

Editor's Table.

LIGHTER LITERATURE.

BREWSTER. St. Martin's Summer. By Annie H. M. Brewster. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 16mo., pp. 442.

ASPHODEL. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 16mo., pp. 224. Another book which suggests gravest doubts as to the healthfulness of the culture in vogue in the more refined circles of New England society.

HONOR MAY. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 16mo., pp. 404. A love story runs through this book of musical criticism, much as a tiny brook through a meadow.

KINGSLEY. Leighton Court, a Country House Story. By Henry Kingsley, author of "Ravenshoe." Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 16mo., pp. 190.

DOUGLASS. In Trust; or, Dr. Bertrand's Household. By Amanda M. Douglass. Boston: Lee & Shepard. 12mo., pp. 383.

THE SWEET POTATO. The culture of this esculent root may be attempted with reasonable hope of success, far north of the line marking the boundary of the market production, to an extent sufficient for family use.

thy to attain the crowning place in the story. Perhaps the writer's purpose is to protest against the excessive and unreflecting prescription practised by society in such cases.

GILBERT. De Profundis. A Tale of the Social Deposits. By William Gilbert, author of "Shinley Hall Asylum." London and New York: A. Strahan. Small 8vo., pp. 444.

Evangelical religion finds no open, positive recognition in these pages; the dying old woman's complacent self-examination proceeds entirely on legal grounds, on which, doubtless, the writer wishes us to understand he justifies her.

SCHAFF. The Person of Christ; The Miracle of History. With a Reply to Strauss and Denan, and a Collection of Testimonies of Unbelievers. By Philip Schaff, D.D. New York: Chas. Scribner & Co. 18mo., pp. 375.

FISHER. Life of Benjamin Silliman, M.D., LL.D., late Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Geology in Yale College. Chiefly from his Manuscript Reminiscences, Diaries, and Correspondence. By Geo. P. Fisher, Professor in Yale College. Vols. I. and II., 12mo., pp. 407 and 408.

TEACHERS' JEWELS. A Message from the Border Land to Sabbath-school Teachers and Scholars. Phila.: J. C. Garrigues & Co.

Rural Economy.

HORTICULTURAL HINTS.

My Asparagus Bed.—One year ago this spring I planted an asparagus bed. I ought to have done so years ago; and since the duty is performed, I have greatly regretted that I neglected it so long.

THE SWEET POTATO. The culture of this esculent root may be attempted with reasonable hope of success, far north of the line marking the boundary of the market production, to an extent sufficient for family use.

The plants must be grown in a hot-bed, but the better way for one wishing to grow only a small quantity, is to purchase the plants of those who raise them in large quantities. If, however, one determines to raise them, they should be planted in the hot-bed by the middle of April or first of May.

the roots and press the earth firmly around them. The stems of the lower leaves should be covered, so that they may sprout, if cut by worms or frost.

WHAT TO DO WITH SOAP SUDS. Although generally deemed only fit to run off into the common sewer in the easiest and most expeditious manner possible, they are nevertheless highly beneficial vegetable feeders, as well as useful preventatives.

REMARKABLE ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA. Mr. J. R. Hind, in a letter dated "Mr. Bishop's Observatory, Regent's Park, February 3," narrates in the London Times some curious changes which have been observed of late among the stars and nebulae.

Scientific.

AGASSIZ AND DARWIN'S THEORY.

We have lately noticed two important works of Agassiz: his "Geological Sketches," a series of popular articles originally published in the Atlantic Monthly; and his "Structure of Animal Life," six lectures delivered in Brooklyn.

Agassiz is known as an opponent of Darwin's development theory. His arguments against that theory are given more fully in these publications than in anything else from his pen that has fallen into our hands.

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Secondly, Agassiz shows the fallacy of the argument founded upon the alleged "imperfection of the geological record." All the readers of Darwin will recall the tenacity with which he demands this concession.

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