Editor's Cable.

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

MESSRS NELSON & SONS, London and New York, are doing a work that should and must be appreciated by all sensible people. They are offering a series of holiday books in which elegance and even luxury of externals and eloquence of style are made to cover and commend the great facts of natural history and the results of modern travel and inquiry. A juvenile book of the series, we note in another place. We here speak of "THE DESERT WORLD" and "THE MYSTERIES OF THE OCEAN," each translated from the French of Arthur Mangin, with additions adapting it to English and American readers. The results of travel and exploration in the wildernesses and solitudes of the land, and upon the ocean, are gathered and presented in no formal and didactic style, but in that fresh, picturesque and striking way which comes so natural to French writers, and which appears to be well reproduced in the translation. The volumes are elegantly printed, and bound in purple and gold, furnishing a handsome and substantial ornament to the centre table. THE DESERT WORLD is an 8vo., of 467 pages with 160 illustrations; THE MYSTERIES OF THE OCEAN has 470 pages with 130 illustrations.

In THE WILD SPORTS OF THE WORLD, Mr. James Greenwood gives another proof of the versatility of a pen which has already stirred a vast public upon the condition of the London poor. He here leads us through a succession of the most exciting scenes in the life of the hunter, especially in his conflicts with the larger brutes of the wilderness, as the elephant, the lion, the gorilla, the rhinoceros, the tiger, the wild horse, the crocodile, &c. The language of celebrated hunters, like Capt. Gordon Cumming, who are already in print, is given, but Mr. Greenwood's own charming descriptions appear on every page. Such books, addressing themselves to the Nim- the prize volumes, so far as the awards have been rod which may be said to be in almost every made. Among those just published we note, man's heart, will be greedily read by multitudes, but they seem to us better adapted for the training of those who expect to follow the butcher's profession, than for most others. Svo., pp. 474, profusely illustrated. \$2.50. J. B. Lippincott

An immense amount of valuable information is brought within easy reach of the inquirer in HAYDN'S DICTIONARY OF DATES, which, as revised by the last English editor, Mr. Benjamin are well suited to the character of the book. Pp. Vincent, may be called "a dated Encyclopedia." For quick reference in all matters of historic interest, it is everything that could be wished. Not merely the date, but a condensed summary of has charmed the universal childhood of Chrisfacts which may comprise all that we need to know, forms part of every item. Biography is generally included under the more general head of history; but the full index at the close is largely biographical. If you wish to know when Ezekiel prophesied, or Father Matthew died, or give us Moses, David, Elijah, &c. Pp. 81. the first Atlantic Cable was laid, or Vicksburg was taken, or when, and how many Ecumenical of the book has secured for it a run of twelve | Illustrated. MARTIEN. editions, and the present issue is adapted to our own country. The whole volume, though not without faults of construction-as, why should Mr. Greeley be named, and Henry Ward Beecher not-and errors of statement, as that Brigham Young still continues to be the Governor of Utah by appointment of the President; and a manifest purpose, in treating of the rebellion, to avoid all offence to the rebels; -is one of those labor-saving literary institutions for which we cannot feel too grateful. Harper & Bros. 8vo, cloth. \$5.

Scribner & Co.'s popular edition of FROUDE'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND has now reached the fourth volume. The price is but \$1.25 each. It is a public benefaction to put such valuable, standard works within reach of the general public. Messrs. Scribner & Co. have taken a similar course in regard to several other first class books, as Conybeare and Howson's Paul, in one volume, at \$3.00; Stanley's Jewish Church, at \$2.50 a volume, &c.

Not only are the new issues, by Messrs. Scribner & Co., of STANLEY'S JEWISH CHURCH to be commended for their cheapness, but they are actually much handier volumes for the student's use, than the more costly ones. They embrace | pp. 187. Hoyr. precisely the same matter, including maps and diagrams, are printed from the same plates, with the handsome large type, and differ only in the width of the margins and thickness of the paper from the former issue. Two volumes; price, \$2.50 each. Smith, English & Co.

EGYPT 3300 YEARS AGO, (C. Scribner & Co.,) is in the style of preceding volumes of the IL-LUSTRATED LIBRARY OF WONDERS. It presents a connected and very readable account of the early history of Egypt, drawing upon the monuments for a large part of the story, and for the graphic illustrations with which it is adorned. No attempt is made to weave in the Bible narrative, or to find a place for Joseph in the chroby Smith, English & Co. \$1 50.

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J. C. Garrigues & Co. issue Mr. Gould's Songs of GLADNESS, for Sunday schools, in fine cloth binding, for 50 cts. It is a collection combining fine taste and real merit, both in music and words. Many of the latter are by well known pastors of this city, as Drs. Stryker and Breed, and choice compositions they are.

