Correspondence.

NEW YORK TRIBUNE AND THE INFIDELS. We wish to have it understood that we would have no controversy with the Tribune on the ground that any of its editors or accredited correspondents were infidel or unorthodox, or that they avowed the fact. We have no further concern than that they be competent and faithful to their trust. But our complaint is of bad faith in going beyond the limits of a paper of this class, even as they themselves define them in their prospectuses. We also bring the graver charge of partial and exaggerated statements. Further, we protest against the method of insinuating their ideas, which, while it makes it so difficult to reply to them directly, is none the less mischievous in its efforts upon the unintelligent, and is altogether an unmanly way of handling so grave and important a subject.

A captious critic might object to some of the book notices, as when the reader finds that generally books containing unorthodox sentiments are elabora ely reviewed—have some of their most objectionable ideas plead over again with such evident zest,-while a book on the other side, as for instance Gillett's Ancient Cities and Empires, containing a body of some of the most important evidence of the truth of the Bible, is dropped with a contemptuous fling at its alleged ambitious style. But strict impartiality is perhaps too much to expect in this department.

Before commencing our extracts, we would say, that but for the frequency of transgressions of this kind, we would not have taken pains to call attention to the matter. Had we kept a scrap-book of them a dozen articles would have been required.

Our first specimen is from one of Bayard Taylor's letters from Germany:

"Only a few weeks before his death, Boeckh the present Ministry of Prussia, was praising, in his presence, the strict observance of Sunday in England, and regretting that it had not been introduced into Germany. (Conservatism and rigid Orthodoxy go together in Prussia.) Boeckh listened calmly to the end, and then, facing the Minister, said: "Give us the week-days of England, and we will all be very willing to take the English Sabbath as part of the bargain!"

There can of course be no objection to the mention of the fact that this was Boeckh's opin- show us the ten commandments, and the rule of ion. But when the narrator affirms that thus love deeply graven on the heart of nature, what to sneer at the strict observance of the Holy day man in Zion need go mad?" is a "strong" and "independent" thing, it is quite a different affair.

Sabbath is best kept, men are most devout and creation of our race, so that in tracing our genehas died out in many localities and is generally sters sired by monkeys, their commandments will much weakened, because, for want of stated seasons strictly sacred to religion, the present gen-taken away will be found to be the foundations eration has grown up regardless of it. Emerson of the remainder. seems puzzled over the fact that in the former generations of New England the spiritual nature | Prof. Tyndall's lecture to the working-men." received so much more attention, being constant. This is the one full of materialistic atheism ally mentioned in letters, diaries, conversations, ready referred to. Many of us will remember the fact that our fathers systematically cove more time to the cultivation of that spiritual the city was thankful that his home and his nature. But this discussion does not properly means of existence had not been swept away, belong to the Tribune, because of the nature of even the Tribune, in the most emphatic terms, the subject, and the thousands of its readers who did acknowledge the good providence of God in hold a different view.

another in England, both of whom, one would suppose from the the tenor of their letters, look suppose from the the tenor of their letters, look will bring almost any one to a consciousness that about to find some evidence of infidelity, that God is in his works. Yet this "brave" and they may praise its authors and attack Christie wise" Professor tells us flatly that he is not anity and orthodoxy. To admire Taine and there, and this Tribune editor says Amen. Littre and Vache ot and Mill is not objectiona- "It seems that English science in convent ble, but to embrace each opportunity to inculcate their notions is going too far, even though their efforts may be as amusing as provoking. The English correspondent told us a year ago that Durwinism was the "accepted" creed of British Science. The intelligent reader would meet this unqualified assertion with a denial. A few. and eminent men too, have embraced it, but it scientific naturalists.

