

OUR TABLE.

SCENES IN A SOLDIER'S LIFE, BY J. H. WILTON,
LATE 23RD ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.*

THIS interesting work is a plain, simple, narrative of the events that occurred during the late War in India, or, at least, of such of them as came within the observation of the author; and we cannot but do him the justice to say that he certainly looked about with his eyes open; he has evidently been a keen and an acute observer.

Hence the interest of the work is materially increased by the minute detail into which he enters, as it were upon the spot, of innumerable incidents; many of them of a surprising and startling character, which would nevertheless be looked for in vain in a more elaborate history.

The feeding, for a week, of thirty-five thousand camels and elephants with ripe grapes—an officer on horseback leaping down a precipice eighty feet deep without injury, with many other adventures and circumstances of a similar nature, are of this description. These are scattered, too, so plentifully over the whole work as to give it a zest which nothing else could have afforded.

We certainly love the marvellous, and we have been so much accustomed, even from our very infancy, to look for a little sprinkling of it, in everything we have read concerning the East, that we should hardly have considered the work complete without it.

The most interesting circumstance in the whole work is, without doubt, the rescue of lady Sale and her fellow prisoners from the hands of the Afghans.

The narrative contains many other incidents of a character very different from those we have adverted to, which, although less wonderful, and less likely to excite our purest sympathies, are not yet the less useful. We allude here to such as tend to develop the character and elucidate the manners and habits of a people so little known, and of whom, in connection with the disasters of our armies in the East, we have lately heard so much.

The "Scenes" are laid, we must not omit to mention, in Scinde, Beeloochistan, and Afghanistan, amid the military operations in those countries during 1839 and the four succeeding years.

THE SNOW DROP.

THE last number of the first volume of this excellent monthly is before us. During the year now ended we have read the numbers, as they appeared, with very great pleasure indeed, albeit,

* Montreal:—R. & C. Chalmers.

it is not intended for the "Children of larger growth," among whom for many years we have been numbered. The Snow Drop is what it purports to be, a publication suited for the young, and from every page of its three hundred and ninety-two, they may gather valuable instruction, while in the full enjoyment of most delightful and interesting reading. The Editors,—one of them known most favorably to the readers of the Garland since its commencement, as "E. L. C.," and her sister, Mrs. Cheney,—have fulfilled their task in a spirit of gentleness and kindness, and with a thorough and perfect knowledge of the minds and feelings of youth, which are rarely equalled, and when allied with talent such as theirs, can scarcely fail to be of immense and lasting benefit, as well as of present pleasure, to all who avail themselves of their monthly offering.

The culture of the heart—of the home affections and fire-side sympathies of those who will soon become the men and women of Canada, is one of the leading features of the work. There is in it no attempt to force the mind into premature growth, at the expense of the heart and feelings. In this, to our thinking, it is far superior to anything of the kind that has come before us, and for this as well as for many other reasons, we think it eminently worthy of attention and support.

NOW AND THEN—BY SAMUEL WARREN, F. R. S.,
AUTHOR OF THE DIARY OF A LATE LONDON
PHYSICIAN.

We have to thank Mr. McCoy for this tale, which we have read with intense interest. It is the best of the season. We will advert to it more fully in our next.

THE SKILFUL HOUSEWIFE'S GUIDE.*

We recommend this excellent little Manual of Cookery to all our fair readers:—to the skilful, for it is expressly dedicated to them—to the unskilful, (if any such there be,) as a study of its contents will soon render the designation inappropriate.

They will find recipes for everything—from simple "Bouilli" to superb "Mock Turtle"—from "Scotch Haggis" to "Hindustanee Cutlets"—from "Potato Fritters" to "Plum Pudding"—from "Barley Gruel" to "Mulled Wine"—from "Pork Jelly" to "Syrup of Cream."

With this little work, (and a good supply of the necessary material,) it will be their own fault if their husbands, or fathers, or brothers, ever get crusty at the "mahogany."

* Montreal:—Armour & Ramsay.