Poetry.

For the Presbyterian Banner and Advocate

Lines, Written on the Death of James Duff, aged 91 years, who died Nov. 5th. 1857, at the residence of son-in-law, R. H. King, Allegheny City.

Our father's dead, our friend is gone, No longer we behold him: He sweetly sleeps beneath the sod, As Christ, the Lord, had told him.

Ninety-one, he spent on earth, And found them years of sorrow; As we have found, and all will find, E'en though they die to morrow.

For near three years be kept his room. Nor ever once did leave it: 'Old age and weakness kept him there, But yet he never grieved.

We often heard, at midnight hour, When few save God were heeding, The prayer sincere, no one could doubt Who heard our father pleading.

He prayed, if 't was his Master's will, That he might soon he taken To join in heaven the sainted ones. Whose joys can ne'er he shaken.

His room and chair are vacant now,

But I can ne'er forget him:

My own true friend, my children's friend, The friend whom none can waken. When asked, the night before he died, If death to him had terrors:

He promptly answered me, and said,

God pardons me my errors.

Then why repine, or wish him back. Or drop the tear of sorrow? We feel our loss is gain to him-Let us prepare to follow.

Literary Hotices.

BOOKS sent to us for Notice, will be duly ttended to. Those from publishers in Phile delphia, New York, &c., may be left at our Philadelphia Office, 111 South 10th St., below Chestnut, in care of Joseph M. Wilson, Esq

Anna: or. Passages from the Life of a Daugh-TER AT HOME. 18mo., pp. 342. New York Robert Carter & Brothers. 1857.

To those who are pleased with a profoundly piritual book cast in the form of a tale, this will prove an admirable means of inculcating religious struth on the minds of the younger portion of our households. The book is entirely free from mawkish affectation, and the scenes are wonderfully natural and home-like. It is one of the best reprints which we have seen for a length of

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW. October, 1857. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. In this number of the old "blue and yellow," which seems to be as vigorous as ever, we have

the following essays: 1. Spedding's Complet Edition of the Works of Bacon.

- 2. Napier.
- 3. The Mediterranean Sea.
- 5. Lauded Credit. 6. Lives of the Chief Justices of England.
- 7. The Highlands-Men, Sheep, and Deer. 8. Harford's Life of Michael Angelo.
- 9. The Indian Mutiny. The last article is one of the most calm and

dispassionate we have read on the Eastern catas-

HARPER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE, for December, 1857, is, if possible, more varied and attractive than ever. While the illustrations are profuse in the literary articles, the editorials are the funds of the Seminary shall be in a condition worthy of a first-class periodical. This is a genuine Christmas number.

N. B .- We have much pleasure in stating that the financial crisis will have no influence in arresting the progress either of Harper's Magazine or of Harper's Weekly Illustrated Newspaper. They will both be sustained by the same talent and energy which has hitherto characterized them.

Scenes in Chusan, or Missionary Labors by the Way; by the author of "Learn to Say No." LENA LESLIE, or the History of an Orphan; by a | E. W. Drury were elected Directors of the Semi-

THE BEST LESSON, and the Best Time to Learn it; by a Presbyterian Minister. PEACE IN DEATH, Examplified in Youthful Be-

lievers; by the author of Little Kadore. These are recent publications of our Board. They add new treasures to the valued store of

NORTH-WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

mates in our families.

This is a pamphlet of twenty-nine pages, by Rev. L. N. Rice, D.D., of Chicago. It conwho would be fully informed of events relative to the Institution named, need this, in connexion with reports of the Board of Directors and newspaper discussions.

THE ECLECTIC MAGAZINE, for December, is on our table, well stored with varied literature. The articles on India, and China, are excellent and in season. The "Ages of Christendom before the Reformation," will well repay a perusal.

Abstract of the Minutes of the Synod of Wisconsin.

The Synod of Wisconsin met, according to ad journment, in Horicon, on Thursday evening, October 8th, 1857, at 7 o'clock, and was opened with a sermon by Rev. Reuben Frame, of Fond du Lac, the last Moderator, and continued its sessions till late in the afternoon of the following Monday.

