

Literary Notices.

BOOKS sent to us for a Notice will be duly attended to. These are published in Philadelphia, New York, and other cities.

THE HISTORY OF NEW ENGLAND, from the Discovery of the Continent by Northmen, A. D. 980, to the period when the Colonies declared their Independence, A. D. 1776.

These good-sized volumes are an admirable repository of facts and information on the subject of New England, and has been written and published on the Puritans and the land which they have made famous.

THE PRESBYTERIAN QUARTERLY REVIEW.—The number of this excellent Journal, for March, is before us.

THE POWER OF THE PULPIT.—This inquiry we most unhesitatingly answer in the negative.

THE SUBJECT OF THE LATE BISHOP, Dr. Doane, is treated in a most interesting manner in the Rev. Mr. Doane's address.

THE SUBJECT OF CAPITAL TOLLS.—This is a very important subject, and one which has attracted the attention of all thoughtful and intelligent minds.

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treated are: I. Waldgrave's Lectures, and the Princeton Repository on New Testament Millenarianism; II. Dr. Sprague's Annals of the American Pulpit; III. The Coming of Elijah; IV. Mr. Lee, of Dublin, on the Inspiration of the Scriptures; V. Notes on Scripture; VI. Dr. Buchanan on Modern Atheism; VII. A Designation and Exposition of the Figures of Isaiah, Chap. xli; VIII. Literary and Critical Notices.

Dr. Lord agrees not with the interpretation of the name in the Presbyterian Church, of the Scripture Prophecy; but he so writes that those who differ from him, may yet have the benefit of his knowledge enlarged by consulting the pages of his Journal.

THE PRESBYTERIAN QUARTERLY REVIEW.—The number of this excellent Journal, for March, is before us. Its contents are: I. Athanasius in Context with the Arians, second article; II. Excommunicatism; III. Scotland; IV. The Historical Development of Christianity; V. The Writings of Nicholas de Clemens; VI. The Bible and Science; VII. Literary and Theological Notices; VIII. Notices of New Books.

We always take up the Presbyterian Quarterly with interest. There is a directness and sprightliness in its articles, which makes it attractive to a humorist; it is every stride in our conception of historical structure, like does not in a great measure possess the same keen sense of the ridiculous which characterized the late Sydney Smith.

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present influence. These are God's plowmen. They break up the new and hard ground of the heart. They grub out, and clear away those stumps and rocks that nature leaves in the great field that the minister has to sow. Truly, they are a useful class of workmen, and are worthy of their hire.

Every good book, religious journal, and periodical that gains a reading in a family or congregation, adds power to the pulpit. And every minister that is not urgently solicited for the general circulation of such seeds of power, is blind to his own interest, as well as to the great cause of truth. A family in the Church, without religious books and newspapers, is like a thorn thicket in the midst of a wheat field, or a miasmatic swamp in the centre of a grass plot, or a black spot on the disk of the sun.

Mr. Wadsworth, in his address, has pointed out with what I know you will call good things, and in the centre a large cake, surrounded by smaller ones, and all tastefully decorated with evergreens; and last, though not least, bordering the whole, a row of nicely-looked cakes, with the number of each scholar put on with candies of various colors. Here all were allowed to feast their eyes for a little time, while listening to sweet music from the melodeon, and fine addresses by missionaries. I would love to tell you what they said, but time would fail. Let me only say, Mr. L.'s remarks were founded on the words, "Set your mark high;" and would not this be a good motto for you!

As I was but a stranger here then, I marked particularly the good order observed by all the scholars; and as many of them had attained the size of those you would call young ladies and gentlemen, I really thought they deserved the name, too. The afternoon was spent in walking, and different amusements, and after a good supper, prepared mostly by the Indian boys, we retired to rest.

There are many, very many things I would love to tell you about these Indian boys, and their appearance, and their schools, their work, and their play, &c., but I fear I have already wearied your patience, and I must wait till some future time. But just let me say I have care of the girls out of school, and a few days ago Mr. L. gave me a name for one of them. I called her to my room, and asked how she would like to have a new name? Then her religion brightened with pleasure, and she said, "I will be a good girl if you call me 'Wilson.'" This is the name of a lady sent by a Sabbath School far away in Virginia, who contribute twenty-five or thirty dollars yearly, to aid in supporting an Indian girl.

