

"The American Indian: What and Whence," and "The Schools of the Olden Time," the latter is particularly readable. Chancellor Rand, of McMaster, and Miss Blanche Bishop, of Moulton College, each contribute excellent poems.—*Knox College Monthly* and the *Methodist Quarterly* have each articles on "The Calling System." Interesting indeed are the results of a comparison of methods of the two denominations, and it is surprising how much of Baptist Polity creeps in, in spite of Disciplines and Presbyteries. Two articles on "The Atonement" in the *Quarterly* will repay careful reading.—*The Methodist Magazine* is unusually interesting; we have not space to commend all that deserves commendation. "Tent Life in Palestine" and "Zurich and its Memories" are able articles, finely illustrated. We quote the following:—

#### EQUIPOISE.

Just when we think we've fixed the golden mean—  
 The diamond point, on which to balance fair  
 Life, and life's lofty issues—weighing there,  
 With practical precision, close and keen,  
 Thought, motive, word, and deed, there comes between  
 Some wayward circumstance, some jostling care,  
 Some temper's fret, some mood's unwise despair,  
 To mar the equilibrium, unforeseen  
 And spoil our nice adjustment! Happy he  
 Whose soul's calm equipoise can know no jar,  
 Because the unwavering Hand that holds the scales,  
 Is the same Hand that weighed each steadfast star—  
 Is the same Hand that on the sacred tree  
 Bore for his sake, the anguish of the nails!

MARGARET J. PRESTON.

SMALL mistakes sometimes tell large tales. That which to the ignorant appears like learning, easily shows itself as ignorance to the learned. "If I didn't pronounce Rio Grande in the Spanish way," said a sciolist, "my friends would think I didn't know any better." "Well," answered the scholar, who was advocating the Anglicized pronunciation for Americans, "you *don't* know any better." And so with a very large proportion of those who would seem sufficiently literate and cultivated to write for the press. They would impress the editors with their facility in the marks of professional accomplishment. They would not send "a manuscript," but an MSS, or an M.S.S., or an MS.S., or even an M.M.S, or Mms. It is almost as rare to find such writers sending an MS. as "a manuscript." And, again, it is not uncommon to find handsomely printed books, pamphlets, circulars, etc., by, or about, an L.L.D. One "S" or one "M" too many, or one surplus period, is a small mistake with a large significance. Upon what principle are such abbreviations constructed? How much is there to know about such symbols? Evidently they are dangerous tools in the hands of the inexpert. No one can expect to use them safely, and to carve a writer's fortune with them, unless he is willing to study out what such signs stand for, and how. Success is not to be attained in literature or scholarship, any more than in any other walk of life, by relying upon seeming to know what one does not know.—H. CLAY TRUMBULL, in *S. S. Times*.