Of the regular members, there were present were authorized as a committee to secure the serfrom the

DANE PRESENTERY-Ministers: Wm. Cargen, C. | the close of the present year it be deemed by Nichols, B. Phillips, M. W. Staples, J. Schwartz, and Joseph Mathers. Elders: W. Norton, Janesville; and Mr. Rutherford, Cambridge. MILTAUREE PRESENTERY-Ministers: J. A.

Waukesha; and Mr. Buck, Port. Washington. Fox Lake; and L. H. Jones, Neenab. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT-Roy G

T. Todd, of the Synod of New York. Rev. L. W. Chapman, of the Synod of New Jersey. Rev. T. Chapman, of the Synod of Arkansas. Rev. W. H. of the College, consisting of Rev. Mesers. Bu-Frazer, of the Synod of Arkansas. Rev. W. H. of the College, consisting of Rev. Mesers. Bu-Hendebourck, of the Congregational Union of chanan, H. M. Robertson, and Staples, and El-England and Wales. Rev. Mr. Parmele, of the ders Rexford and Lynde. Presbytery and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin. Rev. G. W. Elliot, of the Synod of The Synod recommended to the Board of Trus-Peoria. Rev. Mr. Jones, of the Methodist Con. tees of the College to elect to the Professorship

Rev. Reuben Smith was chosen Moderator, and

Rev. S. Mitchel Temporary Clerk. PRESEYTERY OF LAKE SUPERIOR. After the reading and approval of the Minutes of the last meeting, it was on motion, Resolved, That Synod having received satisfac- change has occurred in regard to attendance or

tory information of the organization of the Presbytery of Lake Superior, according to the act of the last General Assembly, as designated on page thirty-six of the Minutes, do recognize that Presbytery and direct the Stated Clerk to add the names of its members to the roll of Synod.

At a subsequent session of the Synod, a copy of the minutes of this Presbytery, accompanied with a letter from the Rev. J. M. Barnet, the Clerk, stating that by the death of Rev. Mr. Elder, since their organization, they were unable to obtain a constitutional quorum for the transaction of Presbyterial business, and asking the advice of Synod what to do under their existing circumstances, were laid before Synod and duly considered.

Whereupon the Synod resolved to recommend to the existing members of the Presbytery of Lake Superior, in their peculiar and painful circumstances, to act as a Presbytery in the reception of a new member, if the opportunity offer, although they may be unable to obtain a constitutional quorum, and that they send up to the next General Assembly a report of their proceed ings, together with this recommendation, and ask for the confirmation of their acts, or a reorganization of their Presbytery, as may seem best to the Assembly.

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY FOR THE NORTH-WEST. After the announcement of the Stated Commitees, by the Moderator, the report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary for the North-West, with a letter from the President, and a communication from Rev. Dr. MacMaster, on the subject of Slavery, ordered by the Directors to be laid before the Synods represented in their Board, was received and referred to a committee consisting of Rev. O. Park, Rev. Reuben Frame, and Rev. B. Phillips, to which committee was also referred a communication from the Synod of Iowa, on the subject of an alteration or amendment of the Constitution of the Seminary, whose report as subsequently modified and adopted by

the Synod, was substantially as follows, to wit: That only part of the Directors be annually reelected, and that they be changed, one every year, beginning with the first of our Presbyteries, as on the Minutes of the General Assembly, and so on in succession.

And, WHEREAS, This Synod has been officially informed that the Synod of Iowa have "Resolved, the other Synods concurring, that the Constitu-tion of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary for the North-West be amended, by inserting the following clause in the appropriate article, to wit: 'Any Synod, however, which may be at any time erected by the subdivision of any of the United Synods, shall be entitled, without any further action of the Synods, to elect its propor-tion of Directors, and assume its part in the con-trol of the institution; provided such election take place at the first stated meeting of such

newly erected Synod? Resolved, That this Synod concur in this proosed amendment.

