

Editor's Table.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. Conducted by E. Littell. Fourth Series, Vol. III. From the beginning: Vol. XXI. October-November, December, 1866. Boston: Littell, Son & Co. 8vo., pp. 824.

The very welcome weekly issues of the *Living Age* are perhaps even more welcome in this permanent form. They are quite a library of choice reading, gathered from leading literary journals of the day. Here one can inform himself upon every topic which has made a stir in the world of literature or the higher walks of politics, particularly in the old world. The best current tales, the leading criticisms of new works, biographical notices of men prominent in literature, art or statesmanship, choice poetry of the day, and much else may be found in this well-chosen treasury of good things.

A Table of Contents and an Index give completeness to the volume.

Terms, post paid, \$8 per annum for the weekly issue; \$3 for the bound volume, covering three months.

JACOBUS ON GENESIS.

JACOBUS. Notes Critical and Explanatory on the Book of Genesis. From the Covenant to the Cross. By Melancthon W. Jacobus, Professor of Literature and Exegesis in the Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pa. New York: R. Carter & Bros. 12mo., pp. 266.

This is the second and last volume of the author's Commentary on Genesis. It will be reckoned a real addition to our popular exegetical literature. Its comments are very brief and the work comes within a narrow compass. Indeed, one would suppose that without tedious prolixity and with real advantage, the commentator might have magnified his office, much above what he has actually done. Yet the notes are the fruit of patient thought, and many valuable authorities, ancient and modern, English and German, are appropriately cited. Since the volumes of Bush on American commentary on Genesis but this of Jacobus has appeared. Hence there is ample room for a new exegetical work, in which the best use might be made of the accumulated results of critical and topographical investigations, of late so thorough and numerous in this field.

So far as his narrow limits allowed, Dr. Jacobus has made good use of these helps, and his book is an example of comprehensive brevity which it will be difficult to excel. The appendix contains a synoptical view of the book of Genesis as part of the history of Redemption, and a discussion of the question raised by the mention of Judah's grandchildren in the list of those who went down to Egypt: Gen. 46, 12.

CHARLESWORTH. A Sequel to Ministering Children. By Maria Louisa Charlesworth, author of "England's Yeomen," "Sunday Afternoons in the Nursery," &c. New York: R. Carter & Bros. 12mo., pp. 428, with two steel engravings. \$1.75.

There is an indescribable charm of delicacy, tenderness and quiet rural grace about this and other volumes of the same author. They seem bathed in an atmosphere of loveliness, which lures the reader on, although they are in large parts unmarked by dramatic power, and sometimes spread out into needless and prolix detail. Their spirit is thoroughly devout and Christian; they represent as the title of this and its companion volume indicates, the part which children may contribute to the happiness of domestic life and the triumph of goodness in the world. The incidents are natural and some times profoundly moving, as that of the rescue of the drowning child by the blind man's dog and his own subsequent neglect and rescue. The multitudes who have dwelt with delight upon the first part, will especially welcome the sequel, although the latter may be taken up, and sufficiently understood and enjoyed, as a separate story.

FATHER CLEMENT. A Roman Catholic Story. By the author of "The Deistion," "Profession not Principle," &c. From the last Edinburgh Edition. New York: Robert Carter & Bros. 16mo., pp. 246. \$1.00.

This thrilling and powerful story, illustrating the power of the word of God in conflict with the whims of a presumptuous hierarchy, is worthy of the prolonged existence, which the publishers, by this re-issue, calculate to give it. We trust that, in these days of rampant ritualism and popish tendencies among those acquainted with the form, but not the power, of godliness, it will be widely circulated and read.

TEMPERANCE STORIES.

BLACKBURN. The Vow at the Bars; and, The Spirit that Led the Ship Astray. By Rev. Wm. M. Blackburn. New York: National Temperance Society and Publication House. 18mo., pp. 108.

A collection of brief and very readable stories, illustrating the leading points urged in the temperance movement, particularly the value and necessity of the right sort of effort in behalf of the drunkard. "The Spirit that led the Ship Astray" is an ingenious remonstrance against the false position of some churches on the temperance question. The little volume deserves general circulation and will do good. It is a lighter sort of weapon, which, however, does not dispense with those of greater power and skill, such as may well be exercised in behalf of noble objects of the Temperance Reform.

PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS.

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY for January, has admirably illustrated articles. Abbot's "Heroic Deeds" has Capture, Imprisonment and Escape for the subject of the 16th of this most

attractive series. The fifth of Porte Crayon's "Personal Recollections of the War," and a "London Police Court" are abundantly illustrated. The latter article opens up a subject of which little as yet is known to the general reader, save in the sketches of tale-writers and novelists. The usual variety is to be found in the remaining articles. Subscription price, \$4.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for 1867 will have as a new and leading attraction, a story by Oliver Wendell Holmes, commenced in the January number, entitled "The Guardian Angel." James Parton, the biographer of Burr, Jackson and Butler furnishes an article on Henry Ward Beecher's Church. According to the tone of the article, "We liberals" and Mr. Beecher's church pretty much exhaust the list of important people. Fred. Douglas contributes "An Appeal to Congress for Impartial Suffrage." The enterprise of the magazine promises to be in the line of Boston Unitarianism and transcendentalism as before. Price, \$4 per annum.

HOURS AT HOME for January opens the year well. Those who seek valuable information conveyed in the channels of an agreeable and easy style upon current topics and from original sources will be attracted by the opening article: "Italy's Future," by G. W. Towle, U. S. Consul at Nantes, and especially by C. S. Braze's "Foot-trip in the Tyrol." Miss S. J. Pritchard commences a story entitled "Storm Cliff," which will run nearly through the entire year. Dr. Bushnell will contribute a series of Papers on the Moral Uses of the Dark things of the World; Prof. Tyler, of Amherst, a series on the representative cities of the world, both of which commence with the next number. This is by far the most promising attempt in America to furnish a periodical of high literary character which shall be under the guidance of men of sound belief. We are glad to see signs of advancement in its character, and would cordially recommend it to the patronage of our readers. New York: C. Scribner & Co. Price, \$3. But see our list of premiums.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS. Ticknor & Fields, Boston. Monthly, \$2.

THE STUDENT AND SCHOOLMATE. Joseph H. Allen, Boston. Monthly, \$1.50.

OLIVER OPTIC'S MAGAZINE. Boston, Lee & Shepherd. Weekly, \$2.

THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC and Political Register for 1867. This exceedingly valuable annual will be found useful to almost every class of persons. Its political intelligence is not simply made up of figures and election returns, but embraces, besides these, all the facts of importance in regard to our existing National and State governments, laws passed by the present Congress, and a full statistical table of foreign countries adjusted to the great changes of the last year. Its astronomical department is also very full. The name of Prof. Schum, as compiler, is a sufficient guarantee of its accuracy. Price, 20 cents.

Rural Economy.

RURAL REPOSE.

It will soon be a tale of the days that are gone, all this calm leisure of life, that can count on being an hour before hand with time; this repose in the still depths of nature, the rural haunts of sweet woodlands and farms. The shriek of the railway has changed the reckoning of life. The worth of a minute is told by a dial-plate at the stations all over the land, and daily events which in the still life of the past stirred the heart to its depths, may become, by the rapid succession of all things, only ripples that move but the surface. Let us then retain, if only in pictures amongst us, the memory of the life that has been.—*Sequel to Ministering Children.*

THE FARMER'S WIFE.

Oh! give me the life of a farmer's wife,
In the fields and woods so bright,
Among the singing birds and the lowing herds,
And the clover blossoms white.
The note of the morning's heavenward lark
Is the music sweet to me;
And the dewy flowers in the early hours,
The gems I love to see!

Oh! give me the breeze from the waving trees,
The murmur of Summer leaves;
And the swallow's song as he skims along
Or twitters beneath the eaves;
The plowman's shout, as he's turning out
His team, at set of sun,
Or his merry "good night," by the fire-fly's light
When his daily work is done.