In the report of the proceedings of the last meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science, the correspondent (supmaterialism of Prof. Tyndall in a lecture given at that time to the working men of Dundee. He

"The Professor vindicated materialism as the province of science, and, considering the passions and prejudices of his audience, spoke with all the courage of science and the authority of a master, as he concluded by the adjuration: "Be careful, above all things, of protessing to see in the phenomena of the material world the evidences of Divine pleasure or displeasure. Doubt those who would deduce from the fall of the tower of Siloam, stronger objection to make against this writer, the anger of the Lord against those who were crushed. Doubt those equally who pretend to see in cholera, cattle plague, and bad harvests evidences of Divine anger. Doubt those who say that the depreciation of railway scrip is a consequence of railway traveling on Sunday. [Cheers.] They know nothing

"He was heard with wonder and consternation by one-half of his audience, and with rapturous applause by the other." "The working men make no mistakes. They recognize genius as their benefactor." It may be that many of the assembled savans and a portion of the working class were in sympathy with the speaker. But on what ground the judgment of the latter is held to be so unerring the writer does not state, whether on that of intelligence or morality. This is aimed at the Bible doctrine of an overruling Providence, which shines out on almost every page, particularly in the Old Testament, and which seems to be confirmed in the conscience and experience of all virtuous men. If they could strike out this Book, and also the moral lessons of nature, infidelity would have a clear

But the most unwarrantable of all of these statements is an editorial article (was it by that little heat, but many changes.

reviewer?) in the same paper calling attention | PRESBYTERIAN SERVICES ON THE CONTI- memorialized the Government, describing our to this report of proceedings. It first fortifies a position by exalting the scientific men of England above those of any other country. It then proceeds, "Our American Cambridge is comfortably complacent, and takes its schooling from the Old World with a good grace. Our savans make excellent dictionaries for the use of philosophers; but as for the immortal soul in science not even Mr. Agassiz has managed to pick or break it out of his rocks, or discover it under the plaster cast of the glaciers."

We can hardly allow the excuse of ignorance for this remarkable judgment. This pupil and successor of Cuvier, one of the most learned. original, laborious, profound and eloquent, whose opinion has more weight in scientific circles than themselves, is one of the most formidable opponents of Darwinism, and has prevented that notion from gaining ground in many of the great schools of Natural History. He must, therefore, be disposed of, though one would think that even the vulgar would have suspicions:

After this it will cause no surprise to learn that the paragraph ends as follows: "Mr. Emerson's transcendentalism is still somewhat above the heads of the stone-breakers and star-gatherers here, if not in Europe. Practical science is nevertheless picking its way up bravely to the standard of the generalizers and transcendentalists." How condescending thus to stoop to patronize Messrs, Henry, Hall, Dana, Rogers, Hayden, Winchell, Gray, Bond and their confreres! We suppose these men have studied the works of Emerson, and Alcott and Wasson, or will do so, in order to get a clear idea of that "standard," the "experimental fillulations of the Chimpanzee." we believe. But what if alast these men should transcend again, these poor stone breakers, and star-gazers would be left to despair, like those aiming their arrows at the sun. We confess that we have no patience with these pretentious generalizations by men without knowledge. What would the Tribune think of theories concerning the ideal newspaper by men of no experience in the work?

"It is to British science that the age owes some of its most startling revelations. Lyell's and Murchison's and Hugh Miller's sermons in stones, have without question taught the British public far more than Mr. Spurgeon's textual platitudes, or the Dean's ritualistic piety. If to labor truly be to worship, then it is not too much to say that the laboratory becomes an oratory, and the teacher of natural wisdom a high priest.

. . . If the studies of our philosophers only

We can but wonder at the perversion or blindness which can compare the mere study of The, reflection, which most of the intelligent science with true religion, geology with the come short of the required number, and those

"The best chapter which has come to hand is and books. He does not seem to connect it with that on the morning after the discovery of the rebel plot to burn New York, when every their deliverance. It used similar language; This paper has a correspondent in France, and when the news came of the surrender at Appoli mattex Court House. A sense of real-danger

