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DANIEL AYRES, M. D., LL. D.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Germania is a fortnightly journal for the study of the German language and literature, and contains many articles of interest. It is published by A. W. & E. Spanhoofd, Manchester, N. H. Price \$3 a year.

The *Life of Wilbur Fisk*, by Professor Prentice, is meeting with much favorable comment. The *Boston Herald* concludes a long and appreciative review of the book as follows: "Dr. Prentice draws an admirable portrait of this great Methodist leader, and weaves into it much which gives one an insight into the growth of the Methodist church in New England. He traverses what is essentially a new field in our religious history. One of the most instructive passages in his book is contained in the comparison between Wilbur Fisk and Jonathan Edwards. In one sense Fisk was the successor of Edwards in dealing with theological metaphysics. . . . One cannot lay down this account of Wilbur Fisk's career without thanking Dr. Prentice for a volume which does honor to the memory of a great natural leader in religion, and admits one to a knowledge of the free play of the agencies which have given the Methodist denomination a distinguished and influential position in New England. He has done more than this. His book is a delightful story of a singularly earnest and consecrated career. He assigns to Dr. Fisk a foremost place in education and in religious leadership, to which he is justly entitled, and, so far as possible, he admits you into the inner life of the man whose mind and heart and spirit he seeks to portray. This volume is a worthy companion to the work on Jonathan Edwards with which Dr. Allen began this series."

REMINISCENCES.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY A HALF CENTURY AGO.

(Concluded.)

An effort to shorten morning prayers was made once within my knowledge. On a Sabbath morning the tutor who was to officiate found that the Bible had been spirited away. He was equal, however, to the emergency. Making no reference whatever to the absence of the Bible, he announced as the morning lesson the ninetyeth Psalm, and, with eyes directed to the book-board where the Bible should have been, he repeated the Psalm, followed it with prayer, and dismissed the assembly.

It could hardly be expected that the students should come to the early morning recitation with very carefully prepared toilets. Indeed, one of the professors was not unfrequently amenable to the same criticism. On one occasion, I remember that he came into his recitation-room, not only with hair unkempt, but with one slipper on and one boot. His careless habits in the matter of dress were to be attributed, perhaps, to the fact that he was an old bachelor,—at least he seemed so to us boys, and we thought him incorrigibly careless. But this opinion he proved to be erroneous when, a few years afterward, he married a very estimable lady. That her influence even in the matter of dress was good, was indicated by a remark made to him as he was one day crossing the campus. Mrs. Prof. Smith, meeting him, said, "Why, is that you, Professor? I thought it was some dandy—you look so spruce." "You are right, madam," said he; "I am a dandy—Dan D. Whedon." Another of his puns, and he made many good ones, was made one day at dinner. The dessert was pie, and, while he was eating a piece, some one asked him what Greek letter society he was a member of when in college. He replied, "The Greek letter societies were not established in Hamilton College when I was a student there, but I am now a member of the Eta Pi Society."

In speaking of puns, I am reminded of two good ones, out of the many poor ones which were then so constantly made, it being at that time, as, I believe, it has been in all time, a characteristic of college students to indulge in that kind of wit. The author of the joke was Daniel J. Pinkney, '41. He was a large man, much the heaviest in college, but excelling in athletics, being considered the best cricket player in college. One day this modern Hercules fainted away. A friend, on coming into his room just as he had recovered consciousness, said to him,