of juvenile readers who are not content with brief and slightly-constructed narratives.

ATWOOD. A Pastor's Legacy to those for whose Benefit he has spent his Life; or, A Final Appeal to the Careless, the Inquiring, and the Believing, in relation to Life and Usefulness. By Rev. Anthony Atwood. Phila.: Perkinpine & Higgins. 16mo, pp. 211.

This is an earnest, direct, and simply-written volume, well calculated to benefit the reader, and leaving a most favorable impression of the author's piety and kindness of heart, and of his pastoral yearning for the salvation and sanctification of his people. It is not sectarian, though clearly upon Methodist ground in doctrine and Church polity.

WHITTIER. Snow-Bound, a Winter Idyl. By John Greenleaf Whittier. 15mo, pp. 52.

This most charming little poem is such as every reader can appreciate. Its descriptive and narrative powers are of the highest order. Its touches of pathos and its flashes of poetic ardor and indignation for right, its warm utterances of Christian hope, will at once attach it firmly to the popular heart. It is certainly one of the gems of American poetry.

COUPON BONDS.—This admirable story has been reprinted from the Atlantic Monthly by the publishers, in a cheap form. It is a capital reproof of covetousness, which even a covetous man might be interested in reading.

GUTHRIE. The Parables Read in the Light of the Present Day. By Thomas Guthrie, D.D. London and New York: A. Strahan. Square 12mo, pp. 304. For sale by Smith, English & Co.

PERIODICALS AND PAMPHLETS. THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW, for January. L. Scott & Co.'s American reprint, has just reached us from W. B. Zieber & Co. Contents: John Stuart Mill on Hamilton's Philosophy; Precursors of the French Revolution; Lord Palmerston; Coleridge's Writings; Physiological Experiments; Vivisection; The Polish Insurrection of 1863; Dr. Livingstone's Recent Travels; Contemporary Literature.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE, for February 24, contains among other articles, a startling one from the London Economist, on the Analogy between the French and American Constitutions, suggested by a sentence in the French Emperor's speech on the opening of the Chambers, and led on by the attitude of Mr. Johnson toward Congress as known in England some weeks ago. The power given the President by the veto is described in terms which the writer did not suppose would prove so interesting by the time American readers got them into their hands. He seems to have overlooked the resort of impeachment in the hands of Congress.

TRIENNIAL CATALOGUE of the Union Theological Seminary in the city of New York. December, 1865.

THE PERPETUAL AND UNIVERSAL OBLIGATION OF THE SABBATH. A Discourse, delivered in the Market Square Presbyterian Church, Germantown, Pa., January 28th, 1866. By Jacob Helfenstein, D.D.

might be expected to recognize the Confederacy was the subject which occupied the time and attention of men receiving the pay of the Union and entrusted with the duty of watching over its foreign interests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Presbyterian Publication Committee, Philadelphia: England Two Hundred Years Ago; or, The Times of Joseph Alleine, by Rev. E. H. Gillett, D.D.—The Unitarian Publication Board have lately assumed charge of their own work previously done through regular publishers. They have now in press and will soon publish, "A New Translation of Hebrew Prophets," with a new introduction, and additional notes by Rev. George R. Noyes, D.D., Hancook Professor of Hebrew, and other Oriental Languages, and Dexter Lecturer on Biblical Literature, in Harvard University.—Smith, English & Co.: The Restoration; or, the Hope of the Early Church Realized, by Rev. Henry A. Riley, with an introduction by Rev. J. A. Seiss, D.D.; 12mo, cloth, \$1.25.—Messrs. Hurd & Houghton will have ready next month "Our Mutual Friend;" John P. Kennedy's works; "Pictures of Country Life," by Alice Carey; "The Authorship of Shakespeare," by Nathaniel Holmes; "Essays on Art," by Francis Turner Palgrave; "Six Months in the White House," by F. B. Carpenter, artist; a new novel by Bayard Taylor.—A work advocating spontaneous generation, &c., has lately been issued by Appletons, entitled "Mind in Nature, or the Origin of Life, and the Mode of Development of Animals." By Henry James Clark, A. B., B. S. Adjunct Professor of Zoology in Harvard University. With two hundred illustrations.

