

dignity enough to give a blessing to Abraham, on the principle that the inferior is always blessed by the superior, is a myth invented at the instigation of the vanity of Jews of the later ages. It was important that Jerusalem should be made to look dignified at an early day, and so this myth was woven into the literature of the Pentateuch. But here are these cuneiform tablets dug up on the shores of the Nile, with letters from that same Melchizedek, speaking of his city as the town of Salim or Shalem, the god of peace; and sometimes he calls it Uru-salim. And Uru, in the tablets, means city; so that Uru-salim means Jerusalem, and thus positive records go back to the period before the Exodus. Professor Sayce says, with great incisiveness: "The Israelitish conquest of Canaan did not destroy the libraries which existed in certain of the cities which successfully resisted the conqueror;

and where the libraries remained uninjured, readers who could make use of them would have remained too. Samuel and his contemporaries were not compelled to trust to tradition and legend for the earlier history of their country; there were written documents in plenty which they could consult. And a comparison of the fourteenth chapter of Genesis with the contents of the letters of Ebed-tob has shown us that the contemporaries of Samuel actually did consult them; the description of Melchizedek, King of Salem, mythical as it has often been alleged to be, turns out to be in strict accordance with fact. Nothing can prove more clearly that neither the ancient records of Jerusalem nor a knowledge of their contents had perished when the book of Genesis was written; and what was true of Jerusalem must have been true of other cities of Palestine as well."—*Rev. Joseph Cook, in Our Day.*

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WHEN the Duke of Clarence died on the fourteenth of January, 1892, there passed away the Heir Presumptive of a great empire, a loving and beloved member of one of the most charming family circles on earth. As lover and friend his character seems to have been blameless, and he died in the flower of his promise, without a stain on his shield. Worldwide and heart-felt is the sympathy and the regret at his early death.

CHANGE OF VIEW.

FOR many years educators have been working on the truth of the statement, as applied to education, "To build high, build broad;" meaning by this saying, if you wish to have high scholarship you must

educate many. On the continent of Europe, especially in Germany, this doctrine has been accepted as axiomatic. But, as if utterly convinced of the falsity of the assumption, there is now a complete change, both in France and Germany. The current of opinion among the leaders of education now is, that in order to get the highest attainment of scholarship you must have the motive power coming from the highest institutions of learning to the lowest. Provide wisely for the education of the people, but with equal wisdom link together the higher seats of learning, allowing and encouraging the freest and fullest development of thought, carefully providing that every department of human exertion is enthusiastically cultivated. The work accomplished by France in this