

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE ASSYRIAN EPONYM CANON; containing Translations of the Documents, and an Account of the Evidence on the Comparative Chronology of the Assyrian and Jewish Kingdoms, from the death of Solomon to Nebuchadnezzar. By George Smith, of the department of Oriental Antiquities, British Museum. London: Samuel Bagster and Sons, 15 Paternoster Row. Of all the discoveries among the Assyrian Tablets and their cuneiform inscriptions, this of the Eponym Canon, is neither the least remarkable nor the least important. Its special value consists in the fact that the documents and official chronological works now discovered, arranged, and translated, were contemporaneous with the events they narrate, such as were, for instance, the Saxon Chronicle in England, and the Fasti Consulares in Rome. The publication of these documents has turned the discussion of the Chronology of the Kings of Israel and Judah into entirely new channels, and has made a marked difference between the works published before and after the discovery of the Assyrian inscriptions.

Of the primeval empires of the world, no early monuments were till lately, known to exist. One of the most important historical documents ever discovered, was this Canon, which was found by Sir Henry Rawlinson, among the inscribed terra cotta tablets, which Mr. Layard and other explorers brought over from Nineveh. Messrs. Bagster and Sons having determined to publish a collection of all the chronological and historical materials which exist in the cuneiform inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia, these as the sole reliable authorities for the history of the past, are translated and edited by the indefatigable Mr. George Smith, under the title of "THE ASSYRIAN EPONYM CANON." The strict words of the Inscriptions alone are given, and no attempts are made to harmonize the dates, or to supply the deficiencies caused by the "innumerable series of years, and the flight of time." Had it been possible at an earlier date, to have become possessed of this wonderful source of information, a whole library of spurious history would have been unwritten, and many wearisome controversies would have been avoided.

In Assyria, the practice of dating documents according to the years of the reigning monarch, was seldom used; by far the greater number of inscriptions being dated by the names of certain officers called by the Assyrians *limu*; a word which by general consent, is translated "eponym." The Assyrian *limu* or eponymes were appointed according to a general rotation; and each one in succession, held office for a year, and gave name to that year; the usages of the Assyrians in this respect being similar to that of the Archons at Athens and the consuls at Rome. The Lord Mayors of London are appointed for a year, and a parallel case would be presented, if in England they dated their documents according to the years when successive Lord Mayors held office, calling the years after their names." The importance of such contemporary documents as these, in settling disputed cases of Scripture Chronology, is evident to all.

HUMILITY is the guardian of all virtues. *St. Bernard.*

DEATH, to the good man, is but passing through a dark entry, out of one little dusky room into his father's house, into another that is fair, large, lightsome, glorious, and divinely blessed. In the language of heaven, and to the heir of heaven, death means everlasting life.

CALENDAR.

May 14th.—4th Sunday after Easter—Deut. iv. 1-23; St. John iv. 1-31.
" iv. 23-41; 1 Tim. iii. v; 1 Tim. iii.
" 15th.—1 Chron. xxix. 10; St. John iv. 31.
" 1 Kings iii. 1 Tim. iv.
" 16th.—" iv. 20; St. John v. 1-24.
" v; 1 Tim. v.
" 17th.—" vi. 1-15; St. John v. 24.
" viii. 1-22; 1 Tim. vi.
" 18th.—" viii. 22-54; St. John vi. 1-22.
" viii. 54-ix. 10; 2 Tim. i.
" 19th.—Danstan, Abp.
" 1 Kings x; St. John vi. 22-41.
" xi. 1-26; 2 Tim. ii.
" 20th.—" xi. 26; St. John vi. 41.
" xii. 1-25; 2 Tim. iii.

CONFIRMATIONS.

THE BISHOP OF TORONTO will D.V., hold Confirmations during the months of May and June next, as follows:—Cobocok, Tuesday, May 16th, 7 p.m.; Moore's Falls, Wednesday, May 17th, 10.30 a.m.; Stanhope, Thursday, May 18th, 10.30 a.m.; Minden, Thursday, May 18th, 7.30 p.m.; Haliburton, Friday, May 19th, 7.30 p.m.; Kinmount, Sunday, May 21st, 10.30 a.m.; Galway, Sunday, May 21st, 3 p.m.; Silver Lake, Sunday, May 21st, 6.30 p.m.; Bobcaygeon, Monday, May 22nd, 7.30 p.m.; Fenelon, Tuesday, May 23rd, 7.30 p.m.; Cameron, Wednesday, May 24th, 10.30 p.m.; Lindsay, Wednesday, May 24th, 7.30 p.m.; Dunsford, Thursday, May 26th, 10.30 a.m.; East Ops, Thursday, May 26th, 3.30 p.m.; Toronto, St. John's, Sunday, May 28th, 7 p.m.

