Thy parting steps, methinks I hear, Steal from the world away. Amid thy silent bowers 'T is sad, but sweet, to dwell,

Where falling leaves and drooping flowers, Around me breathe farewell. Along thy sunset skies

Their glories melt in shade, And, like the things we fondly prize, Seem lovelier as they fole.

A deep and crimson streak Thy dying leaves disclose, As, on consumption's waning cheek, 'Mid ruin, blooms the rose.

Thy scene each vision brings Of beauty in decay, Of fair and early faded things, Too exquisite to stay;

Of joys that come no more, Of flowers whose bloom is fled; Of farewells wept upon the shore, Of friends estranged or dead;

.Of all that now may seem To Memory's tearful eye, The vanished beauty of a dream, O'er which we gaze and sigh.

For the Presbyterian Banner and Advocate. Sketches of New England Life. NUMBER II.

Free Schools in New England—Skepticism in Debt to the Bible—Importance of Good Men for Teachers—Committees in all the Towns—Board f Education-Powers of the School Committee n Boston and Massachusetts-Incompetency and Neglect of Committees—The Injury Caused by School Funds.

MESSES. EDITORS :—Though I promised: in this, my second number, to speak of the Colleges of New England, yet, some things have induced me to change my mind, and give a further statement of the management of the Public Schools in that portion of our country. These schools are more general than private institutions, and their influence is much wider, on this account. There is not a single town in New-England, to my knowledge, (and that knowledge is somewhat extensive,) in which there are not free public schools. I mean by their being free, that all, how poor so ever they may be, have the privilege of sending to them.

All these schools owe their origin, like the Hospitals, and other benevolent institutions, to the Bible; to that open Bible, which the "Pilgrim Fathers" of New England brought with them, when they came, an exiled band, to these shores. This fact does not seem to be sufficiently recognized by those of skeptical tendencies. Indeed, infidelity has never been willing to pay back what she has really received through the medium of the Holy Scriptures. I suppose, for this reason.

"It would pick her bane, As bird of borrowed feather."

Wherever the Bible has gone, schools, edusation, and science, have all followed in the train. I, therefore, like your remarks when, speaking of Jefferson College, you say, There are those who lament that so many of our ministers should be employed as teachers, in Seminaries, Colleges, and Academies. With such we have no sympathy; we rejoice that so large a portion of our schools are truly Christian." To this, the writer would say, Amen, with all his heart.

I think that in all the New England States, I am sure it is so in Massachusetts, the examining power to introduce or recommend teachers, is vested in a Committee consisting of more than one person. This, it is believed, is an improvement upon the course pursued in Pennsylvania, where a County Superintendent conducts the examinations of teachers, and issues certificates of qualification. This, it strikes us, is vesting too much power in one man. True, it may never be abused, and yet it may. A Committee of three, five, seven, or more, according to the population of the town, would seem to be preferable in very many ago, expelled from the country. They, however,

left seed which still grows and flourishes. The Queen who now occupies the throne is a Pagan, In Massachusetts each town is by statute and is exceedingly hostile to Christianity. The law required to have such a Committee, whose duty it is, not only to examine and Prince, her son, and heir-apparent to the throne, issue certificates of qualification to all teach- is a Christian. On his accession there will. ers, but also to take the general oversight of doubtless, be a great change. all the public schools.

