

Editor's Table.

Publishers will confer a favor by mentioning the prices of all books sent to this Department.

"ALMOST A NUN," published by our Publication Committee 1334 Chestnut St., is a most fascinating work, just the thing to read in travelling. Glad will we be when such publications supersede the yellow-covered trash. And why not? Let our Christian publishers vie with the novel dealers in enterprise, and it will be done. Many a wretched tale is read in the cars because there is no such book as "Almost a Nun" at hand. Would that this interesting and truthful story was in every family! Then would Protestant parents be less likely to put their children, when their minds are just forming, under Roman Catholic influence and culture.

Mr. E. W. Benedict's RUN THROUGH EUROPE is one of the best of recent books of travel. Mr. Benedict is a scholar without being a pedant. Every historic locality brings up distinctly defined associations, and he is able to tell graphically what he sees, either with the mental or the bodily eye. He is never insipid or common-place; always nervous and readable. We do not wonder that his book is in its third edition. Published by G. W. Pitcher and for sale by

G. W. Pitcher sends us another campaign biography of the Republican candidates for the Presidency. It is from the pen of Mr. Charles A. Phelps, President of the Mass. Senate, and from the press of Lea & Shepard. The Press pronounces it "the best campaign life of Grant that we have seen." It contains two well executed steel engravings of Gen. Grant and Speaker Colfax, and three not so well executed wood-cuts of scenes in the war. Pp. 344.

Mr. Wilkie Collins' MOONSTONE like his earlier novels, is interesting only on account of its elaborate plot. It is a huge conundrum, in which the reader is set to guessing the probable solution, but misled by all sorts of surface indications, placed before him by the author. The "Moonstone" is an enormous diamond, "looted" by an Anglo-Indian in the sack of a Hindoo city and brought home to England, where it is stolen from a not very piquant heroine, and the question is—Who was the thief. The story is told by several narrators, who are participants in the events. We regret to see that Mr. Collins introduce some very impossible characters whose vagaries are meant, as reflections on the Evangelical party. Published by the Harpers and for sale by the Lippincotts.

The Presbyterian Publication Committee send us GLEN ELDER: A TALE OF SCOTTISH LIFE, published by Henry Hoyt of Boston. (Pp. 277; three illustrations.) It shows how a high sense of duty may consort with humble circumstances in life; and high qualities may be educated in a struggle with difficulties, even in a cottage.

The Presbyterian Board of Publication send us the following juveniles: (1.) NELLY'S NEIGHBOR AND OTHER STORIES; (2.) WORDS OF TRUTH AND LOVE. By Rev. Wm. S. Plumer, D.D.; (3.) A GATHERED BLOSSOM AND OTHER STORIES; (4.) WILLOW-BEND OR SCHOOL INFLUENCE. By Luella, Author of "The Basket of Chips." (5.) HETTY'S TONGUE AND OTHER STORIES; (6.) OLD MICHAEL AND HIS LITTLE FRIEND. By the author of "Nannie Barton" &c. (7.) EFFIE'S TRIAL AND OTHER STORIES. All these belong to the Board's excellent "Series for Youth," and are selected with its usual care and skill, with a view to make instruction attractive, and amusement profitable.

THE MAGAZINES. The Monthly Religious Magazine is the organ of the most positive and satisfactory wing of the Unitarian denomination. It is edited by Revs. E. H. Sears and Rufus Ellis, and has done much in the way of exercising a conservative influence on the denomination. The August number opens with an article by the senior Editor on Church Organization in which the South Middlesex Conference are urged to adapt their polity to their faith. Of the other papers we notice that the junior Editor sharply criticizes Rev. Samuel Johnson's "Worship of Jesus in its Past and Present Aspects." Mr. Johnson holds that Christianity is but one form of the many-sided religion and that the personality of Jesus—though for wise ends allowed an undue prominence in the past—must now yield the first place to principles. Mr. Ellis turns the tables on him, asserting the lordship of Christ and his divine humanity, and showing that we have just as much reason to worship Christ, as to worship the Father.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW.—No. CCLXI.—July, 1868. American Edition. New York: Leonard Scott, Publishing Company. Philadelphia: W. B. Zeiber. Contents:—Salem Witchcraft, English Dictionaries, The Apocryphal Gospels, Lytton's Chronicles and Characters, Wellington's Correspondence, 1819-1825; The Modern Russian Drama; Letters and Speeches of Leon Faucher; Prince Henry the Navigator; New Germany; The National Church.

