

Editor's Table.

PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

Weakness and Strength; or, Out of the Deep. By Mrs. Herbert, author of "A Peep at Eaton Parsonage," &c. 18mo., pp. 295. Illustrated.

A well constructed and thrilling story, illustrating the lamentable errors and perils into which sinful confidence in one's own moral strength will lead us, and exalting the power of divine grace as our only guide, support and salvation. The most important lessons of the New Testament are presented in a manner irresistibly attractive to the young. The illustrations are well drawn and executed.

Parental Training. By the late Rev. Wm. Bacon, author of "Salvation Sought in Earnest," &c. 16mo., pp. 209.

A series of very simple, direct and practical counsels upon a great Christian duty. The author takes the Scriptural view of the necessity of the rod in the management of children. He enters into the minutiae of family government, and utters warnings which too many Christian households show they deeply need.

COMMENTARY ON EXODUS.

A critical and exegetical commentary on the Book of Exodus with a new Translation. By James G. Murphy, D.D., T. C. D., Professor of Hebrew, Belfast. Andover: Warren F. Draper, 8vo., pp. 385. Philadelphia: For sale by Smith, English & Co.

One of the chief necessities of English speaking (and thinking) students of the Bible, has been a set of good commentaries on the principal books of the Old Testament. Even translations of good German commentaries have not generally been undertaken; and since the issue of Bush's admirable volumes on the Pentateuch, we have had nothing either British or American to meet this want, until a few months ago. Then appeared Dr. Jacobus, of this State, on Genesis, and now, more recently, the works of the Belfast Professor. Dr. Murphy is as earnest a believer as he is a thorough scholar. He writes in full view of modern difficulties and objections, which he meets with brevity, fairness and force. He is not afraid of having the truth come out, in any quarter or by any means. The open display of scholarship strictly so-called, is exceedingly limited. At the head of each section, a few prominent words in the original are quoted and briefly expounded; then follows a revised translation; the commentary proper comes last, the design of which is, in the words of the writer, "to explain the momentous import of the historical facts recorded, to mark their bearing on the highest interests of man, and to unfold the great principles of ethical and theological truth" which they contain. Thus questions of philosophy and verbal criticism are comparatively little considered, conflicting opinions are not set in array, but rather the conclusions of the writer are stated with refreshing brevity and clearness. Thus while based upon a thorough scholarship, the commentary is admirably fitted for the plainest readers. Sabbath-school teachers will find it an invaluable aid. We are sorry the book is so handsomely executed, typographically. Many a poor minister and Home Missionary will be compelled to forego the great pleasure and profit of possession.

DICKENS. A Tale of Two Cities, and Great Expectations. By Charles Dickens. With original illustrations. By S. B. Byttinger Jr. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. Diamond Edition, pp. 608. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co. \$1 50.

A continuation of one of the publishers' neatest and compactest issues of the famous author. Though in fine type, it is very legible. The engravings are truly remarkable successes in characterization. The first story belongs to the time of the French Revolution. The second is a curious tale of the intervening life of a convict, with that of a little boy who grows up to manhood under the untoward influence of the fact.

HARPER. Pictorial History of the Great Rebellion. Nos. XXI, XXIV, pp. 377-572. New York: Harper & Bro. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Four more numbers of this immense and extremely handsome work have just appeared. They narrate those stirring events, which really comprise the heart of the struggle, its turning points. Commencing with Chancellorsville—whose disasters it shows to have been needless—it carries us through Vicksburg, Gettysburg and Chattanooga campaigns, with the famous Battle in the Clouds. The maps and plans are minute and elegant, and the illustrations, on such an ample scale, are frequently, though not always, highly effective and satisfactory. The paper and typography are of the very best.

OLIVER OPTIC. Shamrock and Thistle; or, Young America in Ireland and Scotland. A Story of Travel and Adventure. By Oliver Optic. 16mo., pp. 314. Boston: Lee & Shepard. Philadelphia: G. W. Pfitcher.