This arrangement of Committees does not of Mr. Ellis' larger volumes. To those who interfere in the least with the doings of the have a thirst for knowledge, but whose time is "Board of Education," in this Common much occupied, the book before us may be corwealth, nor with their "Secretary," who is the General Superintendent of all the Public Schools. This office has been filled but by THE CRUCIBLE; or, Tests of a Regenerate State. three gentlemen; the first of whom was the late Horace Mann, who occupied it for the first sixteen years of its existence. Mr. Mann, though a Unitarian, and his influence upon the rising generation somewhat feared (perhaps justly, on that account,) was by far the most efficient and energetic of either of the three who have held the office. The Rev. Barnas Sears, the present President of "Brown University," the immediate successor of Mr. Mann, was tame in comparison with his "illustrious predecessor," and it is difficult to see what qualification the present incumbent has for discharging its duties, save that in time of high party excitement, he was unfortunate enough to be elected Governor of the Commonwealth, a misfortune which has befel more than one man of moderate capacity in the politics of the "Old Bay State." Nor does the election and duties of the Committee interfere, in the city of Boston, with the arrangement of a Superintendent of Public Schools in be convinced more than ever of the necessity of that city Indeed, the Committee is the returning to the discriminating, searching, and acting body, and the Superintendent a crea. experimental mode of preaching that characterture of their election, and the office itself a ized former times, but that has fallen so lamentacreature of their formation. The manage bly into disuse in our days. ment of all the schools, the examinations and recommendations of all the teachers, the selection of the Superintendent and as signment of his duties, and all their salaries, are the legitimate duties of the Committee. The Committee is composed of seventy-two members, six from each of the twelve wards of the city, making the exact number of the Jewish Sanhedrim, to which are added by the city charter, the Mayor and President of the Common Council, ex officio. This "School Board" has great power, as the expenditure of all the school money, and the entire and absolute control of all the teachers and schools, is their special perogative. The powers of the Board are as they should be, but men are plorers in Palestine, Egypt, Arabia, and Assyria. often elected as members who are totally Much care seems to have been expended in the unqualified for the office. You would scarcely believe that in this so called "Athens" of America, men would be chosen on such a School Board, who were so ignorant as to be laughed at and about, by the young ladies whom they had examined as caudidates for teachers.

The way in which this Committee is elected is responsile for bringing in such in this reliable and readable account of the "Wocompetent men, as they are chosen by party | men Artists of all Ages and Countries." The politics, and he who can brawl the loudest writer gives evidence of a wide acquaintance in a political gathering, is the most likely to with the history of art, a taste highly cultivated,

Another defect is, the Committee receive We can commend this book to all who wish to no pecuniary consideration for their services, know what women have done and can do as and as a consequence of this, many accept the office who have not sufficient interest to attend the regular meetings of the Board, or to visit the schools as the law directs So that, taking into account the incompetency and neglect of the Committee in Boston, (and in other towns,) there is much to call for a change in the management of the public schools in the Old Bay State.

THE SEASONS. By James Thomson. New York:
Robert Carter & Brothers. Pittsburgh: John
S. Davison. 1859. This is a new and superb edition of "Thomson's Seasons," illustrated in the highest style of Yet, the schools here have been far be- art with over forty engravings, designed by such fore those in Connecticut and the other New eminent artists as Birket Foster, F. R. Pickers-England States. A great evil to the public gill, R. A., J. Wolf, G. Thomas, and Noel Hum- sary to look to his neighbor for a supply.

phreys. In binding, paper, type, and illustrations, it is a perfect gem of the book making would, therefore, be useless, and left to art. As the holidays are approaching, we would be regish in the fields in which it was produced art. As the holidays are approaching, we would call the attention of those intending to make To give value to it, a demand must be creapresents, to this book.

schools in Connecticut has resulted from

their large School Fund. It was laid aside

for future use by the early settlers of the

State, but like the Manna which the Is-

raelites gathered over and above what they

needed for their daily supply, it has bred

corruption in the form of negligence and indifference to the schools. In their schools

the old adage has been verified, "light

valued them in that ratio. In some towns,

twenty years ago, they had not interest

enough in public schools to keep their school

houses in decept repair. In towns border-

ing upon the line between this State and

Massachusetts, a very visible, difference be-

tween the schools, in these contiguous

towns, was manifest. In Massachusetts,

where the money was chiefly raised by di

rect tax, the schools were an hundred per

cent, better than in Connectiont, where they

nost the people nothing.
Indeed, the same principle seems to have

operated where funds had been allowed to

accumulate for the support of Gospel ordi-

nances. The money given by good men to

the Congregational churches, in the great

defection from the truth, and even the par-

sonages and church plate, were carried off

by the Unitarians, as originally the vessels of the Temple of Solomon were carried

among the heathen to grace their idol fes-

tivities. Does the great Head of the Church

design by this that every generation shall

bear its own burdens, and to incule te that

those who have the labor shall pay the

hire?" I have sometimes thought a

principle is here involved, which is worthy

of the consideration, not only of allawho

have to do with schools, but also by those

who are called to manage the affairs of

Viterary Actices.

THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS. By Rudolf

Stier. Translated from the second revised and

enlarged German edition. New Edition. Philadelphia: Smith, English & Co. New York: Sheldon & Co. Boston: Gould & Lincoln. Pittsburgh: Wm. S. Rentoul, and John S.

"Stier's Words of the Lord Jesus," have been

held in high esteem among the Evangelical Di-

vines of Germany, for nearly twenty years; and

within a few years this work has been introduced

to English readers, by whom it has been received

with the warmest approbation. The object of

the author is to unfold the meaning and harmony

of all the recorded words that fell from the lips

of the Lord Jesus, when upon earth. In doing

this he brings to his aid wonderful learning,

great subtlety of analysis, and keen inquisition

into the meaning and secret thread of every dis-

course, and throughout he makes unwearied pro-

test against Rationalistic opinions. Probably no

other work upon the Gospels is equally able, and at

the same time equally safe. Therefore we hail

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first four volumes will contain what has hitherto

been published in eight volumes, (averaging

nearly one thousand pages each,) and the fifth

volume will be the translation of the author's

recent addition to his work, entitled "The Words

will be published on the 15th of December; the

fifth volume, viz., "The Words of the Risen

Jesus," on the 15th of January, 1860; and the

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that time. The price will be \$3.00 per volume for

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lions. The people are more intelligent and more

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The English missions were; for some time, great-

ly successful, but they were, about twenty years.

The work, by Mr. Bradley, is a condensation

By Rev. J. A. Goodhue, A. M. With an Introduction by E. N. Kirk, D.D. Pp. 352, 12mo.

Boston: Gould & Lincoln. New York: Sheldon & Co. Pittsburgh: John S. Davison.

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cially designed for ministers and others, whose

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hopes and experiences of others. We do not

agree with all the positions here taken. nor will

our readers; but this does not diminish, in any

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A DICTIONARY OF THE HOLY BIBLE, for General

Use in the Study of the Scriptures. With Engravings, Maps, and Tables. Pp. 534, 12mo. Price 75 cents, or \$1.00 gilt, Published by

the American Tract Society, New York. Philadelphia: Tract House, No. 929 Chestnut Street.

Pittsburgh : W. S. Rentoul, St. Clair Street.

This work is based on Dr. Edward Robinson's

Condensed Bible Dictionary, first published in

1883. About two thirds of that work is com-

prised in this, with large additions drawn from

his more recent Biblical researches, from the Bi-

ble Dictionaries of Rev. John Brown and Prof.

Eadie, of Scotland, and from the most valuable

recent discoveries in Biblical Geography, Natural

History, etc., as gleaned from travelers and ex-

preparation of the book, and the engravings and

WOMEN ARTISTS IN ALL AGES AND COUNTRIES.

By Mrs. Ellet, author of "The Women of the

American Revolution," etc Pp. 377, 12mo. New York: Harper & Brothers. Pittsburgh: John S. Davison. 1859.

Mrs. Ellet has done a good service in preparing

and a spirit lively, and appreciative of criticism

artists, and as a hand-book in these days of pic-

ture galleries. Harper's catologue is continually

receiving new and valuable additions.

Maps are particularly fine.

of the Risen Jesus."

theological students.

the Lord's house."

while "the laborer is worthy of his hire,"

THE THREE WARINGS. With Hymns and Songs. By the author of "The Voice of Christian Life in Song." Pp. 228, 12mo. New York:

Robert Carter of Bros. Pittsburgh: John S. Davison: 1860.

come, light go." The people have had nothing to pay for schools, and they have A sweet and precious little volume, sparkling with beauty, and redolent of fervent piety. The author has much of the evangelical fervor of McCheyne and Bonar; with much of the imagery, aim richness, and touching pathos of Keble. EXPOSURE OF MISSTATEMENTS. By Neville B.

