

Editor's Table.

TIP LEWIS AND HIS LAMP.—Boston: Henry Hoyt, 16mo., pp. 370. Illustrated. For sale by the Publication Committee. Mr. Hoyt tells us that this volume was the final competitor of COLM ROCK for the prize of three hundred and fifty dollars, and is regarded by him as one of the best books he has ever issued. The design of the story is to illustrate the importance of even a trifling effort, with the divine blessing, for the spiritual good of the seemingly hopeless. Poor Tip was such a bad repute, that to the opposition of the natural heart, he was obliged to add the incredulity of the good, in commencing his efforts to live a Christian life. His "lamp" was better than Aladdin's; it was the Word of God, and it wrought more wonderful changes than those performed in Arabian story. The book is written in admirable style and spirit and is every way calculated to do good.

PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL ALMANAC. Wilson.—The Presbyterian Historical Almanac and Annual Remembrance of the Church for 1866. By Joseph M. Wilson. Vol. 8. Philadelphia: Joseph M. Wilson. 8vo. pp. 460. This valuable annual, of which it is not the least merit that it teaches us to think of and long after something far better, has made its appearance. Besides a summary of the proceedings of the highest ecclesiastical courts, committees, boards, &c., and obituary notices of deceased ministers of the various Presbyterian bodies in this country and in Canada, it contains an article on the Manses, in connection with which some valuable vital statistics are given in tabular form, derived from the 702 obituaries published in the Almanac from the beginning; also the Religious Statistics compiled from the census Tables, now growing obsolete, of 1860.

While Presbyterians refuse to give sufficient encouragement to these undertakings to call out a better Summary of their current history, we suppose they ought to be thankful that they get even this. But we must not omit such glaring faults as the extreme tardiness and false title page of the volume, which is called the Almanac for 1866, while its entire stock of information is drawn from the records of 1865, and refers to facts now going on three years old. Nor can we help noticing with unqualified condemnation, the insertion of a long series of book notices, all referring to the current issues of the day, good, bad and indifferent, thrust into the body of the article on Manses and ministerial libraries and impliedly recommending that literature for filling the shelves of those libraries. Among the books admitted to this position by our sagacious critic, are the rebel Harry Gilmore's Four Years in the Saddle, novels of Victor Hugo, Wilkie Collins and Anthony Trollope, Gail Hamilton's Books, Griffith Gaunt, (commended without reserve) and the like. Now Mr. Wilson has a right to repay publishers for sending him their books, by placing the notices, in the usual form, in some appropriate part of the Almanac. But to use an article on Manses as the vehicle of indiscriminate puffing of clean and unclean things in this line, is an imposition, at least on those who care to know what Mr. Wilson's views on Manses are.

We say these things with regret; and we can add, that imperfect as Mr. Wilson's work is, it is the only attempt of the sort we have in the Presbyterian Church in any part of the world, and as such is worthy of far greater patronage than it receives.

Advertisements.

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