REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS, SIX MONTHS AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH ABRAHAM LINCOLN. By F. B. Carpenter.

Hurd & Houghton. We had formed high expectations of this work of Mr. Carpenter's, as he had ample opportunity by personal contact for compiling a full and spicy record of the daily life of the lamented Lincoln. In some respects he has fulfilled our expectations, and in some he has failed. We are led to believe that Mr. Carpenter was not in near so intimate personal relations with the President as newspaper paragraphs had caused us to believe. Nor is it natural that a stranger should be admitted into the secret councils of the Executive upon no recommendation but a desire to paint a picture. In fact, Mr. Carpenter acknowledges that he got but a glimpse of a Cabinet session, and that, as a general rule, he restricted himself to his own apartment. He would lead us to think that his picture was the work of inspiration, as he conceived of how the Cabinet ought to have sat in conformity to a geometric theory of their anti-slavery enthusiasm, and he tells us that his conceptions turned out to be literally correct. Probably Mr. Carpenter is endowed with second sight.

The work is a vast compilation of anecdotes, many of them old, some of them new, and a very large proportion of them were detailed by Mr. Carpenter from hearsay, and not from personal contact with his Excellency. Wherever he has come across an anecdote he has cut it out and put it away, and we have certainly a very pleasant but a decidedly unreliable work as the fruits of his toil. No new light is thrown on Mr. Lincoln's character, but many of the stories are so good as to deserve, and will repay, attention.

We will give a few extracts in order to illustrate the style of the book :-

The 25th of April, Burnside's command marched through Washington, on the way from Annapolis, to reinforce the Army of the Potomac. The President reviewed the troops from the top of the eastern portico at Willard's Hotel, standing with uncovered head while the entire thirty thousand men filed through Fourteenth street. Of course the passage of so large a body of troops through the city—presaging as it did the opening of the campaign—drew out a numerous concourse of spectators, and the coming movement was everywhere the absorbing topic of conversation. Early in the evening, Gover-nor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, with a friend, came into the President's office. As he sat down he referred to the fine appearance of Burnside's men; saying, with much emphasis, "Mr. President, if there is in the world one man more than another worthy of profound respect, it is the volunteer citizen soldier." To this Mr. Lincoln assented, in a quiet way—the peculiar dreaminess of expression so remarkable at times, stealing over his face as his mind reverted to the thousands whose lives had been so freely offered upon the altar of their country, and the myriad homes represented by the thronging columns of the day's review, in so many of which there was henceforth to be weary watching and waiting for lootsteps which would return no more.

took this opportunity to get at the truth concerning a newspaper story which went the rounds a year or two previous, purporting to be an account of a meeting of the loyal Governors in Washington, early in the war. It was stated that the President laid the condition of the country before such a council, convened at the White House, and anxiously awaited the result. An oppressive silence followed. Curtin was represented as having been standing, looking out of one of the windows, drumming unconsciously upon a pane of glass. Mr. Lincoln, at length addressing him personally, said:—"Andy, what is Pennsylvania going to do?" Turning around, Curtin replied:—"She is going to send twenty thousand men to start with, and will double it, if necessary!" "This noble response" (quoted from memory) "overwhelmed the President, and lifted the dead weight which seemed to have paralyzed all present.'

I repeated this account substantially as here given; but both parties smiled and shook their heads. "It is a pity to spoil so good a story," replied the President; "but, unfortunately, there is not a word of truth in it. I believe the only convocation of Governors that has taken place during the war," he added, looking at Curtin, "was that at Altoons—was it not?"