OLIVER OPTIC. Breaking Away; or, the Fortunes of a Student. By Oliver Optic, author of "Young America Abroad," "The Army and Navy Stories," etc. 16mo., pp. 300. Boston: Lee & Shepard. Philadelphia: G. W. Pfitcher.

"Shamrock and Thistle" is intended to convey valuable information concerning Scotland and Ireland, the lesson being seasoned by an exciting tale of the adventures of some runaways from an Academy ship, whose inmates were students sailing around the coasts, or making excursions into the interior of the country. The author shows his wonted skill in dealing with the problem he has set before him.

"Breaking Away" is the second of the Starry Flag series, and describes the adventures of nearly a whole school who, on account of the gross injustice of one of the teachers, betook themselves to an uninhabited island, where, of course, they had many stirring adventures, and did many astounding feats in providing for their wants, and in foiling the attempts to recapture them. Notwithstanding the writer's protest in the preface, it is at least an open question whether such tales of insubordination do not tend to stimulate similar feelings in the minds of restless, youthful readers. Both volumes are very handsomely bound and illustrated.

ENGINEERS AND MECHANICS' POCKET-BOOK.

This book has been long and favorably known by those engaged in engineering. It has reached its twenty-first edition, and has grown in dimensions and importance with every new edition, until now it is a work of 663 pages, printed closely and with fine type, containing formulae for almost all the calculations in civil and mechanical engineering, with a large number of useful tables. The information contained in this book is varied and important in all the operations relating to the management of matter, and it will be found valuable to all persons engaged in engineering or mechanical pursuits.

PERIODICALS AND PAMPHLETS.

THE STUDENT AND SCHOOLMATE for November, has a continuation of "Ragged Dick," a very good story of Street Life in New York, with its usual choice variety, exercises for declamation, dialogue, music and puzzles. Joseph H. Allen, Boston. Price \$1.50 a year. Uniformly pure, and of the highest moral tone.

HOURS AT HOME for November, opens with Dr. Bushnell on the "Moral Uses of things Unrightful and Disgraceful." It also contains a valuable historical article on the Virginia Company, its Puritan Affinities, by Rev. E. D. Neill; a very entertaining Morning with the Sculptor Hiram Powers, by Rev. C. S. Robinson; "Plain Elizabeth," a brief but moving tale by Josephine Pollard; and above all a paper on The Sublime Wretchedness of Watering Places, whose very title announces its success, and prepares us for the name of the author, Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage. This number begins a new year; price \$3. New York: C. Scribner & Co.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE. October, 1867. Contents: Linda Tressel, Part I; Inroads upon English; At the Alps again; Monetary Reform; A City of the Plague; Brownlow, Part X; Work and Murder; Post-Script—The American Debt and the Financial Prospects of the Union. Am. Ed. New York: Leonard Scott, Publishing Co. Philadelphia: W. B. Zieber.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW. October, 1867. Contents: Polygamy and Monogamy in Turkey; The Apostles' Creed; M. Louis Blanc's Letters on England; Lloyd's Sweden and its Game Birds; Dualism in Austria; La Bruyere: his Life and Works; Democracy; Russia; Contemporary Literature. Am. Ed. New York: Leonard Scott, Publishing Co. Philadelphia: W. B. Zieber.

Rural Economy.

THE POTATO.

The importance of the Potato as a staple market commodity, is enhancing in much greater ratio than that of any other agricultural production, as will be seen by a comparative view of the statistical returns. This fact, taken in connection with the destruction by the rot, of so large a percentage of the crop of the last summer, will impart much interest to the following notice of certain varieties, for which we are indebted to the Practical Farmer, a valuable agricultural and horticultural paper, recently established in this city by Paschall Morris, a well-known veteran of the rural profession.

THE EARLY GOODRICH.

This seedling originated with the late Rev. C. E. GOODRICH, in 1860. He produced it from the Cuzco, and when only two years old, made the following memorandum of it: "Round to longish, sometimes a crease at the insertion of the root; color white; vines and leaves much as the Copermine; flowers bright lilac, produces many balls; yield large. Table quality is already very good. This sort is number one, every way."