Great Britain.—A work that all true Scotchmen must regard as a national enterprise has recently been performed by the publication of the first complete collected edition of the "Writings of John Knox," the celebrated reformer. It has occupied the attention of the editor, Mr. David Laing, whose name is well known in connection with the national ancient literature of Scotland, for eighteen years. His labors have brought together a mass of information illustrating the life, character, and writings of the reformer and the history of his times, unrivalled for its extent and the recondite nature of the sources from whence it is derived. Knox's works may be divided into four classes—historical, admonitory, devotional, and epistolary. They comprise, together, six volumes royal octavo, the first and second being occupied with Knox's most important book at the present day, the "History of the Reformation in Scotland," printed from a collation of the various manuscripts and printed texts, and for the first time presented in a complete shape, with the illustrative documents on which it is founded. The "Memoir of the Author and his Family," bibliographical notices, notes, fac-similes, &c., render the edition a perfect literary monument to the memory of the reformer, whose influence is still so strong in the land of his birth.

Josephus.—A new and good translation of the writings of Flavius Josephus has long been required. Such was executed by the late Dr. Robert Trail; and an illustrated edition, containing 800 pages and 75 engravings on steel, after original drawings made in Palestine, by Mr. W. Tipping, is announced to appear in monthly numbers in London. Dr. Trail was assisted in his translation by the late Isaac Taylor, author of "The Natural History of Enthusiasm." The present volume will contain the Autobiography of Josephus, and his history of the Jewish War; but the "Antiquities" may or may not be reprinted.

Lord Brougham.—A complete edition of Lord Brougham's works, including his speeches and personal and historical sketches, has been commenced in monthly shilling parts in Glasgow and London.

French Announcements.—Abbe T. H. Michon's "Life of Jesus, followed by the Evangelists in parallel columns; A literal Greek translation, with a Philological, Topographical, and Archeological Commentary" (the 1st volume of an able answer to M. Renan's romance). Mr. D. F. Jamison's (of South Carolina) "Life of Bertrand Du Guesclin" has been translated into French by order of the French Government, and augmented with original notes, plans of battles, portrait, &c.—M. Desor's "Les Palafittes" (or constructions found in the Lake of Neufchâtel); Rev. Bd. de Pressensac's "Life, Times, and Work of Jesus Christ."—Dr. Darenberg's "Physic in Homer, or Archeological Essays on the Physicians, Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery and Physic in the Homeric Poems."

Success of Imperial Authority.—Though an Emperor, Napoleon III. is still a man, and is said to have derived great pleasure from the success of the first volume of his "Vie de Cæsar," in a purely commercial point of view. The publishers in London, Messrs. Cassel & Co., have had the gratification of forwarding to the imperial agents a sum much beyond the amount originally stipulated for the exclusive right of translation into English. The second volume, perhaps in consequence, is being rapidly pushed towards completion. The final proofs have been printed; the Emperor is now revising them. He fully appreciates that geography is one of the "eyes of history," and it will be illustrated with thirty-two maps. The volume is expected to be ready, in divers languages, about the middle of March.—The Nation.

M. Gustave Dore spends most of his time in the Garden of Plants, studying animals; he has purchased fourteen rats, which he has domiciled in an immense cage in his studio in order to observe their habits. He takes these pains in order to assure the success of the edition of "Lafontaine's Fables," which he is about to illustrate.

Public Libraries in France.—During the last four years 6000 public libraries have been founded and annexed to the French common schools. (Before there is one in every village 26,000 additional libraries must be established.) The demand for books doubles annually; and 480,000 volumes have been distributed, and 160,000 loaned.

