

Editor's Cable.

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

In Chaplain Jones' LIFE SCENES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT, the Messrs. Garrigues & Co. have produced a companion volume to the same name author's "Life Scenes from the Four Gospels." The present volume covers the period from the call of Abraham to the passage of the Jordan under Joshua, and we have no doubt that many readers will lay it down with the hope that he will continue this series of Bible illustrations over the later periods of Jewish history. It is not usual to find so much zeal in research, and so much wisdom in selection, combined with so much loving reverence for the word and the friends of God. The pictures of the book are not too numerous, but are well chosen, and are real illustrations. The portraits of four of the Pharaohs, transferred from the Egyptian monuments, are especially interesting. The Shemitic alphabets show us the earliest form in which the children of Shem placed their thoughts on record. The style of the book is easy and flowing, and suited to general comprehension. The use made of authorities places the reader en rapport with the latest discoveries.

Messrs. O. D. Case & Co. (subscription-book publishers of Hartford, Conn.) have issued a new edition of Dr. Eadie's condensed CRUDEN'S CONCORDANCE. Of all the concordances to our English Bible, Cruden's is the fullest and the best. Of all condensed concordances, for those who need no large work, Dr. Eadie's Cruden bears away the palm. It is already very widely known through the edition published by the Tract Society. The present edition is printed from the same plates, but on tinted paper, and is bound in Morocco cloth in the most tasteful style. We rejoice to know that the Messrs. Case, through their extensive agencies for publication, are about to press this concordance upon the attention of the public. It is the best of helps to the direct study of the Divine Word.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

BAIRD.—A History of the New School, and of the Questions Involved in the Disruption of the Presbyterian Church in 1838. By Samuel J. Baird, D.D. Pp. 564. Philadelphia: Claxton, Remsen and Haffelfinger.

Exit of Caliban and Shylock: A Tale of Captive Lady, Knight, Journey and Ruin. Pp. 145. Philadelphia: A. Winch, Author's Agent.

Literary Items.

Dr. Thomas Fuller is the wittiest and the quaintest of English divines, but so sterling in value, that Coleridge advises every one to read him. His "Church History of Britain" has been elegantly republished in England, in three volumes, and his "Pisgah Sight of Palestine," full of quaint maps will appear next, making the ninth volume of his works.—Dr. Trapp's "Commentary on the Bible," praised by the late Geo. Bush for its pungency, wit and spirit, and by Mr. Spurgeon as "the most suggestive book I possess"—"a better loved each day"—without equal or even rival" has been republished in five royal octavos. It is, next to Matthew Henry, the best Parian contribution to the study of the Bible.—Darwin's first great book—"The Origin of Species," has gone through four English editions, two American, two German, two French, several Russian, one Dutch, and one Italian. His last book—"The Variations of Species" has already gone through two English and a German, a Russian, a French and an American edition.—Prof. Maurice of Cambridge, has given the world an English treatise on the unusual subject of casuistry, entitled "The Conscience."—Max Muller prints an academic lecture on "The Stratification of Language."—Dr. Lightfoot who has already published the best English "Commentary on Galatians," has just published another nearly as good on Philippians. It is overburdened with a long discussion of the "three orders of the ministry."—It having been asserted by Robt. Laird Collyer of Chicago, that Luther took the grand measure we know as Old Hundred from the ballad music of the peasants of his time, the N. Y. Sun asserts that Old Hundred was not derived from ballad music, but appears to have been compiled from the Gregorian chants. There are four of these old chants in existence, from which the whole of Old Hundred may be made up. Its compiler was not Luther, but most probably William Franco, who furnished the music to the Geneva Psalms, published in 1564. In that publication the tune in question was contained. The Psalm often called in our Churches "Old Hundred" is not the true one, which begins "All People that on Earth do dwell," and was written by John Keble, a Scotchman, in the reign of "Bloody Mary." It is to be found in Rouse's version though much older than Rouse.—The descendants of John J. Audubon, the celebrated naturalist, who reside in Charleston, S. C., are said to be in great distress, and an effort is being made to relieve them. The call is made by William R. Smith, the naturalist, who proposes to collect the complete works of Audubon and publish them in a durable form.—Mrs. Myra Bradwell proposes to publish the Chicago Legal News. Her husband is a judge. Considering the quality of much of the legal news of that locality, we think the occupation not a very suitable one for a woman.—The Rev. Stephen Porter, whose decease at Geneva we recently announced, several years ago, and about the time that daily prayer-meetings were first instituted, wrote a little volume founded upon Jewish customs and the writings of the Fathers, and designed to show that early Christians devoted a great deal more time to religious observances than is customary at the present day. This little volume was published by Darrow of Rochester, and attained a considerable circulation and influence.—J. B. Ford & Co., of New York, are to publish a weekly octavo pamphlet, entitled "Plymouth Point." It is to contain Henry Ward Beecher's sermons for the current week, and will cost 5 cents per number or \$2.50 per year. It begins with the sermons of September 20.—M. Henri Rochefort, lantern

