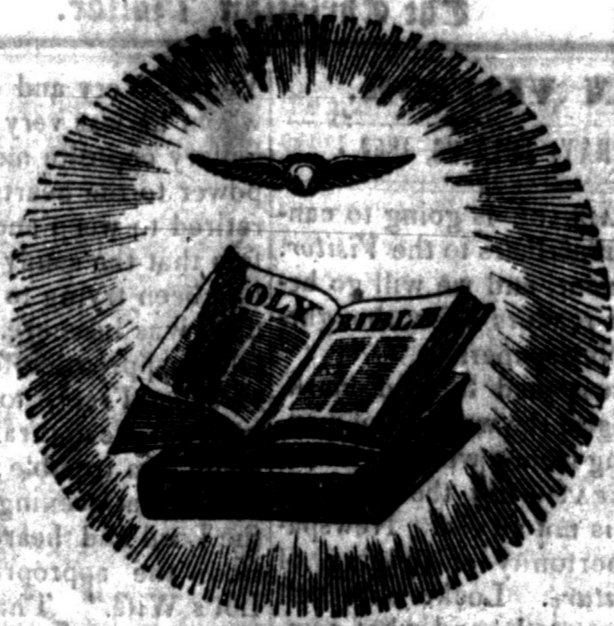


CHRISTIAN



VISITOR.

A Family Newspaper: devoted to

Religious & General Intelligence

REV. E. D. VERY,

"BY PURENESS, BY KNOWLEDGE—BY LOVE UNFEIGNED."—ST. PAUL.

EDITOR.

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[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

NOT LOST, BUT GONE BEFORE.

Blest thought! and O how sweet
To hear thy Spirit from the heavenly shore
That stream of angel music still repeat;
"Not lost, but gone before!"

Thou art not lost to us, and Heaven has now
One angel more!
Death sealed it on thy cold but radiant brow;
"Not lost but gone before!"

Lost! who could dream the thought
That saw the look thy dying features wore?
That look, that heavenly smile, the truth has
taught.
"Not lost, but gone before!"

'Tis not for thee—O, not for thee we weep;
But ah! with loneliness our hearts are sore,
Even while we read, where thy dear relics
sleep
"Not lost, but gone before!"

"Not lost, but gone before!"
An angel whispers where the record lies;
"Not lost, but gone before!"
A choir of angels answer from the skies.

Farewell, dear Brother! may thy memory
teach
Our trusting hearts to wait till time is o'er,
Then shall we grateful own in angel speech
"Not lost, but gone before!"

R. T.

THE BIBLE OF EVERY LAND.

We call especial attention to this Work which should be found upon the Table in every Minister's Study.

A History of the Sacred Scriptures in every Language and Dialect into which Translations have been made; illustrated with Specimens of the same in Native Characters; Series of Alphabets; Coloured Ethnographical Maps, Tables, Indexes, &c. Bagster and Sons.

We have taken occasion to notice this truly magnificent and national work during its progress; and we have great pleasure in now congratulating the enterprising and spirited Publishers on its completion. It will take high rank among those splendid productions of the Press which have placed the name of Bagster on a level with those of the most eminent typographers of former times. Its typographical merits, however, constitute but a small part of its claim on the attention of scholars. Most valuable and instructive to all the lovers of the inspired Scriptures, as affording a complete and condensed statement of the progress of the Bible thus far towards universal diffusion amongst the nations of the earth; it also affords to the philological student, such a text-book for studying the history, diffusion, and classification of languages as could nowhere else be procured, and could be compiled only with immense labour, and from multiplied and recondite sources. It appears that England was ransacked in vain for a complete set of types to print a series of native alphabets. "It being, however, well-known to Philologists, that, in the Imperial Printing-office at Vienna, there exists an unrivalled collection of foreign types, formed by the skill and untiring diligence of the Imperial Commissioner, M. Alois Auer, the Publishers ventured to represent to the Imperial Government the difficulty experienced in carrying the Bible of Every Land with the necessary alphabets, and solicited permission to purchase from the Imperial Printing-office the alphabets not procurable in England. This appeal was immediately responded to; and with great ii-