Toronto, All Saint's, Sunday, June 4th, 11 a.m.; Toronto, Ascension, Sunday, June 4th, 7 p.m.; Omamee, Tuesday, June 6th, 7.30 p.m.; Manvers, Wednesday, June 7th, 11 a.m.; Cavan, St. John's, Wednesday, June 7th, 4 p.m.; Baillieboro', Thursday, June 8th, 11 a.m.; Millbrook, Thursday, June 8th, 7.30 p.m.; Perrytown, Friday, June 9th, 11 a.m.; Toronto, St. Bartholomew's, Sunday, June 11th, 11 a.m.; Toronto, St. Matthew's, Sunday, June 11th, 7 p.m.; Toronto, St. Philip's, Sunday, June 18th, 7 p.m.

NOVA SCOTIA.

At the annual parish meeting of Trinity Church, Georgetown, held on Easter Monday, 17th April, 1876, in the schoolroom of said church, the following expressions were adopted in memory of the death of our late rector, the Rev. Wm. M. Ross, M.A.: Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to have taken from us our beloved rector, on the 29th day of November last, and whose mortal remains we were enabled at his own request to have borne to his native home in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, and there consigned to their last earthly resting place. We now deem it fit and appropriate to give expression at this, our Easter meeting in some enduring form to the love we bore him, and our high appreciation of his rare endowments, varied culture and many noble and Christian virtues. Therefore, Resolved—That we will ever cherish his memory as a bright example of all that is loving, kind, true, wise and faithful in friend, teacher, guide, and pastor, and as one high in the degrees of Masonry and Oddfellowship. Resolved further,—That a marble tablet, inscribed with a suitable epitaph, be set into the walls of our church, for the maintenance of which he labored so zealously, and contributed in every way so generously.

Resolved further—That these resolutions be inserted in the records of this parish, and that the wardens forward a copy of them to the bereaved mother and sisters of the deceased, to whom we continue our warmest sympathies. G. A. Aitken, F. M. Campbell, churchwardens, 1875.

THE Easter Vestry elected for Trinity Church, Georgetown, P. E. I.: Wm. Sanderson, Wm. S. Easton, Charles Owen, Charles Aitken, Albert G. Aitken, James Hains, James Easton, Joseph Fairchild. Wardens: Albert G. Aitken, William S. Easton. Delegates to Synod: William Sanderson, James Easton.

THE Thirteenth Session of the Diocesan Synod of Nova Scotia will open with Divine Service at St. Luke's Cathedral, on Tuesday, 4th of July next at 10 a.m.

THE Bishop proposes (D.V.) to hold Confirmations as follows:—May 8th, p.m., French village, St. Margaret's Bay; May 9th, a.m., St. Peter's; May 9th, p.m., Peggy's Cove; May 10th, p.m., North Shore; May 11th, a.m., Hubbard's Cove; May 12th, Blandford; May 14th, Chester; May 15th, Western Shore; May 16th, a.m., Mahone Bay; May 17th, Lunenburg; May 19th, Conquerall; May 21st, a.m., Bridgewater; May 21st, p.m., LaHave, St. Peter's; May 22nd, Petite Riviere; May 23rd, a.m., Broad Cove; May 23rd, p.m., Port Medway; May 14th, Eagle Head; May 25th, Liverpool; May 26th, p.m., Lockport; May 27th, Jordan River; May 28th, Shelbourne; May 29th, a.m., Church Over; May 29th, p.m., Barrington; May 30th, Tusket; May 31st, Yarmouth; June 4th, Weymouth; June 6th, Digby.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Church Society on 21st inst., a statement of probable income of the responsibilities of the Society for 1876 was submitted, showing that there would be a deficiency of at least \$550 at the end of the year.—A correspondent at Annapolis informs us that their Easter meeting passed off without any difficulties, and it was found that the free seats had done well, there being a deficit of only one dollar. Dr. Robinson and J. Harris were elected new Church Wardens—the old ones retiring with flying colors. By the aid of the "Mite Society" they will be free from debt in two years time.—*Halifax Church Chronicle.*

MONTREAL.

THE Rev. Percy W. Smith, B.A., being about to leave the parish of Aylmer, P. Q., received an affectionate address from his congregation and friends, accompanied with a very handsome present of money. His parishioners testify that they recognize in him the qualities of a Christian gentleman, with careful and zealous attention to the arduous duties of the ministry, which have won for him the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact, or who have witnessed his zeal and consistency during his residence in the neighborhood. Mr. Smith furnished a suitable reply for the testimony given of their esteem, and with every wish for their future prosperity and happiness.

ONTARIO.

ST. JOHN'S, ERINSVILLE.—Messrs. John Ennis and John Rathwell were elected churchwardens. A Committee was appointed to proceed with the building of the new Church as fast as the funds would allow.