"It seems that English science in convention is generally with Sir John Lubbock, who proves. that the earliest men must have been absolute. barbarians. Even Murchison is described as admitting the force of facts against an intelligent Adam." "We cannot disguise the fact that science is the leader, and in several senses an evangel of the world's civilization. Few are willing to observe its work and its prophesy; but its is very far from being received by the mass of victory over the world and over bigotry is already won. The least tolerant of us must endure its revelations. The tacit consent which so learned a body as that which listened to Sir John Lubbock's view of a theory made familiar to us posed to be the same) exults over the godless by Darwin and Lyell, has its own meaning. Science is a hard worker, and bears no respect to sentiment, and little to the prejudices of esthetics. 'What can be more unfeeling than gravi-

tation? says Mr. Mill." This writer tells us that Lubbock "proved' his theory. If we were to say as a piece of news, that Agassiz proved that Darwin's theory is all nonsense, our opponents would object to such a word in a controversy so warmly contested by so many able men. But we have a much for saying that in this controversy science has won the victory over bigotry, (religion of the Bible), and that the least tolerant must receive its revelations with a feeling like "endurance." We cannot pass by this statement without challenge. If the writer means what he seems to say, it is false. We know of no revelation ascertained to be such, that we have any trouble in accepting. Our "sentiment" and "prejudices of æsthetics" are still unshaken. It is only the young and uninformed, or the overwilling, who would be lead away by anything that has yet been discovered The data and the inferences are not regarded even by opponents, when candid, as sufficiently certain at present to decide this question. Doubtless this controversy will go on for years.

This closes our review of the facts. We reserve our concluding comments upon the conduct of the Tribune to a fourth and final article. FRED. A. CHASE.

SELF-DECEIVED professors have more of the moon than of the sun; they have little light,

NENT.

[The surprise and dissatisfaction expressed by our Special Correspondent in Europe last sum. The Government, in due time, sent me a formal mer, at the almost total absence of truly Presby- grant in writing of the use of the chapel for an have noticed that they, the real sufferers, are not terian services from the American chapels on the Continent, elicited sympathy in many quarters. The London Weekly Review, the organ of the English Presbyterian Church, took up the subject, quoting our correspondent's letter, and argued the importance of a union of effort between Presbyterians in England and America for the better accomplishment of an object in which we have a common interest. Recently Rev. E. E. Adams, any other, whose works are a small library in D.D., who was travelling in Europe at the same time, and who met our correspondent at Interlachen, has put into our hands a couple of letters from Professor David Brown, of the Free College at Aberdeen, who spends his vacations in Switzerland, and who has charge of the Free Church Chapel at Interlachen. That place is a very important one for tourists, and the chapel under the excellent ministrations of Prof. Brown, has hitherto been at an almost impracticable distance from the principal hotels. A very desirable change is now in progress, in facilitating which some of our readers may wish to have a share The portions of the letters which we now give will explain what needs further to be understood. The first letter was accidentally, delayed, so that both were received at the same time.] INTERLACHEN, SWITZEBLAND, August 6, 1867.

when you were here, and I am emboldened to request that you will bring it formally under the consideration of your Church. The Free Church of Scotland is only beginning to do for the Continent of Europe what it should have done, perhaps, long ago. The Church of England, as contradict the assumption but the ever-recurring you know, has for many years had stations, not only in all the principal cities and towns of Europe, but in almost every spot of general resort, at which, for six months in the year, Episcopal ness of life. He would probably obtain a false an incorporated society of that Church, supple-Episcopalians, but by all classes of the Englishspeaking visitors of these places; and there can be no doubt that they have proved a great blessing, as well as afforded an opportunity of setting before others an example of the value which we Christian readers would make in answer, would Gospels, chemical experiments with prayers to be that, without some time given to meditation the Most Holy. Further, if these men regard the property of the pro upon the subject of religion, and to the perforscience as a godless materialism, if they shut mance of religions duties, the hearts of men out God from nature, as its providential ruler, as its providential ruler, tend to irreligion. In those countries where the as omnipresent in its laws, as a Father in his present state of the English Church the trumpet gives a most uncertain sound in many of its pulmoral, as in Scotland and New England. The alogy instead of coming to one, Adam, which safe, ought we not to conclude that Presbyte safe, ought we not to conclude that Presbyte time. Then, before a dozen sentences were utrians on the continent would prefer to worship after the forms of their own Church, if they had the opportunity? Certainly the experience we byterian services have begun to be conductedin spite of very imperfect arrangements-afforded sufficient encouragement to believe that properly organized and regularly supplied Preibyterian services, in the right places and at suitable hours, would be valued and would reward by their fruit the efforts made to provide them.