The following preamble and resolutions were recommended by the committee, and adopted by Synod :

WHEREAS, It is the deliberate opinion of this Synod that the success of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary for the North-West, located at Chicago, is of very great importance to the in-terests of the Presbyterian Church; and, where-as, it is our opinion that to its success the united and liberal support of our ministers and churches is absolutely essential; and, whereas, we are con-vinced that such united and liberal support can only be secured by placing the Seminary under the entire control of the General Assembly; there-

Resolved, That this Synod concurring with the Synods of Cincinnati, Indiana, Northern Indiana, Illinois, Chicago, and Iowa, and such other Synods as may be united in the control of the Seminary, or a majority of them, does hereby transfer to the said Assembly all the property in and control over the Presbyterian Theological Seminary for the North West, possessed by this

Resolved, That this Synod, concurring with the Synods aforesaid, or a majority of them, does hereby consent that a new act of incorporation be obtained from the proper authorities of the State of Illinois; that a Board of Directors shall be elected by the General Assembly, shall nominate the Trustees to be named in the act of incorporation, and shall appoint their successors in office, and does hereby authorize and direct the present Board of Directors to instruct the present Board of Trustees to convey to the new Board of Trustees, to be so constituted, all lands, tenements, funds, moneys and other property, real and personal, now held, or which may hereafter be held by the present Board of Trustees, for the sole use of said Seminary.

Resolved, That this tender of the Seminary be

made to the next General Assembly, with the reto warrant the opening of the institution.

And, whereas, the Synod of Missouri was one of the Synods united in the direction and support of the Theological Seminary located at New Al-

bany, Indiana:

Resolved, That this Synod cordially invite the Synods of Missouri, and Upper Missouri, to appoint Directors of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary for the North-West, in accordance with Sec. IV., Art. 2, of its Constitution.

Rev. Reuben Smith, Rev. J. M. Buchanan, Rev. H. M. Robertson, and Elders W. P. Lynde, and nary, with the understanding that the last named (E. W. Drury) does not claim his seat until after the meeting of the Presbytery of Chippewa, for

organization. SYNODICAL MISSIONARY AGENT.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of securing a Synodical Missionary Agent, literature for the young. They will enrich our to labor within our bounds, appointed at the last Sabbath School Libraries, and be welcome in- meeting, reported that they have secured the services of Rev. D. C. Lyon, who has already entered on the work assigned him in this field, and with a view to his support, in addition to what was contributed by the Board of Domestic Missions, it would be necessary for Synod to raise at tains two letters of Prof. E. D. MacMaster, least \$300. After adopting this report, the D.D., to C. A. Spring, Esq., a Director. Those Synod made the following apportionment, with a view of raising the sum specified:

trou or reserve one party checitter:	
1. Presbytery of Dane.	15,54
	\$12.00
	20.00
Janesville,	30.00
Madison,	25.00
Richland City and Richland Centre,	5.00
Decatur,	10.00
2. Presbytery of Milwaukee.	1.77
Waukesha.	\$15.00
Milwaukee,	40.00
	40.00
3. Presbytery of Winnebago.	
Fond du Lac,	\$15.00
Weyauwega,	10.00
Oxford,	10.00
Neenah, Depere	15.00
	10.00
Dodge, Centre, and Horicon,	20.00
Eau Clair,	20.00
Newport,	10.00
Dekorah and Caledonia,	5.00
Portage City, Rev. Reuben Smith,	28.00
	5.00
Rev. Mesers. Heckman, McNair, an	d Phillip

wices of Rev. D. C. Lyon, for another year, if, at CARROLL COLLEGE. The committee appointed at the last meeting to Savage, J. M. Buchanan, W. Brobston, O. Park, attend the examinations of Carroll College, re-and Archibald S. Stewart. Elders: Henry Davis, ported that they had attended to the duties of their appointment, and signified their satisfaction WINNERAGO: PRESETTERY - Ministers: Reuben Smith, J. B. Plumbstead, Reuben Frame, B. Johnston, E. C. Peck, J. A. Rosseel, L. C. Spoff-instruction and discipline. Their report was acord, S. Robertson, H. M. Robertson, W. W. Mc-Nair, G. C. Heckman, J. McNulty, S. Mitchel, appointed for the coming year, for a similar pur-

