

to the promise, which the author calls the countersign. Proceeding on this view he has collected a series of Scripture promises, to each of which he has appended another passage exhibiting a corresponding expression of a believer's spirit. To each of these he appends a third passage, which he calls the "proof," exhibiting the evidence or ground of confidence in the promise. We subjoin a specimen:—

"GUIDING GRACE.

"*Promise.*—'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.'—Psalm xxxii. 8.

"*Countersign.*—'Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk. Teach me to do thy will.'—Psalm cecxlili. 8, 10.

"*Proof.*—'Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.'—Prov. iii. 5, 6."

To each example of this kind there is appended a corresponding piece of poetry. The work is ingenious and eminently fitted to assist the Christian in closet exercise, especially in self-examination.

THE GO-PEL MINISTRY, or a Series of Letters from a Father to his Sons, by the Rev. W. S. White, D.D., Lexington, Va. 18mo., pp. 204.

All that we feel it necessary to say of this work is that we wish it were in the hands of every aspirant for the ministry in our Church, and that even the most experienced minister among us might find in it "something to his advantage." It also contains some things worthy the serious attention of members of our congregations. Take the following as a sample:—

"'Did your people pay your excellent pastor all they owed him before his removal,' I once asked of a ruling elder. 'Oh no' was the reply, 'we still owe him \$500.' I said to him, 'You intend to pay him that balance before you seek a successor, do you not?' 'Well,' replied the rich old elder, 'I s'pose we ought. But as times are very hard, and as Mr. — is a mighty good man, he won't press us much for it. I'm sure he will be satisfied if we pay him what we can—and you know we can't do without preaching. So I would be mightily obliged to you if you would try and get us a preacher.' 'Not I,' was my answer, 'if I knew of a dozen I would not recommend one of them to you until you had paid to the uttermost farthing what is now justly due to your former pastor, who, I know, is at this moment suffering for what you owe him.'

"This is a very literal account of this interview. Oh! there is a heaven-provoking meanness on this subject, which must grieve the Holy Spirit, and which must be prominent among the causes of the present low and languishing state of Zion."

THE PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY ALMANAC for 1862. Same Publishers.

This present number of the Board's Almanac is equal to its predecessors. It contains beside the usual calendars, full information regarding the operations of the different Boards of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, and the usual amount of family fireside reading. We subjoin from it the statistics of that body for the past year ending May, 1861.

"During the year ending May, 1861, two new Synods have been organized, viz: Sandusky and St. Paul: also four new Presbyteries, viz: Wyandota, Toledo, Philadelphia Central, and Corisco. Synods in connection with the Assembly, thirty-five; Presbyteries, one hundred and seventy-six;