Craig. Pp. 79. Pittsburgh: John S. Davison. This is a reply to some of the statements, conained in H. M. Brackenridge's " History of the Whiskey Insurrection," noticed by us a short time ago. Mr. Craig writes with clearness and force, with evident honesty of intention, and in as good a spirit as could be expected in the circum-

Tom Brown at Oxford. By Thomas Hughes, author, of "School Days at Rugby," "Scouring of the White Horse," etc., etc. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. Pittsburgh: John S. Davison: This is a sequel to "School Days at Bugby," that has been read and admired by so many thousands. It is published in monthly parts, at twelve cents, and the name of the author, and the uccess of his previous works will secure an imnense circulation. For ourselves, we will look anxiously for the appearance of every successive

For the Young.

Two Poisons. " Papa," said Arthur Wilson, one even ing, "will you give me the key of the bookcase in your study?"

"Why, my boy?" "I wish to take out a book." "Which book?"

"A book from the high shelf." "That is not answering my question."
A searlet book, papa; I am not sure of the name. I wish to read it this even-

Who gave you that book, Arthur?" "One of the boys at school. He said there were nice stories in it, and I began one of them. Was it you, papa, who locked " Yes."

"Why did you do so?" "Because I did not wish-you to read it I have not read it myself, but I know the name of the writer well; he is a Frenchman, and a very bad man, who writes things that it would be very wrong in me to allow you to Arthur looked much vexed.

"I am sure, papa, that was a very nice story which I began last night, and I wish very much to finish it. Will you not give it to me just for this evening? I will pass over all that is wrong." Mr. Wilson smiled. "And how will you know what to pass over till you have read

"But, papa, I amasure just reading i once, quite quickly, would do me no harm. "Arthur, why is your mother always so careful to keep the bottles of laudanum

locked up?" "Because it is poison, of course." "Is laudanum the only poison in the pothecary's shop?"

"No, papa; there are many others." "Yes, and of many kinds, which may hurt a man in various ways. Some will bring a deadly sleep upon you, others violent pains and convulsions. You may die from swallowing one kind, or allowing ankind into your lungs. A sensible man willhandle them all most cautiously; a sensible child will not touch them at all. But there hives. are worse, and more deadly poisons than any kept by the apothecary. Which is of most importance, my son, to you and me—our soul or our body??"

"The soul, of course." "Why?" "Because it must live forever-in heaven avoided than what would merely injure our

poor mortal bodies?" "Yes, papa.". "Well, I believe that fatal poison is conained in your scarlet book, which I have ocked up from you, just as your mot er ooks up the laudanum. The writer of that book is a wretched man, who is poisoning the souls of his fellow creatures. He does not himself believe in God, and by his writings he is destroying the faith of others, and at the same stime those moral virtues which can never stand long if the foundstion of Christian faith is undermined. And all this is done in the most dangerous way under the form of most interesting stories. When you are older, and your faith and knowledge confirmed, you might, I hope, read the book, and note and loathe its errors. But meanwhile, my dear boy, be as much

afraid of reading poison, as of swallowing it. Never begin a new author until you have asked myself, or some other friend whom you can trust, if the work is safe and suitable for you. Pray for the blessing of God upon all the studies to which we direct you; and above all, study and value the Book, God's own precious Word, where in every page you may find food and medicine for both mind and soul."-Family Treasury.

Agricultural,

A Correct View.

He who limits his views of agriculture to production only, can have but an imperfect idea of the subject. He has looked at it in but one of its aspects. To comprehend it fully, he must embrace a much wider field inquiry, and understand not merely how the earth can be made to yield its richest returns to the husbandman, but also how those returns can be made most available for his comfort and happiness.

Of what value is production, without consumption? Of what use are abundant crops, unless some fair equivalent can be obtained for the surplus over the wants of the producer?

