

Editor's Cable.

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

JUDIC BAPTISM.

DR. DALE, of Media, is still pursuing his close and thorough inquiries into the whole subject of Baptism. In his previous work, CLASSIC BAPTISM, he showed what classic authorities meant by the use of the term. He now goes over the whole ground of Jewish literature, as interpreted by Jewish scholars and by the Christian fathers, to get at the meaning by them attributed to the same word *Baptizo*. Josephus, Philo, the Apocrypha, the Old Testament in Hebrew and Greek, with a score or two of the Fathers, are searched with inexhaustible patience and zeal, and the term in question is held up in all the various lights presented by the context of some fifty different passages, in which the word is repeated in one form or other more than three fifty times. His conclusions are, 1. That Jewish writers are in perfect accord with the classic. There is no dipping in the use of the word by either. There is a "mersion," or "intusposition," a placing the object within a fluid, without any idea of limit as to its continuance there, and finally a condition of the object resultant from controlling influence and secured without mersion; as when body and mind are baptized into insensibility by wine drinking, (Josephus.) 2. As the Greeks spoke of the Baptism of their deities, Bacchus and Silenus, by wine drinking, so the Jews speak of a religious baptism, not by mersion, but by sprinkling ashes, blood and water. The position taken in Classic Baptism is regarded as confirmed; viz.: that condition of intusposition, involving complete influence and not modal act, is the fundamental idea of the word; while it advances to a secondary use, in which intusposition (as the form by which the influence is effected) is lost, and influence, in whatsoever way operative, (if capable of thoroughly changing the condition of its object and subjecting it to itself) takes the place of intusposition. He shows how the word comes to mean, in Jewish use: to purify ceremoniously, a meaning which had already been claimed by President Beecher and others, but until now, without well ascertained ground, and then concludes the whole, with the following comprehensive statement: "Judic Baptism is a condition of ceremonial purification, effected by the washing of the hands and feet; by the sprinkling of sacrificial blood, or heifer ashes; by the pouring out of water; by the touch of a coal of fire; by the waving of a flaming sword, and by divers other modes and agencies, dependent in no wise on any form of act, or on the covering of the object."

Those who would acquaint themselves with the latest phase of the controversy, presenting the subject in the most scholarly, acute, and yet really entertaining manner, will, of course, find Dr. Dale's book simply indispensable. Philadelphia: Wm. Rutter & Co. 8vo. pp. 400.

LIPPINCOTT & CO.

A WREATH OF RHYMES, by Willie Mayfield, shows a great versatility, if not a great depth of poetic talent, in which originality and freshness are not wanting, and a real exuberance of versifying power appears in the endless variety of metres successfully handled. A vein of true poetry appears not only in the versifications of Scripture, but runs through the whole work. Occasionally there are outbreaks of the deep passion that must go to the composition of a true poet, but for the most part, the tone is rather of the lighter type. 16mo. pp. 386. Bevelled edges. \$2.

MRS. SHERWOOD'S STORIES FOR SUNDAY, ILLUSTRATING THE CATECHISM, are again issued, in a neat and substantial volume, as revised by Rev. Arthur C. Coxe, Bishop of Western New York. It is a beautiful filial tribute, when in the preface, the Bishop says: "I do this in part, as a tribute to a saintly mother, who now sleeps in Jesus, and in gratitude for the lessons imparted to my early childhood, by her sweet voice, as she read these stories to me in the nursery, and tenderly illustrated them by her comments. Such were her discrimination and good taste, and such was her faith unfeigned, that I consider her practical approval of this work a sufficient proof of its adaptation to the holy uses of maternal piety." 16mo. pp. 450, bevelled boards, tinted paper.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

REV. JOHN G. HALL'S Compilation of LORD BACON'S THOUGHTS ON SCRIPTURE, abounds in forcible apothegms, drawn from the various writings of the great philosopher, and associated with the passages upon which they bear. The "Paradoxes" having, since the first edition, been traced to another author, (Rev. Herbert Palmer, of the Westminster Assembly), the quotations from that work are noted in the preface. A life and defence of Lord Bacon precedes the "Thoughts," making a book of much value and printed in large and readable type. 12mo. pp. 408.

