Editor's Table.

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

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE IN THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA, by Frederick Whymper, (Harper & Bros.,) is, we believe, the first book on our new N. W. territories, since they came into our possession. It gives the adventures of an English traveller, not only in Alaska but in British Columbia and in Kamschatka, mostly regions excluded by their inhospitable climate and comparative mercantile unimportance from the knowledge or interest of the civilized world. The travels in the interior of Vancouver's Island, and upon the banks of the great Alaskan river Yukon, especially, have the charm of novelty. Few are aware of the existence of this vast stream, two thousand miles long and from one to three and four miles wide, the frozen Nile of the North. The extraordinary variations of the temperature in this part of our territory—from 58 degrees below to 72 above zero,—are anything but inviting. The traveller seems, however, to have met all his hardships with the good humor of one who had counted the cost. His style is clear and unambitious; not in itself an attraction or an embarrassment. His aim is to convey information, and, with his numerous engravings from drawings made on the spot (sometimes at great inconvenience to fingers with the cold at 30 below zero,) and with fine large maps, he has made a volume of great value, and of peculiar interest and seasonableness. For sale by J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co. Price $2.50.

Messrs. FIELDS, OSGOOD & Co. have continued their Household Edition of Reade's works to seven volumes. The five additional volumes, last received, are: WHITE LIES, a tale of the French Revolution; "LOVE ME LITTLE, LOVE ME LONG," in which rash and dishonest speculative manias are well described and rebuked; NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND, on Prison Discipline; THE CLOISTER AND THE HEARTH, in which Erasmus appears as a leading character, and finally GRIFFITH GAUNT OR JEALOUSY, a tale of social life, designed to show the evil of jealousy. With the verdict against the admissableness of the latter volume into the accepted circle of sound and wholesome literature, we heartily agree. It not only describes what is criminal, pandering to evil taste almost exactly as minute reports of scandalous trials, spread over columns of our daily journals, do, and with all the advantage of a vivid and powerful style; but it omits even the condemnation of the crime it describes. Jealousy it properly enough holds up to reprobation, but the evil courses to which jealousy drives its victim are not summoned to the bar of public opinion, to the courts of justice, and scarcely before the reader's own conscience. In this respect, Reade has shown a tendency to deterioration widely different from the uniform purity of Dickens, and Thackeray, and especially from Bulwer, whose moral tone has decidedly and happily risen, so that his later works are as pure and ennobling, as they are masterly. Reade's latest book, however, FOUL PLAY, like his earlier ones, is not disfigured by any such objectionable traits. The series is very neatly printed and handsomely bound, and sold at $1 a volume.

Rev. John L. Nevius has given us, through the HARPERS, a new Book on CHINA AND THE CHINESE, comprising a general description of the country and its inhabitants; its Civilization and Form of Government, religious and social institutions, intercourse with other nations, and present condition and prospects. For this work, Mr. Nevius' ten years' missionary residence in China has well qualified him. His style is simple, not overburdened with tedious details; and his account of Missions in China, of the history of the country, and of the relations of the empire to other nations is brought down to the immediate present. The text of Mr. Burlingame's Treaty is in the Appendix. The volume is abundantly illustrated, and for sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co. 12mo., pp. 457. Price $1.75.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

MR. CRITTENDEN'S little book on the SACRAMENTS, just issued by the Committee, and published in response to a call from Judge Allison, Messrs. Field, Steinmetz, Rood, Miller and others, who heard its contents from the pulpit, is a compact and handy volume, treating principally of Baptism, briefly and clearly meeting the objections of immersionists; and in the part referring to the Lord's Supper, exposing the fallacies of the Romish doctrine of Transubstantiation. Those who have not time to refer to the larger treatises will find Mr. Crittenden's book very useful. It does not, save in one or two instances, propose anything beyond a re-statement of the arguments current in the controversies referred to. The style is perspicuous and without ostentation. We do not observe that any special attempt is made to show exactly what the Reformed doctrine of the Sacraments is, as distinguished, for example, from the mere symbolism of Zwingle. The book is very neatly printed and bound. Price 75 cents.

PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS.

LIPPINCOTT FOR MARCH contains a highly creditable list. Its serial stories are of a high order. The Foundling Hospital in London, Our Provincialisms, The Castle of the Taikun in Jeddo, Revolution in Cuba, &c., will attract attention, and deservedly. Those who know a little German, and that is almost every one hereabouts, and who wish to be informed as to the origin of the phrase "Sound on the Goose," and especially those who have already formed the acquaintance of Hans Breitmann, will know exactly at what spot to open this number of Lippincott.

GUTHRIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE for February has a full, varied, and attractive budget, and holds rank with perhaps any one of the secular monthlies in the high literary ability of its contributors. Besides the accomplished story-writers, we note such names as the Dean of Canterbury, Dr. John S. Howson, and Professor Plumptre. Dr. W. L. Alexander continues his studies in the Old Testament. "Forgotten by the World" is a story of great beauty and interest, seeming designed, so far, to illustrate the high degree of usefulness which a single woman with means and under pure Christian impulses can accomplish.

THE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORTER, a weekly journal published in this city by Drs. S. W. Butler and D. G. Brinton, is one of the ablest and most successful journals of its class. Its leading editor is an earnest Christian and an honored church-officer. We, therefore, the more deeply regret that, following the one-sided tendencies which the exclusive study of the material part of man is so likely to engender, the boldest and grossest material theories of the day are defended, and even exceeded, in a recent number. For we do not understand that materialism proper has any God, as it is difficult to conceive how it should have; while the *Medical and Surgical Reporter* more than hints that, by the Scriptural phrase "God is Light," the materialism of the Divine nature is taught! No doubt the *Reporter* escapes the charge of atheism by this expedient. But both theism and idealism revolt from such supports as the *Reporter* honestly, doubtless, but most strangely thinks it has discovered for them, in materialism.

This is a good opportunity to remind our readers that the great naturalist, Tyndall, in a recent address before the British Association, declared that the connection between mind and matter was not necessary but empirical, and the mode of connection between them was by us simply unthinkable. He declared that if for instance we could see that the sentiment of love was always accompanied with a spiral movement of the brain particles to the right, while that of hatred was indicated by a spiral movement to the left, we should be still as far as ever from conceiving the nature of the law which orders it. This opinion of Prof. Tyndall, who is among the great leaders of modern physical science in England, makes sheer nonsense of the German professor's notion that "the brain secretes thought as the liver secretes bile." We wish the excellent editor of the *Reporter* would favor his readers with that part of Prof. Tyndall's address, and if he could see it to be his editorial duty to arrest rather than accelerate the already and naturally powerful tendencies of his profession to materialism, he would in our humble judgment, greatly increase the moral value of his admirable journal.

Miscellaneous.

"ECCE CŒLUM."

We hope our readers will not be frightened by another "*ecce*." We have had so many sensational "*ecces*" for the last few years, that the very word, as a book-title, is repellant. But suffer one more, which we would fain hope will be the last. We have been reading a duodecimo with the above title, which in plain English means, in this instance, "Parish Astronomy," by a Connecticut Pastor. We were led to purchase the book by a single sentence from Dr. Bushnell, who called it a most "*fascinating book*." Such a verdict from this profound thinker sent us post-haste to the book-store. We found it a remarkable book on astronomy—instructive, novel, startling, "fascinating."