"was that at Altoona—was it not?"
Subsequently the two gentlemen proposed to visit my room, and Mr. Lincoln accompanied them. Sitting down under the chandelier on the edge of the long table, which ran the whole length of the apartment, swinging back and forth his long legs, passing his hand occasionally over his brow and through his rough hair this appearance and manner come back to me (his appearance and manner come back to me most vividly, as I write), he listened abstractedly to my brief explanation of the design of the picture. When I ceased, he took up the record in his own way. "You see, Curtin," said he, "I was brought to the conclusion that there was no dodging this negro question any longer. We had reached the point where it seemed that we must avail ourselves of this element, or in all probability go under." He then went over the circumstances attending the step, in much the same language he had used upon the occasion of my first interview with him. Governor Curtin remarked that the impression prevailed in some quarters that Secretary Seward opposed the policy. "That is not true," replied Mr. Lin-coln; "he advised postponement at the first meet-ing, which seemed to me sound. It was Seward's persistence which resulted in the insertion of the word 'maintain,' which I feared, under the circumstances, was promising more than it was quite probable we could carry out."

The bill empowering the Secretary of the Treasury to sell the surplus gold had recently passed, and Mr. Chase was then in New York, giving his attention personally to the experiment. Governor Curtin referred to this, saying "I see by the quotations that Chase's movement has already knocked gold down several per cent." This gave occasion for the strongest expression I ever heard fall from the lips of Mr. Lincoln. Knotting his face in the intensity of his feeling, he said:—"Curtin, what do you think of those fellows in Wall street, who are gam-bling in gold at such district, bling in gold at such a time as this?" are a set of sharks," returned Curtin. "For my part," continued the President, bringing his clenched hand down upon the table, "I wish every one of them had his devilish head shot off!"

On the morning of Mr. Lincoln's arrival in Washington, just before his inauguration, it will be remembered that the Peace Convention was in session. Among those who were earliest to call upon him was a gentleman from Pennsylvania, who had been in Congress with him, and who was a member of the Peace Convention. He at once commenced plying the President elect with urgent reasons tor compromising matters in dispute, saying;—"It must be done sooner or later, and that this seemed the propi-tious moment." Listening attentively to all that was said, Mr. Lincoln finally replied:—"Perhaps your reasons for compromising the alleged difficulties are correct, and that now is the favorable time to do it; still, if I remember correctly, that is not what I was elected for!"

The same day, at Willard's Hotel, a gentleman from Connecticut was introduced, who said he

wanted nothing but to take the incoming President by the hand. Mr. Lincoln surveyed him from head to foot, and giving him a cordial grasp, replied: "You are a rare man."

During the trief period that the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was editor-in-chief of the Inde-

pendent, in the second year of the war, he left

the course of the Administration. For several weeks the successive leaders of the editorial page were like bugic-plasts, waking the echoes throughout the country. Samebody out these editorials out of the different numbers of the paper, and mailed them all to the President under one envelope. One ramy Sunday he took them from his drawer, and read them through to the very last word. One or two of the arti-cles were in Mr. Beecher's strongest style, and criticized the President in no measured terms. As Mr. Lincoln finished reading them, his face flushed up with indignation. Dashing the pack-age to the floor, he exclaimed:—'le-thy servant

doy, that he should do this thing?" The excitement bowever, soon passed off, leaving no trace behind of ill-will towards Mr. Beecher; and the impression made upon his mind by the criticism was lasting and excellent

Mr. Lincoln's popularity with the soldiers and the people is well illustrated in the following

Just after the Presidential nominations had been made in 1864, a discussion arose in a certain regiment of the Army of the Potomac as to the merits of the two candidates. Various opinions had been warmly expressed, when at length a German spoke. "I goes," said he, "for Fader Abraham. Fader Abraham, he likes the soldier-boy. Ven he serves free years he gives him four hundred tollar, and re-enlists him von Now Fader Abraham, he serve four veteran. years. We re-enlist him four years more, and

The night following the election, a clergyman of Middletown, Conn., at a torchlight display, exhibited a transparency over his door, with a quotation from Genesis xxii, 15:—"The angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven a second time."

A few days before the reinauguration of Mr. Lincoln, my picture was placed temporarily on exhibition in the Rotunda of the Capitol. As the workmen were raising it to its place, over the northern door leading to the Senate Chamber, a group gathered in front of it, among whom was Policeman R—, of the Capitol squad. As the painting reached its position, a wandering sunbeam crept in from the top of the great dome and settled full upon the head of Mr. Lincoln, leaving all the rest of the picture in shadow. The effect was singular and won-derful. "Look?" exclaimed the enthusiastic -, pointing to the canvas; "that is as it should be. God bless him; may the sun shine upon his head forever."

