



The Sabbath Recorder. New York, July 7, 1853.

"HUMAN DEPRAVITY."

See First Page.

To the article of "D. E. M." considered by itself, I have but little to object; and were it not for the apparent connection which it is made to hold with the subject which has been under discussion, I might let it pass without comment.

In all candor, however, I will admit, that an inaccurate expression on my part furnished you with a plausible pretext for such a course. I said, "We cannot conceive of sin as a voluntary act, which does not spring from a nature, or disposition, already corrupted."

I believe in the voluntary nature of all sin. "Sin is the transgression of the law." Every act which is strictly a transgression of the law, is voluntary.

But "by a certain class of theologians moral depravity is thought to be a certain undefinable something lying back of actual transgression or sin, and sustaining to sin the relation of cause."

I explained the corruption of man's nature, as having reference to "the disposition, tendency, or propensity of his heart."

That his manifested or external transgressions argued an internal disposition to them, I did indeed mean; but that the internal disposition, so far as we can take any cognizance of it, is not itself actual transgression, I did not maintain, that I know of.

It is, however, a lamentable fact, that all the internal exercises of the natural man, all his choices, (all which are so many acts of the mind), are on the side of sin.

will, does not meet the difficulty. Why does the will always, without exception, choose to sin? There can be no effect without a cause; and whether the cause lies in that "undefinable something back of actual transgression," which you repudiate, or whether it lies in that "abnormal development of the sensitivity, or physical depravity inherited at birth, and continued through life," which you admit, it may be unnecessary in the present connection to inquire.

The moral depravity of the sinner may be brought about in just the way you have described, for aught I care to dispute; but what has this to do with the question, whether man is competent to regenerate himself, or not? Because he can jump into a pit, does it follow that he is able to jump out of it? Because he can throw himself into the Rapids of Niagara, does it follow that he is able to breast the current, and swim out? What he would need in such a case, would be to be endowed with superhuman strength, which being given him, his deliverance, through the exercise of his own powers, might be looked for.

The sinner is in the Rapids. How came he there? He threw himself in, is your doctrine; I will add, it is mine too. It is his sin that he is there. He has no business to be there, and every inch of his progress down the current is but adding sin to sin.

BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE.

Catholic Convents—Turkey and Russia. GLASGOW, June 17, 1853.

The large increase of late years, in Great Britain, of conventual establishments, excites apprehension. With full knowledge that they have no sanction in the word of God, there is the firm belief amongst Protestants that in Continental countries they are nurseries of immorality and the prisons of women who maintain their virtue. Utterly at variance, as the idea of compulsory "contemplation" is to our national feeling, it would have been remarkable if the Bill of Mr. Chambers, making provision for magisterial inspection of such houses in cases of suspicion, had not been supported in the House of Commons.

The fleets of France and England have sailed with a view to aid Turkey, should Russia persist in enforcing its demand in favor of the Greek subjects of the Porte—for Nicholas does not now confine his demands to their precedence in the performance of mummeries at what are termed the Holy Places.

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Congruity requires that five be found in the Eastern and five in the Western divisions of the Roman Empire, which the legs represent. The length of the legs and the smallness of the toes of the human foot may also be used expressively of the length of time that has elapsed since that division was effected, and the comparatively brief period between the formation of the ten kingdoms, corresponding with the toes, and the descent of the stone by which they are to be shivered to pieces.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

STEAMER SOUTHERN MICHIGAN, ON LAKE ERIE, June 29, 1853.

A trip to "The West"—or to what used to be called "The West"—is no great thing in these days, in view either of its rarity, the time required, or the expense incurred.

Proceeding westward from Olean, on the line of the New York and Erie Railroad, one soon finds himself in a comparatively new country. It is the Reservation of the Allegany Indians—a tract some thirty miles long by one mile wide, on either bank of the Allegany River.

Dunkirk, the western terminus of the New York and Erie Railroad, is a town of "magnificent distances." A notion once prevailed quite extensively, that this port would at no distant day rival Buffalo in commercial importance; and this led speculators to buy up large tracts of land in the vicinity, and lay them out in village and city lots, many of which were sold at auction in New York for high prices.

The Buffalo and State Line Railroad (commonly called, in connection with others, the Lake-shore Railroad) passes through Dunkirk, and by it we went to Buffalo.

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ber the name of an American whose acquaintance he had casually made, described him as "Mr. God-damn." That title would point to a class rather than to an individual in Buffalo.

Leaving Buffalo at 9 o'clock last evening, we enjoyed a cool and quiet night, and at breakfast time this morning, found ourselves nearing Cleveland, the emporium of northern Ohio, and one of the marts of the great Lakes.

Toledo, the place at which we take railroad for Chicago, and where this letter must be mailed, heaves in sight. Before reaching it, let us say a word about routes to the West.

Father Gavazzi delivered a lecture, on Thursday evening, the 30th ult., on the "Present and Future of America." The weather was unfavorable, but quite a respectable audience was present.

GAVAZZI'S LECTURE.

A HINT TO WEALTHY MEN.—An inspired apostle (says the Watchman and Reflector) has exhorted us to "provoke one another to love and good works;" and this holy provocation may be rightly taken, even where it is not intended to be given.

The sixty-first anniversary of the English Baptist Missionary Society was held in London the last week in April, and was presided over by W. B. Gurney, Esq., a gentleman of seventy-five years of age; for thirty-five years a member of its Committee, and for eighteen years its Treasurer, during the last seven of which he has had, for his colleague Samuel M. Peto, Esq., a member of the British Legislature.

