

Editor's Cable.

TICKNOR & FIELDS.

Stowe.—Religious Poems. By Harriet Beecher Stowe. With Illustrations. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 12mo. pp. 207. bevelled boards, gilt top. \$2.00. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Mrs. Stowe may not perhaps claim the rank as a poetess which all concede to her as a prose writer. The instrument of language is not so fully at her control as to give her verses artistic finish and musical lyrical flow. Yet those true poetical elements of profound feeling, of keen analysis, of large sympathy with everything that is noble and beautiful in humanity, in nature, and in art, and that unmistakable presence of power in language and in thought which frequently makes itself felt, make everything she writes attractive and profitable. These religious poems are a nursery of holy thought, of tender sympathies and of sublime aspirations. Some of them, like "Knocking," and "The Other World," have already won a warm place in the regards of the Christian public. The concluding verses "Pressed Flowers from Italy" contained some of her most finished performances.

The paper, presswork, illustrations (with a single exception, p. 77) are in the best of Ticknor & Fields' style.

DICKENS.—The Personal History of David Copperfield, by Charles Dickens. With Original Illustrations by S. Eytzinger, Jr. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. Small quarto. pp. 494. For sale as above. \$1.50.

This is perhaps the best of Dickens' numerous productions; and is, we believe, preferred by the author himself. There is far more of the sweetness of human life, less of the absurdly grotesque, unnatural or repulsive in character or incident, than in some of his more recent works. Two of the characters are such capital hits that the popular verdict has decreed for them an existence which they would not lose if all Dickens ever wrote were consigned to oblivion. We refer to Micawber, waiting for "something to turn up," and Uriah Heep, the hypocrite of humility. The artist devotes two of his sixteen illustrations to those characters; his Micawber does not suit us, but Uriah Heep, cringing, fawning, rubbing his clammy palms together and leering with that counterfeit air of humility just veiling the soul of meanness underneath, is admirably done. Little Em'ly is one of the sweetest of pictures. Mr. Peggotty and Ham, Miss Mowcher, and Martha are ably conceived. There is the true artist in every drawing; the pictures in fact are the crowning features of this Diamond edition, which is a marvel of neatness, compactness and cheapness. The clearness of the type makes up fully for its small size.

DIXON.—Backbone Photographed from "the Scalpel." By Edward H. Dixon, M. D. New York: Robert M. Dewitt, Publisher. 12mo. 316.

A strange book is this. The style is dashing and sensational. The topics are mainly drawn from the medical profession. The writer evidently regards himself as having a mission in the way of exposing abuses within the range of these topics; and he seems somewhat emulous of a martyr's distinction, such as may be won cheaply enough in such a field of writing. He has good powers of description, is tolerably skilled in banter, is an animated and vigorous talker in print, and has certainly done some service to humanity by his earnest and persevering attack upon shams and abuses. He professes to believe in the Christian religion, but some of the language used is far from becoming or reverent—such as might be called slang, if no worse.

We cannot regard the book as of any permanent value.

EDGED TOOLS.—By the author of "the Win and Wear Series." New York: R. Carter & Bros. 18mo. pp. 316. Illustrated. For sale at the Presbyterian Book Store.

In spirit, purpose and execution this is one of the very best of boys' books, with lessons of great importance for parents and teachers, for brothers and sisters alike. "The Edged Tools" are the influences wielded especially in the family upon the characters of children, and the perils of their misuse are described in vivid colors. An excellent book for the Sabbath School Library.

A. L. O. E.—David Aspinall, the Wanderer in Africa. A Tale illustrating the Thirty Second Psalm. By A. L. O. E. Robert Carter & Bros. 18mo. pp. 137. For sale as above.

It is a long time since we have heard from this deservedly favorite writer. The little volume before us will hardly satisfy the eager appetite with which many readers have heard the announcement of another of his productions. It contains the story of an English youth sustained in some very trying experiences in the service of a Dutch Boer in South Africa, and well teaches Christian lessons of trust and forgiveness. A good book for the S. S. Library.

TALMON.—The Red Bridge, A Temperance Story. By Thraze Talmon, author of "Edith Hale," &c. 18mo. pp. 321. New York: National Temperance Society. Philadelphia: For sale by J. C. Garriques & Co.

Another proof of the vitality and breadth of the Temperance movement which we have happily lived to see renewed. It is a juvenile story designed to illustrate the wide spread of the evil of intemperance in the family, to encourage loving and prayerful effort in behalf of the victims of self indulgence, and to inculcate other excellent religious and moral lessons. The style is frequently formal, prolix and without naturalness. There is, however, sufficient interest in the incidents of the story to make it an effective vehicle

of the important truth it is designed to convey. It is handsomely printed and bound.

PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS.