It is of interest to know of Mr. Lincoln's religious teelings, and of these Mr. Carpenter speaks from personal knowledge:-

Much has been said and written, since Mr. Lincoln's death, in regard to his religious experience and character. Two or three stories have been published, bearing upon this point, which I nave never been able to trace to a reliable source; and I teel compelled to state my belief that the facts in the case-if there were suchhave received in some way an unwarranted em bellishment. Of all men in the world, the late President was the most unaffected and truthful. He rarely or never used language loosely or carelessly, or for the sake of compliment, was the most indifferent to the effect he was producing, either upon official representatives the common people, of any man ever in pub-

In the ordinary acceptation of the term, I would scarcely have called Mr. Lincoln a retinous man, and yet I believe him to have been a sincere Christian. A constitutional tendency to dwell upon sacred things, an emotional nature versation and revival meetings, the culture and development of the devotional element till the expression of such thought and experience becomes habitual, were not among his characteristics. Doubtless he felt as deeply upon the great questions of the soul and eternity as any other thoughtful man; but the very tenderness and humility of his nature would not permit the exposure of his inmost conviction, except upon the rarest occasions, and to his most intimate friends. And yet, aside from emotional expres-sion, I believe no man had a more abiding sense of his dependence upon God, or fath in the divine government, and in the power and ultimate triumph of truth and right in the world. The Rev. J. P. Thompson, of New York, in an admirable discourse upon the life and character of the departed President, very justly observed:-"It is not necessary to appeal to apocryphal stories—which illustrate as much the assurance of his visitors as the simplicity of his faith—for proof of Mr. Lincoln's Christian char-acter." If his daily life and various public addresses and writings do not show this, surely nothing can demonstrate it.

Fortunately there is sufficient material before the public upon which to form a judgment in this tespect, without resorting to apocryphal

resources. The Rev. Mr. Willets, of Brooklyn, gave me an account of a conversation with Mr. Lincoln, on the part of a lady of his acquaintance, connected with the "Christian Commission." in the prosecution of her duties had several interviews with him. The President, it seemed, had been much impressed with the devotion and earnestness of purpose manifested by the lady, and on one occasion, after she had discharged the object of her visit, he said to her:—
"Mrs. —, I have formed a high opinion of your Christian character, and now, as we are alone, I have a mind to ask you to give me, in high convitues at the reliable of what constitutes a true reliable. brief, your idea of what constitutes a true religious experience." The lady replied at some length, stating that, in her judgment, it con-sisted of a conviction of one's own sinfulness and weakness, and personal need of the Saviour for strength and support; that views of mere doctrine might and would differ, but when one was really brought to feel his need of divine help, and to seek the aid of the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance, it was satisfactory evidence of his having been born again. This was the substance of her reply. When she had con-cluded, Mr. Lincoln was very thoughtful for a few moments. He at length said, very earn-estly, "If what you have told me is really a correct view of this great subject, I think I can say with sincerity that I hope I am a Christian. I with sincerity that I hope I am a Christian. I had lived," he continued, "until my boy Willie died, without realizing fully these things. That blow overwhelmed me. It showed me my weakness as I had never, felt it before, and if I can take what you have stated as a test, I think I can safely say that I know something of that change of which you speak; and I will turther add, that it has been my intention for some time, at a suitable opportunity, to make a public religious profession." lic religious profession." Mr. Noah Brooks, in some "reminiscences,

already quoted from in these pages, gives the

ollowing upon this subject:—
"Just after the last Presidential election he said:—'Being only mortal, after all, I should have been a little mortified if I had been beaten in this canvass; but that sting would have been more than compensated by the thought that the people had notified me that all my official responsibilities were soon to be lifted off my back.' In reply to the remark that he might remember that in all these cares he was daily remembered by those who prayed, not to be heard of men, as no man had ever before been remembered, he caught at the homely phrase, and said:—'Yes, I like that phrase, 'not to be heard of men.' and guess it is generally true as you say: at least, I have been told so, and I have been a good deal helped by just that thought. Then he solemnly and slowly added:—'I should be the ne solemnly and slowly added:—'I should be the most presumptuous blockhead upon this foot-stool, it I for one day thought that I could discharge the duties which have come upon me since I came into this place, without the aid and enlightenment of One who is stronger and wiser than all others.' wiser than all others.'