BOOKS RECEIVED. HEADLEY.—The Court and Camp of David. By Rev. P. L. Headley, Author of "Women of the Bible," etc. 8vo. 368 pp. Boston: Henry Hoyt. A GATHERED BLOSSOM AND OTHER STORIES, 18mo. 216 pp. NELLY'S NEIGHBOR AND OTHER STORIES, 18mo. 216 pp. Compiled for the Presbyterian Board of Publication. PLUMER.—Words of Truth and Love. By the Rev. Wm. S. Plumer, D.D. 18mo. 128 pp. OLD VIGILANCE and HIS PAT. 18mo. 248 pp. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication. FELL.—Earthen Vessels. By Archie Fell, 16mo. 494 pp. Boston: Henry Hoyt. THE CORNER HOUSES, or Kindness Wine, and Other Tales. 16mo. 308 pp. Boston: Henry Hoyt.

Scientific.

CLEANSE YOUR PREMISES.

Warm weather is here, and it behoves every citizen to cleanse his premises of all offensive matter in order that they may become pure and healthy.

There is no doubt at all that a great deal of the sickness visiting families proceeds from filthy cellars, sinks, yards, outhouses, sties, &c. These things are neglected by many, as other duties, from pure thoughtlessness, while others never dream of paying any attention to them. There are several remedies for this most unhealthy condition of things that can be easily applied. The first is to put one pint of the liquor of chloride of zinc in one bucketful of water, and one pound of chloride of lime in another bucketful of water, and sprinkle these over decayed vegetable matter. For this purpose nothing surpasses it; indeed, it is a perfect deodorizer.

The second is to take four pounds of sulphate of iron or copperas and dissolve it in a bucketful of water. This will, in most cases, prove a sure remedy in destroying all offensive odors.

The third is to take simple chloride of iron and sprinkle in damp cellars, heaps of filth, dirt yards, &c. The labor of cleansing one's premises by either of these remedies is trifling, and the expense is not worth mentioning. If it were ten times greater, both the labor and expense should be willingly incurred.

SUMMER MEATS AND DRINKS.

The most honorable and important part of the human animal is, in theory, considered to be that which is nearest to the hat, postically styled "the dome of thought, the palace of the soul." There have been physiologists who placed the mind where we still do the affections, in or near the stomach; but the current theory has fixed the seat of intellect and consciousness in the brain, and made that organ, or series of organs, as phrenologists claim to be, the motor in all enterprises. Even hunger is not left out, for they point you to the very spot where alimentiveness resides.

But, after all, in these summer months, we are forced to the confession that the vessel stomach has as much to do with our wills and deeds, our thoughts and words, as the superior head. To say "a man has no stomach" for anything is really as significant as to say he has no brains for it. For the intellectual forces can no more get on without the gastric, than an army without a commissariat department. It is related of Sir Walter Scott that he sometimes kept the printer waiting for copy. It was wonderful if he did not—clever and wonderful scribe that he was. Thoughts cannot be pumped out mechanically by anybody, except a newspaper editor and reporter, and Sir Walter, though he could write the Waverley Novels, could not, we dare affirm, have edited a newspaper. One of the Ballantynes, on a certain occasion when the press was standing, appealed to the great novelist in person. "Toot mon!" was the answer, "how can I mak the McGregor's wife talk, wi' siccan a twisting in the bowels as I have?" Substitute for bowels the shorter and more expressive word which the novelist actually used in his extremity, and you may imagine the strait the man was in, when the printer's devil drove, and the locomotive train whistled and snorted, but the tender, the fuel carriage, the stomach was off the track.