LOTTY LANE, or "by their fruits shall ye know them," by Mrs. M. E. BERRY, contrasts the home influences of a Christian family in the country with those of an infidel and wealthy family in the city. The perils into which amiable, but weak-minded, Lotty and her country neighbors were brought by intercourse with the city people, are well and effectively described. The arguments between the children sound tilted

and artificial, and the incidents described are often trivial, but the book, as a whole, will prove attractive and wholesome. It is printed and illustrated with great beauty.

FLOSSY LEE, by Faith Wynne, (Skelly) is a bright every day story of child life, interspersed with smaller stories from a good Auntie, and with occasional bits of science put in a familiar style for children. 18mo. pp. 209. 80 cents.

NORA AT DERNLEUGH, is an unusually well-constructed juvenile story. The pen of the skillful writer is manifest on every page. The religious interest of the story is trifling, and kept in the remote back ground. The real interest is in the well-described and complete reversing of the position of the parties, by the course of Providence,—and that is not put in any clear religious light. AM. S. S. UNION. 18mo. pp. 200. 60 cents.

JOHN S. C. ABBOTT continues his series of attractive histories, giving us now, through HARPER & BROS., the HISTORY OF JOSEPH BONAPARTE. Joseph was the oldest and Napoleon the second son of the family. The brothers loved each other devotedly, and were sympathizers and sharers through life of each other's fortunes. The scenes of this history, of course, are laid mainly in that of the younger and more illustrious brother. Yet they have their own peculiar, touching, and often domestic interest, more marked from the martial reverberations breaking in upon them from every side. The author maintains his warm partisanship for Napoleon throughout. 18mo. pp. 391, illustrated. \$1.20.

TRUST AND TRY, is the first of a number of stories in the volume so named. It describes the persevering efforts of a poor, but praying child, to procure a living. HENRY HOYT.

MR. SPURGEON'S fresh literary vein seems inexhaustible, as his labors are indefatigable. JOHN PLOUGHMAN'S TALK is a collection of quaint, racy, downright essays in the nature of advice to plain people on homely subjects, taken from the pages of his excellent periodical: "The Sword and Trowel," and published in a volume by SHELDON & Co. It is a good collection of Tracts for the Times, and abounds in homely sayings, which promise to stick like proverbs. It is especially adapted to raise the daily life of the masses. 16mo. pp. 177.

LEE & SHEPARD.

THE BOY FARMER OF ELM ISLAND, is the fourth of the series begun with "Lion Ben," and continues the life-like descriptions of the amphibious life of the ingenious and thrifty people who inhabit the island. It has a hearty, outdoor, sea-air flavor about it that is irresistible. Rev. ELIJAH KELLOG is the author. 18mo. pp. 300.

THE YOUNG DETECTIVE, one of ROSA ABBOTT'S books, shows much of the high story-telling ability of the preceding volumes, and is decidedly "sensational," but is scarcely equal in freshness and vivacity to the writer's earlier efforts, which were truly remarkable for those qualities. 18mo. pp. 256. Illustrated.

THE SUNSET LAND, OR THE GREAT PACIFIC SLOPE, by Rev. John Todd, D.D., is a familiar and highly entertaining account of the Pittsfield divine's visit to the Pacific Coast, last summer. His prayer upon the junction of the two Pacific Roads, at Promontory Point, is well remembered, and his description of the wonderful scene is thrilling and sublime, from its very simplicity. His account of the Mormons will be read with peculiar interest. 18mo. pp. 322.

LIVING THOUGHTS is a compilation of choice utterances by the noblest Christian thinkers in prose and verse, coming down to such recent favorites as George MacDonald, Liddon, Guthrie, Arthur Helps, Robertson, Dr. S. H. Tyng, Norman Macleod and others, and including many older ones. The topics are: Christian Experience, the Christian graces, Christian Effort, and the Source of Strength. Printed luxuriously on thick, tinted paper, and handsomely bound with gilt top, it makes a very attractive volume, within and without. 16mo. sq. pp. 246.

LITERARY ITEMS.

—Charles Augustine Saint Beuve, the distinguished critic and a Senator of France, is dead. He was born at Boulogne-sur-Mer, Feb. 23, 1803. He went to Paris in 1822, and there soon became prominent in literary circles as one of the champions of the "Romantic" school, of which Victor Hugo is now the most brilliant exemplar. He became best known by his so-called psychological critiques, in which he analyzed the prominent works of French literature, using the leading events in the life of their authors as the foundation of a psychological delineation of their intellectual character. He has often appeared as a poet under a *nom de plume*, and his lyrics are distinguished by a strain of rather melancholy sentiment.

