

OUR TABLE.

CHRISTIAN SONGS, BY THE REV. JAMES GIL-
BORNE, L.L.D.

A NEAT volume, containing some very beautiful poetry, under the above title, has reached us; and we have had much pleasure in glancing over its contents. The poetry, as the name implies, is almost entirely of a religious character, and the author evidently feels the importance of the subjects chosen by him for illustration.

As a specimen of the author's powers we quote the following verses. The subject, *The Magnetic Telegraph*, although at first sight, it may seem scarcely a theme for the poet, is in reality full of food for the imagination. The every day uses to which it has been made subservient cannot deprive it of its own intense interest, and our author has fully appreciated it. The lines themselves are very beautiful:—

THE MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

Along the smooth and slender wires,
The sleepless heralds run
Fast as the clear and living rays
Go streaming from the sun;
No peals or flashes, heard or seen,
Their wondrous flight betray,
And yet their words are quickly felt
In cities far away.

Nor summer's heat nor winter's hail
Can check their rapid course;—
They meet unmov'd the fierce wind's rage,—
The rough wave's sweeping force:—
In the long night of rain and wrath,
As in the blaze of day,
They rush, with news of weal or wo,
To thousands far away.

But, faster still than tidings borne
On that electric cord,
Rise the pure thoughts of him who loves
The Christian's life and Lord,—
Of him who, taught in smiles and tears
With fervent lips to pray,
Maintains high converse here on Earth
With bright worlds far away.

Ay! though nor outward wish is breath'd,
Nor outward answer given,
The sighing of that humble heart
Is known and felt in Heaven:—

Those long frail wires may bend and break,
Those viewless heralds stray,
But Faith's least word shall reach the throne
Of God, though far away.

The book, as we have said, is very beautifully got up, on fine paper, and altogether, both for its contents, and for its mechanical appearance, is well worthy of perusal and preservation.

STARKE'S POCKET ALMANAC.

ANOTHER reminder that the old year is giving place to its successor, is before us, in the shape of the beautiful *Pocket Almanac* now for the eighth time offered to the public. This admirable little work maintains its well earned, and justly deserved reputation, as essential, not only to the counting house, but to the private housekeeper, who must find it exceedingly useful for daily reference. The copy before us is beautifully bound in velvet, and redolent of gold. We have to thank Messrs. R. & A. Miller for it, as an elegant specimen of the very elegant binding which they so frequently give us occasion to admire. By the bye, the specimens before us we think are sufficient to convince even those who may have doubts about the fact, that in both printing and binding, *Cahada* will not disadvantageously compare with either *America* or *England*. And this we say, not in a spirit of boasting, but as a simple fact, which the incredulous may investigate, when we are sure they will be incredulous no longer.

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME, BY VICTOR HUGO.

A CHEAP edition of this long established favorite work has just been issued, and a copy of it sent us by R. & A. Miller. It is well known for the rich train of thought which pervades it, and for the interest of its incidents and of the story. We need do no more than cordially commend it to the attention of all who have not read it, assuring them that they have a pleasure before them, which they will appreciate and enjoy.