"At another time he said cheerfully:-'I am very sure that if I do not go away from here a wiser man, I shall go away a better man, for having learned here what a very poor sort of a man I am.' Afterwards, referring to what he called a change of heart, he said he did not remember any precise time when he passed through any special change of purpose, or of heart; but he would say, that his own election to office, and the crisis immediately following, influentially determined him in what he called 'a process of crystallization,' then going on in his mind. Reticent as he was, and shy of disoursing much of his own mental exercises, having learned here what a very poor sort of a

these few utterances now have a value with those who knew him, which his dying words would scarcely have possessed.
"On Thursday of a certain week, two ladies,

from Tennetsec, came before the President, ask ing the release of their husbands, held as pri-soners or war at Johnson's Island. They were put off until Friday, when they came again, and were again put off until Saturday. At each of the interviews one of the ladies urged that her husband was a religious man. On Saturday, when the President ordered the release of the prisoner, he said to this lady: Yoursay your busband is a religious man; tell him, when yo meet him, that I say I am not much of a judge of religion, but that in my opinion the religion which sets men to rebel and tight against their Government, because, as they think, that Gov-erament does not sufficiently help some men to eat their bread in the sweat of other men's face. is not the sort of religion upon which people can get to heaven."

"On an occasion I shall never torget," says the Hon. H. C. Deming, of Connecticut, "the conversation turned upon religious subjects, and Mr. Lincoln made this impressive remark:—'I have never united myself to any church, be-cause, have found difficulty in giving my a-sent, without mental reservation, to the long, complicated statements of Christian doctrine which characterize their articles of belief and confessions of faith. When any church will inscribe over its altar, as its sole qualification for membership, he continued, 'the Saviour's condensed statement of the substance of both law and gospel, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thysel that church will I join with all my heart and ail

At a dinner-party in Washington, composed mainly of opponents of the war and the Admin-tration, Mr. Lincoln's course and policy were, as usual with this c iass, the subject of vehement denunciation. This had gone on for some time, when one of the company, who had taken no part in the discussion, asked the privilege of

aying a few words. "Gentlemen," said he, "you may talk as you dease about Mr. Lincoln's capacity; I don't beieve bim to be the ablest statesman in America, by any means, and I voted against him on both ccasions of his candidacy. But I happened to see, or rether to hear, something, the other day, that convinced me that, however denciant he may be in the head, he is all right in the heart. I was up at the White House, having called to see the President on business. I was shown into the office of his private secretary, and told that Mr. Lincoln was busy just then, but would be disengaged in a short time. While waiting, I heard a very earnest prayer being uttered in a loud temale voice in the adjoining room. I inquired what it meant, and was told that an old Quaker lady, a friend of the President's, had called that atternoon and taken tea at the White House and that she was then praying with Mr. Lin-coin. After the lapse of a few minutes the prayer ceased, and the President, accompanied by a Quakeress not less than eighty years old, entered the room where I was sitting. I made up my mind then, gentlemen, that Mr. Lincoln was not a bad man; and I don't think it will be easy to efface the impression that the scene I witnessed and the voice I heard made on my

Upon the betrothal of the Prince of Wales to the Princess Alexandra, Queen Victoria sent a tter to each of the European sovereigns, and also to President Lincoln, announcing the fact. Lord Lyons, her ambassador at Washington—a "bachelor," by the way—requested an audience of Mr. Lincoln, that he might present this important document in person. At the time acpointed he was received at the White House, in

company with Mr. Seward.

