

Editor's Table.

HARPER & BROTHERS.

McCLINTOCK AND STRONG.—CYCLOPEDIA OF BIBLICAL, THEOLOGICAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL LITERATURE. Prepared by the Rev. John McClintock, D. D. and James Strong, S. T. D. Vol. I. (A. B.) Pp. 947. With numerous maps and illustrations. Published by Harper & Bros., of New York. For sale by James K. Simon, 29 South Sixth St., Philadelphia. Price \$5.

The Editors of this work have certainly undertaken a labor like those of Hercules, and, so far as we can judge from this first volume, with a success worthy of their courage. Books of reference in the form of Encyclopedias are quite the order of the day, and jostle each other in competition for public favor, while the popularity so long enjoyed by works of such a narrow scope as Buck's Theological Dictionary, shows what a need has existed in the very department which the present Cyclopaedia is designed to cover. The work embodies an immense amount of well-digested information on every topic discussed, with references to the best authorities on each—the editors have drawn largely upon the labors of their most reliable predecessors—such as Herzog, Winer and Smith. The enormous scope of their work (embracing such fields as Church history and biography, Christian doctrine, polemics, Biblical science, &c.) implies a necessary imperfection in its accomplishment. They have, however, made it at least as complete as any of the great secular Encyclopedias, and have furnished alike a standard for authoritative reference and a mine of Church learning such as must prove of decided service to our American scholars.

It would be strange indeed if they should have suited all tastes, and possibly every careful observer will find something in defect or excess to complain of. For ourselves we may say that, while we are aware that the compilers have worked from a Methodist stand-point, we think that the department of Methodist biography might have been entrusted to more judicious hands than those of such a master of hyperbole as Rev. G. Lansing Taylor. The articles in this department seem to be out of due proportion to the rest of the work. Deceased ministers of other Churches are of course not neglected, and we observe a very satisfactory notice is given of the late Dr. Brainger, with the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN quoted as the authority. In doctrinal articles, too, while we see no attempt at misrepresentation and caricature, we think that it would have been fairer to have entrusted some topics to other than Methodist hands, as for instance Augustinianism to Dr. Shedd; as experience shows that a theological system, like a painted window, must be seen from within.

Where, however, there is so much to praise we would not like to appear querulous, and we trust that the editors will, in God's providence, have the health, strength and popularity required to carry on their great undertaking to Z.

The mechanical execution of the work is most excellent, and well adapted to the end of saying much in little space. The wood-cuts are very numerous and appropriate, but the quality of the maps is not what it ought to have been.

CHARLES SCRIBNER & CO.

TRENCH.—STUDIES IN THE GOSPELS. By Richard Chevenix Trench, Archbishop of Dublin. Pp. 326. 8vo. Published by Charles Scribner & Co., New York. Price \$3.

Scolists often speak of the great simplicity of the Gospels as compared with the Epistles, and especially those of Paul. A closer study would show that in the Four Great Biographies are "many things hard to understand," and the words of the Son of Man are so weighty and "central" in their significance that only the most reverent student, nay, the most godly Christian, can enter into the depths of their meaning. Dr. Trench has looked at the question from this point of view, and has brought to the study an analytical power of head that has never chilled the warmth of his Christian heart,—a weight of learning that sits too lightly upon him to debar freshness and original power. We are glad that the duties of a metropolitan see have not put an end to his labors in the field of Scripture exegesis. Among the themes discussed are "The Temptation," "The Transfiguration," "James and John offering to call down Fire," "The New Piece of Cloth, and the New Wine," "The Penitent Malefactor," &c. All these are treated with great care and fulness, and with continual reference to the interpretations of the Fathers, the Reformers and later Theologians, as well as with a boldness in comparing Scripture with Scripture, which sheds new light on the unity of the inspired volume.

GRAVES & YOUNG.

RIPLY.—CHURCH POLITY. A Treatise on Christian Churches and the Christian Ministry. By Henry J. Ripley, Late Professor of Sacred Rhetoric and Pastoral Duties in Newton Theological Institution, and Author of Notes on the Gospels, the Acts, &c. Pp. 235, 16mo. Boston. Graves & Young. For sale by Smith, English & Co., Philadelphia.

