# CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

## CHRISTIAN FAMILY.

#### Miss M. STUMP, Editor.

The Silent City.

BY E. V. S.

Just beyond the dusty high-road, .In its sweet seclusion lies, Gleaming white, the silent city 'Neath the bending summer skies

Never speech or song or motion, Heard within its marble doors ; Never footfall loud or soft,

Echoing on the untrodden floors. Never sound of tears or laughter,

Voice of greeting or farewell, Joyfur meeting, mournful parting, Breaks the deep, the hallowed spell:

Life's wild waves forever surging, Die in muffled echoes there ; Passed its passion and its tumult, Passed its agony and care.

Struggles sore and stern endeavor, Fruitless toil and baffled quest, Fleeting joys and transient sorrows Merging in the final rest.

In the soft and brooding stillness, Hark! what songsters pipe their lays Flitting 'mongst the leafy branches, Where the sighing zephyr plays.

All unheard the rapturous cutburst By the unconscious sleepers there : Naught to them earth's sweetest meas-

nres'. Deaf alike to praise or prayer.

Happy denizens, whose warefare On earth's battle field is o'er-Brief the anguish, short the conflict, Ended now forever moro.

Not the din of noisy traffic, Ringing o'er each turf-crowned bed Not the tempest wreaking fury, Not the tramp of armies' tread, Can awake those silent sleepers

In the City of the Dead!

" ... Cities of the Bible.

# NUMBER IV.

BAMARTA.

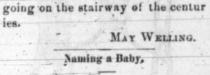
In the midst of a lovely valley, broad and hasin shaped stands the -hill which Omri bought of Shemor for two talents of silver, and upon which he built the lofty palaces for the proud court of Israel, after the separation of the twelve tribes into ies. the distinct nations of Judah and Israel. Nothing now remains to show the greatness of what was once Israel's famous Capital, save rows of broken columns and fragments of massive pillars that may once have supported the arches of the "house of Baal," or more likely have contributed to the grandeur of Ceasar's magnificent temple built nine hund red or near one thousand years later. The early history of the city of Sa maria may be found in the Book of kings, while historians of the East, both ancient and modern, give us in brief the rise and decay of the city which ran as much if not more than any other the wickedness of those who derided the God of their fathers. The site of the city was one of commanding strength and beauty, while the breezes from the sea scattered pestilential vapors and made the location desirable for its healthfulness. It was indeed a "watch-mountain." as the name Samaria indicates, and withstood many an attack which would have overthrown many an other city less fortified by nature. The Syrians beseiged it twice with out success; once 901 B. C., and again in 892 B. C. It was only after a prolonged siege of three, years that Shalmanezer, king of Assyria, captured it, and carried the people away to his own country. It was repeopled again with Assyrians, who were called Samaritans, and these people were always bitter enemies to the Judeans. Josephus tells us it was a very strong after a year's siege. The Jews then dor by Herod the Great, who gave give your son a good, plain, honest of those other creatures of His hand, whose signal lights will be seen it the name Sebaste, in honor of the name; one that will not be sugges- "The saints" shall judge not only swinging where the waters are still to the scorner, and dumb to those Roman emperor Augustus. A tive of daudyism and r mance on the world, but also angels.

colony of 6000 soldiers were placed there, and a large district of country given them for their support. Bat Ceasar's temple is now "as a heap of the field," in the fearful doom foretold by the prophet Micah, and is tender undugh for a baby, and the Roman soldiers who lived within Samaria's' walls have for nearly eighteen hundred years rested quietly side by side with their enemies, in the shadow of Omer's hill, waiting the judgment day. We turn slowly and reverently the pages of the Old Testament, and readthere of Naaman the Syrian, a mighty man in valour, but smitten with leprosy ; how the little Samaritan maiden said to Naaman's wife; "Would my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria, for he would recover him from his leprosy," and how Elisha returned the messen ger which Nanman sent, saying, "Go wash'in the Jordan." . Into Samaria

Elisha ensnared the Syrian hosts. cent to capture him, then having opened their eyes, he made them a sumptuous feast, then sent them back safe to their master, who not knowing how to fight such an enemy, jeft Samaria in peace for a time. Again when a grievous famine was in Samaria, because of the continued siege of Benhadad, the Lord made the Syrians to hear the noise of a mighty army advancing upon them, and so much afraid were they that they fled in the twilight leaving all their supplies to the people dying

from hunger within the walls. The first Christian church out of Jerusalem was organized in the idolatrous city of Samaria, and here in less than a year after the death of our Savior, Philip came preaching Christ to a wicked and untoward generation.

The ancient glory of Samaria has faded, till at last it bas, as a city, been blotted from the face of the earth, leaving only a sparse record coming down to us through the steadfast tread of the years whose pulses throb wield the annals of kingdoms and empires coming and



BY MRS. JULIA C. R. DORR.