continent consist, as you know, to a large extent patience. Many winters' experience has taught of Americans, with whom the Free Church is one him to bear with the infirmities of his flock, and in doctrine and in worship, between whom and, not even a shadow on his brow told how his nerves the Free Church there are, on these and other must have been suffering. What a pity that grounds, strong sympathies. In view of this ministers and minister's wives could not be made no great difficulty in our forming some plan of wisdom, opening up to us the hidden meanings joint action. You suggested that the funds that are stored, like honey in the cells, in the raised on your side of the Atlantic might be sweet and sublime prophecies of Isaiah, and thrown into ours. But whether in this or in with unfeigned earnestness, besought sinners to some other way, it would seem not very difficult come unto Him whose name is from everlasting. so to arrange our plans that the work should be His reasonings were convincing Well they undertaken and conducted co-operatively by both might be, for they were drawn from the fountain parties. And as the funds would thus be larger, of inspiration, and he but repeated the message, be mentioned the greater weight which such ser | eloquence was the e'oquence of lips touched with vices would carry, both with your countrymen a coal from the altar. His love for his people and ours, on the continent, not to speak of its effect on others; but over and above this I think it would have a sensible effect in helping forward that closer union amongst us as Churches of Christ, the yearning after which is one of the

most marked and delightful features of our day. I think I have expressed all that I intended by this letter—a letter written on my own reponsibility, with no authority from the Committee which I represent here, and which, though suggested by what passed between us two, is to be taken merely for what it is worth in itself. Leaving you then, my dear Sir, to act on it just as you see fit, or not at all, I remain yours with esteem in the bonds of the Gospel,

DAVID BROWN.

22 Union Place, Aberdeen, Scotland, Jan. 16, 1868. . . . Our Committee has begun to seek subyour hotel, about the inconvenience of the Swiss of the reply. Church in point of distance and available hours. We believe in bringing children to church. Mr. M. pressed me either to purchase ground to We love to see a row of little curly heads in the build or to rent some house and fit it up, supman Catholic Churches meet (an old convent, that we love friem too. which, since the Reformation, has been the property of the Government,) contained the old chapel used by the Roman Catholics till two years Nay-and whether the children have fair faces, ago, now only bare walls, and likely to be given and golden hair, or dusky skins and crinkled us gratis by Government, as they do the other wool, we are glad when we see them pressing to chapels there, on condition of our paying all the Jesus. He made no distinction in his sweet. expense of fitting it up. I had it opened and measured, and an estimate made out of the cost

Church as having its creed in the Heidelberg Catechism (which they would best understand) be most neat, and the site is the best and the hours of course our own. The total cost is £60, 1s. 8d, or, with the plan and estimate, £1 more—a sum at which all Swiss and Scotch architects say it could hardly be done anywhere else. I have made, I fear, a rash promise to raise this £60 by a special subscription among my own friends. And as I am tied by my college work here, I have to do all by letter, which is both troublesome and tedious. I go out again to my family in the end of March D. V., and will pass the summer in different parts of Switzerland, Lausanne, Lucerne, Interlachen, &c. I engaged that the chapel should be ready to open by the first Sabbath of June, but I must, if possible have all the money raised by the end of March, though if subscriptions were promised for any of the months till June that would do.

Believe me, my dear Dr. Adams, yours in the bonds of the Gospel, and with true esteem. DAVID BROWN.

THE SYMPATHETIC COUCH.

A stranger who should happen into our pleas ant little church, on a bright Sabbath morning, in the winter, would doubtless imagine that two-My DEAR SIR: I have thought much, since thirds of the congregation were suffering with we parted, on the subject which we talked over premonitory symptoms of consumption, while the remaining third, alas! would seem to him very far gone on the road to death. Bright eyes, rosy contradict the assumption, but the ever-recurring cough would direct his thoughts from preacher and sermon, and set him to musing on the shortservices are provided twice every Lord's Day in idea of the standard of piety in our midst, meathe English language. The expense of these suring it by the devotion which had led so many services is provided for out of funds supplied by poor invalids to dare the weather, and the draughts suring it by the devotion which had led so many and take their seats in the sanctuary. If a phi mented to a considerable extent by voluntary lanthropist, he would entertain serious thoughts contributions, and Church-door collections on the of importing several gross of bronchial troches, or spot. These services are frequented not only by pitch-pine lozenges, and distributing them gratuitously through the pews, that so the sufferers might obtain at least a temporary relief.