Mr. Wiley, Rosendale; Mr. Van Duyne, Fond du pose, Rev. Messrs. Park, Knoepfel, Heckman, Lac; Mr. Clawson Dodge Centre; Mr. Ross, and Barnet, and Elders Rexford, Tellis, Pettibone, and Crosier; also, a committee to advise and cooperate, on the behalf of Synod during the interim of its meetings, with the Board of Trustees

> of Modern Languages, Edward P. Evans, A. M. and as Tutor, Mr. Andrew Watson, A. B. The President and Fiscal Agent presented the

> following report in reference to the institution, "Since the last meeting of Synod, little or no

the introduction of a new Freshman Class of the at 7 o'clock, P. M.

same number. "Rev. Ch. D. Pidgeon did not, according to his own and our expectations, enter upon the duties of the professorship to which he was elected, and has resigned his contemplated position in and relationship to the College, in consequence of the mpracticability of consummating his plans for he removal of himself and family to the West. The department of instruction, which his withrawment has rendered it necessary to provide for, has been supplied, through the assistance of Mr. E. P. Evans, who has also the charge of the epartment of Modern Languages. The instruc-ion is now conducted under the direction of rofessous Monteith, Bean, and Evans, in the member of the Class graduating in July last, in the Preparatory Department; Professors Chapnan and Daniels giving occasional gratuitous in

struction in their respective departments.

"The financial condition of the Institution may a fact be said to be more favorable than ever be fore, while the difficulties in meeting the currrent xpenses have never been greater than at present he liabilities for instruction up to September : 1857, remaining unpaid, amount in the aggregate about \$2,000, to liquidate which, the Fiscal Agent has no immediately available means. And far as he can arrive at an estimate of the vailabilities of the Institution, the expenditures for the instruction on the present basis must exceed its income annually at least \$2,000. Under these circumstances he asks for the intructions

"Pres't and Fiscal Ag't Carroll College." The committee to whom this report was referred, nsisting of Rev. Messrs. Staples and Frame, and Elder L. H. Jones, who also were instructed o audit the accounts of the Fiscal Agent, subseuently reported that they had examined the Fiscal Agent's accounts up to October 1, 1857, and found them correct. And in order to meet the exigencies of the Institution under its present lent and Fiscal Agent, if he can safely arrange the instruction to be conducted without his presnce, as soon as practicable, be advised to lay the vants of the Institution before such individuals and communities as he may think most likely to nterest themselves in its behalf, with a view to cure the necessary relief; and if he shall find this impracticable, that he endeavor to effect a can wherever he may think best, of an amount afficient to meet immediate exigencies. Their eport was adopted.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS. Rev. J. M. Buchanan, Rev. B Phillips, and Elder VanDuyne, the committee to whom was referred the whole subject of the missionary work vithin our bounds, made their report, which was

dopted, and is as follows: Resolved, That the present financial distress f the country, and the consequent embarrassment f our Board of Domestic Missions, should, in he judgment of Synod, be regarded as a call in rovidence upon the churches within our bounds make increased exertions in maintaining the preaching of the Gospel without missionary aid. Resolved, That Synod earnestly urge upon Presbyteries the duty of relieving the Board, so far as practicable, by the transfer of missionaies from less to more promising fields, by the anion of feeble churches, and in such other ways as may in their judgment seem best.

Resolved, That while our confidence in the idelity and wisdom of the Board of Missions is indiminished, and while we deeply sympathsie with said Board in their present embarrassed con-dition and felt inability to do as much as deirable, we yet regard the missionary work committed to us of such importance as to warrant the Board in devising more liberal things, trusting in God and counting on the prompt and cordia

upport of his people.

Resolved, That in view of the facts that many of our frontier missionaries are living upon starvation salaries, and are suffering the many Jacob in Padan-Aram.-Gen. xxxi: 41, 42. Is incident to such in that the Presbyteries have, in making their ap-plications to the Board for missionary aid, asked n each particular case, the least amount that these missionaries have, with a self denying zeal for the advancement of the kingdom of Christ, entered upon their work, expecting to be sustained by the churches, Synod feel constrained to urge the Board to cease from the system of curiling the salaries of our frontier missionaries, pelieving that such a system, in view of all the facts in the case, is one which is rendered unecessary, by the well-known integrity, wealth, nd benevolence of the Presbyterian Church in hese United States.