The decision thus early come to by the originator has since been thoroughly confirmed—it is succeeding everywhere, and is probably the most valuable of all the new seedlings on account of combining very early maturity, fine quality, and extraordinary productiveness. It has produced over three hundred and fifty bushels to the acre, and while as early as the earliest, also retains its fine quality late in the season. On cooking, it proves white, dry, and mealy.

The introduction of this, and other of the Goodrich seedlings, is worth many millions to the country. The Early Goodrich and others of them, in this very unfavorable season, have escaped the rot so far as we have heard.

The history of these valuable seedlings is another instance of the great benefits conferred on practical agriculture by persons outside the profession.

GOODRICH died about three years since, never having received sufficient to compensate for the time and money expended in his potato experiments. The testimonial of seven hundred dollars from the State of New York, was the only public donation he ever received. He was a long time in failing health, and till within a few months of his decease, occupied the position of Chaplain in the Insane Asylum at Utica, New York. During his connection with this in-

stitution he devoted all his unoccupied time to agricultural pursuits and improvements.

His tastes were scientific, and he was particularly fond of the natural sciences; a most careful observer of facts, and exceedingly methodical in preserving a record of them, and arranging them with a view to future comparison and the lessons to be drawn from them. He kept most full and careful records of the weather and the daily appearance of growing plants, so as to be able to trace the influence of the temperature and atmospheric changes upon them. When the potato disease first manifested itself, his attention was aroused to find out its cause and the proper remedy. He commenced a most minute examination of the growth of the potato plant under different circumstances, and the phenomena consequent upon it under different degrees of temperature and of dryness of the atmosphere and changes from one condition to another of the weather. A series of these observations extended through a period of two or three years, led to the belief that the plant, by long cultivation under conditions not natural to it where it was indigenous, had become enfeebled and incapable of resisting atmospheric changes, which would not affect a plant newly taken from its habitat. He therefore concluded that seed obtained from tubers grown upon the elevated plains of South America, where the potato originated, might be expected to produce new varieties of greater vigor, to supply the place of those failing. A barrel of potatoes raised in Chili, obtained at Panama, and brought across the Isthmus at an expense of some two hundred dollars, just before the railroad was built there, enabled him to commence the series of experiments which were continued up to his death. His general plan, which has been given to the public in all its details in his printed circulars and Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society, was to raise plants from the seed obtained from the ball, plant the tubers produced from it, observe their growth, keeping a careful record of the appearance of each, rejecting every feeble or unhealthy or otherwise unpromising plant—gather the tubers in the fall, and if found of indifferent quality, discard them and preserve only such as indicated valuable qualities. In addition to the plants raised from the seed of the original Chili potatoes, he saved seeds of their progeny, and pursued the same system with their product. Frequently he produced tubers which, for three or four years, would be very promising, and then develop some feature which rendered them, in his opinion, unworthy of cultivation. He therefore came to regard no potato a safe one to give to the public until at least five years from the seed. The Garnet Chili was the only one of fifteen hundred seedlings of the year it was produced.

The other most approved Goodrich Seedlings are Harrison, Gleason, Garnet Chili, Cuzco, Andes, Pink-eye, Rusty-coat.

THE MONITOR.

There has been a curious development lately in this section about Monitor potatoes. The true Monitor is a seedling, originated by D. A. BULKLEY, of Massachusetts, from a seed-ball of a potato called Prince of Wales, fertilized by some other variety. A Monitor potato has been very highly esteemed here and largely cultivated, especially in New Jersey, from whence for the last two fall seasons, very large quantities have been brought in wagons and sold along our streets. They have been considered a first rate potato, boiling white, dry, and mealy, and have found ready sales among our citizens, many of whom laid them in for their winter supply. They seemed to promise to be our best late potato; averaging very large in size, in shape usually quite long, and with very deep-seated eyes, which was rather objectionable.

They were universally known by the name of Monitors, or Monitor Mercers, or Jersey Monitors.

As stated in our last number, these potatoes the present season have very badly rotted—quite as badly as the Mercer. Acres of them have been ploughed down, without any attempt to gather.