"May it please your Excellency," said Lord
Lyons, "I hold in my band an autograph letter
from my royal mistress, Queen Victoria, which I have been commanded to present to your Excellency. In it she informs your Excellency that her son, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, is about to contract a matrimonial alliance with her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra of Denmark."

After continuing in this strain for a few minutes, Lord Lyons tendered the letter to the President and awaited his reply. It was short simple, and expressive, and consisted simply of

"Lord Lyons, go thou and do likewise," It is doubtful if an English ambassador was ever addressed in this manner before, and it would be interesting to learn what success he met with in putting the reply in diplomatic lan-guage when he reported it to her Majesty. The antagonism between the Northern and Southern sections of the Democratic party, which culminated in the nomination of two separate tickets in 1860, was a subject to draw

out one of Mr. Lincoln's hardest hits,
"I once knew," said he, "a sound churchman
by the name of Brown, who was a member of a very sober and pious committee having in charge the erection of a bridge over a dangerous and tapid river. Several architects tailed, and at last Brown said he had a triend named Jones, who had built several bridges, and undoubtedly could build that one. So Mr. Jones was called in. 'Can you build this bridge?' inquired the committee. 'Yes,' replied Jones, 'or any other. I could build a bridge to the infernal regions, if necessary!' The committee were shocked, and Brown felt called upon to defend his friend. 'I know Jones so well,' said he, 'and he is so honest a man and so good an architect, that if he states soberly and positively that he can build a bridge to—to—, why, I believe it; but I feel bound to say that I have my doubts about the abutment on the infernal side.' So," said Mr. Lincoln, "when politicians told me that the Northern and Southern wings of the Democracy could be harmonized, why, lieved them, of course; but I always had my doubts about the 'abutment' on the other side."

About the time Mr. Lincoln began to be known as a successful lawyer, he was waited upon by a lady, who held a real-estate claim which she desired to have him prosecute, putting into his hands, with the necessary papers, a check for two hundred and fifty dollars, as a retaining fee. Mr. Lincoln said he would look the case over, and asked her to call again the next day. Upon presenting herself, Mr. Lincoln told her that he had gone through the papers very carefully, and he must tell her frankly that there was not a "peg" to hang her claim upon, and he could not conscientiously advise her to bring an action. The lady was satisfied, and, thanking him, rose to go. "Wait," said Mr. Lincoln, fumbling in his vest bocket; "here is the check you left with me." "But, Mr. Lincoln," returned the lady, "I think you have earned that," "No, no," he responded, handing it back to her; "that would not be right. I can't take pay for doing my

Mr. Lincoln liked to feel himself the attorney of the people, not their ruler. Speaking once of the probability of his renomination, he said:-"If the people think I have managed their 'case for them well enough to trust me to carry it sp to the next term, I am sure I shall be gald to

Judge Baldwin, of California, being in Washington, called one day on General Halleck, and, presuming upon a familiar acquaintance in Cali-fornia a few years before, solicited a pass outside of our lines to see a brother in Virginia, not thinking that he would meet with a refusal, as both his brother and himself were good Union men. "We have been deceived too often," said General Halleck, "and I regret I can't grant it."
Judge Baldwin then went to Stanton, and was very briefly disposed of, with the same result. Finally, he obtained an interview with Mr. Lincoln, and stated his case. "Have you applied to General Hatleck?" inquired the President. 'Yes, and met with a flat refusal," said Judge Baldwin. "Then you must see Stanton," continued the President. "I have, and with the same result," was the reply. "Well, then," said Mr. Lincoln, with a smile, "I can do nothing; for you must know that I have very tittle influence with this Administration,"

Mr. Colfax told me of a gentleman's going to the President, one day, with a bitter denunciaof Secretary Stanton and his management of the War Department, "Go home, my friend, interrupted Mr. Lincoln, "and read attentively the tenth verse of the thirtieth chapter of Pro-

A lieutenant, whom debts compelled to leave his fatherland and service, succeeded in being admitted to President Lincoln, and, by reason

of his commendable and winning deportment and intelligent appearance, was promised a lieutrant's commission in a cavary regiment. He was so enraptured with his success that he deemed it a duty to inform the President that he belonged to one of the oldest noble houses in Germany. "Oh, never mind that," said Mr. Lancoln; "you will not find that to be an obstacle to your advancement." o your advancement.