Royal Bounty to Literature.—At a concert given recently at Vienna for the benefit of the Literary Men's Fund, the Emperor took a ticket and paid \$500 for it.

Rural Economy.

HOW TO PREPARE ONION SEED FOR SOWING.

Mr. H. Benjamin, of Ontario County, N. Y., gives us his method of preparing onion seed for planting, by which he says it comes up so quick that one can see the rows of young onions six days after sowing. He writes as follows:—"About the first of April I put my seed into blood-warm water, set it where it will not freeze, and let it remain twelve or fifteen days. I am careful to have the water always cover all the seed. In two or three days one can tell if the seed be good by the strong onion smell it will admit in case it is all right. I drain the water off from the seed, and stir amongst it some plaster, keeping it, however, a little moist and warm. At the end of three days the seed will have thrown out sprouts half an inch long. I then plant it, covering about half an inch deep with earth, and in six days one can see the rows.

"I prepare my ground by fall plowing, and spreading on it at that season a good coat of manure, to lie on the surface until spring. Hen manure is the best, next hog manure, and if you have no other, well-rotted barnyard manure will answer. When ready to sow the seed, I drag the ground thoroughly, and then rake it off smooth with the hand-rake. I made drills fourteen inches apart, and plant in hills six inches apart, putting from five to eight seeds in a hill. Next I sow ashes broadcast until the ground looks light colored, and then roll it down hard. In after cultivation I never dig up the ground, but shave off the weeds with a sharp hoe, and keep the crop clean."

CATTLE PLAGUE.

The disease which has committed such havoc among the horned cattle in different parts of Europe is only another added to a long list that might be made of similar afflictions in former times. Such diseases have engaged the attention of some of the most eminent medical writers, beginning with Hippocrates himself, who devoted a chapter to veterinary medicine, in which he speaks of twenty-seven diseases peculiar to animals. Some diseases attack only horned cattle; others, sheep; and others, again, horses. Swine are the sufferers at one time; poultry at another. There are some peculiar to dogs, to cats, to bees, &c. Some are common to several species of animals; and instances abound of both men and animals suffering from the same epidemic. We might cite, for example, typhus fever, inflammation of the stomach and bowels, quinsey, pneumonia, plague, diarrhoea and dysentery, carbuncle, erysipelas or St. Anthony's fire, and hydrophobia.

The disease which has committed such ravages in cattle, and excited so much alarm among their owners, and the public at large in Europe, is called by the not very distinguishing term of cattle plague in England, and is believed in France to be typhus. It is not believed, however, by those who have made it their business to investigate the subject in the latter country, that the disease owes its origin to the ordinary causes of typhus fever—impure air from crowding, filth, &c. They trace it to the steppes of Russia and corresponding high lands in Hungary, the cattle feeding on which are so often afflicted with this pestilence, and transmit it to the countries of Western Europe, to which they are driven for sale. A notice of some of the epizootic diseases in former times will not be without instruction, as showing resemblances between them and the present one, and offering, incidentally, some suggestions for prevention and cure. We pass over, with a simple allusion to the fact, the inflictions to which the people of Rome, in the early period of her history, beginning with Romulus, were subjected by successive epidemic visitations and excessive mortality in their cattle, in which the owners were not always spared. Coming down to a later age, we learn that from A. D. 810 to 1316 there were no less than twenty seasons of such disease, by which France, Germany, England, and Italy were ravaged.

