

has introduced it, and therefore the story itself, and the purpose, must, as to the subject in question, be thrust aside with the contempt they deserve. The Dr. next proceeds with his story of the clay tablets, as follows:—

“The Assyrian Genesis is similar in order and arrangement to that in our own Bible; and gives the same general order in the creative work. Its days, however, of creation, as indeed there is good internal evidence to prove those of Moses also are, seem to be periods or ages. It treats of the creation of gods as well as of the universe.” The Dr. gives it from Mr. Smith’s translation, as follows:—

“When above were not raised the heavens,
And below on the earth a plant had not grown up,
The deep also had not broken up its boundaries,
Chaos, (or water) Tiamat, (the sea or abyss) was the producing mother of them all.

These waters at the beginning were ordained,
But a tree had not grown, a flower had not unfolded,
When the gods had not sprung up any one of them,
A plant had not grown, and order did not exist.
Were made also the great gods,
The gods Latrama and Lahamu, they caused to come * * *
And they grew * * *
The gods Lar and Kisar were made,
A course of days and a long time passed,
The god Anu * * *
The gods Sar and * * *

On a subsequent page the Dr. gives the following further lines of the tablet:—

“In its mass, (that is of the lower chaos,) he made a boiling.
The god Uru, (the moon) he caused to rise out the night he overshadowed,
To fix it also for the light of the night until the shining of the day,
That the month might not be broken.”

The words within the brackets are evidently no part of the inscriptions, but must have been introduced by the Dr. or some previous hand.

Now every common-sense person, or even a child in a Sunday-school will say: “What has all this legendary rubbish to do with the inspired Bible account of Creation in Genesis? But the Dr. thinks otherwise, for he has put it forward as one of the chief foundations for his version of that Bible record. By way as it would seem of strengthening his legendary story concerning that creation, he has, on searching around, got hold of a book called “The Popul Vuh, or sacred book of the ‘Quiche’ Indians of Western America, an undoubted product,” as the Dr. says, “of prehistoric religion in