FOREIGN MISSIONS On motion of Rev. G. C. Heckman the following preamble and resolutions were adopted: WHEREAS, The Synod has beard with deepest

grief and commisseration the disastrous events which have interrupted our missions in India, atended with heavy loss of property, and perhaps with more deplorable loss of life, therefore, Resolved. That we bow in humble submission the will of God in this painful providence. Resolved, That we extend our hearty sym-pathy to our surviving missionaries in India, their

ffering families, and to the Assembly's Board of foreign Missions. Resolved, That we commend these distressing vents and the consequent pecuniary embarrassment of the Board of Foreign Missions to the earnest and prayerful attention of our ministers

PRESBYTERY OF CHIPPEWA. On motion of Rev. W. W. McNair, the Synod rected a new Presbytery within their bounds, to be called the Presbytery of Chippewa, to be comosed of the following ministers: Rev. B. Philips, of the Presbytery of Dane; Rev. W. W. Mc-Nair, of the Presbytery of Winnebago; and Rev. A. S. Stewart of the Presbytery of Milwaukie; said Presbytery to hold its first meeting in Eau Claire, on the Fourth Monday of November next, at 7 o'clock P. M., the opening sermon to be preached by Rev. B. Phillips, who shall act as

also is to have power to define its own boundaries, subject to the future action of Synod. I. F. MACK'S APPEAL. . WHEREAS, I. F. Mack has not appeared before this body up to this the third day of its sessions, although he has been informed that the papers in reference to his appeal would be on hand-

WHEREAS, This body has been certified that he has united with another Church, one out of our connexion, while under discipline; therefore, ed, That his case be hereby dismissed; rovided, that should he, within reasonable time in the future, make it appear that he was prevented from attending this meeting by Providential hindrances, and also give satisfactory reasons for uniting with another Church, while under discipline, his case may be resumed. PRESBYTERIAN EXPOSITOR.

The committee to whom was referred the Pros pectus of the *Presbyterian Expositor*, a monthly periodical proposed to be published at Chicago, by Rev. Dr. N. L. Rice, reported as follows, which was adopted by Synod: Resolved, That we would hail with pleasure, the stablishment of any sound journal in the interest of the Presbyterian Church, but more especially a weekly newspaper, and the Synod would express ts conviction that such weekly Newspaper would

meet with a hearty support within its bounds. The first half hour of each day's session was pent by the Synod in devotional exercises, and hroughout the whole of its unusually protracted necting, a hallowed feeling seemed to pervade the fully harmonious. According to the arrangements made by the committee on devotional exercises, Rev. T. Frazer, the missionary pioneer of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin, in joining with

the graduation of one class of six members, and City on the second Wednesday of October, 1858, JOHN A. SAVAGE, Stated Clerk.

For the Young.

For the Presbyterian Banner and Advocate.

The Nails are Gone, but the Marks are There." Once there was a little boy, who had a father who loved him dearly, and wished, ollege proper, and of Mr. Andrew Watson, a as all good parents do, to have his muchloved son a good child. So, one day, he told him that he would drive a nail into a so, Jacob's marriage, to the daughters of post whenever he would do an act that was wrong, and when he would do a good deed, he would pull one out. Now, I think that this little boy tried to be good, for, though there were quite a number of nails driven into the post, after a while all had been drawn out. Not one remained.

Don't you think "Bennie" must have been a happy little fellow the day that the last nail disappeared from the post? His father was very much pleased, and was congratulating his little son upon the fact that the nails were all gone; but he was much surprised to see that "Bennie" was weeping, instead of being elated. "Yes," said the dear child, "the nails are all gone, that

is true, but the marks are there still." Oh! my dear children, did you ever think that all your bad deeds will leave marks? Yes, marks upon your soul, and perhaps upon the souls of others. Think of to receive, makes it pretty evident that he this whenever you are tempted to do a either intended that he should have that part wrong act. Say to yourself, "I shall make of the flock named, and not the increase mbarrassments, they recommend that the Presi- a mark that I shall not love to look at-a merely, or that he expected Providence to mark that cannot be taken out." For even interpose in his favor. Laban makes the best will prevent its being forgotten by you. from the increase of which alone he must Memory, like a faithful mirror, will often expect his wages. This was, on Labau's present it before you. How painful the part, taking an unmanly advantage of a barcould have none but good deeds to look Jacob wished to make an appeal to God. upon. Bright and beautiful would the tablet then appear, instead of being stained and marred by dark spots and scars.