In the year 1661 the dogs in Naples were carried off in large numbers by apoplexy; so in 1767 were the sheep in entire flocks in Lombardy. A sheep would go to pasture frisking, and all of a sudden fall dead. Too early an exposure to cold and damp air after shearing was regarded as the chief cause of the seizure. An epidemic catarrh or bronchitis spread itself in 1747 among horned cattle and horses over all Germany, and Bohemia, and Moravia. Dogs in France (1764) were seized with a violent and spasmodic cough, accompanied by vertigo, convulsive movements and complete paralysis of the hind legs, in which state the animal often died suddenly. Putrid sore throat, in the reign of Constantine the Great (376), took its rise in Hungary, and thence passed over the rest of Europe, destroying speedily the animals which it attacked. It reappeared at different times in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries. In Spain, in 1610, it found its victims among horned cattle, horses, and hogs. In England, during the years 1739, 1748, and 1752, it decimated the horses. Pneumonia carried off large numbers of horned cattle in Champagne and Auvergne in 1772. Chickens, and all the barn-yard tribe of poultry, were destroyed by the same disease in the Pavian and Milanese territories, in the winter of 1779. Gastric fever of an epidemic character first showed itself in 1709, on the borders of Tartary; it then traversed, in a period of twenty-three years, every country in Europe, from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and from the Black Sea to the Atlantic Ocean.

Typhus is the most terrible of epizootic diseases, especially among horned cattle. The brains and bowels are the organs which suffer most. In reading an account of the typhus of 1711, and of that of 1740, in reference to its original homes and its symptoms, we might easily believe, by changing dates, that we had the picture of the present cattle disease before us. The first of the two now mentioned was spread through Italy and Germany by cattle brought from Hungary. The disease was eminently contagious and infectious. The animals which escaped death owed it more to nature than to

treatment. In the second visit, or that of 1740, the disease prevailed in Europe for ten years. The celebrated Camper practiced blood-letting, with alleged success, when the disease prevailed among the cattle in Holland, in 1744. The operation was resorted to on the first or second day of the disease; if later, the effect was fatal. Others more wisely recommended preventive, rather than curative, means. In 1795, typhus among cattle was introduced into Lombardy from Hungary. In the early part of the last century, 1711-14, a most destructive epizootic of small-pox began in Italy, and soon reached France, Germany, and Holland. It was confined to oxen and cows and calves, and at one time threatened an entire extinction of the whole species. The most approved treatment consisted in early blood-letting at the outset, drinks of barley-water, and, at the moment of the eruption, Peruvian bark in wine, and draughts containing spices and opium. Sections were used with success.—Public Ledger.

PROFITABLE POULTRY.

In a communication to the Rural, Mr. Truman Ingalls, of Albany County, N. Y., gives some of his experience in regard to the management and profits of poultry. After forty years' experience in keeping fowls, during which time he has generally made yearly a memorandum of their cost and returns, he concludes that the better they are kept the greater the profit, and that when eggs bring ten or twelve cents per dozen, he realizes one dollar per bushel for corn fed to the hens. The proceeds from fifty fowls of mixed breeds, he gives as follows:—From January 1st, 1864, to the same date 1865, sold 468 dozen of eggs for one hundred and three dollars and twenty cents. Two families were in the same time supplied with eggs, and forty chickens reared. From January 1st, 1865 to January 1st, 1866, sold 502 dozen and consumed at least 30 dozen, which, at the average price received, amounted to one hundred and fifty-three dollars and sixty-four cents. Reared sixty chickens, worth twenty-two dollars and fifty cents.

The fowls were kept in three different places, although allowed to mix together at times. Their food was chiefly corn in the ear, kept before them all the time, and the fifty fowls consumed of it two bushels of ears per week on an average throughout the year. Mr. Ingalls is of the opinion that the fine manure of the fowls, if carefully saved and properly applied, will make an increase of yield in a corn crop to an extent sufficient to furnish food for the poultry. He pulverizes it fine, mixes with ashes and plaster, and applies a handful of the compost to each hill before the corn appears above the surface.

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Make up your mind that you will no longer plow and harrow, mow and reap, around or over those great rocks. If they are in a pasture lot they do very well to salt the cattle on, providing there are no Canada thistles—we should give the latter the preference in salting; but in cultivated fields, the rocks are a nuisance which should and can be abated.

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We would continue the list if we had room. Price: In Muslin, \$1 00; Sheep, \$1 25; Morocco, \$1 50. Turkey, gilt, \$2 00. Sent by Mail at these rates.

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