Prof. Ripley ranks high in his own denomination and in the American Church as a Biblical scholar. His present manual of Church order is of course written in the interests of Independency, as that system is carried out in the Baptist denomination. It is distinguished by clearness of statement and ingenuity in reconciling the theory that the local church is every thing, with the actual modifications of the theory that are found necessary to its working in our own country.

The mechanical execution of the book is beautiful and the author has had the unusual good sense to add an appendix.

PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS.

THE THEOLOGICAL ECLECTIC—Vol. IV, No. 6—May and June, 1867. Contents—The Movements of our Times and their Probable Issues; The Crisis at Rome; Life and Characteristics of Archbishop Whately; The Change of the Sabbath from the Seventh to the First Day of the Week; The Architectural Metaphors of St. Paul; The Theory of Ritualism; Notices of Recent Publications; Literary and Theological Intelligence.

GUTHRIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE. May, 1867. Contents—The Huguenot Family in the English Village (Chaps. xxi, xxii, xxiii); Philanthropy; How to Use the Epistles; Both Sides of the Shield; In the Times of the Lollards; Palingenis; Studies from the Old Testament vii; The Schoolmaster; The Prophet Hosea; Suggestions for District Visitors; Peace; My Chosen Friends; (chaps. iii and iv); Knocking at the Heart; Luther the Singer; Notes for Readers out of Way.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. June, 1867. Contents—The Guardian Angel, vi; The City of St. Louis; The Red School House; A Venetian Experience; Negro Spirituals; Poor Richard I; G. L. S.; Golden Chains; Shakespeare, the Man and the Dramatist; The Founders of Montreal; Russian America; Among the Comedians; Reviews and Literary Notices.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. No. 1199. May 25, 1867. Contents—Count Beugnot's Memories; Old Sir Douglas, Part 12; a Week in a French Country-house, Part 2; Fanny Kemble's Notes on Macbeth; Lord Stanley and the Coming War; Peculiar Danger of the Threatened War; Will there be War?; Privacy of the Dead; Democracy and Court Dress; Roscoe Minds; The Athletic Sports at Beaufort House; Poetry—Salome's Prayer—In the Deep; Short Articles—American Breech-Loading Rifles—Cheap Beef—Pay of Magazine Writers—Lord Eldon's Will—Pitch in Music—Japanese Odes translated into English—Tennysonia.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW—No. 172—April, 1867. Contents—Italy and the War of 1866; The Papal Drama; Thomas Hobbes; Contemporary Music and Musical Literature; New America; Mr. Swinburne's Poetry; The Hopes and Fears of the Reformers; Contemporary Literature.

Rural Economy.

PLANTING POTATOES.

A writer in the *Prairie Farmer*, giving his experience in the cultivation of potatoes, says: "It is desirable not only to get the best varieties for seed, but to know how to plant them and raise the largest and best crops." And he pursues the following system, which pays far better than any of the old systems generally practiced:

1. In the fall, plow deeply and subsoil plow, in all 18 to 20 inches in depth.
2. In early spring, plow and subsoil across the winter furrows, harrow and roll.
3. Mark out, as for corn, 3 feet apart each way, opening the furrows 8 inches deep.
4. At the intersection drop a whole potato, the largest you have, and spread upon it a handful (about 40 bushels per acre) of a compost made of eight parts of wood-ashes, four of bone phosphate of lime, four of fine ground plaster, two of finely slaked lime, and one of salt; or, if preferred, 3 ounces of artificial fertilizer per hill. Then cover, roll, and spread 1,000 lbs. per acre of good artificial fertilizer.
5. As soon as the young plants appear, run the cultivator close to and between, but not over, them in each direction. Afterward and before the weeds come up, cultivate both ways, with Knox's horse-hoe—so arranged as to cut as shallow as possible, and keep the surface entirely flat. Repeat this at short intervals, three times. Then hand-hoe three times, still keeping a flat surface. Allow no hilling at any time, nor any weeds to grow.
6. As soon as the tops are dead, dig in clear, dry weather, with heavy, five-tined digging-forks; spread under cover to dry, and store in a cool, dark, dry, airy cellar, spreading half a pint of freshly slaked lime in powder on each bushel of potatoes.
7. Gather and compost the dry tops, for application next autumn; then plow and subsoil as before, for next year's crop.