A correct view of the agriculture of a country, therefore, must embrace the consideration, not only of the modes by which the largest crops can be raised, but also of the means by which they can be best disposed of; or, in other words, how the best markets can be provided, and the best prices

processes of manufacture, into new forms, and the surplus has been exchanged for such commodities as the producer m. y need, it follows, as a necessary consequence, that there must be an intimate relation between agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. It will readily be conceded that, if all the labor of the world was directed to the production of food, the surplus above the wants of the producers would be of little or no value, because there would be no demand

for it. As every one would raise enough

for his own use, he would not find it neces

ted for it In the absence of such a demand it would soon cease to be produced. This demand can be created only by multiplying the occupations of the citizens, or, in ther words, by withdrawing a portion of the population from the production of food and directing their labor to other pursuits When this is effected, a demand is created, roportioned to the number of laborers, who are thus rendered consumers instead of producers, and the foundation is laid for the interchange, between the different classes of laborers, of the fruits of their respective

branches of industry. This interchange constitutes, in the first place, the barter and, in the more advanced stages of its progress, the commerce of the world. The prosperity of the farming interest, then, depends upon the preservation of the proper relation between production and consumption. If an over proportion of the people are engaged in production, the sup-ply will exceed the demand; the market for the products of the soil will be depressed; and the interests of agriculture must languish. If, on the other hand, occupation can be given to a large portion of the population, in the mechanic arts, in manufacturing, in mining, in navigation, and in commerce, the demand for the fruits of agriculture will be increased, their prices enhanced, and the farmers must prosper.

Things that I Don't Like to See. I don't like to see a farmer boasting of hislarge crops without knowing something of

I don't like to see a farmer crowd his ields with cows as soon, as he gets his hay off, and sell his milk for two cents a quart. It will make it uphill work for the rising generation. I don't like to see a farmer go by the

village store to some city, or large place, for his stores, and then tell what a dull place, his village is. I don't like to see a farmer cart his crops to market, when, if he would stay at home,

purchasers would come after them. Every cockerel crows the loudest upon its own I don't like to see a farmer go out of town to invest his money, and then say there is no enterprise in our young men.

I do n't like to see anybody put their own boys into stores, depots, &c., and then advise all young men to stick to the farm; it looks as though they liked cheap bread and butter, but wanted somebody's bone and muscle but their own children's to produce I do n't like to see a farmer sell any farm

products for half what it costs to produce them, and continue the same business year after year. It is like going into the large end of the horn and coming out at the tip. I do n't like to see a farmer urge his sons to stick to the farm because he cannot afford to hire help, when, if he would give them a THE RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS IN THE UNITED

New England Farmer.

of a large swarm of Lombardy, bees. These of a large swarm of Lombardy, bees. These bees will be sent, upon their arrival here, direct to the Agricultural Bureau. They are of larger size than the ordinary bee, are of larger size than the ordinary bee. and, having a longer bill, are able to suck \$1.00. treasure of wisdom, health, and economy to ever flowers inaccessible to the American bee. family that shall purchase and use it."—FAMILY MAGAZINA The product of an old hive of these bees is sometimes one hundred and fifty pounds of honey in one season. These bees will not be distributed until 1861, by which time it is expected to rear from the swarm now in transitu stock enough for six hundred. into your blood, or by breathing another honey in one season. These bees will not

Leaves as Manure.

In many parts of our country woodlands have deposits of leaves, until the amount contained on the surface is entirely greater than is required for any benefit they can "Then, is not the poison which would furnish to the growing forests. In such lestroy our souls to be more dreaded and cases the leaves may be removed to the manure shed with great profit; having parted before their fall, or soon after, with all their aqueous portion, they become a progressed representative of large amounts of inorganic matter, and when properly composted and decayed, form a manure of great value. Woods earth, to be found in many localities in large deposits, is very valuable as manure, but first requiring treat ment with a lime and salt mixture, to neutralize tannic acid and to disintegrate the fibre so as to render the manure fine for distribution. We have often seen woods earth of three times the value per cord of earth of three times the value per cord of the best barnyard manure. Dried leaves may be used as an absorbent for urine in stables in the place of straw, and they may be gathered up through the woods.

NEW BOOKS.

USET PUBLISHED: THE CRUCIBLE:

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The function of agriculture is to produce — of manufactures to convert—and of commend the soil are comparatively of little value the soil are comparatively of little value until they have been converted, by the soil are comparatively and soil as the soil are comparatively and soil as the soil are converted, by the soil are converted.

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