About twenty years ago Prof. Nichol, of Glasgow, lectured in Philadelphia, on Astronomy. That was an epoch in our life. We can still recall those lectures, and the impressions made upon us. Dr. Nichol is distinctly before us, *now* as *then*—the genial glow of his spirit—the rich, yet delicate exuberance of his language—his tremulous sympathy with every note of his theme—the clear telescopic light he cast upon what is dark in the distant sky—the choice flowers of poesy which he culled and wreathed aroud the drier corners of his discourse—and the glow of pious feeling which seemed to rise from his heart as from a censer of incense—all yet live in our memory. We remember how with entranced interest we followed him in his sublime excursions through the heavens. A winged painter, with bold pinion and bolder pencil, he led us from world to world, and his wing seemed to get stronger, and his vision clearer, and his colors more vivid, the dimmer the region, and the farther the flight. It was amazing to witness the impression he made upon the humblest minds by his lectures—conjointly by his subject and gorgeous style—his gigantic diagrams, and the enthusiasm which spake through his pallid countenance and large gray eyes. By his works—"Mechanism of the Heavens"—and "Solar System"—as well as by his oral lectures, he has done more than any other man of this century, to emancipate the science of astronomy from its mummy confinements, and make it walk abroad as a free and living thing.

It is true, we had before him a work by Fontenelle, on the plurality of worlds; Addison, in the Spectator, had prattled like a child-angel, about the stars; we had "Hervey's Meditations," and the genius of Chalmers and Taylor helped to popularize the science of astronomy; but after all Nichol is the *prose* laureat of the stars. Wherever he went, he left behind him many "ready-made astronomers," and we are among them. The reader may smile at this, but whilst we make no claim to science in this declaration, we simply affirm that ever since he was here we have been able to thank Heaven for the stars. Our first feelings of interest, kindled by Nichol twenty years ago, was beginning to wane, through manifold earthly cares, when the reading of this "Ecce Cœlum" relumed the pale fires on the hearthstone of our hearts, and we feel once more our first love and enthusiasm in the study of the stars.

Our friend, who writes from the garret, may talk about the pleasures of entomology, conchology, zoology, botany, and his romantic search in the mud for a hypothetical fragment of a megatherium, but give us the more spiritual and soul-elevating pleasures of astronomy. What field for enthusiasm can be named in comparison with the ever-burning stars? How have these warm footprints of Omnipotence through the sky touched the poet's soul with inspirations of beauty and sublimity, and reflected to Christian thought the glory of God! It is true, the stars are no longer invested with the enchantments of superstition; and the onward march of science has scattered a thousand beautiful dreams; but if they seem no longer the throne of angels, they are at least vestibule-lamps in the temple of the Almighty, and light the way to honor, glory and immortality. And if they have lost the false lustre of supernaturalism and move round their radiant orbs in solemn silence, they still reveal to Christian faith the divine wisdom and glory—

"Forever singing as they shine—
The hand that made us is divine."

Many think there is little use in the study of the stars, without an observatory and a telescope. This is a fallacy. It is very well for scientific study, and discovery, to have telescopes, but for all mere mental or moral ends they are of little use, especially for boys and undergraduates. It is true, Byron, writing from Venice, after a debauch, describes himself looking up to the sky and exclaiming: "What nothings we are before the stars," and adds, that he never felt their greatness, till he looked at them through Herschell's telescope, and saw that they were worlds. Now this is strange, to say the least. If he had a heart and an imagination, he might have seen and felt that the stars were worlds, without looking through a telescope. It rather narrows the scope of the imagination, and divests the stars of their poetical aspects. The mountain which the star seems to touch—the soft evening air on which it seems silently to feed—its seeming membership of a constellated family—all such aspects vanish in the glare of telescopic illumination, and we lose that mystic sense of their grandeur and unfathomable beauty.

