

Miscellaneous.

JOHN HUSS AND MARTIN LUTHER.

The story of John Huss, the great Bohemian Reformer, has been often told, and is sufficiently familiar to the student of ecclesiastical history. But it may be doubted whether it has been so well known to ordinary readers, either as it deserves to be, or as that of Luther unquestionably is. This is partly to be ascribed to the remoteness of the age in which he lived—it is now just 450 years since his martyrdom; and partly to the character of the reformation he aimed at, and which did not touch the great doctrinal abuses, the correction of which, after all, was an essential preliminary to any radical reformation, such in a word, as the Church required, and Luther achieved; partly to the fact that the heroic effort he made was not successful, and that his memory has been clouded by the subsequent excesses of his followers; lastly, and above all perhaps, to the circumstance, that the more illustrious name of Luther has eclipsed that of his great predecessor, in the blaze of his great reformation, in the blaze of his great predecessor, in the blaze of his great reformation, in the blaze of his great predecessor...

and after him. But very few, if any, ever passed such an ordeal of absolute abandonment to the "crucial mockings" and wrongs of a hostile world, with so majestic a patience as he did. Huss before the Council of Constance is one of the sublimest pictures in the whole gallery of history.

While it is true that John Huss was a pioneer of the Reformation, it is also true that the Reformation he sought was not of doctrine so much as of morals and of government. He pleaded, quite justly, that he was not guilty of the heresies of which his enemies accused him; he was, as already said, burned for very different reasons. He was orthodox on transubstantiation, believed in the intercession of saints, worshipped the Virgin Mother, held by purgatory and prayers for the dead; and, though he thought the cup ought to be given to the laity, did not make even that (which was the bond and characteristic symbol of his followers) an essential point. In inveighing against the monstrous evils of the great schism, against the corruptions in the government of the Church, and the vices of her ministers, he had done little more than many others, both before him and after him. Nay, at Constance itself almost equal freedom was used. But, as Waddington justly observes, the offence of Huss consisted in this—that the "Bible," and not the "Church," was the source of his reforming zeal.

It would have been well if the Reformation that Huss contemplated had included dogma; for there could be no effectual reformation without it. Hence chiefly it was that Luther's was more durable and efficacious. Both reformers had their eyes first opened by those moral enormities which more readily struck the sense, and which were the ne plus ultra of the recession of the Church from Christian truth. Both spoke with almost equal vehemence against false miracles, indulgences, and the vices of the clergy. But Luther looked further, and saw deeper; and attacked, one after another, those corruptions of doctrine which were the secret roots of the evils in practice. So little force is there in the modern and too favorite notion, that dogma is of little or no consequence, or that one set of dogmas is nearly as good as another! Looking at men in general, as are their convictions, (supposing these firm and sincere,) such also will be their life, whether good or evil. The superstition which buries truth, and the scepticism which doubts whether there be any, are in the end almost equally pernicious to the morals of mankind; both alike tend to repress all that is noble and magnanimous in our nature. What we find true in politics, is certainly not less true in theology; and we all know what sort of patriot and statesman he is likely to prove who believes that it matters not what party-badge he wears or what political creed he professes; who doubts whether it be not wiser to let the world jog on as it will, and to acquiesce in any time-honored abuse or inveterate corruption which it will trouble and involve sacrifice to extirpate. But there is this difference in the two cases, that the world is too apt to be too abhor in politics.

It is in vain, however, to blame Huss for not going deeper or further. He lived a century before Luther; and neither he nor his contemporaries were prepared in the fifteenth century to receive or act upon views which were feasible only in the sixteenth. But to this high praise he is unquestionably entitled, that he asserted the very same maxim on which Luther justified his resistance at Worms,—the absolute supremacy of conscience, unless its errors be demonstrated by clear proof from what both of them affirmed to be alone the ultimate authority in matters of faith,—the Scripture. Though much more than this is required for a full and consistent system of religious liberty, it was a large instalment of it; and for vindicating so much of the great charter of the "Rights of Conscience," and ratifying it with a martyr's seal, John Huss is entitled to be held in lasting and grateful remembrance.—Good Words.

SKETCH OF COUNT BISMARCK.

