

lem, as stated in the October Quarterly Statement of the Palestine Exploration Fund.

What is the matter with Professor Drummond's *Pax Vobiscum*? as the boys say: The true answer is "it's all right;" but a good many people think it isn't. Yet Drummond's books all sell well, and are read by thousands of good people. They are not particularly elaborate, and contain no very deep or novel thought, yet people like them, and these are the people who have created Drummond. What kind of people are they? They are people, like Mr. Moody, who read their Bibles by sanctified common sense, and care no single rap for all the dicta of Augustine and Calvin, of Episcopius and Wesley. This kind of thing is on the increase, and is going to conquer. Some occupants of theological chairs not far away recognize the importance of the strictly Biblical system and practise it, but it is a hard thing to shake off the trammels of venerable systems of formulated theology. Moody and Drummond never had a system to shake off: hence their popularity and their usefulness. Yet they belong to no half hearted school: they are the intense men, the hard working men. They see that the great question for the world, Christian and heathen, is the old question of Joshua and Elijah. "Choose this day whom ye will serve." "What is it to be for you and for all the world, righteousness or sin, life or death, Christ or Belial?" I would go to the world with a very single gospel on my lips; asking those, who through fear of death are all their lifetime subject to bondage, to range themselves on His side who is the life, who came to bestow life and life more abundantly, and at whose second coming by the world's invitation Death will die forever. Thank God for Moody and Drummond, who are gathering the hosts of the elect to the battle of Armageddon against the hosts of evil.

The December Century has an article by Dr. Lyman Abbott, entitled *Can a Nation have a Religion?* The author does not want the state or nation to have a church, but he maintains that the great questions that come before the Americans and other earnest peoples are religious questions. He recognizes, as Mr. Blaine and President Harrison do not, the brotherhood of our humanity, and shews that this also is a religious subject, bringing the world together under God. He goes farther, and discovers that "the truest mercy is also the only justice," a badly put sentence which really means that it is a more righteous thing to be merciful and seek the amendment of the criminal than to subject him to death or other penalty from consideration of stern retributive justice. And he maintains that unless the American people be educated in the precepts of true religion, a time may come, and that not far distant, when either anarchy or despotism will replace republican institutions. "Religion" said George Washington "is indispensable to political prosperity." There are some very good things in the Century, whose moral tone is pure, although it glorifies the American flag at the expense of the grander British colours, and sometimes at the expense of what is greater than both, namely Truth.

I am glad to say a good word for the Sunday School Times published at Philadelphia, which keeps up its character as a valuable help to the Sunday School teacher. Personally I do not use it or any other help in my Bible Class work, because the sources whence it draws its information are as open to me as to it. But every minister has not time to be a specialist, and every Sunday School and Bible Class teacher cannot be expected to possess the library, and the knowledge how to use it, that would put him on a par