Have you found a name for baby ? Of course it is the most wonderful child that ever was born; and pret tiest, the brightest, and with such winning ways! You will hardly believe me when I tell you that thousands just as remarkable are born every day. Every child wears the aureole for a while at least, and we bow before it, worshippers at its saintly shrine. Each one, whether in roval palace or in peasant's cot, wears the monarch's crown upon its baby brow, and its small hand wields the sceptre over willing and admir ing subjects. We are all kings and queens in the cradle, and each babe is a new marvel, a new miracle. But to go back to the baby's name. Your grandfather, as well as his father, and your great, great, great grandfather, who came over in the Mayflower, (or if not in that getting-to be mythical vessel, in some other,) rejoiced in the euphonious cognomen of Obadiah. I pray you, Alice do not let the desire to hand down family names, lead you to bestow upon your boy an appellation that will be a torment to him all his days. Trained as you will train him, no regard for his ances tors, will be sufficient to deafen his ear to the uncouthness of such a name. Obadiah and Jedidiah, and the other ishs, have done yeoman's city in the time of John Hyrcames service. Let them rest now in the who took it 109 B. C., but not till tomb of the Capulets. Neither need they, yet hereafter those of us who, you in shunning Scylla fall into inhabited the city until Pompey Charybdis. You need not call him, restored it to the descendents of the Clarence - Augustus, nor Roderick original inhabitants. Under Roman Angelo Fitzgerald ; Napoleon Bonarule it was rebuilt with some splen- parte, nor George Washington. But raised to the high position of judges step push on toward the evening.

the one hand, nor overshadow lim with its own greatness on the other; a name that will fall smoothly from your lips now, and from the lips of a later love by and by ; a name that manly enough for a man. Call him John !- Ex. John !- Ex.

# " Cleopatra's Needle."

There is danger of much confusion growing out of the announcement that " Cleopatra's Needle " is about to be removed from Alexandria, Egypt, to England. Travelers in Egypt will still find "Cleopatra's Needle" there, where it has stood for the last three thousand years. And they will write home that they saw "Cleopatra's Needle," and tell 1880 us how it looked, and about the hieroglyphics with which it is covered, etc. ; and yet "Cleopatra's Needle" will be in London, perhaps. The truth is, that there are two of these " needles," the one upright, and the other prostrate, about one hundred and filty teet distant, ous to the Franco German war. and eight or ten feet below the surtace of the sand, now kept from covering and hiding it by constant thirds of the population of Beston care. It is this prostrate one which are from foreign lands. Two-thirds was long ago given to England, but of the last are of Irish descent. there until now. England ought to. little over \$71,000,000. feel very rich, before she undertakes Needle, or seventy six feet, weighs the correctness of the last ligures. 500,000 pounds, and cost tour trancs,

#### The Liberal Soul.

Somehow, whether we can explain it or not the liberal soul, all things being equal, is made lat. Liberality will not atone for want of industry being equal, getting comes to those

#### Some Statistical Items.

Harvard College, Cambridge, has an annual income of about \$1,000,-000.

The opium trade of San Francisco amounts to about \$1,000,000 per annum.

This country imports \$15,000,000 worth of spool coton, from Great Brittain every year. It costs the city of New York, as

a corporation, over \$1,000,000 z year for illuminating gas.

The average depth of the Atlantic ocean is three miles; that of the Pacific ocean four miles.

At our present rate of increase, the United States will contain 50,-000,000 inhabitants by the year

It has been calculated that the total available coal in Great Britain is fully equal to the wants of the nation - countrymen in resistance to Spanish for 360 years

A new census shows that Paris has a population of 1,900,000, which was the number in 1870, just previ-

Five sixths of the inhabitants of New York are foreigners ; and two-

which, after it was uncovered and It is declared that two thirds of its weight estimated, it was thought the bonds representing the United would prove to cost more than it States debt are held in Europe. The would be worth when set up in annual average reduction of the debt England; and, therefore, it has lain during the last ten years has been a

· Europe has near as we can make to move it; for it is said that the out, 500,000 miles of railroad, and Obelisk of Luxor, in the Place de la America 200,000. India has 41,600 Concorde, in Paris, which is only six and Austratia 10,000, according to feet longer than the Cleopatra's the English papers, though we doubt "There is a canal in China 2,000 or eighty cents, per pound, or 2,000, miles long passing through forty-two 000 trancs. It took five years to do cities. The oldest and largest chainthe work, sud the most elaborate bridge in the world is also in that and powerful machinery was re- country, at Kingstung, reaching from quired to lower and elevate it .- Ex. the top of one mountain to the other, and is in regular use.