The following are the advantages of this system of cultivation:

1. No possible entire failure of crop.
  2. No rot in healthy varieties.
  3. The largest yield the soil and variety are capable of.
  4. The largest proportion of large potatoes.
  5. No degeneracy of varieties, but continued improvement.
  6. No necessity for rotation of crops; the potato can be thus grown almost indefinitely on the same land, with, perhaps, at long intervals, a seeding to clover to maintain the supply of vegetable fibre in the soil.
  7. No loss by late spring frosts. If the early growth is cut off, the dormant eyes will grow, and the crop be saved.
  8. The greatest economy of culture and harvesting.
  9. The highest table quality of potato.
- "If the materials for the compost cannot be obtained, top-dress heavily in the fall, after plowing, with barn-yard manure; but never use it in the season of planting. It may increase the crop, but tends to engender disease, especially in wet seasons."

SAVING AND APPLYING BONE DUST.

Numerous inquiries have been forwarded to the Farmers' Club respecting the value of raw bone as a fertilizer. At a late meeting of the Club, in reply to the queries about this kind of manure, S. Edwards Todd said: "If there is any one practice among American farmers, for which they deserve sharp rebuke, it is for permitting such immense quantities of bone to be exported for the improvement of the agriculture of foreign nations. Thousands of tons of bones are collected annually in Chicago, Buffalo, New York, and other populous cities, and shipped

to European countries, to fertilize the land for raising turnips, wheat, fat cattle and sheep. And yet American farmers in stupid quietude, look on and say, 'It don't pay to collect bones and apply them to the soil!'

"It will pay. They have not tested the application of ground bone. There is not a meadow or a pasture in the land—with very few exceptions—that will not be greatly benefited by a dressing of ground raw bone. Thousands of acres of the best farming land in New England is in a low state of impoverishment, for the want of a liberal dressing of raw ground bone. Such fertilizing matter is the very life of the soil. European farmers understand and appreciate this fact. They know it pays to ship bones from America to enrich their farms. Every ship-load of bones that is picked from our land injures the agriculture of our country. England delights in the excellence of choice cheese of American dairies, while we mutter and grumble over a pot of the whey. Europeans rejoice over the rich, sweet American butter, while we are so unaccountably stupid as to be satisfied with the butter-milk. Our farmers dig, and delve, and rake, and scrape their grain-fields, meadows, and pastures to get phosphatic fertilizers to send to Europe to produce big crops of turnips; and then grumble and denounce their own land as good for nothing, because their turnips refuse to grow as they do in Eastern countries.

"The truth on this point is, American farmers must save and apply more manure to their impoverished land; especially must they save bones for growing a crop of turnips. As soon as we can produce a bountiful crop of turnips on a wheat soil, we can grow wheat. Wheat and turnips in England go hand in hand.

"There is a volume of truth in the old maxim:

"No bonedust, no turnips; no turnips, no wheat; No wheat and no turnips, no cattle, no meat; No turnips, no cattle, nor manure in the yard. Makes bills for the doctors, and farming go hard!"

—Independent.

Scientific.

ODOUR AFRICANUS.

[COMMUNICATED.]

In the fierce discussions that have arisen concerning the rights of the African race, this peculiar scent has often been mentioned. Many of their enemies have affirmed it to be universal and alleged it as one of the proofs of the alliance of that race with the brute. Some of their friends have denounced this as a malignant slander, as they honestly believed it to be. Others have protested against the cruelty of reproaching a man for what is at worst but an unfortunate accident of nature. A still larger portion have passed over the subject out of a delicate regard for the feelings of those concerned. But there can be no harm in speaking the truth in a kind manner. It is the fortune (or misfortune) of the writer to be endowed with a keen sense of smell, and it may be that the facts here adduced will place the subject in a new light to many.

