

J. McCosh Smith on Are there errors in the Bible? 'His answer is a dogmatic and indignant No.

Dr. Scrimger draws my attention to two numbers of the Hartford Seminary Record, the chief thing in which is the Rev. C. C. Stearns' series of lectures on The Monuments and Inscriptions Called Hittite. So far as they go, and have been printed, these lectures are good. Mr Stearns says he has read my book on the subject, which a glance at his pages told me. Nevertheless, like some other critics, and especially Dr. Hayes Ward, who is hurt somehow, he compares my method with Hyde Clarke's, with which it has no more connection than has Dr. Hayes Ward with anything beyond the mere bibliography of oriental discovery. Mr. Stearns objects to the interpretation of ancient documents by modern languages. Will he explain how Accadian was and is interpreted? It was by modern Fin, Lapp, Mordwin, Permian, Vogul, and similar Ugrian dialects, no more respectable in any way than the Basque and infinitely inferior, from a literary point of view, to the Japanese, of which the much-despised Choctaw is but a dialect on American ground. If he can offer me any *old Choctaw*, I will gladly accept it. Why do wise men sometimes talk nonsense? Had it been possible to affiliate Hittite with Accadian, or any similar outcome of the cuneiform, it would have been

done. All the oriental Kita wrote classical Japanese. From the same source I received a copy of the Sunday School Times, containing a review of Professor Morris Jastrow's attempt to decipher these same inscriptions. One character, *pi*, the professor has found, but his determinative prefixes and Turkish dialect are rubbish.

I have been favoured by Dr. Robert Campbell of St. Gabriels with a copy of his paper on The Flora of Montreal Island, reprinted from the Canadian Record of Science. Dr. Campbell has collected over four hundred specimens of plants, chiefly phænogamous, which he has generously presented, after mounting, to the Natural History Society. To a botanist the list is an interesting one and includes some rare specimens, such as the *Parnassia Caroliniana* or Grass of Parnassus. The Talker wishes the Dr. all success in his delightful study. The Rev. Dyson Hague, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Halifax. N. S., sends The Church of England the Centre of Unity, and the Past, Present and Future of Evangelical Churchmanship, pamphlets of 85 and 29 pages respectively. Mr. Hague's kindly advice for his Anglican brethren to pursue a course of conciliation towards their dissenting neighbours, and his earnest plea for the gospel of love, cannot fail to impress the reader favourably. His advice to Evangelicals within his Church's pale