

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.—An attempt was lately made to assassinate Louis Napoleon, by shooting. The attempt failed, although two shots were fired.

THE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW.—This Bill was cast out on a question of form. It appears very strange that the informality was not sooner discovered. We believe the time is only a little extended for its being carried successfully through.

THE NEWS FROM THE CRIMEA.—Intelligence is now received daily in London from the Crimea, by Telegraph. Although the bombardment of Sebastopol had been carried on vigorously for a considerable time, and several points had been carried, still the result appears not to have been very decisive.

GERMAN CHURCH IN TORONTO.—We rejoice to learn that a movement is being made to obtain provision for the spiritual instruction and oversight of the Protestant Germans in Toronto. This interesting class of our population do not, we fear, receive a sufficient amount of attention from Evangelical Churches.

REMOVAL OF EMINENT CHRISTIANS.—In the *Notes of the Churches*, we observe notices of the removal of several eminent christians. Capt. Craigie, and Captain Vickers both fell in the Crimea. As officers, they were distinguished by their bravery and their cheerful endurance of privations, and as christians, they were eminent for their personal devotedness, and their zeal in seeking to promote the spiritual good of those around them.

W. B. Gurney, Esq., short-hand writer to the House of Lords, died lately, in the 78th year of his age. He was one of the earliest encouragers of Sabbath schools, and was distinguished for his great but unostentatious liberality.

William Jones, Esq., was long officially connected with the Religious Tract Society. He was a man of liberal views, and of a most catholic spirit.

Jas. Fulton, Esq., Rector of the Free Normal School, Edinburgh, lately died at Madeira, to which he had gone in October last, on account of delicacy of health. He was universally respected, and his friends, colleagues, and pupils, now mourn their deeply felt loss.

NOTICES OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

JACOBUS ON THE GOSPELS.

With all their excellencies, we have never been fully satisfied with the "Notes of Barnes." Their distinguishing feature is common sense, but there is often a lack of exact and trustworthy scholarship, as well as a defect both in the mode of exposition, and the information communicated. The great art of a commentator consists in so selecting, arranging and presenting his materials, that he shall not only convey a clear view of the author's meaning, but also suggest thoughts and ideas to his readers. We consider that all these requirements are met with in the admirable "Notes of Jacobus"—The author is a respected minister of the Old School Presbyterian Church, and Professor of Biblical Literature in the Wes-

ton Seminary. Of his works only the notes on Matthew, Mark, and Luke have been published, but others are in preparation. The work is distinguished for plainness and common sense.—You cannot mistake his meaning, and his short, pithy sentences are full of meaning, and contain the substance of many a sermon in themselves.

The traces of the accomplished scholar are seen in every page. Information, which you will find in no other Commentary, exists on nearly every page.

Great care and learning must have been expended in its composition—Exactness, diligence and correctness are among its distinguishing features. It is essentially an original production—new ideas are presented in almost every part. And the author's visit to Palestine has enriched the second volume with many fresh observations and statements. Lastly, it is eminently a suggestive work—While nothing obscure is left unexplained, too much is not said, so as to leave nothing for the reader. The subject is not exhausted, but merely unfolded, and presented in such a light, as to open up new views to the reader, and suggest fresh trains of thought. Let us warn, however, by stating that it is a book to be not only read, but also studied. A superficial examination of it will lead to the belief, that it is dry and uninteresting. The notes are so condensed and combined, that their beauties and real value can only be discerned by close and frequent study. This is probably the chief reason, why these volumes have not been so much appreciated as their true excellence might lead us to expect. They are not so showy as Barnes, but far more solid. For simplicity and depth, in exact scholarship and clearness, in the extent and value of the information communicated and in their powers of suggestion, they far surpass the productions of that eminent writer. The position, too, of the author, affords a guarantee for his orthodoxy. We also desire to direct special attention to the harmony prefixed to, and in a peculiar manner, incorporated with the work.—This original and ingenious plan alone stamps the "Notes" with great value. As a specimen of the work, we subjoin a short extract, taken at *aperturam libri*,—Matth. v. vii. 7, "Vain repetitions,—an empty round of phrases, recited parrot-like, or an idle repeating of the same words, without thought. The term (*batulogeseite*) is supposed to be taken from the primary sounds of infancy—an incoherent babble. The Old English translation renders it here, 'Babble not too much'—An endless tumult and hubbub of words," says, Augustine is often substituted for the unspeakable utterances of the spirit—"The heathen—the Gentiles, or the nations, as the term is, who were foreigners and aliens from the commonwealth of Israel. Jews should not be or do, as the unenlightened heathen. Christians should not act like the world. It was not against repetition, but vain repetition, that our Lord here spoke. This the Gentiles often practised; and the merely formal among nominal christians will often copy the pagans. We should pray and pray again for the same thing. We may repeat our desires and words

in the same prayer. This sometimes is done devoutly from very earnestness, and in the way of importunity. It is against idle and empty words repeated to spin out a heartless prayer, or to make a merit of long prayer, that Christ is speaking. Those, to whom he alluded, calculated "to be heard for their much speaking."—"Much praying is a different thing; and is commanded."

The two volumes already published, can be had of Mr. Fletcher, Yonge Street, Toronto.

FOLLOW JESUS. By the Author of "Come to Jesus," &c. New York: R. Carter & Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

Many of our readers, we presume, have seen Newman Hall's excellent tract, "Come to Jesus." The present is a sequel to it, and is addressed to those who have accepted the invitation, and have taken up Christ's yoke. It is marked by the same excellencies that have made the former tract, and the other writings of Newman Hall, so popular. It consists of twenty-eight chapters, in the course of which the writer explains what is meant by following Jesus—how we should follow him, and the motives which should influence all the faithful followers of Christ. It is an admirable little book to put into the hands of young Christians.

THE GREAT JOURNEY: A Pilgrimage through the Valley of Tears to Mount Zion, the City of the Living God. By the Author of "The Faithful Promiser," &c. &c.

The author of this book, in adopting the allegorical style, states he was induced to do so from his experience of its power to interest and instruct youth. A great part of the book was prepared for an advanced class of young persons. From an examination of the book, we can say, that the allegory is well sustained, the spirit evangelical, and the style lively and interesting. Without comparing it with the great allegory of Bunyan, we recommend it as a book which may, by the Divine blessing, largely interest and benefit its readers.

THE SAINT'S EVERLASTING REST. By Richard Baxter. Accurately collated with the various Editions published in the Author's Life-time, with a Life of the Author, an Introductory Essay, &c. &c. By the Rev. John Johnston Carruthers, Liverpool. New York: R. Carter & Brothers. Sold by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

Few men ever lived who made a more diligent improvement of their time, or who were more remarkably blessed in their labors, than Richard Baxter. Not only was he indefatigable in the performance of his pastoral duties; every spare moment was devoted to writing, and so much did he accomplish in this way, that the published list of his works contains no less than one hundred and thirty-eight publications. These works are of various kinds, critical, controversial, doctrinal, devotional, practical, expository and historical. The first of his works, and that which has proved the most useful, was "The Saint's Everlasting Rest." It was written in very peculiar circumstances, when he was in a very debilitated and precarious state of health,