HOURS AT HOME FOR APRIL concludes the Fourth Volume of this increasingly valuable and popular monthly. Dr. Bushnell discourses of the Moral Uses of such very common and yet very dark things, as Bad Governments, the chief use of which, in his view, is the full revelation of evil made by them for the instruction and warning of mankind. The San Greal is a curious account of the legends of the Holy Cup used by our Saviour at the Last Supper. Marcella of Rome is a powerfully written story of the early Christians, the 8th chapter of which is given in this number. Mr. Jessup concludes his highly interesting account of the Cedar Groves of Lebanon. Prof. Tyler contributes a rich article on Tyre. Mr. Mitchell discourses on "Parks, Gardens and Groves." The Cretan Insurrection is from Mac-Millan's Magazine. Dr. Nelson contributes a short article on the Incarnation. As the next number begins a new volume, the present is a good time to subscribe. For \$4 we will send a copy of the Magazine and of the American Presbyterian to new subscribers for both. (In the city \$4.50.)

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY for April continues its humorous and dashing adventures of the Dodge Club, or Italy in 1859. "Heroic Deeds" gives to well-deserved fame the brave deeds and endurance of Lieutenant Benj. H. Porter, who fell at the storming of Fort Fisher. A beautiful illustration accompanies the verses, "The Shaded Stream." The article, "A Christian Neighborhood" contains many hints towards a proper regulation of our domestic economy both for the benefit of our neighbors and ourselves, illustrated with drawing and plans of a house suited for persons of moderate means.

THE SABBATH AT HOME, by the (Boston) American Tract Society for April, is a decided improvement on preceding numbers. Dr. Dexter's Footprints of the Pilgrims in Holland is upon ground quite novel to readers of this generation. The subject is full of interest and the six fine illustrations are full of great assistance to the untravelled reader. A large proportion of the contents is for the younger members of the family, and the aim to produce an immediate saving effect upon their hearts is more prominent than in too much of our religious periodical literature. Price \$2, in advance.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for April, besides continuations, has notable articles on the Sanitary Commission, on University Reform, and Travel in the United States, with a good variety of lighter articles. An addition, very acceptable to miscellany men, is the Atlantic Advertiser and Miscellany, made up of general and appreciative brief notices of new books and other literary matter, concluding with a page of choice extracts from the recent poetry of Bayard Taylor, Aldrich, Forseythe Wilson, George Arnold and Mrs. Stowe.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS for April is a very rich number. Bytting's full page engaging "Going Halves," is an illustration of the progress of notions of equality and brotherhood among the boys of our day, exceeding the observation and experience of most, though based on actual occurrence. Games, music, travels, puzzles, fairy tales, and tales of severe practical life, make up a charming miscellany. Price \$2.

THE MERCERSBURG REVIEW, New Series, Vol. I, No. 1, January, 1867; an organ for Christological, Historical and Positive Theology. Edited by H. Harbaugh, D. D., (Professor of Theology, Mercersburg, Pa.) Contents:—Introductory Article; Theology of the New Liturgy; False Faith and Feeling in regard to the Holy Ghost; The Sacramental and Experimental in the Mystical Union; The Genius and Theology of St. Augustine; Christian Patriotism; God in History and in Science; Recent Publications.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE, American Edition, March, 1867. Contents:—The Army; Ferrier; Hymns of the Populace; The History of Scotland; The Innermost Room; Co-operative Societies; Cornelius O'Dowd; Brownlows (Part III); The Ministerial Resolution.

REPORT of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, for the year 1866, by Thomas F. Kirkbride, M. D., Physician-in-chief and Superintendent. Total number of applicants in 1866, 526; discharged and died, 230; number now under treatment, 290; expenditures in male department, \$69,076.05; expenditures in female department, \$72,115.99. Total, \$141,192.04.

Miscellaneous.

THE DEATH OF DR. LIVINGSTONE. OFFICIAL ACCOUNT FROM THE AMERICAN CONSUL AT ZANZIBAR.

Consulate of the United States of America, } Island of Zanzibar, Dec. 9th, 1866. }

SIR:—It becomes my painful duty to report the death of Dr. David Livingstone, the celebrated African explorer, who, as I wrote under date of May 9, 1866 (Dispatch No. 4), left here on the ninth of March last for the exploration of the river Rovuma, and the region between the great lakes of Central Africa, of which, as yet, but little is known. The sad intelligence was received here on the 6th inst, by the arrival of several native members of the expedition, from whom but little of importance could be elicited, save the fact of Dr. Livingstone's death. I am indebted to Dr. Kirk, H. B. M. Vice-Consul, and formerly a member of the Livingstone Zambezi expedition, for the following particulars of this sad event; and as his accompanying remarks may prove interesting, I cannot do better than to give them in his own words: "The return of several of the Johanna men who accompanied Dr. Livingstone, has made it certain that that distinguished traveler has fallen, and, with him, half of his native followers. * * * His present expedition may be briefly stated to have been an attempt to unite the magnificent discoveries of late years, and determine the limits and connections of the three great lakes, which reach from 14th degree south to 2 degrees north latitude, and flowing to the sea by the Zambezi and Nile at the two extremities, but with an intermediate space as yet un-

