

for the virtues and qualifications that adorn the christian character and honour the ministerial office."

PSALMODY

We have received several letters on the brief notice, under this heading, which appeared in our last, but they adduce nothing new in the argument. Scripture songs, fairly translated, differ widely from paraphrases. All Scripture is precious, but paraphrasing admits of human opinions and sentiments being mixed up with the Word of God, as has already been done to some extent, in our Paraphrases. Doctrinal error is insinuated in some, others, at best, are prosaic. We admit that many of them are very beautiful. As Paraphrases, they are the sentiments of fallible men, and liable to defect. The Psalms are neither unsound, defective, nor of doubtful character, and are, therefore, not to be superseded.—Malachi i. 14. We would not force good prose into a service for which it was not meant, nor address the Almighty on the highest themes in words puerile or effete, at least, out of sight inferior to the language of the Spirit.

We cordially unite with one of our correspondents, in hoping that the Churches will agree on some improved version of the Psalms, from which the antiquated expressions and harsh verification will be removed, without departing from the original. We contend for a *version*, not a *substitute* or an *imitation*. Dr. Watts did not profess to give a version. It will be easier to improve the authorised version, than to provide anything better. When we think of the endless variety of the systems of Psalmody, of all degrees of poetic merit, that have been introduced into the worship of God, we are forced to the conclusion that "the Psalms" form the only basis on which we can expect uniformity in the matter of praise.

To the query, "Why use our own words in prayer and not in praise?" we reply: That prayer and praise agree in being both acts of religious worship. Beyond this, the analogy ceases. God has given in his word a *model* for prayer, while he has given a *system* of praise, complete, it must be esteemed, until cases in the experience of the Christian and the Church can be cited, to which nothing in the Scripture songs is applicable. An aged believer when asked "when he would begin to sing Paraphrases?" replied, "when the Psalms are done." Another, who admires certain of the paraphrases, confesses that, as to some of them, but still more of hymns which are sung in some Churches, "I seldom am called to join in singing them without blushing for the dignity of praise, and even for my own manhood, while adjusting my lips to the use of composition at best adapted to the infant school, rather than adult assemblies."

Prayer relates to our own wants, ever varying. Praise is a celebration of the glory and perfections of God. Whilst we are commanded to pray, the Bible contains no Book of prayers; hence, we must select the words to express our desires, relying on the Spirit to help our infirmities, for we know not how to pray as we ought.

In prayer, the thoughts suggest the language; in praise the language suggests the thoughts.

REVIEWS.

INCIDENTS AND MEMOIRS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, UNDER THE SIMILITUDE OF A VOYAGE TO THE CELESTIAL LAND. By the Rev. George B. Cheever, D.D., with a Preface by the Rev. Thomas Binney, London. Published by William Collins, Glasgow; and for sale by D. McLellan, Hamilton.

This is an attractive book, written in the happy style of its gifted author, after the model of the Pilgrim's Progress; but in the language and nautical terms familiar to sea-faring men.—The same work was published in the United States, under the odd title of A REEL IN THE ROT-TER FOR JACK IN THE DOLDRUMS. BY AN OLD SALT. It has had great run on both sides of the Atlantic.

EARLSWOOD, OR LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH. A Tale for the Times. Robert Carter & Brothers New York; for sale by D. McLellan, Bookseller, Hamilton.

In this volume Puseyism is exhibited in a plain and natural manner, and delineated in familiar illustrations, adapted to the capacities of the young; while the book may be read with pleasure and profit by the more mature in years and experience. The design of the work is evidently to unmask, and place in true colours, the insidious enemy which has intruded into the Episcopal Church, and threatens her ruin. Other Churches, too, have similar dangers, and the interesting volume under consideration, may serve as a warning voice.

THE MYSTERY SOLVED; OR IRELAND'S MISERIES; The grand Cause and Cure, By the Rev. Edward Marcus Dill, A.M., M.D., Missionary Agent of the Irish Presbyterian Church, including an introduction by a Clergyman of Canada. Thomas Maclear, 45 Yonge Street, Toronto.

We have already noticed this work, and recommended it to our readers. Mr. Maclear has rendered an important service in re-producing it in a cheap, but respectable style. It is now put within the reach of all classes. Dr. Dill has depicted, we believe, in colors not too dark, the state of a noble-hearted and generous race, debased and degraded. The evidence of their sad condition is too palpable to admit of doubt. Popery, with its train of attendant evils, is the great misery. The Gospel of the Son of God the only effectual remedy.

The Introduction is a valuable addition to Maclear's issue. It gives a rapid sketch of the history of Ireland, and the instrumentalities that are in operation for elevating her people.

In part of the edition several typographical errors appear, which have been overlooked by the proof readers.

THE ANGLO AMERICAN, Published by T. Maclear, Yonge Street.

This respectable monthly is improving as it progresses, and rising in public favour. We know of few periodicals that contain so large a proportion of original matter.

THE NEW YORK MUSICAL WORLD AND TIMES. Published every Saturday by Dyer and Willis, at 257 Broadway. Terms: \$3 a year in advance. Two copies for \$5. Five copies for \$10. A person sending a club of five Subscribers, will receive an extra copy.

THE MONTHLY MUSICAL GAZETTE, is the title of another paper published in the same office. It is of Quarto size like the Musical World and Times, contains eight pages, four of them music—is a condensation of the large paper, and is furnished at the following very low prices, viz: one copy 50 cents; three copies \$1; ten copies \$3; twenty copies \$5.

To lovers of music we commend these attractive periodicals. Address, postpaid, Dyer & Willis, 257 Broadway, New York.

THE CANADIAN WATCHMAN.—This paper has again changed its form, and appears much improved in appearance. It is devoted especially to the advocacy of the Temperance Reformation, and contains besides, a large amount of general reading, bearing upon the interests of religion and morality.

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE. John C. Becket, 22 Great St. James Street, Montreal.

This periodical has reached its nineteenth volume. Although, comparatively, it is an old paper, yet it manifests all the vigour of youth, along with the experience of age. The Advocate is conducted on catholic principles—it is the organ of no particular party—proposes as its grand aim the emancipation of the human race from intemperance, and its accursed fruits, and the elevation of man to that position in which he may best fulfil his high destiny.

The Advocate contains sixteen quarto pages, and is published on the 1st and 15th of every month, at 2s. 6d. per annum, in advance. Any person remitting two dollars, in advance, will receive five copies.

THE CADET, devoted to the interests of Juvenile Teetotallers, is issued from the same office, in monthly numbers, at 1s. 3d. per annum, or ten copies for 10s.

KNOX'S COLLEGE—NEW CLASS BOOK.—A collection of rare and celebrated pieces from the Latin fathers is now in the press, and we are authorised by the Rev. Dr. Willis, the Editor, to say, that a sufficient number of copies is ordered to admit of ministers who so wish, being supplied with them. Price, 2s. 6d.

The collection includes Tertullian's Apology. The Dialogue of Minucius Felix, with several pieces from Cyprian and Augustine. There is added, an extract from Calvin's Institutes, (Latin.)

We learn from a private letter, that the Rev. Mr. Clark, Dumfries, will accept a call to St. John's Church, Quebec.

God has ways of operating in children in their infancy which we cannot account for. God never made a soul but he knew how to sanctify it.

The great design of gospel-grace is not to discharge us from the service of God, but to engage us to, and encourage us in it.

Those who would see Christ must go to the temples where he is worshipped.