

THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY.

VOL. III.

OCTOBER 1899.

No. 4.

Doctrinal Theology.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

ETHICS.

III. THE MORAL SPHERES.

All the various states, relations, and acts of men determined by the moral law may be variously referred to various spheres. They are the spheres of moral *rights* and moral *duties*, and these rights and duties are either *religious*, or *domestic*, or *civic*.

The Spheres of Rights and Duties in General.

The moral law imposes duties and establishes and secures rights. God created man and gave him existence and human endowments; he has established various relations between man and man; he has ordained that man as a moral being should in all his ways and days live in conformity with the divine will. By the law, the utterance of his will, God would determine man's relations, disposition and conduct toward God and toward his fellow-men, and inasmuch as the divine law is authoritative in all its demands, it is man's *duty* in all these respects to fulfill the requirements of the moral law. And in still another aspect the moral obligations are duties. By the divine law men

EDITORIAL NOTES AND COMMENTS.

For various reasons we have deemed it proper to devote the greater part of the present issue to our instalment of DOCTRINAL THEOLOGY. Under this head, the first volume of the QUARTERLY presented the *Prolegomena* and *Bibliology*, the second volume, *Theology proper*, or, the doctrine concerning *God*. The third volume now contains the chapters on *Cosmology* complete, comprising *Cosmology* in the narrower sense, *Pneumatology*, or *Angelology*, and *Anthropology*, so that we may, in the coming volume, at once set in with the chapters on *Christology*.

The system of Ethics, the greater part of which is contained in the present issue, was prepared with continued special regard to the requirements of our time and with a view of giving in narrow compass and systematic arrangement a theological synopsis of all the ethical topics which are apt to engage the attention of pastors and congregations to-day. In the Index, which will facilitate the use of these and other chapters, the reader will find such subjects as *Lodges*, *Labor Unions*, *Life insurance*, *Fire insurance*, *Gambling*, *Lotteries*, *Usury*, *Smuggling*, *Contracts*, *Strikes*, *Theatre*, *Dancing*, *Saloons*, *Temperance*, *Sunday*, *Self-defense*, *War*, *Capital punishment*, *Lynching*, *Compulsory education*, *Church and State*, *Parochial schools*, *Suicide*, *Prevention of offspring*, and other timely topics.

For the approaching Advent and Christmas season, the exegetical contribution on texts from Isaiah will yield most welcome homiletical material for Advent and Christmas sermons. The reverend contributor has promised to furnish similar expositions of texts from Isaiah available for lenten sermons. May God bless these seasons to many, also by the use made of these *Pen pictures*.

The autobiography of Martin Kemnitz which we give in a translation prepared for our readers, we found years ago hidden away in a work of comparatively rare occurrence, a Documentary History of the city of Brunswick by Phil. Jul. Rehtmeyer. The work was published in five parts, in 4^o. The first and second parts were printed in 1707; the third part appeared in 1710; the fourth, in 1715; and the fifth, in 1720. The latin part of the title, which, in the first part was, *Antiquitates ecclesiasticae inclytæ urbis Brunsvigæ*, was in the third part and subsequently, *Historia ecclesiastica inclytæ urbis Brunsvigæ*, and the work is quoted in both forms, and under the German title *Der berühmten Stadt Braunschweig Kirchen-Historie*. — Kemnitz left the sketch of his life unfinished, as we give it in the translation. Yet it is intensely instructive, worthy of being not only read, but studied.