Count Bismarck, says the Pall Mall Gazette, born in 1814 at Schoenhausen, on the Elbe, and is of a family which claims lineal descent from one of the ancient chiefs of a powerful Slavonic tribe. He studied at the Universities of Gottingen, Berlin, and Griefswald, became volunteer in the infantry, was made member of the Diet of Saxony in 1846, and of the general Diet in the following year. The singular vivacity of his language, and his irrepressible tendency to start some bold and audacious paradox, which he then maintained with remarkable vigor and ability, quickly fixed the attention of political people. One of the theories which he expounded in this fashion was to the effect that large cities were centres of all that was mischievous and wrong—that they were obnoxious in the highest degree to the general welfare of nations, and ought to be destroyed as hotbeds of evil principles. The Revolution of 1848 had the effect of completely confirming M. Bismarck in his absolute tendencies. The King had attentively watched the career of the young statesman whose political views were so eminently acceptable to him, and in 1851 M. Bismarck was invited to enter the diplomatic service. His talents were, it would appear, quite understood from the first; for soon afterward the post of Prussian representative in Frankfurt was vacant; it was certain that difficult and delicate questions would then require to be discussed and settled, and Bismarck was appointed. Whether anything occurred here to wound his susceptibilities or irritate his dogmatic and overbearing temper, cannot be actually ascertained; but, undoubtedly, from that period may be dated his constant manifestations of enmity to Austria. He never lost any opportunity of declaring, in season and out of season, that Austria was not only the hereditary foe of Prussia, but was a common source of danger to Germany, and disquiet and uneasiness to the whole of Europe. Though, in point of fact, Austria always has been, and in the nature of things always must be, a conservative power rather than otherwise, sluggish in commencing war, and more often condemned to defend herself than to attack others, by continual

reiterations these accusations received a certain amount of credit. The Prussian Liberals did, indeed, dislike M. Bismarck, but not with that bitterness with which a man is said to regard the enemies in his own household. At any rate, they detested Austria more; and when, in 1862, M. Bismarck was sent to Vienna, and contributed largely to the exclusion of Austria from the Zollverein, organizing a systematic opposition to Count Rechberg and all propositions which emanated from him, the hatred of Liberal and Constitutional principles which has always distinguished the Prussian Minister was apparently forgiven, if not forgotten. It will be remembered that in 1858 a remarkable brochure appeared, entitled, "La Prusse et la Question Italienne," in which an alliance of Prussia, Russia, and France was advocated as the sure means of establishing a German unity which should be at once safe and honorable. Of course, it was to be under the guardian care of Prussia. There is hardly any doubt that M. Bismarck, if he did not actually write this pamphlet, inspired it, and superintended its introduction into the world; and this fact gives a light whereby to read its character, for it would seem that he is not only despotic in theory and daring in action, but that, contrary to the generally accepted idea, he has patience and can "bide his time." In 1859 M. Bismarck was sent as ambassador to St. Petersburg, and remained for three years at the Court of the Czar. Whatever influence he may have acquired there, will probably remain barren, except under certain circumstances which are not very likely to arise. When M. Bismarck left St. Petersburg, he was, for about six months, ambassador at Paris, and was summoned thence to Berlin to officiate in the double capacity of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Master of the King's Household. This was in 1862. At this time Prussia was a prey to internal conflict, carried on, however, with a phlegmatic calm and cumbersome slowness which were both incomprehensible and vexatious to English politicians. The Lower Chamber steadily and resolutely resisted the military reorganization, which tended to weaken the landwehr as much as it would strengthen the standing army. That in this matter the members were guided by a wise instinct, is shown by the reluctance of the landwehr to commence hostilities in the present unjust quarrel, whereas M. Bismarck's strength lies in the readiness of professional soldiers to engage in any quarrel. The Budget then was condemned by an immense majority, but the Upper House approved it, and the session was abruptly closed by Royal mandate. M. Bismarck continued in power, and his administration was distinguished by extreme rigor toward the press. In 1863 an address was presented by the Deputies to the King, in which the Minister was straitly charged with having violated the Constitution. Soon after the Polish Revolution broke out, and contributed not a little to the difficulties of the Government. A secret treaty was concluded with Russia on the 8th of February, in 1863, and as soon as the Chamber was cognizant of the fact, a vote of censure was passed against the Ministry. M. Bismarck was nothing daunted thereby, and his conduct at that time may indicate what we are to expect of him generally. He became more than ever inflexible and headstrong. His apparent success in the Danish question did not, however, materially alter the hostile attitude of the Liberal party toward him, and in June, 1865, a storm broke in which constitutional rights and principles were effectually trampled on by the audacious Minister. It would appear that his abilities are by no means unappreciated at the Tuileries, since, when he left the Embassy at Paris, his Imperial Majesty conferred on him the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor. Count Bismarck has been, not inappropiately named by his disaffected countrymen, Der Mann von Blut und Eisen, (the man of blood and iron.) His portrait is familiar to us all. A large head, capacious forehead, firm, resolute mouth, and soldierlike bearing. Brilliant and singularly restless eyes rather take from the otherwise thoroughly German character of his features.