About the time they were introduced here, a barrel or two of Monitors were obtained by SAMUEL J. SHARPLESS, of Philadelphia, and planted on his farm in Chester county, direct from BULKLEY himself. These potatoes, so obtained, proved on arrival, as well as all their produce since, to be essentially different in appearance from what was known and considered as the true Monitor—being comparatively smooth, on the surface, with shallow eyes, not so long, and thicker in the centre. They were also very fine in quality. The other potatoes having been first known and much valued, these latter were considered spurious; and it was contended that some accident or substitution in some unexplained way had occurred, so that there was a fear of putting them out under their name, and consequently very few were planted. On several farms, however, they have been planted in rows side by side with the others, and as all sham things, no matter what appearance or show they may make under favorable circumstances, always fail in time of trial, so it has been with the Monitors.

The genuine article from BULKLEY himself has not rotted; but is sound and healthy as the Early Goodrich; while the others, in adjacent rows, have all vanished. This shows they are radically different potatoes, and that the differences could not have been produced by change of soil or climate.

The question now recurs—What is this Jersey Monitor, and where did it come from? We hope some of our readers will help us to find this out.

NEW SEEDLING.

Our friend, D. T. HEFFRON, of Utica, New York, well known in connection with the introduction of Goodrich's seedling potatoes, recently left with us a specimen of a new early potato, which he has originated from the seed ball of the Garnet Chili. This

seed was sown five years ago, and has developed into a new and valuable variety, to which he has given the name of Early Rose. He has tested them alongside of Early Goodrich, and they have proved fully ten days earlier, and equally productive. As only a few bushels have yet been raised, they will not be in market for another season.

The Early Rose is suffused over the surface with a slight and very delicate blush, is oblong in shape, with shallow eyes—size medium to large. Having had the specimen left with us cooked, we found it white, dry, mealy, and of the best quality.

Advertisements.

THE FACTS AS THEY ARE:

We began in 1861 to make IMPROVEMENTS in the style and make of Ready-Made Clothing, and continued to do so, introducing new styles and ideas every year, so that the entire character of the business is now vastly better and totally different from the systems of older houses.

Our first idea is to learn exactly WHAT THE CUSTOMER WANTS, and instead of persuading him to buy what we may be most conveniently at hand, we take the utmost pains to meet his wishes.

The Building we occupy is the MOST CONVENIENT, LARGEST AND BEST ADAPTED for our business of any in Philadelphia.

Customers can see what they are buying, our Establishment being on the corner of three large streets, (Market, Sixth and Minor streets), ABUNDANT LIGHT is afforded from all directions. A light store is far better for customers than a dark one.

MERCHANTS know that our sales are larger than those of any other house in Philadelphia, hence we have to buy larger quantities of goods, and so get them at lower prices especially as we BUY ALTOGETHER FOR CASH. Buying cheapest, we can sell CHEAPEST.

We closely EXAMINE every inch of goods that comes into our Establishment, invariably rejecting all imperfect, moth-eaten and tender fabrics.

The time wasted in looking over the stocks of a dozen stores CAN BE AVOIDED, for, under our system, we offer for sale an assortment equal in variety and extent to that embraced by a score of the ordinary houses.

We have 600 hands employed in the manufacture of clothing, who are constantly making up stock to take the place of that daily sold: this gives our customers NEW AND FRESH goods to make selections from.

It is an undisputed fact that this Department, (a large Hall on our second floor fronting on Minor st.,) has nothing in Philadelphia to equal it. We have here concentrated the best skill and workmanship and those who prefer clothing made to order really have advantages they do not receive elsewhere.