We think we have quoted enough to show he style of the work. It is a pleasant gossiping work, of no special literary merit, yet it will be read with interest by thousands who look rather to the matter than the style. It is

A TREATISE ON ASIATIC CROLERA. By John C. Peters, M. D. D. Van Nostrand. Philadelphia Agent: Lindsay & Blakiston. Among the series of works on Cholera, the present one of Dr. Peters deserves a high

place. It is a carefully prepared digest of facts, and he promulgates a theory which seems to us at least natural. Of its medical value we are scarcely competent to judge.

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No. 510 RACE Street. We beg leave to draw your particular attention to our new French Steam Scouring Lessablishment the urst and only one of its kind in this city. We do not dye, but by a chemical process resoure Ladies, Gentlemen's, an't Children's Carmeous to their original states, withou injuring them in the least, while great experience and the best machinery from France enable us to warrant perfect satisfaction to all who may layor us with their patronase. LaDIES DEPSSES, of every description, with or without Trimmings, are cleaned and finished without being taken spart, whether the color is genuine or not.

or not.

Opera-Closks and Mantilias. Curtains. Table Covers,
Carpets. Velvet Ribbons, Kid Gloves, etc. cleaned and
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stains r moved without cleaning the whole. All order
are exceuted under our immediate supervision, and
satisfaction guaranteed in every instance. A call and
examination of our process is respectfully solicited.

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extensive Machinery (to which they are stant additions) to DYE, CLEANSE, AND FINISH every variety of GOODS AND GARMENTS, in a manner UNEQUALLED in this country

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Drawings and specifications for all work done at the establishment tree of charge, and work guaranteed.

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We invite the attention of manufacturers to our extensive works.

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BUREAU OF ORDNANCE.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON CITY SEPTEMBER 6, 1866. SALE OF NAVY POWDERS.

There will be sold at Public Auction, to the highest bidders, at noon, TUESDAY, the second (2) day of October, 1866, at the office of the officer commanding the Navai Ordnance Depot at JEFFERSON BARRACKS RESERVE, near Saint Louis, Missour, about five thousand barre's of POWDER, composed of cannon, mortar, and musket Powders. The Powders will be sold in lots to suit purchasers.

Chasers.
Terms cash, in Government funds, one-half to be deposited on the conclusion of the sale, and the remainder within ten days afterwards, during which time the Powders must be removed from the grounds, otherwise they will revert to the Government.

Purchasers will be required to furnish their own packages, where the Powder is not in barress.

H. A. WISE

H. A. WISE, Chief of Bureau. 97 fmw11t

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

A V Y D E P A R T M E N T,
AUGUST 25, 1866.
A Board of Naval Officers, of which Commodore
S P. Lee is Fresident, will meet at flatiford. Connecticut, on the 5th of September next, for the examination of Volunteer Officers who have served
not less than two years in the Navy for admission
into the Regular Service in accordance with the
provisions of the "Act to define and regulate the appointment of Officers in the Navy, and for other
purposes," approved July 25, 1866.
Al persons who are entitled to examination and
who wish to avail themselves of its privileges, will
at once nothly the President of the Board, by letter
addressed to Hartford, Conn., z. ving their own Post
office address. In que time they will receive from
him, in reply, a notification when to present themselves for examination. Those who fail to report at
the time specified for them to do so, will forfeit all
claim to precedence for examination.

elaim to precedence for examination.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

MONUMENTS, TOMBS. GRAVE-STONES, Etc.

Just completed, a beautiful variety of ITALIAN MARBLE MONUMENTS, TOMBS AND GRAVE STONES. Will be sold cheap for cash. Work sent to any part of the United States.

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PARASOLS AT \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, AND Sik Sun Umbrellas, \$140, \$150, \$175 H. DIXON 18win: Se. 21 S. EIGHTH Street, 18wim