MESSRS. R. CARTER & BROS., have also issued a cheap edition, 8 volumes in four, of KIT-TO'S BIBLE ILLUSTRATIONS, whose merits as an archæological Commentary are such, that none of the more recent works in that line have superseded it. Furnished at half price, (\$7.00) it should find a place in the library of every student of the Scriptures.

M. W. Dodd has done a good work for the cause of Sabbath school instruction in issuing MIMPRISS' GRADED LESSON BOOKS in which the Life of Christ, as harmonized from the Four Evangelists, is arranged in Lessons adapted, I. To younger classes; II. To children; and, III. To youth. Each "Lesson Book" is accompanied with a TEACHER'S MANUAL, containing hints and explanations for the guidance of the teacher upon each lesson. The whole six volumes are well deserving the attention of teachers, both in the Sabbath-school and the family. For sale in the Presbyterian Book Store.

JUVENILES. THE PRESBYTERIAN PUBLICATION COMMIT-TEE continue to issue a smaller class of books, ex-

pecting, doubtless, soon to enter upon the issue of "GOLDEN SONGS," a careful and tasteful selection of poetry for children, by the author of "Annie's Gold Cross." It contains "Mother's Last Words," entire. 18mo, pp. 251.

DR. NELSON deserves the thanks of parents and teachers, for the sweet, winning words of the little volume, SEEING JESUS, in which he endeavors to convey clear ideas of the Saviour's life and character to the young. The illustrations

JOSEPH is a simple republication in the nobly simple words of inspiration, of the story which tendom. Without break of formal chapter and verse, the full force and interest of the narrative may be felt. The two prosaic stanzas on the fly leaf, have no business there or anywhere else. We hope the Committee may be encouraged to

A MENDED LIFE is a simple, well-told story of purely domestic interest, in which negligence Councils have met, or when the first woman was and want of principle are contrasted with thrift 294 miles per second. In the end, therefore, like the crocodile, about three inches in length, licensed as a physician, you will find it and fif- and piety in the varied and not extraordinary scenes though the distance of time strains the imagina- which hooked together and formed an impeneteen thousand other facts here. The popularity of an humble English home. 16mo., pp 352.

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Graves, Boston. One of T. Nelson & Son's elegant illustrated volumes is for quite young readers, say from six to ten years. It is quite a feast for the little ones, bringing together, in "THE WORLD AT Home," as it is called, about one hundred and fifty different objects of interest, strange animals, nology, though nothing is said to discredit Scrip- remarkable natural scenery, out-of-the-way purture. Valuable instruction is conveyed at once suits of men, incidents of travel and of missionary to the mind, and the eye, and the remarkable in- life, furnishing entertainment of the best kind reader and hearer. The spirited illustrations are thunder storms as we formerly had in New Eng- immediately discharge him. No person who uses terest of the series is well sustained. For sale and of almost inexhaustible variety to the young

found on nearly every leaf, and the paper and binding are of suitable elegance.

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MESSRS. SCRIBNER & Co., have issued Wood's Bible Animals, elegant 8vo. illustrated, cloth.

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HARPER & BROS., have Paul Du Chaillu's valuable aid in getting up a fine holiday juvenile called LOST IN THE JUNGLE, richly illustrated. THE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD send FROM DAWN TO DARK IN ITALY; LIFE OF ADMIRAL CO LIGNY, 2 vols., GOLDEN HILL, ALYPIUS OF TAGASTE, and many others in hardsome style, besides books in boxes, suited for the holidays. ANDREW F. GRAVES, Boston, issues WALTER AND FRANK of the Woodbine Series, in at-

PERIODICALS.

tractive exterior.

HARPER'S MONTHLY for December. BLACKWOOD for November. OLD FRANKLIN ALMANAC for 1870.

Scientific Ltens.

-Geologists may learn something of the rapid accumulation of sediment, from the work of Col. Gowen, in raising the sunten ships at Sebasotpol. He found the ships furied in mud from nineteen to twenty-three feet leep, and was obliged to provide apparatus not derely for lifting them from deep water, but allo for digging them out of the mud.

The discovery of a new anæsthetic by some German doctor is announced. It is called Chloralhydrat, and from repeated experiments it is ascertained that it produces a nore complete state of unconsciousness than charoform, without any of the latter's evil effects upon the system. It resembles chloroform appearance, but is not so heavy, and has a feeter smell. On the tongue it has a sharp but not an acid taste, and though it reminds one of the chloroform, it gives the sensation neither of the warmth nor sweetness of the latter substance Chloralhydrat is absorbed and not inspired, and in this respect it differs from all anæsthetes. Great success is said to have attended its application as a sedative for the insane.