Except for new discoveries, these instruments are of little use. There is an older and nobler astronomy than that which names and numbers the stars, and maps them down into nautical charts. The true student gets something higher and better from the stars than what comes through our modern optic-glasses. Some one has justly said that the heavens made their best revelations before telescopes were invented; the telescope, he suspects, may shut out more wisdom than it lets in. Evidently Job, without the use of telescopes, had a noble gleam of astronomical insight, when he exclaimed with a sort of Archimedian enthusiasm—"He hangeth the earth upon nothing, and stretcheth out the North over the *empty* place." Here the very germ of the Copernican hypothesis flashed upon the soul of the lonely herdsman, as he lifted his eye to that oriental night-sky. And manifestly the shepherd King of Israel had very good ideas of astronomy, without the use of telescopes, when, inspired with a profound sense of the divine glory in the sky, he exclaimed—"When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained, what is man!"

We hope, therefore, that no student will turn away from this fascinating "Ecce Cœlum"—simply because he can't mount an Observatory, or stare at the heavens through a telescope.—*Lutheran Observer.*

HALBBATZEN UNION—BASLE MISSION.

We find in the "Foreign Missionary," for January, the following very interesting letter from Mrs. Calderwood, the highly esteemed lady of the missionary, Rev. W. Calderwood, whose labors have been so greatly blessed in the recent conversions in the Mission School under his charge at Saharanpur. It furnishes valuable suggestions in regard to obtaining contributions, and corresponds to the system which has been adopted with so much success by the Free Church of Scotland, and which has resulted in procuring such a large sum during the last year. Mrs. C. is a native of Germany, and was connected with the Basle Society which has sent out to the heathen so many excellent Missionaries:

I was about thirteen years old when the Board of the Basle Mission did not know how to meet the expenses of that mission. A famine, a few years previous to that time, caused the want of funds. Men enough, but no money. That Board commenced the well known Halbbatzen Union. You undoubtedly heard or read of that great event. I do not know what you call it, or what in American coin a half batzen would be called; but I believe that half a batzen is in your money the sixtieth part of a dollar. The Society got great numbers of plain, and therefore cheap enough, account-books printed and bound. Each book contained, if I remember correctly, pages enough to last for ten years. Each page contained lines to enroll ten contributors. When their names were enrolled they had to pay the small contribution for ten weeks. These books were sent to pastors of various congregations in cities and villages. These pastors would be acting secretaries, who appointed ladies as collectors. These ladies would, among their friends and acquaintances, appoint gatherers, and each gatherer would try to get ten contributors. Each gatherer would collect weekly the above-named small contribution from the contributors every ten weeks, hand the then collected sum to the collectors, who, after having the sums from all the gatherers collected, handed it over to the pastor, who, after having from all the collectors the money collected, sent the sum to the mission-house in Basle.

I can assure you that the amount of money collected in the way described was not small. The debt was soon paid, and not only men but money was at their disposal. I, at that time, was but a child, and yet a still younger sister of mine commenced to gather money for the mission. Although we felt shy at first, and our hearts used to beat when we knocked at the doors of various people's rooms; yet we succeeded well, and I had five pages full in my blue book, viz., fifty subscribers, while my younger sister had still more. Of course it takes time, and sometimes the weather was unpleasant, but I do not remember that I ever returned unhappy, and probably not more tired than many young girls return home from places of pleasure and dancing parties. I do not hesitate to state that one-half of my subscribers were common day-laborers, and one-fourth servant-girls, one-eighth soldiers, and one-eighth my acquaintances. I knew mothers of families and day-laborers who spent their evenings in visiting and gathering money for the mission cause. And what were the sums thus gathered compared with the inestimable amount of good done tot he souls in these provinces. The Methodist missionaries who, about that time, commenced their work in Germany, gave us large numbers of tracts, and the Missionary and Tract Societies gave us numbers of tracts and pamphlets, which we weekly distributed. Thus missions among the heathen and missions at home went hand in hand, while many who never read their Bibles, or prayed, or were not even mere professors of religion, contributed the small sum, and talked with us and read our tracts, commenced to interest themselves in mission operations, and by degrees were led to look upon themselves, and finally found that there was but "one thing" needed, and took up their Bibles to find what they had never before sought for. Many hearts yearning to do something for their Saviour found, in this way, an opportunity to go, as it were, with a message from the Board of the Mission, from house to house, and after delivering the message; could speak of messages sent to them by their Heavenly Master. We would feel bound to invite the worldly to come to Jesus; to warn the indifferent of the approaching day of judgment. We would speak of the unfathomable oceans of grace in Christ open for all, and we would tell the burdened and heavy laden of Christ, the fountain where rest for all is to found. I cannot help to state that I believe that in this way, more than in any other way I know of, sympathy with those who work among the heathen has been awakened and exercised. I venture to say again, that the money thus collected has done an unspeakable amount of good among all classes of people.

