

Hebrew grammar. The student must know that the sex gender is not the grammatical gender, and while it is true that *oth* is the feminine form of the Hebrew plural noun ending, it is also true that the feminine ending is not seldom given to nouns of undoubtedly masculine signification. Notably *ab*, father, has *aboth*, fathers, not *abem* as would naturally be supposed; and in the case of participles used as nouns, the feminine form is often used as indicating dignity or office; e.g. Judges v. 3. where *princes*, not princesses, has the Hebrew feminine ending.

MARK the following from the Washington Sun.

The prayers of God's people are most earnestly requested for the thorough purification of a young church whose pastor and officers are inveterate tobacco users, much against the wishes of its members.

Pray brethren, pray.

THE position in Egypt is becoming critical, view it from whatever point of view one may. We know something of religious bitterness, the *odium theologicum*; we know nothing of Oriental fanaticism. Mahometanism is certainly alarmed at the progress made by Christian nations in the East, and the growing power of Christian missions. Is the crescent to pale before the cross? The infidel is still the infidel, with whom no peace can be made. Then the Second Adventists of Islam are now expecting the great reformer, who is to conquer all enemies of the Moslem faith and make it supreme in the world. The Mahometan battle of Armageddon draweth nigh. And now the professed prophet appears, and success is crowning his arms. Who can tell what the result may be? Is India even safe with such a commotion? The meanwhile conqueror of the Soudan, the Mahdi, is one Mahomed Achmet, who claims to be a lineal descendant of the Prophet himself. He has received a regular religious training, is a legitimate sheikh, or faki, has been a religious recluse on the island of Abba, where he made a subterranean cave for retirement, fasting, burning incense, and repeating for hours together one of the names of the Deity. He has acquired fame, wealth, and several wives, who have been carefully selected from the families of influential chiefs. About 1881, the time of Mahometan expectation, he

wrote to his brother fakis, claiming to be the Mahdi, foretold by Mahomet, and declaring his mission. He met with opposition, and for a time has been obstructed in his plans, but his crushing defeat of Hicks Pasha has re-kindled enthusiasm, the Arab hordes seem on fire, and it may be that a religious war of extermination may be the result of this Mahometan outbreak; we rather trust some decisive measure may be taken by which the uprising may keep within its proper bounds. Meantime, anxious eyes are watching the East.

THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN.

We wish the famous negress, "Sojourner Truth," could have had half an hour with "Rejoinder" and his village blacksmith—neither the blacksmith nor "Rejoinder" would ever have been heard of after. We think we hear her asking, "Whar did your Christ come from? From God and a woman, man had nothin' to do wid him."

Bible words and Bible arguments are demanded, and the demand is not difficult to comply with. It was indicated in the first article that it was in their dual capacity our first parents received the lordship of the world, and as the mother of all living was taken from man, so the man Christ Jesus took his humanity from woman. Man honoured in the Creation, woman in the Incarnation: "He hath regarded the low estate of his hand-maiden, for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed." Even under the Old Testament dispensation, women occupied places of public responsibility and exercised "gifts."

"Miriam, the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances, and Miriam answered Moses, Sing ye unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea."

Miriam is called a prophetess, evidently because she had, in common with Aaron, received divine communications. The part assigned to her, and the women of Israel at this moment, is in accordance with Egyptian and Hebrew customs. That the Lord had spoken by Miriam and Aaron, we learn from Numbers xii. 2: "Hath the Lord indeed