berality, His Majesty the Emperor at once directed a complete series of the alphabets of all the types used throughout the Work, together with the power of each letter, to be prepared and forwarded, free of cost, for the use of the present work." This handsome and timely contribution has enabled the publishers to present nearly eighteen different alphabets, with a key to their pronunciation, furnishing a most valuable and comprehensive apparatus to the philological student. A very full table of the Classification of Languages is appended to the work. The classification adopted is into seven leading divisions:—1. Monosyllabic; 2. Shemitic; 3. Indo-European; 4. Ugro-Tartarian; 5. Polynesian or Malayan; 6. African; 7. American. To these, in the list of Versions of the Scriptures, an eighth class is added, composed of mixed or Patois dialects. The maps, which are beautifully executed and carefully coloured, exhibit the diffusion of the different classes of languages, and constitute a very valuable feature of the work. "The work has thus assumed," as is observed in the Preface, "the character of an ethnological manual; and, as such, it may possibly prove a stepping-stone to those who desire to pass from the study of two or three isolated languages to the enlarged consideration of language in general, and of the laws upon which all languages are constructed.—Such investigations, if laboriously, patiently, and honestly conducted, can lead but to one result; the affinities by which families, and even classes of languages are linked together, being so close and intimate, that, the more deeply they are examined, the more profound becomes the conviction of the truth of the theory respecting the original unity of language."

The utility of the work, however, as a philological text-book, is but an accident of its main design, which is thus stated in the Preface:—

"It is remarkable, that among all the branches of history, religious, political, social, literary, and scientific, which have from time to time obtained such numerous and such able exponents, the history of the Oracles of God has hitherto, in the form, at least, of a complete and unbroken narrative, remained unwritten. The materials for such a work have, however, been accumulating from century to century; fragmentary portions of this history enter into the composition of many profound and learned treatises, while facts and incidents connected with or illustrative of the subject have been supplied, even to profusion, by writers of almost every age, creed, and nation.—To collect from all sources, ancient and modern, the multitudinous details bearing on that history which, above all others, involves the temporal and eternal interests of mankind, and thus to produce a clear and condensed account of the means by which the Scriptures were transmitted from generation to generation,—of the circumstances under which they have been translated into the predominant languages of every land,—and of the agencies by which copies of the inspired writings in these diverse languages have been multiplied and dispersed among the nations, and tribes, and kindreds of the earth,—is the object of the present work."

From the principle of arrangement being ethnological, and chronological, these pages must be regarded as a treasury of materials for such a history, rather than as a history in the ordinary sense of the term. But, in this point of view, they are of the highest value.—To furnish a critical and detailed examination of the fidelity and complete accuracy with which so wide and toilsome a work has been conducted, would obviously be a task of labour and research which we cannot here attempt. We

must satisfy ourselves with having thus called the attention of our readers to the work, and dismissing it with our hearty meed of applause. It is one which in no former age of the world could have been produced; and while we turn over its many-charactered pages, in the remembrance of this fact, we seem to read a brightening promise of the time when every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, shall have received "the everlasting Gospel," and when "The Lord shall be King over all the earth, and His name one."

Influence of Agricultural Pursuits on Health.

Essays have been written and published in regard to the best means for the preservation of the health of domestic animals, and of the various fruit trees and plants that the farmer cultivates, and great advantages have resulted therefrom; but articles in regard to the health of the farmer himself, and of his family, and those in his employ, seldom find place in the columns of our agricultural periodicals.

It is not to be supposed, that this want of attention to the important subject of health, of the human animal, is owing in any degree to want of interest, or want of thought on the subject, on the part of the conductors of, or contributors to the periodicals devoted to the interests of those engaged in these pursuits, but rather it is owing to the fact that physicians seldom write on such subjects, except for journals specially devoted to the interests of their profession.

If a farmer cannot reasonably expect either pleasure or profit from unhealthy domestic animals, much less can he expect that disease in his own person, or in members of his household, can be conducive to his or their happiness—and it may be well to ask the reader's attention for a few moments to this subject.

