

sufficient amount of steam power. Why God did not make us incapable of sinning is clearly seen when we remember that, prior to the creation of man, he made many creatures that could not sin, such as trees, plants, stones ; whales and minnows, elephants and muskrats, horses and donkeys, fowls, insects &c. ; but as he wished to create *man* and thus to bring on the higher forms of existences, giving him the capacity to understand and be governed by a moral law, he could but give him the power of choice between right and wrong. An eagle can never break the ten commandments ; a lobster can never be exposed to the punishment of the moral law ; the cony can never fall from grace, and no man who knows what he is asking for, would ever pray to be delivered from the responsibilities of the moral law, for then he would differ from the worm only as one animal differs from another. Where there can be no blame there can be no praise ; and praise implies merit in obedience to a law of right.

If these principles are founded in the true philosophy of things, the introduction of sin should excite no surprise more than the disobedience of a child, the failure of a crop, or the sinking of a ship—all are events that, in the constitution of things, may frequently occur. What might come to pass did come to pass ; man was made fallible because he was made finite, and finite because he is a creature that could not be equal to its Creator.*

T. M.

THE BIBLE.

[The "Christian Advocate," of Hamilton, Canada West, in a late editorial, gives its readers the following, which the Christian Banner must and does cordially endorse.]

The Bible reveals the being and attributes of God—his character, his works, his dispensations of providence and grace ; and is the source of all the knowledge we have of divine truth. It is our moral Sun, illuminating by its heavenly rays our darkened world, shedding a pure and holy light upon the pathway of duty, and guiding the benighted travelers of earth onward and upward to immortality. It is our Chart, by which we can safely navigate life's stormy sea, and steer our tossed and weather-beaten bark into the haven of eternal rest. It is the "Magna Charta" of our spiritual rights, securing to us by virtue of its covenant of grace, and its "exceeding great and precious promises," all our re-