1. It must be conceded that there is something to be perceived peculiar to the African race. Though not quite universal, it is nearly so, and may be found in perhaps nine cases out of ten. This cannot be accounted for by sickness, or occupation, or medicine, or diet, but is exhaled from the body in a healthy condition. It is never more marked than after bathing, when the skin is clean, and the pores are open. Hence it is often most apparent when the greatest pains have been taken to avoid it.

2. Peculiar smells are frequently found in healthy individuals of the white races, and these usually extend to the near kindred—brothers, sisters, and parents. The resemblance may be traced just as easily as that of complexion, form and feature. I have known an Englishman, perfectly sound, who had an ineradicable odor, which was never more penetrating than after bathing, and which was pronounced by all who knew the fact, to be worse than the worst specimen of the negro they had ever known. Yet, because he was not the victim of suspicious prejudice, but few had ever noticed the fact, and it was never made a pretext for reproach, and insult, and injustice. I have no doubt but that cases like this could be counted up by the thousand, and that among the lower classes of Englishmen, Irishmen, Germans and Americans, all who are not cleanly in their persons and in their housekeeping, and who are not descended from an ancestry who were such, will be found to have a scent in their bodies.

3. Men generally become impregnated with a smell, more or less permanent, when brought into contact with any peculiar odor. In the carpenter this somewhat resembles that of wood shavings. There are few, if any, exceptions, and it remains in the body weeks after cessation from this kind of labor, and sometimes months. Shoe-makers imbibe a scent from their leather. It is believed to be impossible for a tanner, whose labor is in the midst of the worst of stenches, to be free from a strong smell until long after he has ceased his occupation.

It is natural to suppose that, as the air, charged with odor, is brought into contact with the blood in the cells of the lungs, some of it should be absorbed and carried with the circulation into every part of the system. According as this is more or less volatile, it would be thrown off through the various channels of excretion. But that which is expelled with the perspiration, sensible and insensible, would rise to the nose, and thus the evil would perpetuate itself.

It is known that when an odor is constantly present, the olfactory sense soon ceases to be affected by it. Probably this is the time when the system becomes fully permeated with it. It is doubtless true that the sensitive power of the organ may be denuded by constant exercise. But without a nega-

tive or an opposite in the body with which to contrast it, how could it be perceived? The eyes that constantly gaze through blue glasses could not distinguish that color.

The origin of the African odor may be found in the custom, almost universal with the natives of that continent, of smearing their bodies with rancid grease. Travelers speak of the odor of this as so powerful that it is carried a long distance by the wind. As this practice commences early in life, and as they generally sleep crowded in small huts, the native African breathes this smell all his life. Whether or not the body of the new born babe is impregnated with it, makes no practical difference, as it must speedily become so from contact with its parents.

To eradicate a smell from a race would require great care and a long time, a generation or more perhaps. Most of the Africans that have been observed to be pure from all taint, were of Northern birth, and this should encourage us to hope that the race once rescued from the degradation of slavery may be quickly purified.

They should learn habits of strict cleanliness. The clothing should be often changed. Bathing should be frequent, but not excessive, as by stimulating the secretions of the skin the evil is less manageable. But the principal thing is to avoid as much as possible breathing the odor. Something may yet be done for those who are affected by their occupations, by the discovery of new and innocent disinfectants, of which we now have so few. We may yet discover a neutralizer for every scent known, and these may be of such a nature that they may be applied to the body itself. It may be possible to disguise this scent with perfumes. But this does not seem to be much understood at present. The laws of contrast and of harmony known to exist have not been investigated like those of color and of sound, and their applications indicated. Some perfumes, instead of disguising bad odors, only serve to render them more prominent.

SCIENS.

Advertisements.

CLIMAX.

PAGE'S CLIMAX SALVE, for Burns, Scalds, Scrofula, Salt Rheum, Sores, Broken Breasts, Frost Bites, Chills, Stings, Bruises, Cuts, Swellings, &c., whether upon man or beast, is the most wonderful article ever produced. Other good articles alleviate this cure. It allays inflammation, subdues pain, and heals without a scar. It is worth its weight in gold to any family, and should always be on hand. It is warranted to do what it says every time.

Moffat's Life Pills and Phoenix Bitters.

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