THE rays of the sun shine upon the dust and the mud, but they are not soiled by them. So a holy soul, while it remains holy, may mingle with the vileness of the world, and yet be pure in itself.

Wheeler & Wilson's
LOCK-STITCH
FAMILY
SEWING MACHINE.
THE MOST
SIMPLE,
DURABLE,
CHEAPEST,
ECONOMICAL,
AND POPULAR!!
Every one may be the possessor of one of these unrivalled Machines, as we endeavor to make the terms of sale suit all customers. Call at our Sale Rooms, and look at the machines, and be sure and ask the terms of sale.
Peterson & Carpenter,
GENERAL AGENTS,
914 Chestnut Street,
PHILADELPHIA;
214 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore.
☞ *Travelling Salesmen Wanted.* ☜ jan14

Wanamaker's
DINING ROOMS,
FOR
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
No. 42 S. 2d St., above Chestnut,
AND
Delaware Ave. and Spruce St., Phila.
Good meals, gotten up in nice order and no fault to find about the price being high. Come and see us. dec17 3mos

RARE CONFECTIONS AND CHOCOLATE.
Stephen F. Whitman
Manufacturer of Specialities
IN FINE CONFECTIONS,
CHOCOLATE AND COCOA
By Steam Power.
Store No. 1210 Market Street,
jan28 PHILADELPHIA.

BEAUTIFUL
Books for Children.
FLOWERS OF SPRING-TIME. Quarto. Colored frontispiece, and 150 engravings. It combines amusement and instruction in most attractive forms. $2.50 cloth; $3 gilt; $3.50 half morocco, gilt.
PICTURES OF LIFE, DRAWN WITH PEN AND PENCIL. Small quarto. An elegant volume, with 112 fine engravings, many of them large and on tinted ground. $1.85; extra, $2.25.
VIEWS FROM NATURE. Forty engravings, finely printed in tint. $1.25; extra, $1.50.
AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,
1210 Chestnut Steet,
Philadelphia.

WYERS' BOARDING SCHOOL
FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS,
AT WEST CHESTER, PA.
27 miles by Rail to Philadelphia.
The Scholastic Year of 10 months opens
September 2d, 1868.
Corps of Instructors, full, able, and experienced. Send for a Catalogue.
William F. Wyers, A. M.,
Principal and Proprietor.
☞ No charge for Tuition for Clergymen's sons, or for young men preparing for the ministry.

ELMIRA FEMALE COLLEGE
UNDER CARE OF THE
SYNOD OF GENEVA.
This is a Christian Home, and a fully chartered and organized College, where young ladies may pursue a most thorough and extensive course of study in COLLEGIATE, ECLECTIC, or ACADEMIC Departments.
TERMS:
Whole expense of Tuition including Classics and Modern Languages, with board, furnished room, light, and fuel, $150 per half yearly session.
Address,
REV. A. W. COWLES, D.D., President.
junell-tf.

Tuscarora Female Seminary.
This well known school is beautifully situated in the country. The course of study is thorough and extensive; taught by experienced and competent teachers. Superior advantages are afforded in
Music and Painting.
The WINTER SESSION will open the SIXTH OF JANUARY, and continue in Session twelve weeks.
TERMS:—For Boarding, Furnished Room, Tuition, Fuel, and Washing, $60. Applicants please address
J. WALKER PATTERSON, Principal,
Academia, Juniata Co., Pa.
dec10-1y.