And give me the root and the luscious fruit,
And my own hand's rear for food;
And the bread so light, and the honey white,
And the milk so pure and good!
For sweet the bread of labor is,
When the heart is strong and true,
And a blessing will come to the hearth and home,
If our best we bravely do.

—Mrs. Gage.

THE NEGLECTED ART.

The kitchen is the heart of the kingdom, the true seat of government in domestic economies; who rules there, rules supreme. A visit of ceremony for a few moments at a stated hour in the morning can confer no authority whatever. Neither, on the other hand, is it necessary to be meddling and muddling there perpetually, or to do any thing contrary to the instincts of a lady in the way of espionage. It is simply this, that by being actually busied in the kitchen a short time daily, by taking into her own hands the management and execution of those arrangements which require the skill and involve the entire control of the house-keeping expenditure, a mistress effectually breaks the rod of power in her cook's hands, and can sweep away at once the "perquisite" system, the waste, and the dishonest understanding with the tradesmen; because she is in a position to know within a little what is really and honestly needed and consumed, and to give her own orders.

Economy is not the sole benefit to follow. There is an old, but not yet superannuated maxim—if you want a thing well done, do it yourself. The tangible results upon the dinner table would be no less satisfactory than the reduced cost of their production. Nor is this a matter of slight importance. The best nourished body is, other things being equal, the most capable of sustaining mental work and resisting disease. Bad cooking is slow poison to those who work hard. To set before a man who returns exhausted in mind and body from his day's work, a messy, unappetising dinner, it is, if it occur exceptionally, to spoil his temper, or, if that be unspoilable, his comfort for the evening. But if it occur habitually, it is to knock ten or a dozen years off his lease of life. Then too, it is no small satisfaction to be able, if hospitably inclined, to assure your friends a dinner which, if modest in its pretensions, is thoroughly excellent; not a specious display, such as a second or third rate "professed" cook, or the neighboring confectioner would set before them; every thing looking like what it isn't, and tasting of nothing in particular. Not to mention that there is a double zest in witnessing the comfort and enjoyment of your guests, with the consciousness that some time and pains on your part have contributed to the result.—*MacMillan's Magazine.*

COFFEE CRUSHED VS. GROUND.—The following is from the *Annual of Scientific Discovery*: It is not generally known that coffee that has been beaten is better than that which has been ground. Such, however, is the fact, and in this brief article on the subject, Savarin gives what he considers the reason of the difference. As he remarks, a mere decoction of green coffee is a most insipid drink, but carbonization develops the aroma, and an oil which is the peculiarity of the coffee we drink. He agrees with other writers that the Turks excel in this. They employ no mills, but beat the berry with wooden pestles in mortars. When long used, these pestles become precious and bring great prices. He determined, by actual experiment, which of the two methods was the best. He burned carefully a pound of good Mocha, and separated it into two equal portions. The one was passed through the mill, the other was beaten after the Turkish fashion in a mortar. He made coffee of each, taking equal weights of each, and pouring on an equal weight of boiling water, he treated them both precisely alike. He tasted the coffee himself, and caused other competent judges to do so. The unanimous opinion was, that coffee beaten in a mortar was far better than that ground in a mill.

WHEAT BREAD.—Boil eight good sized potatoes; mash fine; add water enough for three loaves; skim out the lumps, add a spoonful of salt, stir your flour in the water when almost scalding hot; when cool add some light yeast. Do not stir your sponge too thick, and always make it at night. In the morning mix in flour enough to mould; then let it rise again before moulding.

Scientific.

THE BLOWING CAVE OF GEORGIA.

Among many other interesting items contained in your last issue, I noticed a paragraph in regard to one of Georgia's greatest natural curiosities. I allude to "Blowing Cave," as it is called by the inhabitants of the section in which it is located.

Thinking that a few particulars in regard to this truly strange phenomenon might prove interesting, and lead to further inquiry, I dot them down.

