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THE SITUATION.

By Professor Willis J. Beecher of Andrus Theological Seminary.

It now seems that Prof. Briggs is not only to have his election disputed in the General Assembly, but is to be put upon trial in the Synod; while the pamphlet issued by Prof. Evans and Smith, has drawn upon them a fire nearly as hot as that poured upon Prof. Briggs himself.

In different ways these men, and others who agree with them, are now up for ecclesiastical acquittal or condemnation. Should they be acquitted, it will be their triumph. Should they receive an ill-judged, unfair condemnation, their triumph will be immensely greater.

It is argued that if we admit that the inspired authors made even unimportant errors through lapse of memory, or through defective information, we thus let in all sorts of error, and practically deny the infallibility of the Bible. To this I reply, using a figure of speech of the late Dr. Crosby, that an elephant cannot enter through a keyhole.

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am not therefore in haste to move to turn Prof. Evans out of the Presbyterian Church. I fear he might retaliate by making a move to turn me out of the universal Church, for in this matter he would certainly have the suffrage of a good working majority of the jury of experts.

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Church doctrine and a test of heresy, the absolute inerrancy of the autographs, we need more than merely negative proof for it, and where are we to look for positive proof?

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which he has therein dealt with the points that are in dispute, we operate to correct the misapprehensions that are so widely current, and to quiet the disturbed condition of mind in which as a communion we are so unhappily involved.

ARE YOU REDEEMED?

By Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

Redemption is the core of the Gospel. Mr. Moody is about right when he says that his system of theology is pretty much all to be found in the thirty-third chapter of Isaiah. Paul was a man of one idea; he determined to know nothing in his preaching save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

Some months since we gave our readers a miniature copy of a photograph of the Rev. Rowell D. Hitchcock, D. D., the late President of the Union Theological Seminary, to which we now add, as an accompaniment, that of his predecessor, the Rev. William Adams, D. D., LL. D., whose noble and benignant face it will be a pleasure to look upon, not only to the old graduates, but to thousands of others who have seen and heard him in the pulpit, or on the platform.

Who for suffering sinners died. Both mine arms are clasped around Thee; And my head is on Thy breast; For my weary soul has found Thee Such a perfect, perfect rest.

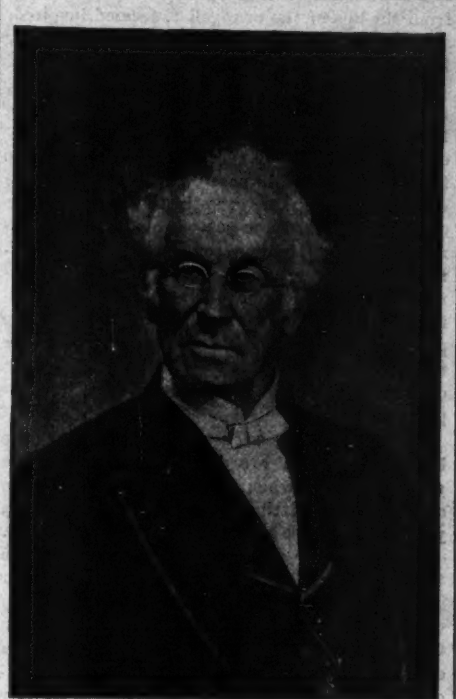
But is there no danger that while we preach and sing about the cross and the atoning blood, we may not realize just what Jesus Christ redeemed us for? Certainly not to provide for us the luxury of heaven, or merely a happy time in getting there.

The goodly land of my ancestors was once a waste of salt waters. The stout arms of its people gradually reclaimed Holland until its green fields are covered with smiling homes and thriving towns.

The Bible as an inspired record is an infallible, and it is the highest authority for faith and life. Its inspiration involves its infallibility. Interpreted, as all words must be, by its real spirit, it gives us truth without error.

Do you believe the Bible to be inerrant in all matters concerning faith and practice and in everything in which it is a revelation from God, or a vehicle of divine truth, and that there are no errors that disturb its infallibility in these matters, or in its records of the historic events and institutions with which they are inseparably connected?

Do you believe that the miracles recorded in the Scriptures are due to an extraordinary exercise of divine energy, either directly or mediately through holy men? "Yes."



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THE FOUR GOSPELS ARE HISTORIC.

When a physician finds some new sovereign specific for a prevalent disease he tells his brethren of it. I have found a useful remedy for the prevalent cultured semi-agnosticism. It works. It is the little book by Dr. John Henry Bartow, Bishop of the First Church of Chicago, bearing the title "The Four Gospels are Historic," a re-print of seven sermons preached to his people and published in the "Golden Rule."

A little volume which will bring much of strength and cheer to sorrowing hearts. There is none of the literature here which has disfigured some suggestive books on the future state. Miss Larcom does not try to measure things spiritual by things material, nor to give accurate description of things unutterable in terms of physical science.

It gives one a vivid idea of the swift rush of time to see how many notes are really needed by the rising generation for the full appreciation of an essay, which, when some of us were young, was almost the literature of the hour. But since notes are indeed needed, we hail their appearance, for our young people cannot afford not to know Macaulay—above all, not to know this essay, one of his very best, the product of his mature years.

It is an admirable introduction—we had almost said, key—to the history of the time of which it treats.

Our Book Table.

FAITH HEALING. A Defense. Or, The Lord Thy Healer. By R. L. Marsh, B.D. New York: Fleming H. Revell.

This essay is the outcome of the author's study for his graduation thesis, presented to the Faculty of Yale Divinity School. The author's researches have convinced him that "the cause of disease is, in general, the devil: escape from it is through atonement."

MARRION. A Tale of Flodden Field. By Sir Walter Scott. With Notes by D. H. M. Classics for Children. Boston: Ginn and Company, 1891.

Time was when in a certain nursery full of children that we wot of, there was no need of notes on Marston. The force and fire of the poem, as repeated by a dear voice that never wearied of "saying poetry" to the children, were its best interpretation.

TEMPERANCE RECITATIONS. No. 8. Edited by Miss L. Penney. New York: The National Temperance Society and Publication House, 1891.

PROF. BRIGGS REPLIES TO QUESTIONS.

The following questions have been submitted to Dr. Charles A. Briggs, in accordance with the action of the Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary, they have been answered by him severally and categorically as below, and the entire paper subscribed with his own hand:

(a) Do you consider the Bible, the Church and the Reason as coordinate sources of authority? "Yes."

(b) Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice? "Yes."