Last Sabbath morning our services began pro pitiously. Nobody coughed during the invocation; nobody during the first hymn; two or three clear ed their throats, while our good pastor read the chapter, and four or five broke the solemn still went up to heaven. But when the sermon came the text was given out twice, in an audible and distinct voice, and we all heard it the second tered, came a loud cough from the Northeast corner, echoed immediately, by another, crescendo. from the Southwest-diminuendo from the have already had in the few places where Pres | middle, and a series of affected lady-like hacking sounds from all over. Then, after a subdued rustle of silks and ribbons, and a flutter of white handkerchiefs, as the same disappeared into sundry pockets and muffs, silence was restored. 'All was quiet along the Potomac," for a brief space, and our pastor went on. I do not wish it to be understood that he had stopped however, The Presbyterians who visit the European even for a moment. He is a man of maryellous t occurred to both of us that there ought to be without nerves. He went on uttering words of so the ground covered and the good done would which comes every day to poor mortals, sin-stained be proportionably greater. Among the lesser lost, suffering and stubborn, but for whom Christ penefits which would result from this union may died, and whom God stoops to reason with. His was as the love of John the aged. But even while we sat entranced, Christian hearts comforted, and some, not Christians, but "almost persuaded, listening as for their lives, there came a series of coughs from, of all places, the choir.

I don't know how it may be, dear reader, with your choir, but our choir is, I regret to say, the bane of our church. It is not a frivolous, illbehaved choir. It is not a paid choir. We are old fashioned folks, and could not stand either of the above qualities. 10 It is, alas! a sensitive, selfconceited, and not very musical choir. It is touchy!" It clears its throat before it begins to sing. It is deaf to suggestions, and don't like any help from down stairs. We are used to our choir, and accept it, with all its eccentricities, as the best available choir for us. But after we have given it five preliminary minutes, before its part of the exercises, is there any justice, or reascriptions for the ensuing summer months. But son in its disturbing pastor and people by coughan additional sum is required for Interlachen. ing in the middle of the sermon? We leave it You remember our talk with Mr. Mackinnon in to all the choirs in the land—and we are confident

seat with father and mother, and we are glad posing some £200 would do, and promising £25 | when our pastor remembers that there are bright as his subscription. I soon found that no house eyes looking reverentially up to his, and hungry could be had and the other way would be ruin-ous. But the large mass of buildings under whose life; Of such are the kinndom of heaven." roof the English Episcopal and the present Ro- Jesus loved them, and oh! Master, thou knowest

"Is there a lamb in all thy flock We would disdain to feed?" "of such." 🥫 🔭

But, mother dear, if little Tom or wee Kittie is of seating it for 90 (the number it will hold,) suffering from a spasmodic, painful, obstinate has obtained the prize! One hundred and twenty five with replastering, painting and glazing, &c. cough, wouldn't you be doing your duty, if you thousand of which is the gift of one man, E. Quin by, Jr.

Bible, instead of taking him or her to church? Consider the matter, and decide conscientiously, I should be distressed if my words led one dear fellow Christian, who really has a cough, to stay away from the courts of the Lord. But I indefinite time" on the terms proposed; by the offenders in this matter. They trouble no which they mean that, while not parting with one. I know and love, among my nearest and the property, they will not disturb us so long as dearest friends, devoted servants of God, who we require it. I consider this as a great thing have thus suffered for many years, and it has been for our services. The chapel, though small, will a wonder to me that they so seldom are annoyed by their cough in church, and when they are, that they cough so unobtrusively.

The sympathetic cough is a particular foe to the worshiping assembly. I believe it is one of Satan's guerillas, a sort of Mosby, that he lets fly about on the borders. It does not invade the concert room, or annoy the popular lecturer. It never went near Mr. Dickens, nor disturbed the Christmas Carol in the slightest degree.