As for writing, so for every operation which requires thought or memory, the whole man, and especially the chemical and alimentary part of him, must be in order. Hence, in the summer months particularly, it is a question of no small moment whether there is "death in the pot" before we dip our spoon in. Dr. Combe, in treating of digestion and dietetics, gives one rule to be observed, without which all others are of no avail—"the rule of not too much." The best of all directions, it is, perhaps, hardest to follow, since in our languor we are prone to the delusion that we can take something in at the mouth which will restore whatever is wanting, cool us if heated, or strengthen us if weak. We eat and drink, moreover, for amusement—a joke the stomach will not always stand, however it may please the palate; and when the poor over-worked machinery rebels, we blame the weather or the climate, or accuse our innocent bodies of dyspepsia. Then hey for drugs and nostrums, still farther to complicate matters. Dr. Combe's moss-trooping countrymen in the old time had a story of cooking admirable for its simplicity, to say the least of it. They would flay an ox or a calf, hang the skin, bag fashion, upon four stakes, fill with water, and put the carcass in to boil. One would think that the manner of preparing a dinner, not alluded to by Prof. Blot, would remove the temptation to over-stuffing. Yet the moss troopers were huge feeders. Like all rude people they learned from nature what Dr. Hall lays down as an axiom: "After dinner, play the anaconda." At any rate their diet was simple—oat-cakes, with beef done as above would not create the heterogeneous mixture which we civilized folk deposit in our stomachs, to fester and effervesce, while we stupidly wonder that our food disagrees with us, and take a potion or a pill, to make it disagree worse. The comic almanacs have a standing joke about the Irish maiden, for whom a dose of sedlitz was described. She swallowed the alkali, and then the acid, and, we need hardly add, was "astonished." Yet we all do the same thing. We put incongruous matters into our stomachs, and are surprised that they do not agree. The summer markets tempt the palate with their various offerings, and rich and poor manage to find variety enough to give the apothecary business, and to swell the bills of mortality. Things which might be eaten with impunity, if taken alone, are jumbled together, and

then we blame innocent things as unhealthy, whereas it is our own omnivorous appetites which do the mischief.

But the various drinks which are imbibed, are an infinite deal worse than what is eaten. The consumption of "hot and rebellious liquors" in this Republic is absolutely appalling. Cold climates allow stronger potations than are safe or prudent during our ardent summers. The fever which the sun engenders is aggravated by drinks which would suit the Esquimaux or Siberians. The vital energies are fearfully taxed, and the excitement is followed by prostration. The system is predisposed to malarious influences; and the heat, which one might endure in a sound body, is fatal when the fire without is matched by a furious heat within. Whoever could persuade the people into extreme moderation from excitements, if not total abstinence from Whiskey & Co. during the Summer months, would not only save life and prevent disease, but reduce the criminal calendar. The tendency to improper indulgence has been of late years increasing fearfully among us. It was once thought that high prices would abate consumption of alcoholic mixtures. Such does not appear to have been the case; and while more is drunk than ever, much of the liquor which is consumed is of the very worst and most deleterious quality. It is surreptitiously manufactured and thrown into the market by men without conscience; retailed by men without a scruple, and drank by men without sense.

More danger to the future of the republic is to be apprehended from the vicious appetite for inordinate potations, than from any other cause. Our national politics are vitiated by this fatal indulgence; for men claim to perform the highest duties of citizens while they are under influences which incapacitate them from the lowest demands upon mind and body. Whisky is the potent means of cajolery and bribery; and it is all the worse as an agent of mischief that it does not come within the statute. Like the great Impached, it can be declared against, but not reached. Journalists owe it to their country to strive to bring popular opinion up to the proper stand against this great enemy alike to public health and public morals.

—N. Y. Tribune.

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