

Miscellaneous.

THE BIBLE REQUIRED BY ALL MEN.

It is found that in no other book is the power of reading so quickly acquired; and as to the *intellect*, the man aiming at high attainments as a lawyer, who is to deal with a jury, must be a reader of the Bible. John Marshall, the very prince of chief-justices, was a very Apollos in the Scriptures. He who created the light for the eye, and the sound for the ear, and the sandy desert for the camel's foot, created that book for the human intellect. It is the first book ever written on the earth, and doubtless will be the last book read; the eldest daughter of time, and so wise that all created minds cannot find a substitute. It is read by more readers, and in more languages, than any and all other books. Can you point to any other book which is printed and read in one hundred and seventy different languages? and of which one drops from the press once in four minutes the year round?

For two hundred and fifty years, the Bible has been read in our schools, and generally, through the land. I have yet to hear the first instance in which it has been injurious to the intellect or to the heart; on the contrary you can point to no people, of the same numbers, having equal responsibilities laid upon them, who have developed so much intelligence, so much character, so much energy, and who have done so much for humanity, as those people who have grown up in our free schools, having read the Bible every day of their school-life.

For good or for evil, read by young and old, the Bible has hitherto had a mighty influence in shaping the destiny of this nation. Nowhere on earth has it been read more, and nowhere under its teachings have risen up better schools, freer churches, better teachers, stronger men in the professions, nobler models in the halls of legislation and the senate.—*Rev. Dr. Todd.*

WHAT WILL THEY GIVE US?

In the heat of the Anti-Christian assaults upon the Word of God, we are so much engaged at the points of attack and defence that it is almost impossible to take time for a calm survey of other vital issues. But thoughtful spectators of the conflict will ask, What will these men take from us? What will they give us in its place? Instead of the Bible—what? The Positivism of Comte, the Evolution Theory of Darwin, and Herbert Spencer's Correlation of Forces and socialistic doctrines? Instead of the Jesus of the Gospel—what? The myths of Strauss and the legends of Renan? Instead of the quickening spirituality of the New Testament—what? Mr. Matthew Arnold's atheistic "Literature and Dogma," and the scoffing naturalism of a school among us? Will "the common people hear" these things "gladly"? Can they heal a broken heart, or light up the valley of the shadow of death?

What then? Their own broad admissions are fatal to their theories. They dare not carry them out to their natural and logical conclusions. Merely as a restraining force, religion is a necessity of government; and Christianity is the essential element of modern civilization. But what can the destructives put in its place? "After us, the Deluge," said a prophetic Frenchwoman of the old Revolution; but after these men—what?—*Intelligencer.*

THE INFIDEL AND THE STRAY LEAVES.

"When in Paris some years ago" (related Mr. Webster), "I received an account of a French infidel who had happened to find in a drawer of his library some stray leaves of an unknown volume. Although in the habit of