THE ENGLISH MISSION IN JERUSALEM.—In one of the letters of Dr. Duffield, who has been on a visit to Palestine, we find the following:— "The mission established by the English Church, and by the English government, in connection with that of Prussia, is well supported.

various descriptions to the President. With Virgil, said he— "When the Greeks give gifts, I fear them."

At the conclusion of this address, in order to show Father Gavazzi in some measure the esteem in which his efforts are held, the members of Waldensian Lodge, No. 9, American Protestant Association, presented him with a splendid gold medal.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY.—The annual commencement of the University of the city of New York, was celebrated at Niblo's, on Wednesday, the 29th ult. A large number of distinguished guests occupied the stage, and the students were seated in the body of the hall.

The Rev. Isaac Ferris, D.D., was inaugurated Chancellor of the University, and delivered a very appropriate address. After this came the speeches of the graduating class, at the conclusion of which eleven young gentlemen were admitted to the first degree in the Arts.

MISSIONS AT SHANGHAE.—Rev. T. P. Crawford addresses a letter to the Big Hatchie Association, through the Tennessee Baptist, in which he gives the following information respecting the state of Christian missions in Shanghai.

A "godly number of children, both male and female, are receiving instruction in the mission schools. The number of boarding day schools is not less than twelve."

There are in the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention 128 farmers, 73 lawyers, 65 merchants and traders, 18 boot manufacturers, 24 clergymen, 24 manufacturers, 18 physicians, 14 editors and printers, 11 mechanics, 8 builders and house-wrights, 4 master marines; masons, machinists, blacksmiths, druggists—3 each; jewelers, tanners, professors at law—2 each, &c.

A curious case of juvenile depravity occurred the other day in the town of Chatham, in this State. A lad of eleven years became highly enraged at his father, and took his revenge by going about to fire the neighboring woods, stables, outhouses, &c.

Dr. Maddox, of Louisiana, en route for the East, with his family, passed through this city on Friday last, (says the Cincinnati Commercial), and while here gave freedom to three of his slaves, who were in company, one boy and two girls. He also gave them a liberal supply of money to supply their wants until his return from the East, when he proposes to have their free papers regularly made out.

The identical cylinder belonging to the "Savannah," which sailed to England in 1819, and was the first steamship that ever crossed the Atlantic ocean, will be exhibited at the Crystal Palace in New York, by the side of one of the most approved constructions of the present time.

PREMIUM FOR A THEOLOGICAL ESSAY.—The Home Journal says that in 1774, a Scotch gentleman left a sum of money, the interest of which he directed should be given as a prize, at the expiration of every forty years, to the author of the best work upon the evidences of the existence of a Supreme Being.

"The Evidence that there is a Being, all Powerful, Wise, and Good, by whom everything exists; and particularly to obviate difficulties regarding the wisdom and goodness of the Deity; and this, in the first place, from considerations independent of Written Revelation; and, in the second place, from the Revelation of the Lord Jesus; and, from the whole, to point out the inferences most necessary for, and useful to, mankind."

AGRICULTURE IN PALESTINE.—Rev. Dr. Duffield, writing to the Christian Observer, under date of Jerusalem, April 3, 1853, says:—

"The revival of agriculture, and the improvements commenced in their lands, have within a few years been very remarkable. I am surprised to see the extent of ground beginning to be terraced and cultivated in fields of wheat and barley, and vineyards. I met a large caravan of mules, donkeys, and horses, last week, near the Jordan—nearly if not fully 200 bearing wheat from its Eastern side to the Jewish market. The early and latter rains as yet however occur not with that abundance and certainty as to indicate that the Lord has removed his curse, from the land.

FUNERAL OF REV. DR. SHARP.—The funeral of Rev. Dr. Sharp took place at Boston, on the afternoon of June 28 from Charles-st. Church, and was largely attended by the citizens of Boston and the neighboring towns.

A NOBLE MONUMENT.—To honor the memory of the late Duke of Wellington, a magnificent School is to be established, at which children of Army officers are to be admitted free of charge.

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Miscellaneous

Affairs in China
Bayard Taylor, one of the editors of the N. Y. Tribune, was at Shanghai on the 28th of March, under which date he furnishes that paper with the following account of the progress of the Revolution:

Wyanlotte Cave.
This Cave is in Crawford County, about 11 miles from Corydon, Indiana, and is situated of the Blue River, on the land of an old farmer, Mr. Rothrock.

Wood Gas.
The City of Wilmington, North Carolina, is now, for its size, the cheapest lighted city in the United States.

The Tea Culture.
I am not sufficiently acquainted with the soil and climate of our Southern States; but I have learned from intelligent Chinamen, with whom I have conversed on the subject, that California, both in soil and climate, is admirably adapted for its growth.

The Poor Customer.
" How much butter?"
" Only half a pound, if you please."
" And sugar?"
" Half a pound."

Female Beauty in Different Countries.
The ladies of Arabia stain their fingers and toes red, their eyebrows black, and their lips blue. In Persia, they paint a black streak around the eyes, and ornament their faces with various figures.

American Sabbath Tract Society's Publications
THE American Sabbath Tract Society publishes the following tracts, which are for sale at its Depository, No. 9 Spruce-st., N. Y. viz.:
No. 1.—Reasons for introducing the Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment to the consideration of the Christian Public. 28 pp.
No. 2.—Moral Nature and Scriptural Observance of the Sabbath. 52 pp.