known. Such was the geographical problem. But Dr. Livingstone had in view to affect the present enormous East African slave trade, through pioneering the way which might lead to lawful commerce. To have consolidated in one the successive discoveries achieved by himself on the 'Nyassa, Burton, on the 'Sanganyika, Speke and Grant, on the 'Victoria, and Baker, on the 'Albert Nyanza,' would have been a fitting triumph for one who was the first to cross the African continent within the tropical zone; but these hopes have been wrecked by his untimely death. * * * We last heard of Dr. Livingstone, at 'N'doude,' at the confluence of the Novuma and Niende. Here he met with kindness, but found the land desolated by the slave traders supplying the market of Zanzibar. We have information that he proceeded further to Mataka, a Miao chief, who gave presents of cattle and food. At this point the Indian Sepoys remained behind, and have since returned to Zanzibar. From Mataka to Alake was eight day's march. On crossing a wide water in Canves they followed the border of the lake for several days, and thus struck inland. They were suddenly attacked in a bushy country, about 9 a. m., by a band of Mavite. Dr. Livingstone killed the most forward of the attacking party, but was surrounded and cut down by one blow of a battle-axe, which cut half through his neck. Beyond this we have no details, for those who returned were the first to flee. Almost all who stood near Dr. Livingstone were killed, although they seem to have done considerable work with their rifles. This happened about six weeks ago, or about Oct. 25th. You now see how very meager our information is. Even with a personal knowledge of the lakes of the surrounding country, at least a short distance from the scene of this sad affair, and a knowledge of that very tribe of Zatees, called Mavite, Agite, Maozites, &c., it has been quite impossible for me as yet to elicit any thing from the impenetrable simplicity of the few who have returned, as to where this tragedy took place. That it was to the west of the Nyassa is certain; and whether, in the district we had already explored, or further to the north, is still uncertain. That Dr. Livingstone was killed by the same Mavite, as he and I were among, together, is certain. They would have attacked us then if they had dared, but we were too strong for them. With such enemies, it comes to be a question of numbers, as well as equipment. The death of a few will not break their charge; and a small party, taken unawares, has no chance. Only one of the survivors saw Dr. Livingstone fall, but they buried his body at 3 p. m., when the Mavite had gone. They took off all the baggage, and also the upper clothing of the dead body, so that not even a note remains by which to tell the route." It is hardly probable that any further particulars will ever be obtained in regard to Dr. Livingstone's death, as the Mavite are a wandering people, and it will be quite impossible to ascertain the particular tribe by whom Dr. Livingstone's party were attacked. I have the honor to be, Sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

EDWARD D. ROPES, U. S. Consul. Hon. W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

FALLING AWAY.

One has right to think himself a converted man, only when he lives and feels like a converted man. Whenever he lives otherwise he should doubt his hope; if he continue so to live, he should throw it away altogether. What greater folly can a man commit, than to be ever looking back to his past experience, for the evidence of his religion? Time obscures it. It grows dimmer and dimmer as it is farther and farther away. He knows that were he to make up his judgment, as to his moral state by what he does and feels to-day, he would not dare to call himself a Christian man, so he leaps over years of sinful wandering, and dwells complacently upon what he felt and did in the bygone time. The present experience which is before him, which he can examine and prove by present light and knowledge goes for nothing; he thinks of himself now by what he was then, he takes the clouded but pleasant memories of past hours instead of present reality and hangs his hope of heaven on a reminiscence of other days!

I say not that the wanderer will be lost. That will be determined by his repentance and the unknown fathomless depths of God's mercy. When, however, I think of that long black night of shame and remorse, of conscience gnawing like a worm in the soul, of dreams that are like the presage of coming doom, of days of sin in which the soul wanders homeless and dares not go back to its Father's house, of desolation deep and dreary, of loneliness and despondency when the heart would fain cry out for help but cannot lift a prayer, of that startling at every alarm, of that wild clutching at earthly hopes lest they suddenly go out, of that trembling horror of death, of those voices in the soul like the wail of the lost, of that dark forboding of coming wrath whose up-heaving clouds cover with blackness all the sky, along whose edge plays the red gleam that tells of an angry God, of that going down to death, swinging out into the darkness and no overlasting arms underneath, catching at a hope and finding it a spider's web, dropping with a shriek into the abyss, —when I think of this and then of those unuttered questions which call hoarsely for an answer in the bosom of friends as they bend over the lifeless form,— "Is he in Heaven, or is he in Hell?" When I think of all this, I say take heed, O my soul, that thou fall not, that thou wander not.—Rev. William Aikman.

As some articles are tanned by the same sun in which others are bleached, so are some people hardened under the same gospel by which others are softened.

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