—A Belgian weekly paper, the *Flandern*, issues the following peculiar notice: "Cloister scandals belong so essentially to a true reflex of the times, that a journal cannot pass them by. But it would be impossible for a weekly paper to communicate all these stories; besides, a respectable journal must set itself against violating the moral feelings of its readers, especially the female and younger portion. Taking these considerations into account, the editor has determined to publish weekly an especial supplement 'for men,' which will also contain much 'in the language of Rome itself,' and this for a very small circle of readers."

—Two interesting contributions to the history of printing and the book trade in Germany have lately appeared. "The Printer Family Froschauer, in Zurich (1521-1595)," with the list of their published works, by E. Camille Rudolphi

(Zurich), and "The Coburger Book-dealer Family of Nuremberg," a description of the German book trade at the period of transition from the scholastic service to the Reformation (1470-1540); and dating from 1525 are communicated, among others, letters of Martin Luther, in which he mentions the labors of the Coburgers; by Oscar Hase, Leipsic.

—Mr. George Bancroft, our Minister to Berlin, has been lately at Königsberg, the native town of Kant, engaged in researches bearing upon the life and the works of that greatest of all German metaphysicians.

—G. P. Putnam & Son announce a volume of sermons by Father Hyacinthe. The Rev. L. W. Bacon translates it, and Dr. E. A. Washburn will write the biographical introduction. The volume includes the Speech before the League of Peace, which kindled the war between the preacher and his order.

—Father Hyacinthe is going to publish a paper which will be both religious and political in character, called *Le Chretien*.

—Rossetti's edition of Shelly's works promises to be very complete. It contains part of an unpublished "Tragedy of Charles the First," and other unknown pieces. The "Adonais" will be corrected from the original edition, and the life contains much new matter.

—Afzelius, the Swedish historian, though in his 85th year, is actively at work upon the completion of his great work on Swedish history, based upon popular songs and legends, and is also preparing new editions of some of his former works.

—The *Galaxy* has an article asserting that a secret society, whose object is the establishment of an empire in this country, exists. The members are active, though their organ, the *Imperialist*, sixteen numbers of which were issued, is suspended.

—Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has a newspaper printed in the Bohemian language, called the *Poleboh*, which is, being interpreted, *Progress*.

—Tennyson's works have been supplied with a "concordance," filling a volume of 477 pages. It contains upwards of 15,000 references.

—Some ineffable donkey who signs himself "A Member of Congress" (not Mr. Samuel Cox) has written to *The London Times*, that as a literary woman Mrs. Beecher Stowe is simply nobody, and that, morally considered, she is merely (not to put too fine a point upon it) a liar! —*Tribune*.

—M. Guizot is engaged in completing a work which will bear a title analogous to that of Sir Walter Scott's popular "Tales of my Grandfather," entitled "Histoire de France, racontée à mes petites enfants."

—Frederick Hudson offered to take charge of the N. Y. *Times* for \$15,000 if he could have entire control of the editorial columns. He could have the \$15,000, but not the control, so he retired to his farm.

—The first Catholic almanac published in the United States was issued in New York in 1817, by Mr. Field, the father of the young lady writer and lecturer, Miss Kate Field. It was a small 24mo., of sixty-eight pages, and its title was *The Catholic Lady's Directory to the Church Service with Almanac for the year 1817*.

—A daily German newspaper is about to be established in London, as the organ of the Democratic party, to be called *The German Post*.

—Mrs. Mundt (Louisa Muhlbach) was lately asked to write an American historical novel on the subject of Aaron Burr. She replied that she had never heard of the gentleman.

—The Paris correspondent of the *London Times* is Mr. O'Meagher, who formerly served in the Spanish army, resided a long time in Spain, married a Spanish woman, and is consequently supposed to be familiar with Spanish affairs. He has a handsome establishment in Paris, and draws an annual salary of £1,500.

—Rochefort says that at least half a dozen French fencing-masters have tried to pick quarrels with him in Brussels since he arrived in that city, in order to provoke him to challenge them. These fencing masters, he adds, he has good reason to believe, were sent by the French Government especially for that purpose to Brussels. Rochefort claims that his *Lanterne* still has upward of 80,000 subscribers.