Blowing Cave is situated on the plantation of Col. David Barrow, Decatur county, Ga., twenty-seven miles from Thomasville, the terminus of the Savannah and Gulf Railroad. The cave is at the bottom of a small, natural basin (whose diameter will not at any point exceed 80 feet,) in a perfectly smooth plain, and surrounded with a dense copse of wood. There are no indications to lead to the supposition that it was occasioned by an eruption of a volcanic or convulsive nature, as the face of the surrounding country as well as the immediate neighborhood of the cave itself, is wholly free of stones, ruggedness, and other marks of convulsive action.

When first discovered and brought into notice by Cols. Barrow and McKinsley, in the years 1836 and 1837, the orifice of the cave was three or four feet to the left of the present one, and much larger. Col. McKinsley proposed exploring it, but in attempting to sound it with lead and line and failing to reach bottom, gave up the undertaking as too hazardous for further venture.

The present mouth of the cave is about one and a half feet in diameter, through which, at one period of the day, there issues a strong current of air, not in puffs, but a continuous stream, with a roar that is heard at a distance of sixty or seventy yards.

In the winter of 1864, in company with several ladies, I visited the cave at the time of its "blowing out," and, by way of experiment, one of the ladies threw her veil into the mouth of it, which was blown into the air to the height of six or seven feet. I then threw my hat—a heavy woolen one—into it, with a like result. Several articles heavier than either of the above were tried, and were immediately expelled.

At another period of the day, the suction is relatively as great. Any light article held near the orifice is instantly drawn into the cave.

Dr. Cotton, the State geologist, a gentleman of high scientific ability, visited it at the solicitations of Cols. McKinsley and Barrow, and gave it as his opinion that these reverse phenomena were caused by the ebb and flow of the tide, and that the cave was originally one of the fathomless lime sinks so numerous in that portion of Georgia; I believe the doctor's theory correct.

Leading from all points into the basin are Indian trails, deep worn, indicating much visiting to the cave by the red men ere the axe of the white man woke up the echoes of the forest, and it was probably regarded by them as a place of sanctity, where they held communion with the spirits in the great hunting-ground above.—*Cor. Mobile Daily Times.*

NEW GLASSES FOR WEAK EYES.

A recent discovery, that was purely scientific in its origin, has led to a further discovery of means of relief for persons who are troubled with weak eyes. Some time since it was made known to the Paris Academy of Sciences, that a lens, or glass covered with a thin film of silver leaf, would enable a person to gaze at the sun through it with out the usual painful dazzle and glare. More recently the Academy received a communication from another member, in which he described an application of the above mentioned discovery for the protection of weak eyes. His own sight had been impaired in the course of some chemical experiments, so that the light had become painful to him, and he had recourse to the ordinary colored spectacles used in such cases. He used spectacles with black glasses at first; he then put green glasses over the black ones. These answered tolerably well, but he ultimately took a set of blue glasses, which he had covered as above with a thin film of silver leaf. These answered the best of all, and afforded him the relief he was seeking after. A film of gold leaf over the glasses has a similar effect. The light transmitted is very pleasant, especially in the case of gold leaf. The latter, when yellow, lets green light pass; when green, (that is alloyed with silver,) the eye receives blue light. He, therefore, thinks that persons laboring under the inconvenience of weak eyes will derive great relief from spectacles so prepared.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

Advices from the East report that work on the Suez Canal is actively progressing. An average depth of from seven to nine feet of water has been obtained along the salt water portion of the canal, whilst the temporary fresh water canal has an average depth of seven feet. The present labor is directed to widening and deepening the canal; and for about two-thirds of the distance the entire width of about two hundred feet has been excavated. The real difficulties of this canal are now beginning; the dredging in soft and constantly dissolving sand, to secure a proper depth for a ship canal, being found an almost endless job. The dauntless energy and perseverance which have carried this work to its present advanced stage will, however, in time overcome even this trouble.

Advertisements.

This is a personal invitation to the reader to examine our new styles of FINE CLOTHING, Cassimere Suits for \$18, and Black Suits, all prices up to \$75. WANAMAKER & BROWN, OAK HALL, Southeast corner of SIXTH & MARKET STS.

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NEW BOOKS.

The History of the Huguenots. BY W. CARLOS MARTYN. The History of Protestantism in France. 528 pp., 12mo. \$1.50. Postage, 24 cents.

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