Then, my dear children, strive to make a mark every day of your lives, but let that mark be a good one—one that you will love to see in days to come-one that will bring smiles, and not tears, whenever you think upon it—one that will leave a bright spot upon your heart, and the hearts of others, and not a wound that will keep festering and aching within your heart, or sear your conscience. Now is your seed time. Lay not the wages Jacob received were no more than up for yourself that which will cause bitter remorse; but gather a store of sweet memories that shall refresh you in age-that shall cheer you upon a sick or dying bed, and even be remembered with joy in heaven.

ATINT LIZZIE. Pittsburgh, Nov. 24.

The Bible.

For the Presbyterian Banner and Advocate.

After the vision at Bethel, Jacob hastened on, with lighter steps and more joyful heart, toward the fatherland. He stands at length could on principles of justice be asked, and that at "high day," by a well covered, as still in oriental countries, with a great stone. The sheep, which love to rest at noon, lie around in three flocks. But Rachel, the daughter merits the highest earthly honor, who rises of Laban, now the chief shepherdess, has not brought up her flock, and, till she comes, custom forbids that the well should be opened. When she arrives, Jacob-not, as the Jews have often said, to exhibit his great strength, but to show his affection-rolls away the stone, waters the flocks; and his relationship being made known, "he kisses Rachel and weeps;" perhaps, with mingled feelings of sorrow and of joy-of sorrow that he stands there as an exile, of joy that he has met in a far off land a friend of his

mother, whose name he would often repeat. We feel like pausing for a moment as we read, to consider Rachel as a keeper of sheep. Our herd of modern times is unpoetic and servile, but it was not so in early, classic ages. Abraham, Moses and David were for a great part of their lives keepers of sheep. So the spouse in Canticles is described as following in the footsteps of the flock, and as a feeder of kids. As a mark of honor and as a privilege, Rachel kept her father's flocks. This incident is no doubt recorded of her who became the honored wife of the father of the tribes, that mothers in every subsequent age might learn an instructive lesson. They have a flock, it may be the

Moderator until one be chosen. Said Presbytery the man he was almost a century before this, the means to reach an equitable end. But when he so affectionately sent away his sister, Rebekah. He is rejoiced to meet her son. interest his nephew takes in his affairs. Meanwhile, it is perhaps learned that Jacob cannot for a time return home. Laban offers wages for Jacob's service. Aware of the custom of the age and land, that wives and despairing of soon entering upon the possession of his father's estate, Jacob offers even years service for the beautiful Rachel. The bargain is struck; the seven days marriage feast passes joyfully away, and, accordelder and not the younger sister is given. The anger of the deceived husband is alsister Leah stood one week before.

Truly, we have here a picture well drawn, to describe a low state of morals in this age of polygamy. We may profit by the high posoms of its members, from the Moderator to of dispute among Biblical scholars. There camels, and asses," may have been in the each attendant, rendering its transactions delight- are difficulties on both sides, but to us same way. Other families, as we have althe latter opinion. Though the narra-tive (Gen. xxix: 20) seems to convey selites to his faith, and hoping with him to the Sabbath morning was spent after a sermon by the idea that the service for Rachel was rendered first, and then came the feast. Yet God of Abraham. These things in some the pastor of the church and its members in the eral fact, as is often done by historians. and hard words of the sons of Laban. They celebration of the Lord's Supper, the services of That this is the case here, seems pretty evi- viewed him as a servant of their father, and which were conducted by Rev. D. C. Lyon, and dent. Jacob was only twenty years with considered themselves heir to all the wealth Rev. W. W. McNair, and the afternoon in religous conference, conducted by the Moderator, and sons, is barren awhile, arranges with her sis- greatly the superior, and was actually the the evening in listening to a sermon by Rev. S. ter for her eldest son's mandrakes, and bears head of a commonwealth, for whose benefit, The adjoining churches were supplied by the has a son. Joseph is porn at the end of providences. nembers of Synod; and after these refreshing the fourteen years' service —Gen. xxx: 25. The incidents of these twenty years of scenes of the Lord's day, the Synod continued its Seven years is too short for these events. Jacob's life, fully justify an allusion to the ession, until late in the afternoon of Monday, Jacob is in Hebron when Joseph is seven- inexhaustibleness of Scripture. A fact is the 12th, when, after a vote of thanks, with right teen years old .- Gen. xxxvii: 2, 14. Prior stated-as, for example, the death and burial good will to the congregation and citizens of Horato this, Dinah is dishonored, and Simeon and of Deborah, or the fact that Jacob proposed