THE MEANEST MIGHTY WITH GOD.

Nothing is more remarkable in the Bible than to see how God, as if to teach us to trust in nothing and in none but Himself, selects means that seem the worst fitted to accomplish His end. Does He choose an ambassador to Pharaoh?—it is a man of a stammering tongue. Are the streams of Jericho to be sweetened?—salt is cast into the spring. Are the eyes of the blind to be opened?—they are rubbed with clay. Are the battlements of a city to be thrown down?—the means employed is, not the blast of a mine, but the breath of an empty trumpet. Is a rock to be riven?—the lightning is left to sleep above and the earthquake with its throes to sleep below, and the instrument is one, a rod; much more likely to be shivered on the rock than to shiver it. Is the world to be converted by preaching, and won from sensual delights to a faith whose symbol is a cross, and whose crown is to be won among the fires of martyrdom?—leaving schools, and halls and colleges, God summons his preachers from the shores of Galilee. The helm of the Church is entrusted to hands that had never steered aught but a fishing-boat; and by the mouth of one who had been its bloodiest persecutor. Christ pleads His cause before the philosophers of Athens and in the palaces of Rome. And when He chose the weak things of the world to confound the strong, and the foolish to confound the wise, what did God mean to teach us but that we are to look above the instruments to the great hand that moves them; and that, whether it was a giant or the devil that was to be conquered, the eyes of the body or of the soul that were to be opened, walls of stone, or what are stronger, walls of ignorance and sin that were to be overthrown, men are by instruments in His hand,—the meaneast mighty with Him, the mightiest mean without Him.—Dr. Guthrie.

HENRY HARPER, No. 520 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. Dealer in and Manufacturer of WATCHES, FINE JEWELRY, SILVER WARE, AND SUPERIOR PLATED GOODS.

Insurance Companies.

INSURE YOUR LIFE IN YOUR OWN HOME COMPANY, THE AMERICAN OF PHILADELPHIA, S. E. cor. Fourth and Walnut Streets.

Insurers in this Company have additional guarantee of the CAPITAL STOCK all paid up IN CASH, which, together with CASH ASSETS, now on hand amounts to \$1,143,874 15.

Table listing investments in various bonds and stocks, including U.S. bonds, City of Philadelphia bonds, and various railroad and bank stocks.

INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1865, \$544,592 92. Losses Paid during the Year amounting to \$87,636 31.

LOSSES PAID PROMPTLY. DIVIDENDS MADE ANNUALLY, thus aiding the insured to pay premiums.

FIFTY PER CENT. of the amount of PREMIUMS received during the year, 1865, is TRUSTEES are well known citizens in our midst, entitling it to more consideration than those whose names reside in distant cities.

ALEX. WHILLDIN, President. GEORGE NUGENT, Vice-President. JOHN C. SIMS, Actuary.

INDEMNITY FOR LOSS OF LIFE OR INJURY FROM ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

TRAVELERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT. Cash Capital and Assets, Dec. 1, 1865 \$596,338 12.

PHILADELPHIA BRANCH OFFICE, 409 WALNUT STREET, THE PIONEER ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY IN AMERICA.

Where policies are issued covering all and every description of accidents happening under any circumstances. An institution whose benefits can be enjoyed by the poor man as well as the rich.

OLDEST ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY IN AMERICA. J. G. BATTERSON, President. RODNEY DENNIS, Secretary. HENRY A. DYER, General Agent.

WM. W. ALLEN & CO., General Agents for Pennsylvania, 409 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

GIRARD FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY. OFFICE ON WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. CAPITAL PAID IN IN CASH, \$300,000.

But within a few months will remove to its Old Building, N. E. CORNER SEVENTH AND CHESTNUT STS. Then, as now, we shall be happy to insure our PATRONS at such rates as are consistent with safety.

THOMAS CRAVEN, ALFRED S. GILLETTE, HERMAN SHEPARD, W. S. LAWRENCE, THOMAS MACHON, JAMES I. DUPONT, JOHN SUPPLEE, HENRY F. KENNEY, JOHN W. OLIPHANT, JOSEPH KLAPP, M. D., SILAS W. BROWN, THOMAS CRAVEN, President. ALFRED S. GILLETTE, Secretary and Treasurer.