FREDERICK FEMALE SEMINARY,
FREDERICK, MD.,
Possessing full Collegiate Power, will commence its
TWENTY-SIXTH SCHOLASTIC YEAR.
The First Monday in September.
Board and Tuition in the English Department $250 per scholastic year. For Catalogues, &c., address
july 25-1yr Rev. THOMAS M. CANN, A. M., President.

ICE! ICE! ICE! ICE! ICE! ICE!
Ice supplied Daily, to Large or Small Consumers, in any part of the Paved Limits of the Consolidated City.
West Philadelphia, Manuta, Tioga, Richmond, Bridesburg, and Germantown Families, Offices, &c., can rely on being furnished with a
PURE ARTICLE, SERVED PROMPTLY,
And at the Lowest Market Rates.
COAL! COAL! COAL! COAL! COAL! COAL
Best quality of Lehigh and Schuylkill Coal, at prices as low as the lowest for a first rate article.
Blacksmiths' Coal, Hickory, Oak and Pine Wood, and Kindling Wood. Send your orders for Ice and Coal to
COLD SPRING ICE AND COAL COMPANY.
Thos. E. Cahill, Prest. John Goodyear, Sec'y. Henry Thomas Superintendent.
ORFICE, 435 WALNUT STREET.
Branch Depots—Twelfth and Willow streets. Twelfth and Washington avenue. Twenty-fifth and Lombard streets. North Penna. R. R. and Master street. Pine Street Wharf, Schuylkill. may14

QUEEN OF ENGLAND SOAP.
Queen of England Soap. Queen of England Soap.
For doing a family washing in the best and cheapest manner. Guaranteed equal to any in the world! Has all the strength of the old rosin soap with the mild and lathering qualities of genuine Castile. Try this splendid Soap. Sold by the
ALDEN CHEMICAL WORKS,
jy16 1y 48 North Front St., Philadelphia.

Wm. G. Hargis,
Paper Hanging & Window Shade
WAREHOUSE,
No. 936 Arch Street,
Oct8 1y PHILADELPHIA.

J. & F. CADMUS,
736 MARKET ST., S. E. Corner of Eighth
PHILADELPHIA,
MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN
BOOTS, SHOES,
TRUNKS, CARPET BAGS AND VALISES.
Ladies' Sacs, Bags, Pocket Books ingreat variety.

E. P. ADAIR,
(*Late of the Firm of Smith & Adair, 1126 Chestnut St.,*)
MANUFACTURER OF
SILVER PLATED WARE,
No. 124, South Eleventh Street,
dec 24 6mo. PHILADELPHIA.

GYMNASIUM,
Corner of Ninth and Arch Streets,
FOR Ladies, Gentlemen and Children, open for the Winter course. Open day and evening. Call in person or send for circular.
PROF. L. LEWIS.
oct3 6mos.

1033. Look!! Look!! 1033.
Wall Papers and Linen Window Shades
Neatly hung.
We Manufacture all colors of Shading. Cheapest in the city.
Give us a call.
JOHNSTON'S DEPOT,
1033 Spring Garden st., just below 11th, Phila.
BRANCH—307 Federal St., Camden, N. J.

Photographs Excelsior!
All kinds of pictures, of the finest quality. Cards, six for a dollar Porcelains one dollar each. Other sizes in proportion.
J. W. HURN, 1319 Chestnut St.
Dec 24—1y.

PHONOGRAPHY,
TAUGHT BY
Prof. S. M. STILES, A. M.,
Phonographic Reporter, 1018 Arch St.,
PHILADELPHIA.
TERMS:
Elementary Course of Twenty-four Lessons, - - - $10.00
Advanced " " " - - - 12.00
oct.22