—There is now preparing for publication in England a work by Garibaldi on "Rome in the Nineteenth Century." It is understood to be a popular book, and one which will throw some light upon many matters which have hitherto been but partly seen or quite concealed.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS.

—The British Association for the advancement of science held its annual meeting this year at the interesting old town of Exeter. Among the communications bearing upon various branches of science we note one by Dr. Wilson on the "Moral Imbecility of Habitual Criminals exemplified by Cranial Measurements." The theory set forth by Dr. W. was that habitual criminals do not possess such an amount of intellect as to enable them to discriminate between right and wrong, and that the majority of them are devoid of moral sense. The habitual criminal was of a low type of intellectual development, and some of them were so backward as to be unable to surmount the rudimentary difficulties of education. In 464 separate measurements, Dr. Wilson found cranial deficiency, especially in the anterior lobes of the cerebral portions of the brain. He suggested that punishment should be more reformatory than punitive. He also suggested that means should be taken to test a criminal after confinement for a certain time, and if he failed to pass the ordeal to keep him in confinement for the sake of society. A very animated discussion ensued, in which considerable difference of opinion was expressed as to whether an habitual criminal was morally responsible or not for his acts. [As the plea of insanity is getting a little rusty, we may expect that of "habitual" to take its place, in the good time coming.]

—The important question of Human Longevity was discussed in a paper, by Sir Duncan Gibb, entitled "An Obstacle to European Longevity beyond seventy years." He had previously shown that, in an examination of 5,000 healthy persons of all ages and both sexes, the epiglottis was pendent and not vertical in 11 per cent. The

epiglottis is a thin plate of cartilage (fibro cartilage), shaped like a leaf, and placed behind the tongue in front of the superior opening of the upper part of the windpipe (larynx). Its function is to close the windpipe during deglutition. On analyzing his statistics, and taking his general experience, he has found that in no instance has the cartilage been pendent over 70 years; and he has examined a considerable number from 70 to 95 years, in all of whom it was vertical, even in one case of a person aged 102. He therefore concluded that pendency of the epiglottis is an obstacle to longevity beyond 70, and death ensues from some cause or other, at or before that age. He mentioned several aged statesmen and others whose epiglottis was vertical, like Palmerston, Lyndhurst, Brougham and Campbell.

—"A cause of diminished longevity among the Jews" furnished the subject of another paper by the same gentleman. This he showed to be the persistent use of olive oil for culinary purposes, giving to them an appearance which he characterized as the *sanguineo-oleaginous expression*, typically exemplified in the furniture auction rooms of London. Usually with this was a pendent epiglottis. Longevity was rare amongst such persons; they become constitutionally old, seldom or never actually reach old age, and die from some of the fatal congestive diseases.

The Waist of the Period.—Under this head the editor of the *London Lancet* comments in severe, but just terms on the prevalent custom of tight-lacing which tyrannical fashion again imposes upon her deluded victims. Beaten back for a time, probably more by fashion than by the spread of knowledge, he has not been killed, but has only recoiled, apparently for a better spring, for his victims are as numerous and pitiable as ever. The folly is one which was formerly to be found mainly in the drawing room; but now it also fills our streets. It is lamentable to observe at every turn, a woman, young or old, who moves forward in a stooping position, unable even to hold herself upright in consequence of the constraint upon the muscles of the back. If the evils of tight-lacing were confined to the distorted appearance which it never fails to produce, we might regret, indeed, to see the female form divine so defaced, but it would scarcely be in our province to comment upon it. But as medical practitioners we see its effects every day in the train of nervous and dyspeptic symptoms by which it is constantly indicated, and in the still more grave *internal mischief of permanent character* which is often caused by it. Until some little physiological knowledge is made a part of female education, and is considered an "accomplishment," we suppose it is of little use to protest against the cruel injury to health which women thus inflict upon themselves. The matter is one which is "worse than crime—it is folly," for beauty is destroyed by the process which is intended to increase it.