left Shechem, at Bethel, Ephrath and Edar, yet it must be taken into the account for a before he came to his father's house. The istory, too, seems to indicate that Jacob had dwelt some time with his father (Gen. xxxvii: 12) before he sent Joseph out of the vale of Hebron to bring word from the flocks which had been driven North, as far as the demolished city of the Hivites. Yet, allow no time for these events, and Levi could not have been more than twenty-one and Dinah seventeen years of age at the destruction of Shechem. It appears much more natural to consider the overthrow of the Hivites as an event several years earlier than the sale of Joseph to the Midianites. If Laban, took place at the commencement of the first seven years of service. Laban's proposal in answer to Jacob's complaint, and the fact that the words, "Did I not serve!" will bear equally well the fendering,

after his marriage to them. All the children of Jacob, except Benjamin, are named as born during the fourteen vears' service. Jacob, after he purposes to return to Canaan, is detained by a new arangement for six years. This is the period of his advance in wealth.

The bargain proposed by Jacob, and agreed

to by Laban, was that the speckled and

spotted goats, and brown sheep, should be Jacob's, and the rest would be Laban's. The small proportion, in oriental lands, to the whole flock of the part which Jacob agrees though this sin may be pardoned, as to its of what he deems a good bargain, divides guilt, and washed away, as to its pollution, the flock, and removes all the "speckled and by the atoning blood of the precious Re. spotted and brown" three days journey from deemer, still it will leave a something that the place where Jacob feeds the balance. from the increase of which alone he must view will be. How you will wish that you gain, unless it was understood by him that In either case it places, Jacob's conduct in a much more favorable light. He must new, to all human appearance, labor for almost nothing, or he must resort to unintended means. This he finds in his pealed luz or hazel rods. No fault could be found if he had treated "the weak and the strong" of the flock alike. Even this, his unjustifiable

conduct, has its guilt in some measure lessened or paliated by Laban's prior unfairness. If the result was directly from God and beyond the reach of human agency, them just, for God will do right; yet, we need neither approve of Jacob's anxiety about the matter which disturbs him in his sleeping as well as waking moments, nor of 'the means employed by him to bring the desired result.

The feelings and the words of Laban's sons are not proof positive that any injustice was done them, taking into account all the service Jacob had rendered from his first. arrival. They may have possessed much of their father's spirit of worldliness, and they may have felt and talked enviously of Jacob. as the servants of the King of Gerar had talked of and acted toward Isaac, almost a century before that.

ose to attempt a defence of all Jacob did. This is neither necessary for his honor, were we set to write his history, nor is it required in order that we may properly prize the Bible as a revela-tion from God. "To err is human." "No man liveth and sinneth not." The man above every adverse and opposing influence to accomplish great and noble deeds. So the Bible awards the highest heavenly honor to the sinner who, through the greatest and sorest trials, reaches the goal for which he sets out. Yet, we do feel like dulling the edge of some of the cutting remarks made against Jacob for his alleged fraudulent dealing with his father-in-law.