-The English journals have but published some speculations on one of the most startling of astronomical facts, the explosion or rather the MAPLEVILLE Boys by Miss C. M. Trowbridge, verse towards which he must be receding—an

sembling the Anglo-Saxons, has been discovered abortive. They looked upon it as something by the missionaries in the south western part of supernatural, and were not disposed to meddle Africa. They adjoin the Bechuapas, and are known as the Ovas. A king by the name of Tjikongo reigns over them. They have long, curly hair, not woolly, and are characterized by very considerable intelligence. Their religion a boat lowered to attack the monster, but in the is, in many respects, so much like that of the Parsees, as to induce the belief that the Ovas belong to that race, or have been under its tuition. They are not idolaters, but believe in a Supreme Being, the Creator, who is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient, and whose symbols are the sun and fire, and to these they pay homage as his representatives, but offer no sacrifices to them. They keep the sacred fire constantly burning, and the Princes, who are are also priests, intrust to their daughters, and sometimes to their wives, the duty of superintending these sacred fires. The Ovas also believe in the exstence of a very powerful evil spirit, who is not. however, omniscient nor omipresent, and to his interference they attribute their misfortunes and accidents, and they offer no sacrifices to him They are said to be an honest, industrious, and temperate people, far more regardful of their word, and more observant of good morals, than most of the African nations.

-The opinion seems to be gaining strength continuous droughts, all along the railroad rain now falls in refreshing abundance. This result has been remarked/upon in other sections of the West. In Central Ohio, for example, it is said, the climate has been completely revolutionized since iron rails have formed a net work all over that region. Instead of the destructive droughts formerly suffered there, for some four or five years there has been rain in abundance-even more than enough to satisfy all the wants of farmers. This change is thought to be the result of an equilibrium produced in the electrical currents, which has brougat about a more uniform dispensation of the rain. It is a fact within the observation of all who remember ante-rail-road times, that we have now few or no such

other in every direction, serve as conductors and equalizers of the electric currents, and so prevent the terrible explosions which used to terrify us in former years. The telegraphic wires which accompany the iron rails everywhere, also act an important part in diffusing electricity through the atmosphere, thus preventing the occurrence of severe thunder storms.—Boston Traveler.

-Such is the wonderful rapidity of photographic action that the image of the full moon can be fixed in less than one fourth of a second, and that of the sun instantaneously. According to the experiments of Mr. Waterhouse, a space of time no longer than the twenty-seven-thousandth of a second is required to fix the solar image. Even this small fraction, however inconceivably short it appears, is a tolerable length of time compared with that in which photographs are taken by the electric flash. The duration of the illumi nating spark, according to the beautiful and trustworthy experiments of Mr. Wheatstone with his delicate chronoscope, does not exceed the millionth part of a second, and yet a clear and distinct photographic image is obtained by a single electric discharge. By this means may be shown the real form of objects to which a deceptive appearance is given by their rapid movement. If a wheel on whose side any figure is drawn in conspicuous lines be made to rotate with the greatest possible velocity, the figure will present to the eye only a series of concentric bands. Let it now be photographed while in motion, by the electric flash, and the wheel will appear stationary with the figure perfectly well defined. A vein of water issuing from a small orifice, which appears to the eye as smooth as a stem of crystal, if seen or photographed by the light of the electric discharge, is shown to be composed of drops variously disposed, and of various forms, some being elongated, others flattened, other almost spherical.

[On the other hand, our common photographic

process is not as rapid as sight. The photographs of Minnehaha, for instance, make the beautiful, thin, lace-like sheet of falling water look like a foaming mass, several inches in depth, the true payers of a school district in Orleans Co., N. Y., impression being lost, from the time required to secure a negative. The photographs taken from intoxicating liquors disqualified teachers for their a fine oil painting of the fall, have most of work, and could not be tolerated .- The Rhode