By far the largest number of the inhabitants of the rural districts, are, in a greater or less degree, engaged in agricultural pursuits, especially the male portion, and those who are not thus employed, are liable to become affected with the same causes that produce a direct effect upon the health or the constitutions of those who are farmers by occupation. Especially is this true of the females of the farmer's own family.

Farm labourers are greatly exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather—more so, probably, than other classes of people, who reside in the country, except physicians. They are under the necessity of taking care of their cattle, their fences, and their crops without regard to the state of the weather, and are therefore peculiarly liable to suffer from colds, coughs, rheumatism, fever, &c. They are likewise liable to exhaust their system from over exertion, or from that which is too long continued, as in the long days and severe exertion of the haying and harvesting seasons, when many become most completely exhausted.

In the matter of food, every intelligent farmer knows that on it the animal depends for all its vital powers, and is therefore careful to supply the horse or the ox that works, food suitable in quality and quantity to meet the demands of the system, but in regard to himself and "the rest of mankind" he betrays a degree of thoughtlessness that is truly wonderful. The food of agriculturists, generally, is composed of too great a proportion of fat, and salted meats, and that too very improperly cooked.

It is supposed that little culinary skill is required to cook a piece of salt beef or to boil vegetables, or bake bread; but the severe labor of the farmer produces a violent and morbid appetite, he is apt to content himself with a small variety of food, and that very improperly prepared.

It has been said that "bread is the staff of life," but what often goes by that name, and is a compound of sour milk, or putrifying yeast and saleratus mixed with second quality flour, and imperfectly baked, is the staff referred to, it would be better to walk to the grave without the aid of this staff. But few people ever enjoyed the luxury of good bread, and until they know what that is, they will continue to partake of too large a portion of animal food. As little attention is usually paid to supplying the table of the farmer with a proper amount of fruit and vegetables, as to the farinaceous articles of diet—and either because he is in haste to resume his labour, or because there is no pleasure in retaining such food in his mouth, the farmer is accustomed to force it into his stomach without the requisite preparation, and almost with the speed with which an ostrich would bolt a red hot stone.

In regard to the location of their dwellings and out-buildings, the majority of the farmers display as little correct knowledge and taste, as in the culinary department. If it be more convenient to have the pig-pen, or the farm-yard immediately adjoining the parlor or the cook-room, so that all may enjoy the perfume that arises therefrom—or to allow all the wash and the slops of the kitchen to accumulate and ferment near the windows of the sleeping rooms, there, while surrounded with a rank growth of poisonous and decaying vegetables, to distil the very essence of disease and death; this, and the aroma from the compost heap, is allowed to assail the nostrils of all, until the Schneideran membrane is as little annoyed by the stench, as are the palatal nerves of the tobacco chewer by his regiment of "old soldiers."

With all these peculiar sources of disease, and many others of scarcely less magnitude, that press with greater force upon the vital powers of the farmer, than upon those who are engaged in other pursuits, it would be natural to suppose those who are engaged in agriculture, must be more liable to sickness and death than other members of the same community; but the very opposite fact is now well established.

During the twenty months preceding the first of January 1850, there were reported in the state of Massachusetts, the death of 4,974 farmers, and these died at the average age of 63.83 years. Of those styled laborers, 2,283 were reported to have died in that state during the same period of time. These were, in good part, men who were engaged on farms, as house servants, and in any chance employ where they could earn a day's wages; and doubtless they had less healthy habitations and food than those for whom they labored.—They attained to the average age of 45.39 or nearly 18½ years less than the average for farmers.

In the report for the year 1850, we find recorded the deaths of 886 agriculturists who had attained to the average age of 65.13 years, or about 1½ more than those reported the previous year. In this report are also recorded the deaths of 707 laborers, whose average age was 44.14 years, or over 21 years less than that attained by the agriculturists of the same year.

As a contrast between the two classes, it may be well to present the following table, taken from the above named report:—