Dear church-going friends, you can control this thing, if you will. Believe me, it annoys your pastor. It does disrespect to the house of God. It endangers souls. Do let us all work together, and see if we can't put it down.

MISSIONARY LIFE ON THE BORDER. [We promised recently, to give some further nformation of the new church at Decatur, Nebraska. The following paragraphs furnished by our Chicago Correspondent, enable us to fulfil our promise.]

In a recent letter of Bro. Peebles he says: "From the notice in the PRESBYTERIAN that I was coming here, I have had letters from Presbyterians, enquiring about this place, as they propose coming West to settle. It might therefore be well for you to notice in your correspondence the organization of this church, that emigrants may know where they would find a home.

"The soil here is very productive. This is an excellent wheat country. The average yield, year before last, was over thirty bushels per acre. and last year, twenty-five. Land is cheap, and timber can now be had for fifteen to twenty dollars per acre." Decatur is on the West bank of the Missouri, some thirty miles above Omaha.

I am tempted to give some further extracts from this letter, though not at all intended for publication, and at the risk of slightly offending our modest, worthy brother, by those portions personal to himself. They will serve to show both the work to be done in that interesting region, and the personal sacrifices at which it has to be performed. Let me premise that he had previously written to inquire the price of a melodeon or cabinet organ. He says: "I do not think we can get an organ just now. Our people are peculiarly situated. Some of them have just taken homesteads, and all are using all their means in improvements, for, in fact, all are just beginning, as it were, in this new country. But am really pleased with the members of my church. They are worthy people, and expect to build a church next season. It is but little they can do before harvest. I am sorry that we could not get an organ, as we have a number that can play. I feel more and more the necessity of occupying this field. Our enterprise meets with favor. We have an average of ten or twelve at our prayer meeting, and I am hoping God will pour out His Spirit and gather sinners in. "I think I wrote to you of my visit over to the

Elkhorn River, thirty miles West of here. went over with the thermometer at ten degrees pelow zero. I staid one day at West Point, a promising town in Cummin County, and gave noice that I would preach in the evening at the hotel Fifty persons assembled in the dining room, and; about fifteen in the bar-room, who could not get into the other. To these hungry people I tried to preach Christ. They have had no preaching of any kind in that new country. I found there three members, and heard of two or three Presbyterian families, whom I did not see, Lpromised to return and may be able to organizera church there. It is a central point and a railroad from Sioux City to Columbus, if built, will strike it. The county is pretty well settled for fifty miles up, the lands being taken

"I have not been able as yet to rent a house or even a single room, but have been living with the elder of my church." But we are very much crowded, as he has a family of three small children. I have commenced building a small board house, for I can not live in this way. I have been working on it for over a week almost alone, and shall move in the course of ten days. I shall batten it inside and out, and think I can live in

for homesteads, in Within a circuit of two miles

about West Point are one hundred and fifty peo-

it. I have been occupying a room up-stairs without plastering. It has been very cold and we have suffered from it. But there was no other way but to abandon the field. But I cannot always endure this way of living, yet if God is glorified I am willing to make considerable sacrifices. I used the most rigid economy last year, yet spent two hundred dollars in cash beyond my salary. I have not had twenty dollars worth of clothing for my whole family—wife, three boys and a girl-in the last fifteen months, and don't know that we shall have for that time to come, out of my salary, for living is expensive here, as well as at M-

No comments are needed on these statements. Some good ladies to whom I have shown this letter will see that this excellent brother has at least 'twenty dollars worth of clothing for his whole family," in considerably less than "fifteen months," and perhaps some other small comforts. But who of your readers will give them a plain, even a second hand instrument, for that little struggling Church in the wilderness? Has not some church or Sabbath school something of the kind to part ्योत हो तत्त्व कुले **अर्थि को** एक्केट

្រាស់ ១០៖ ស្រាស់ស្រាស់ University of Wooster .- The Presbyterians of Ohio recently offered to endow Professorships enough for a well appointed University in that town of Ohio which would give a bonus of one hundred thousand dollars to erect suitable buildings to start with. The town of Wooster, a thriving and beautiful trade gentre, in a rich district on the P. F. W. & C. R. R.