-The reporter of the N. Y. Times of Nov. 30th, tells us of a glimpse recently caught by Captain Allen and his crew on the ship Scottish Bride, of the famous and somewhat mythical sea-serpent. It was on the 23d, when 200 miles off Delaware Bay on the edge of the Gulf Stream that the phenomenon was described. During the morning the weather had been rather blustering. The wind had been blowing from "all quarters" at the same time. But now there had come a calm, and the water was quiet, and as clear as glass, although the sky was covered with dark, heavy clouds, that threatened to burst forth into a deluge at any moment The captain was just about eating his dinner when his second mate descended the cabin stairs, and, in an excited manner, told him his presence was required on deck. Thinking the ship had sprung a leak or that some other dire mishap had be fallen them, he rushed up. When he arrived on deck he found the crew assembled on the starboard side of the vessel, looking with awa stricken faces into the water. Upon approaching stroken faces into the water. Upon approacing of the possibility. Nothing seems so hear its final limit as the power of astronomical telescopes, which he must be receding—an improbability. Nothing seems so hear its final limit as the power of satronomical telescopes, which the power of heart is final limit as the power of satronomical telescopes, which the power of heart is final limit as the power of satronomical telescopes, which the power of the human eye, if it alters at all, probably decreases.

—A new race of people, supposed to be of Asiatic origin, and having features strongly resembling the Anglo-Saxons has been discovered as the week of the water. Upon and the water beneath a monster such as which he water beneath a monster such as which the water, the side of the water. Upon and the water beneath a monster such as which the more visible standard was covered with large scales of the unitarity will be conducted in a support of the same intelligent ampoint of the nation in the same intelligent ampoints of the nation in the same intelligent the side of the vessel, the Captain saw in the with. The thing was about four feet from the vessel, was lying but a few feet below the surface of the water, and was easily discernible to all on board. The Captain gave orders to have meantime the attention of the smaller one was called to the presence of the vessel. It raised a few inches above the surface, and then went to ward its larger friend, and seemed to tell it of the circumstances; but whatever transpired be tween them, the larger one raised its head a though to investigate its surroundings, and then with an easy motion, it dropped into the ocean. In disappearing, it went head downward, and its body described a circle like a hook, its tail raising out of the water which, the Captain says, tapered off to a sharp point.

Temperance Ltems.

-Dr. Charles Jewett has been secured as asociate editor of the National Temperance Advocate. Dr. J. has had forty years' experience in various branches of the work.

-The Assembly which met in the Brick church, New York, in May last, recommended that all the pastors within its bounds should preach a sermon on Temperance, on the third Sabbath of this month. We trust every preacher in the united Church will thus observe the day.

-The Advocate estimates that fifty thousand temperance Republicans refused to vote their party ticket, on account of the nomination of General Sigel as Secretary of State. The General's opposition to the Excise Law was noto-

-The President of the South Side (Long Island) Railroad, in response to the inquiry of the Blue Point Total Abstinence Society, replied that there was no employee of the company, to

land. The iron rails which touch and cross each intoxicating drinks should be retained upon any railroad in the country.

> -Rev. W. W. H. Murray, of Boston, made temperance address, November 11th, before the great temperance society of Dr Cuyler's church, of which it is reported: "The speech was worthy of the Senate Chamber. We ought to have many such studied and powerful exhibitions of truth from leading clergymen and civilians. Much of our speaking at temperance meetings is too careless or too comical. The temperance question now looms up into primary importance, and demands thorough and able discussion by the

-E. H. Uniac, the brilliant and popular temperance orator, died October 21st, in Boston-a victim of Boston rum-shops, having gone home late at night intoxicated, and having liquor in his possession. He delivered a thrilling address at Templeton, on October 14th, his last public speech, giving a description of the power of appetite seldom equalled. The last year or more of his life has been one of continual struggle against his own terrible appetite-weeks of soberness, then a yielding to temptation, followed by the faithful watching of friends, promises and struggles to reform. He fought many a gallant fight. In his days of soberness he would plan and talk of the future devotion of his life and energies to the cause he loved; but alas! the demon was too strong for him, and he fell, fighting and struggling to the last. The words "still fighting" were frequently written in his diary during the few months previous to his death.

-The Eastern New York Grand Division Sons of Temperance and the Grand Division of New Jersey have recently taken action in favor of local prohibition.—The Wisconsin Grand Division recommends petitioning for the suppression of the traffic in the District of Columbia.-The Florida Grand Division, appreciating the peril of the colored people, adopted a plan that it is hoped will be acceptable to all concerned, and will marshal them as thoroughly under the blessed white banner of temperance as they are now under the blood-red one of rum.—The taxvoted unanimously that the use of tobacco and Island State Convention, which met October 27th, got up a petition for prohibition to the State Legislature, and expressed its joy that Providence, the chief city of the State, has, by the action of its Board of Aldermen, proved itself on the side of prohibition -A "Joint Stock Company," or Carson League," has been formed in Adrian, Mich, and it is proposed to secure subscriptions to the amount of fifty thousand dollars, "on which assessments may be made, not to exceed one and a half per cent per annum," for the purpose of the suppression of the liquor traffic.

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