and all, in the shape of a wooden toy, is to be bought on the Paris Boulevards for ten cents, when the police are not looking.—The Pope has taken to writing for the newspapers, in emulation of the French Emperor.

Scientific.

USE OF MOSQUITOES.

Mosquitoes have their origin in stagnant water of a warm temperature. Wherever there is the smallest puddle exposed to the sun, or otherwise raised to the right heat, they breed like flies in carrion. A careful observer may, by watching a collection of water of this kind, witness the formation of the creature through all its stages of growth from a tiny little "wriggler," then to a chrysalis, and then to the full-blown winged insect. Dry up this water, or reduce its temperature to freezing point, and they are killed off beyond resurrection. From this simple fact we deduce the moral of the mosquito plague.

It is evident that stagnant water, of the proper temperature to breed mosquitoes, is also detrimental to health in a much more serious way. From it come fever and ague, typhus fever, malaria of various kinds, and all the diseases with which settlers in ill-drained countries are familiar. Now, the mosquito is an announcement of dangers of this kind, which if heeded, would be of the greatest use to us. They are a tell-tale provided by the Creator to warn us of more deadly mischiefs; and we ought, instead of being angry with them, to set about removing the cause from which they spring. The pain we feel when we accidentally expose any part of our bodies to the fire, is intended to spur us up to extricate ourselves from conditions in which our physical organization will be destroyed. If it were not for the suffering caused us in this way, we might have a hand or a foot burned off, and not know it, till it was too late. As it is, the moment the skin is subjected to more heat than it can well bear, we recue the member it covers from further injury by an instinct as powerful as the love of life itself. So, too, the boy who uses tobacco for the first time is told as distinctly as a sick stomach can tell him that he is poisoning himself; and in the same way, the headache which follows a first indulgence in whiskey is as plain a notice as can be given of the mischief it occasions. We can, indeed, too often do, refuse to listen to these warnings, and harden ourselves against them; but we cannot thereby escape the punishment of our evil deeds. In the long run it overtakes us, and we have to confess our folly in expecting to avoid it. Just so, mosquitoes are a mild notification of greater evils to follow; if we do not adopt measures to remove them. They are a merciful instrument of awaking us to a sense of hidden perils which wise men will gratefully welcome.

Whenever, therefore, any neighborhood is visited by mosquitoes, the proper course to be pursued is to trace out the spots wherein they breed, and at once drain them dry, or cover them up so as to prevent their exhalations rising into the air. In cities, sinks, cess-pools, sunken lots filled with water, and all such places, should either be carefully shut in, or else be connected with sewers. As a temporary expedient, a coating of petroleum, poured upon the surface of the water, will prevent the newly-born insects from emerging from their chrysalis state, and so arrest their further development. In the country, swamps and marshes should be drained, stagnant pools filled up, and tanks and cisterns tightly inclosed; or their contents kept in motion, so that all putridity may be prevented. By the adoption of such measures, thoroughly and universally, not only will the plague of mosquitoes be eradicated, but evils much more dangerous to life will be averted. When the superficial symptom has been removed, we may further know that great mischief which it indicates has been met and conquered.—The New York Sun.

THE WASP.