Now, we have others here, who would no doubt love to exchange a single, or perhaps a rude Indian name, for that of some of your good and noble misses, and will not you go and do likewise? We assured everything possible will be done to have them become worthy of your names. Many of them love to write letters, and still more to receive them; and anything interesting concerning yourselves, or Sabbath Schools, will be read with the greatest pleasure. You may be directed to my care, at Creek, or West of Arkansas, and you just read a lot of one of the girls to the lady for whom she was named in New Orleans. I thought it very good for one who could not speak a single word of English five years ago. She is studying some of the higher branches.

Now I must close; and, above all things, let me say, do not forget to pray for the poor Creek Indians. You do not know how much they need your prayers, and for your encouragement, let me tell you, that at a late communion, quite a number of the girls attended inquiry meeting, and said they wished to be Christians. Only four of the scholars are members of the Church.

From yours truly,
M. H. M'KEAN.

suggested some ways of spending the day pleasantly and profitably. All then retired as usual, and I heard no more of the anticipated enjoyment until the rising bell gave its first tap. Then the joyful shout of a merry Christmas rang through the girls' apartment, and was again and again re-echoed, on meeting the smiling faces of their teachers.

Much curiosity was excited concerning some preparations they thought were making for their entertainment; and when all were completed, and they arranged in nice order, they were conducted to the large school room, and to their great surprise, found it ornamented with evergreens, and in different parts nice cedar trees, that seemed to have sprung up in a night; and more than all, loaded with fine, ray-looking apples. In the centre of the room, was a large table, covered with what I know you will call good things, and in the centre a large cake, surrounded by smaller ones, and all tastefully decorated with evergreens; and last, though not least, bordering the whole, a row of nicely-looked cakes, with the number of each scholar put on with candies of various colors. Here all were allowed to feast their eyes for a little time, while listening to sweet music from the melodeon, and fine addresses by missionaries. I would love to tell you what they said, but time would fail. Let me only say, Mr. L.'s remarks were founded on the words, "Set your mark high;" and would not this be a good motto for you!

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Miscellaneous.

Practical Preaching.—We have heard of various specimens of negro eloquence in our time, but never actually listened to the illustration till yesterday. Dropping into an African meeting-house, we found the sermon just commenced. The topic seemed to be the Divine Will illustrated by the parable of the fig tree.

"Brethren, when I was in Virginia, one day old woman's kitchen table broke, and I was sent into de woods to cut a tree, to make a new leaf for it. So I took de axe on de shoulder, and I wander into de woods of de forest. All nature was as beautiful as a lady going to de wedding. De leaves glistened on de plants, and like new quarters dollar in de missionary box; de air shone as brilliant, and nature looked as gay as a buck rabbit in a parsley garden; and de little bell round de ole sheep's neck tinkled soft and musically in de distance. I spied a tree suitable for de purpose, and I raised de axe to cut into de trunk. It raised de axe to cut into de trunk. It reached to de four corners of de earth, and raise up high to de air above, and de squipping drop wings in de kingdom of heaven. Dat tree was full of promise, my friends, just like a great many ob you.

"Den I cut into de trunk, and made de chips fly like de mighty shells dropping from de Paul's eyes. Two, three, and I gave de axe a heave, and it was holler in de cut! "Dat tree was much like you, my friends—full ob promise outside, but holler in de cut!"

A renewed clergyman, not a thousand miles from this city, lately preached rather a long sermon from the text, "Thou art weighed and found wanting." After the congregation had listened about an hour, some began to get weary, and went out; and some followed, greatly to the annoyance of the minister. Another person started, whereupon the parson stopped in his

sermon, and said, "That is right, gentlemen; as fast as you are weighed, pass out!" He continued his sermon to some length after that, but no one disturbed him by leaving.

RATES OF DISCOUNT. CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THIS PAPER. BANK OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA. ALL SOLVENT BANKS, 1/2%.

OKLAHOMA FEMALE INSTITUTE, FOR GIRLS, PAID.—The Summer Session of this Institute will commence on TUESDAY, the 26th of April. The course of instruction embraces a liberal and thorough English and Latin education.

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IRON CITY COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA. HAVING A FACULTY OF TEN TEACHERS. TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY STUDENTS.

INTERESTING PUBLICATIONS.—The Presbyterian Board of Publication has lately issued a new and interesting tract, entitled "The Christian's Duty to his Neighbour."

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