—Rev. Ch. C. Adams, of Manhattanville, N. Y., is now finishing a ten years' labor, by preparing for the press a volume on "The Recentness of Creation." Its principal features are to set forth the discovery of a new Law of Motion in the Sea, which has formed the marine geographical strata from the Azoic rocks upwards; and to endeavor to prove that there have been but four geological epochs, and these within the last six thousand years, viz.: The Creative Epoch, the Productive Epoch, the Destructive Epoch, the Regenerate Epoch. It regards the Bible as much a scientific as a theological revelation from God; and treats both as parts of one grand whole, neither being capable of being understood without the other, and both being in perfect harmony. The new theory is claimed to be based on ascertained facts and observations of the most advanced scientific men in Europe and America.

—The ex-President of the Royal Astronomical Society of England is of the opinion that the length of our day has been certainly increasing, and that "the length of a day may be expected ultimately to become a year."

Missionary Items.

—The services of the London Missionary Society in Madagascar, are now attended by about 30,000 natives in 148 different congregations. One hundred and twenty chapels are now in process either of building or enlargement. In Antananarivo, the city where the Queen resides, there are nine large churches.

—The hundred missionaries in China, with their wives and children, would not fill an ordinary lecture room. Yet they are all the Christian agency given to that great empire by the Church, an empire embracing one half of the heathen world. Hundreds of our young men are flocking there for worldly gain. The difficulties of the language, separation from home and friends, are of small account, compared with the opportunities of wealth and the social position it brings.—*Christian Secretary*.

—The *Times* of India publishes notes of a mission tour by the Rev. W. Keer, of Bombay. At Tuticora he found the Roman Catholics clothed but little, if any better, than their heathen neighbors, whom they still continued to imitate in their manner of worship. The graves of deceased priests were decorated with garlands and crosses, and were apparently as much objects of worship as the adjacent shrines of Hindoo idols. In the whole of Kattywar, with a population of two millions, there are only two missionaries, Messrs. Beatty and Gillespie, both belonging to the Irish Presbyterian Church, the former stationed at Gogo, the latter at Rajkote. In Kutche, with a population of 400,000, there is no mission agency.—*Christian Express*.

—The Committee on Foreign Missions of the U. P. Church of Scotland, are desirous of sending, without delay, ten missionaries to the Foreign Field—one to China; five to India; two to Jamaica; and two to Old Calabar. Three new churches have been built in their Caffre mission, in a year.

—There are 580 European and American, and 2000 native Christian laborers in the mission work in India.

—Rev. Thos. Downie, of the Scotch U. P. Mission in Jamaica, on occasion of the ordination of a native preacher in that field, says: "Brief as has been my stay in Jamaica, I already

share in the regret that is felt by older brethren in the field, that so little has been done to raise up from among the churches of the island young men of education, piety, and a self-sacrificing spirit, who will be qualified to discharge with efficiency the duties of the pastoral office."

—A sort of free-masonry prevails among the natives on the Guinea coast, which is thus described by a missionary: "It is a society of men, and membership is obtained by purchase. The members are males; females, as in the institution of freemasonry, being ineligible. This Ibi lodge of freemasons goes by the euphonious name of Ekpo Ndyöb. The members rub their persons with chalk, specially making white circles round their eyes, greatly enhancing native ugliness, some of them being also veiled. They carry cutlasses; and any person who is not a member, if met by the way, is cut and wounded."

—A report on the labors of the missionaries of the Russian Church, in the government of Irkutsk, Siberia, shows that in two districts there are still upwards of 210,000 idolaters, and that in the nomad tribe of the Buvvats, which consists of 105,000 persons, there are only 13,000 Christians. In 1868 there were nine missionaries in this district, six of whom were paid by the government, and the remainder out of a missionary fund proceeding from voluntary subscriptions.

—A deputation of 200 Tartars proceeded recently to Lividia to thank the Emperor Alexander for the confidence and protection which he accords to the Mussulman populations of Russia. The Czar received the delegates kindly, and in his reply said that a difference of religion would never cause him to forget that all his subjects were Russian, and had an equal right to his affection.

—Robert Moffat, the African missionary, and father-in-law of Dr. Livingstone, now in his 75th year, is purposing to return to his native land. The 200 mile journey in wagons over the untracked country and bridgeless currents from the Kuruman to the Orange River is an arduous undertaking for him at his advanced age, but he retains his full vigor of mind, if not of body. He intends, if possible, to be in England before the May meetings begin.

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