One writer says if he knew when he made the bargain, that by pealed rods he could mark any of the flock as his, "he was guilty of the greatest cheatery, dishonesty and sin. Another says, in reference to Jacob's dealing with the cattle of Laban, "Altogether our notion is very much confirmed with regard to the low standard of virtue in those days." Now, does the Bible account justify this? We think not. Laban is declared to be a fickle, grasping and dishonest miser. Jacob is overreached by him in property as well as social arrangements. He appeals to God and obtains justice; and Laban is forbidden to attempt by force the recovery of any part of the property which he has got

into possession. The lessons then taught us are these-dis-Father's flock, well worthy of their care and honesty is bad policy, and will sooner or watch, even if they are born as prince's later meet with punishment. But it is honesty is bad policy, and will sooner or daughters, and have risen to the rank of Laban's dishonesty, and not Jacob's, that we are called to reflect upon as we read. The news of Jacob's arrival comes to the Diligence, with an honest purpose and a ears of Laban, and his selfish worldliness is proper trust in God, will be rewarded, though banished a little. He now seems more like human infirmity may be visible in some of it is the result aimed at by Jacob, and which God approves, and not any supposed wrong A month passes, and he is pleased with the to Laban because strange and extraordinary instrumentality is used, that we are invited to consider as we read the Bible story contained in those chapters.

We are not justified in concluding that all Jacob's wealth, while yet in the house of must be purchased by a price to the father, Laban, was the reward of service rendered. Jacob was the son and the acknowledged heir to the estate of a pastoral prince of far greater wealth than Laban. He was the mother's favorite. Many of the numerous and pious household of Isaac may have been warmly ng to custom, the bride is brought at night attached to Jacob. It was only ten days to the chamber of her husband. But the hasty drive for cattle from Haran to Gilead, (Gen. xxxi: 23, 25) and this place was as near the residence of Isaac as Shechem, to ayed in a measure by another week's feast, which the sons of Jacob drove their flocks and by the presence of Rachel where her when Jacob dwelt in the same place. Companies of the herdsmen of Isaac may have done so; and with the consent of both the futher and mother, they may have gone these ten days drive more to be under the supervalue we set upon our institutions; the re- vision of Jacob. Deborah, Rebekah's nurse. sult of a full and completed Bible revelation. (Gen. xxxv: 8) we know did become a Whether the two weeks marriage feast member of Jacob's family before his return took place at the beginning or at the close of to Hebron. So part of Jacob's increase in the first seven years' service, has been a matter | "cattle, maid-servants, and men servants, and they seem less with the former than ready intimated, may have joined themselves this verse may be viewed as stating the gen- | measure may account for the envious feelings two other sons and a daughter before Rachel if needs be, God will interpose in special

icon, for their generous hospitalities, they ad. Levi are old enough to take the sword of to return to his father's house when Joseph

instruction in the College, with the exception of journed in the usual form, to meet in Portage vengeance in their own hand. Obviously, was born—and this fact may appear isolated, AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE CHARLES APPEN, 1866. some time must have been spent after Jacob and may be expressed in a single sentence proper view of every incident of the entire period. We see at once, then, the duty of careful study of the Bible; the danger that, without it, there will be principles drawn unsuitable for real life in a sinful world; and the likelihood that conduct will be approved the likelihood that conduct will be approved or condemned, when a full investigation or condemned, when a full investigation would change the decision too hastily given.

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It strikes us that there is a "word of wisdom" in the following quotation, brief as it is:

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Oxford, Sept. 20, 1855

SAMUEL DICKEY OX "Was I not to serve?" strengthens the view that Jacob served for both Leah and Rachel or, who, having nothing to keep him steady is always floundering in the mud. If you want to rise in the world, tie yourself to somebody.

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Jacob's Army. A queer mode of defence was that of the Patriarch-not very wise or Christian, according to the view now prevalent among men calling themselves followers of the Prince of Peace. Esau, in his wrath, had come out "with four hundred men;" a pretty formidable host for that day; and ow did Jacob purpose to meet him? What sort of an army did he put in array against this force? His army consisted of two hundred she goats, and twenty hegoats; two hundred ewes, and twenty rams; forty kine, and ten bulls; thirty she asses, and ten foals." A cost of less than \$3,000 of our money. A novel army, that; a strange way of repulsing an enemy; but what was the result? "Jacob bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to is brother; and Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him; and they wept."

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