From all of the above we deduce this one fact, that Oak Hall has ALL the advantages of any other Clothing Establishment in the city, and, in addition, these:

- 1st.—A firm composed of young men of the present generation, fully in sympathy with the tastes of the day.
2d.—An insight into the WANTS OF THE PEOPLE and an enterprise to meet these wants, which in seven years has placed Oak Hall in a position not always attained in experience of twenty-five years.
3d.—A Building BETTER LOCATED, BETTER LIGHTED, BETTER ADAPTED and newer in all its appointments.
4th.—Workmen, especially Cutters, who are not only from among the best and most experienced, but are artists in their professions, and couple with good work a STYLISHNESS, in which Philadelphia tailoring has been particularly deficient.
5th.—It is the liberal patronage with which we have been favored that has enabled us to offer the UNPARALLELED ADVANTAGES, and this patronage continued and extended will MULTIPLELY ADVANTAGES, which we divide between our customers and ourselves.
A visit to Oak Hall will PROVE every fact above stated.

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMITTEE, 1334 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Just Issued. FOR SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Beggars of Holland and Grandees of Spain. By Rev. John W. Mears, D.D., 477 pp., 16mo. Eight Illustrations and a Map. \$1.60. A history of the Reformation in the Netherlands, illustrating the heroic constancy of the witnesses for the truth in Holland, and the cruelty of their Spanish persecutors. The efforts of Philip of Spain and the Duke of Alva to crush out liberty, civil and religious, from the Netherlands, and the resistance of the people, led by William of Orange, form one of the most deeply interesting chapters in history. It is one that our young people should understand.

Flora Morris' Choice. Lane's Mistake. "George Lee," &c. 320 pp., 16mo. Four Illustrations. 1.25. In this tale the author contrasts simple, Christian life with the conformity to the world so prevalent and so debasing to society. It is designed for young ladies and their parents.

Shoe-binders of New York. By Mrs. J. McNeil Wright. 237 pp., 16mo. Three Illustrations. 1.00. A thrilling picture of low life in New York City, illuminated by the loving labors of a Christian woman. It is shown that there is a power in the love of Christ, borne to the degraded, to raise them out of the depths of sin into a higher, holier walk.

Weakness and Strength; or, Out of the Deep. By the author of "Peep at Eaton Parsonage," &c., &c. 295 pp., 16mo. Four Illustrations. 85. This is a narrative that will chain attention. The thought is made real that human strength is unequal to the reform of the life, that it is weakness, and that God's strength is equal to the work.

Ancient Cities and Empires; Their Prospective Doom. See description below. A book that should have a place in every library for Bible classes and older pupils of the Sabbath-school. 1.00.

STANDARD AND MISCELLANEOUS. Ancient Cities and Empires; Their Prospective Doom. By E. H. Gillett, D.D. Author of "Life and Times of John Huss," "History of the Presbyterian Church," "England Two Hundred Years Ago," "Life Lessons," &c. Twenty-two Illustrations. 302 pp., 12mo. 1.75.

Keith on the Prophecies did a good work for the truth, but modern research has opened rich stores of information then unknown, and a new book on the fulfillment of prophecy is called for. Such a book is this, enriched from many modern books of travel, and fully illustrated by wood cuts. 1.00.

Future Punishment. By the late Moses Stuart. 225 pp., 16mo. 90. An examination of all the passages in the New Testament in which terms relating to Future Punishment occur, including the kindred Hebrew words of the Old Testament. This work is one of great value, and being entirely out of print has been reproduced. It will be found valuable by the popular reader as well as by the scholar.

Life Lessons in the School of Christian Duty. By E. H. Gillett, D.D., author of "Ancient Cities and Empires," "Life and Times of John Huss," &c. 407 pp., 12mo. 1.60.

A new edition of an already popular book, now first issued by the Presbyterian Publication Committee. Parental Training. By Rev. William Bacon. 209 pp., 16mo. 60 cts. This book was announced on our April list; but an unavoidable delay occurred in the issuing of it. It is now in press.

What Then? or, The Soul's To-morrow. 128 pp., large 32mo. Flexible binding. By the author of "Life Lessons," and, like that book, now issued in a second edition. 1.10.

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And also, for the above reasons, the BEST PREMIUM for the BEST DOUBLE-THREAD SEWING MACHINE." C. E. F. TRUSS, DIRECTOR MOFFATT, Committee. Agents wanted wherever not already established. Send for circular to General Agents for Elliptic Sewing Machine Co., For Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey. may2-ly 620 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

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