### Boxwood and its Uses.

There are certain demands in the industrial arts that are perfectly met by only a single one out of the numberless products of nature. A good or thrift; but, brains and activity illustration is the boxwood used by wood-engravers, which is the one who give. There are some natural material in the world that is exactly principles upon which this can be suited to their wants. This wood explained, but it finds its completest grows in the regions around the Black solution in the fact that God, who and Caspian Seas, the very names of goveras the world, plays, into the the ports from which it is shipped hands of those who play into His being unfamiliar. For all fine en hands. David Dale's countrymen graving Turkey boxwood is used, explained his great wealth by say and as its quality varies much, some elear and free from spots; it cuts smoothly and evenly, with no crumb ling or tearing, but every line cut will be perfect. In consequence of its scareity and high price, many substitutes have been resorted to; maple, apple, pear, mabogany, have to no wood, metal, or composition has been discovered that possesses the requsite qualities. In addition to engraving, boxwood is used for for seales, rules, guaging rods, and similar articles. It differs in color from all other woods, and it is somewhat remarkable that it comes to perfection only in a comparatively limited region of country in the vi cinity of the Black Sea. It weighs about seventy-five pounds to the cubic foot, and is very costly .- Journal of Chemistry. Forty years once seemed a long weary pilgrimage to tread. It now seems bat a step. And yet, along poet. the way are broken shrines where a thousand hopes have wasted into ashes, footprints sacred under their drifting dust; green mounds where grass is fresh with watering tears, shadows even which we could not forget. We will garner the sunshine of those years, and with chastened

# MAY 17, 1877.

### Strange Origin of a Martiol Air.

An illustration of the difference between the emotions sometimes inspired by music and those it was ir. tended to express, is afforded by the recently discovered history of the melody under the influence of which the soldiers of Simon Bolivar marched to victory in the war of South America Independence: This " Marseillaise " of the tropice . was the composition of a European musician, Hubert Robersart, who is it exhausted his musical talents in the efforts to describe the tenderness and simplicity of rural life. Bolivar, when in Europe, became his triend, and received from him a copy of the pastoral. . Returning to South America, the inture liberator of his country found himself in course of time at the head of his fellow. tyranny. A military march was needed to fire the enthusiasm of the soldiers in the heavy charge, and that portion of Robersart's chef. d'auvre in which the shepherdess listens for the first time to her shepberd's tale of love, became the patriots' battle-melody. Twentytive thousand men were slain to the ... music of these pensive, strains, and Bolivar "Alterward wrote to his musical friend, hailing him as the Roget de-l'Isle of the New World .--Lippinscott's Magazine.

SALT WATER AS AN ANTIDOTE FOR OBESITY .- According to the Paris Medicale, sea water taken internally, acts like a diuretic and purgative salts, a remarkable fact being that the diurctic effect increases when the pargative diminishes. The water should be obtained, when possible, from some depth and far from shore. It is to be left to settle for six to twelve hours, and filtered. It is to be taken three times a day, in doses of a small glassful, or in half that quantity at a time, with fresh water or milk. It is stated as a fact that sea water thus used facilitates the oxygenation of the blood, and that it hastens the elimination of effete materials. In combination with this treatment, sea-water baths are to be taken, tree exercise is to be practiced, and fattening foods avoided.-Ec.

BELGRADE .- This is a long straggling town upon the crest and down each slope of a rocky ridge. The castle, a superb ruin, occupies an angle where the Save and Danabe join. Up the hillside winds a labyrinth of walls, embarassing to an enemy, but bewildering to a garrison. The river front is protected by fortifications. with half a dozen covered ways to aid the defense, and a citadel above. We are reminded how the art of war has changed by a glimpse of those two monitors moored in the river and at the disposal of Austria's representbeen experimented upon; but hither- ative. They could batter this anfortalice to shreds where they lie. The walls are brick, and a Babylonish garden of shrubs and flowers hangs upon each yard of bastion.

ing that he gave his money to God skill is necessary to a good selection. in shovelsful, and God shoveled it The best is of a delicate yellow color back again.

Of course God's shovel was the biggest, and God's arm the strongest, and the balance was ever on David Dale's side. So it was with the Lawrences; so it has been with our own Cornells, Prestons, Hoyts, Seneys, and others, and so with hundreds in all the world, who give systematically and proportionately to God. John B. and William W. Cornell, from the beginning, gave as they had ability. We remember their three cents a week for the stew. ards, and their two cents a month for missions, given out of hardearned apprentice's wages. We have since seen their scores of thousands in a single gift. Arithmetic may incred. ulously smile, but it is true, " there is that southereth and yet increaseth." -N. W. Christian Advocate.

We shall never become angels. Yet we may, so great is God's goodness to men, attain to a higher honor and glory than they possess. Though now we are a "little lower" than by being made members of Christ, the second Adam, have become chil. dren of God and heirs of the incorruptible inheritance shall be in Him

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The full length bronze statue of Fitz Greene Halleck, for which a site has been selected in the Central Park near those of Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott, will be creeted and unveiled early in May, on which ogeasion William Allen Butler will deliver an address, and John G. Whittier will contribute a poem. The statue of Halleck will be the first ever erected to an American

Our brightest bopes are very often crushed, and, as faded flowers, we toss them aside, to grasp for others of almost as short duration; yet it. is hope that makes us willing to do and dare, and without it life would indeed be dark and gloomy.,

Be deat to the quarrelsome, blind and storms never beat, and who are mischievously inquisitive.