THOMPSON BLACK & SON, BROAD AND CHESTNUT STREETS, DEALERS IN FINE TEAS, AND EVERY VARIETY OF CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES. Goods delivered in any part of the City, or packed securely for the Country.

Housekeeping Goods.

FURNITURE. I have a stock of Furniture in great variety which I will sell at reduced prices. Cottage Chamber Sets, Walnut Chamber Sets, Velvet Parlor Suits, Hair Cloth Suits, Reqs Suits, Sideboards, Extension Tables, Wardrobes, Lounges, and Mattresses. A. N. ATTWOOD, 1038-1/2 45 SOUTH SECOND ST., PHILA.

PATENT ARTICLES

PATENT ICE CREAM FREEZERS, Patent Old Dominion and French-Infusion Coffee Pot, Patent Sliding Ice Pick, Patent Gas Stoves, Patent Fruit Cans and Jars, Patent Flour Sifters, Patent Door Springs.

Manufactured and for sale, Wholesale and Retail, by CHAS. BURNHAM & CO., 119 South Tenth Street.

WILLIAM YARNALL,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS, SUPERIOR REFRIGERATORS, WATER COOLERS, FINE TABLE CUTLERY, FAMILY HARDWARE, IRONING TABLES, &c. &c. 1044-1/2 WALL PAPER, S. W. COR. 10TH & GREEN. CURTAIN PAPERS, BORDERS, &c. Good Workmen for putting on paper, and all work warranted. 1046-6m JOHN H. PILLEY.

DANNER'S WASHING MACHINE.

Best in the City. SAVES LABOR. SAVES CLOTHES. EVERY FAMILY SHOULD HAVE ONE.

For sale at the Furniture Store of J. HAAS, Agents wanted. 1047-6m No. 837 Market Street.

CONFECTIONS

GEO. W. JENKINS, Manufacturer of choice Confectionery. Every variety of Sugar, Molasses and Coconut Candies. Wholesale Dealer in Foreign Fruits, Nuts, &c. &c. GEO. W. JENKINS, 1037 Spring Garden Street, Union Square, PHILADELPHIA. 1048-1/2

NEEDLES' CAMPHOR TROCHES. CHELSEA, MASS. Sole Factor, C. H. NEEDLES, DRUGGIST, 12th & Race Sts., Phila. 1049-1/2

WM. L. GARRETT, No. 31 South 2d St., above Chestnut, East Side. Has constantly on hand a large assortment of Men's Boots and Shoes, Gaiters, Hosiery, &c. Ladies', Misses', and Children's Balmorals, &c. Besides Trunks, Traveling Bags, &c., in great variety and at LOW PRICES. Men's Rubber-sole Boots and the best quality of Gum Shoes of all kinds. 1012-1/2

PHILADELPHIA, January 1, 1866. Dear Sir:—The Ice business heretofore carried on by us under the name of "MOLLER'S ICE CO." will hereafter be known as the "COLD SPRING ICE AND COAL COMPANY." We respectfully solicit from you a continuance of your favors, under the new arrangement, and assure you that heretofore you will be supplied by the Cold Spring Ice and Coal Co. with ice of the best quality, always at the lowest market rates, and with regularity and promptness. WOLBERT & BROTHER.

(INCORPORATED APRIL 28, 64.) COLD SPRING ICE AND COAL CO. THOS. E. GABILL, Pres. JOHN GOODYEAR, Secy. NENNY THOMAS, Superintendent.

DEALERS AND RETAILERS IN WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. BOSTON ICE now being supplied daily in all the limits of the consolidated city, Twenty-fourth Ward, Richmond, Mansuet, and Germantown. LEHIGH and SCHUYLKILL COALS, carefully selected for family use, and as low as the lowest for first-rate article. BRIDGEVILLE COAL of excellent quality. HOBOKEN, OAK, and PINE WOOD, and KINDLING WOOD. DEPOTS. Southeast corner Twelfth and Market Streets. North Pennsylvania R.R. and Master Street. Twenty-fifth and Lombard Streets. Pine Street Wharf, Schuylkill and Market Streets. OFFICE, No. 485 WALNUT STREET.

Schools and Academies.

BRYANT, STRATTON & KIMBERLY'S COMMERCIAL COLLEGE AND TELEGRAPHIC INSTITUTE ASSEMBLY BUILDING, S. W. COR. TENTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS. The Philadelphia College, an Important Link in the Great International Chain of Colleges Located in Fifty Principal Cities in the United States and Canada.