There is perhaps no other insect which lies under such a universal ban. "A wash kill it!" Such is the instinctive exclamation the poor wasp is greeted with; and yet where shall we find an insect more admirable in its proportions? In its power of flight, of vision, or mechanical dexterity, it is unsurpassed. Look into the wondrous yesparia which it constructs; see the sedulous and unceasing assiduity with which it nourishes its young brood; and admire and appreciate the noble courage with which it defends them. Take a lesson from a wasp in its housewifery; not a particle of rubbish, not a grain of dirt is suffered to litter the chambers of its dwelling; it is a pattern of cleanliness in all its operations. It is always the same—active, trim, and apparently never grows older. No one ever heard of an old wasp. A bee, a moth, or a butterfly, gets worn, old, and ragged—a wasp never. Let the wasp, then, take, without grudging, a little superfluity of the produce of your gardens and orchards; there is enough for him and you.

The wasp on the window-sill has all this time been brushing and freging himself from the dust, accumulated apparently on his journey; he passes his antennae beneath the spur which arms his anterior tibiae, and which is peccinated at its apex, apparently for the purpose of combing and cleaning the hair on its head, which it does with the dexterity of a Teneid. It is now bent on other occupation; a large bluebottle is buzzing against the window-pane, and has attracted the attention of the wasp; in a moment he has seized it, and begins to fly off bodily with it; but the weight is too great; the wasp alights again on the window-sill; the head of the fly is cut off, and again an attempt made to carry it; it cannot; the legs are now removed and a portion of the

body. The wasp can carry it to its home; the wasp thought so, and is gone.—Fire-side Magazine.

Musk is taken from a small animal known as the musk deer, so called from its shape. The odor is exceedingly powerful and lasting. According to the accounts of travellers in Asia, it is so strong when first taken from the animal, that those who are exposed to its influence are in danger of hemorrhage from the nostrils, even when the nose and mouth are protected with coverings of linen. A proximity to the sacks containing it, even in the open air, will produce violent headache. The power of retaining its perfume which it possesses is wonderful. A room has been scented with it for thirty years without any visible loss to the article; and specimens a hundred years old have been found to be as strong as fresh musk.

Rural Economy.

EDUCATION FOR FARMING.

Summer work has occupied the minds and hands of the young men and boys of the country, and by this time they begin to see their way through, and many are thinking what to do for the winter. The crops are to be harvested, and when this is done, the work will be such that fewer hands will do it, and the boys can be spared to go to a trade or to school. There is a great demand for the labor of good mechanics of almost every trade, many of whom are now getting very high wages. The country is growing rapidly, and though, as a rule, American journeymen are by no means thoroughly accomplished, like the mechanics of Europe, yet there is work enough for them, and they rise rapidly if industrious, sober, and intelligent. This makes the trades very attractive to young farmers, and the mechanic arts will always draw their recruits largely from the farms. The farm, however, offers greater inducements to really intelligent labor than either the trades or the mercantile professions, and young farmers should plan how to best spend the winter for their improvement in their profession.

The farmer without an education for his calling remains a sort of drudge, wherever he is, and he stands no higher in society than a mere hand-worker ought to. Properly educated for his business, he elevates his profession and himself exactly in proportion to his intelligence and general culture. Facilities for agricultural education are greatly increasing over the whole country, and it would be well for farmer-boys to see if they cannot in some way take advantage of them, even if they can do no more than attend a single course of lectures. The advantage to be gained would be some information which could hardly be acquired in any other way, a knowledge of where to obtain information from books and from other sources, and finally, how to make knowledge available. The Agricultural Colleges of Michigan and Massachusetts, the Scientific Schools of New Haven, Rutgers and Dartmouth Colleges, offer such facilities. The Cornell University, with its unrivaled advantages, the University of Kentucky, and several other institutions, open their doors to those who would base their agricultural practice upon a broader foundation than that of their own and their fathers' experience.

Our successful commercial men, merchants, manufacturers, bankers, brokers, shippers, etc., as soon as they acquire wealth which they do not heed in business, immediately buy country seats, or farms, which they have worked under their directions, or upon shares, either for the sake of drawing articles of daily consumption fresh from the fountain of natural supply, or to be used as summer retreats from din and dust, or for the profit they hope to gain by the rise in value of the land. Thus there is and will be an increasing demand for intelligent young farm managers to superintend these estates with profit to the owner. Good salaries will be paid for educated brains and this demand, as soon as it is felt upon the farm, will keep our agricultural colleges and lecture rooms full of attentive pupils, who choose farming as their trade.—American Agriculturist.

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