The Collegiate Course embraces BOOK-KEEPING, as applied to all Departments of Business; Jobbing, Importing, Retailing, Commission, Banking, Manufacturing, Railroads, Shipping, &c. PENMANSHIP, both Plain and Ornamental. COMMERCIAL L.A.W. Treating of Property, Partnership, Contracts, Corporations, Insurance, Negotiable Paper, General Average, &c. COMMERCIAL CALCULATIONS.—Treating of Commission and Brokerage, Insurance, Taxes, Duties, Bankruptcy, General Average, Interest, Discounts, Annuities, Exchange, Averaging Accounts, Equations of Payments, Partnership Settlements, &c. BUSINESS PAPERS.—Notes, Checks, Drafts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, Orders, Certified Checks, Certificates of Stocks, Transfer of Stocks, Account of Sales, Freight, Receipts, Shipping Receipts, &c. TELEGRAPHY. Taught by a practical Reporter. Diplomas awarded on a Satisfactory Examination. Students received at any time. 1866-1/2

ELMIRA FEMALE COLLEGE, UNDER THE CARE OF THE SYNOD OF GENEVA. This is a regularly Chartered College of the first rank, and presents advantages of the highest order to those who desire a Thorough, ELEGANT, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

The Buildings, Grounds, Furniture, &c. are estimated at more than \$100,000. The government is firm and safe.—The Course of Study fully equal to the well known Standard of other Colleges, including Modern Languages, without extra expense. Next Session begins SEPTEMBER 5th. Apply early, in order to secure rooms. Address, Rev. A. W. COWLES, D.D., 1653-2m President.

THE WEST CHESTER ACADEMY

MILITARY INSTITUTE. The Second Term of the scholastic year commences on the 1st of February next, and closes on the last Thursday in June. The Corps of Instructors numbers Ten gentlemen of ability, tact, and experience, beside the Principal, who is always at his post in the School-room. The Principal having purchased the extensive school property of the late A. Bolmar, lately occupied by the Pennsylvania Military Academy, designs removing his school there before or during the Easter recess. For Catalogues, apply at the Office of the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, or to WILLIAM F. WYERS, A. M., Principal.

ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL SCHOOL,

FOR BOARDING AND DAY SCHOLARS, FORTIETH STREET AND BALTIMORE AVENUE, WEST PHILADELPHIA. REV. S. H. McMULLIN, PRINCIPAL. Pupils Received at any time and Fitted for Business Life or for College.

REV. J. G. Butler, D.D.; Rev. J. W. Mears; Rev. Jonathan Edwards, D.D.; Rev. James M. Crowell, D.D.; Dr. C. A. Finley, U. S. Army; Samuel Field, Esq. 1023-1/2

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

FOR YOUNG LADIES. NORTHWEST CORNER OF CHESTNUT AND EIGHTH STREETS. REV. CHARLES A. SMITH, D.D., PRINCIPAL. Circulars may be obtained of S. P. Moore & Co., 1204 Chestnut Street, and at the Presbyterian Book Store 1334 Chestnut Street.

FREDERICK FEMALE SEMINARY,

FREDERICK, MD. Possessing full Collegiate Power, will commence its TWENTY-FOURTH SCHOLASTIC YEAR, THE FIRST MONDAY IN SEPTEMBER. For Catalogues, &c., address Rev. THOMAS M. CANN, A.M., 1032-2m President.

GROVER & BAKERS

HIGHEST PREMIUM ELASTIC STITCH AND LOCK STITCH SEWING MACHINES. WITH LATEST IMPROVEMENTS. The Grover & Baker Sewing Machine is the most perfect SHUTTLE or "LOCK STITCH" Machine in the market, and affords the opportunity of selecting, after careful examination of both, the one best suited to their wants. Other companies' manufacture but one kind of machine each, and cannot offer this opportunity of selection to their customers.

A pamphlet, containing samples of both the Grover & Baker Sewing Machine in various fabrics, with full explanations, diagrams, &c., and comparative relative merits, will be furnished on request, from our offices throughout the country. Those who desire machines which do the best work, should not fail to send for a pamphlet, and test and compare these stitches for themselves. OFFICE, 780 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. "DON'T BE FOOLISH." You can make Six Dollars and Fifty Cents, Cash and examine an invention recently patented by every body. Or a sample sent free by mail for 50 cents that retails for \$6, by R. L. WOLCOTT, 770 Chestnut Street, New York. 1017-1/2