

It would be wholly out of place to enter here into learned disquisitions about the date of different apocryphal documents, or to inquire as to the exact age of various traditions. My object is rather to mention a few from hades, as a very wretched man, and legends about the death of Christ, and His the holy fathers said to him, "Who art thou descent into Hades, and His resurrection, of having the aspect of a rubber, and what is My object is rather to mention a few which one or two in their earliest form are traceable as far back as the second century, but others are not older than the Middle Ages, and others may be no more than current tolklore, which originated in the imagination of the people as they thought about righteous." these most sacred subjects. They all belong to that class of literature which the Jews to that class of literature which the Jows call Haggadoth, or, collectively, the Hagga-dah. Many of them were never intended to be accepted as literal facts, but rather as

dim possibilities, or as moral conceptions assigns that reason for the ghastly and perpetual shiver of the aspen's leaves. Again we are told that when Adam was though often most unsuccessfully-to bring driven though often most unsuccessfully—to bring out deeper or fuller meanings than lay on the surface of the sacred narratives. We must say of these legends that, al-though the much diversified and interpolated though the full of the sacred are seed and from it grew though the much diversified and interpolated

meets in which some of them still exist may be traced back in their simplest original form to the days of Justin Martyr, it is for us even one grain of genuine history among their often crude inventions. "The for us even one grain of genuine history among their often crude inventiona. "The Gospel of Nicodemus or Acts of Pilate." which, in its original shape, is one of the oldest of the apocryphal books of Christ, makes largo use of the four evangelists, but impreseble, and self-contradictory. It perves, as do the apocryphal stories of the Infancy, to illustrate the impresence of the infancy, to illustrate the impresence of the infancy. as do the apocryphal stories (f the infancy, theory), a stream of the solution that have a stream of the solution of the solut

treasurce. tested emblem; and we trace the same thing in the legend of "Dysmas." the converted robber, as told in one of the recensions of The legend of Veronica is told in many forms. The name is said to be a corruption of Berchice, but is more likely a transposi-

the gospel of Nicodemua. He appears to the Patriarchs, whom Christ had just liberated from hades, as a very wretched man, and tion of the two words Vera icon, or "true likenesa." She is generally identified with the woman whom Christ healed of the issue of blood. In one form of the story, she asks Christ, on his way to crucifixion, if she may have a picture painted of him, and He prethe cross which thou bearest on thy shouldthe cross which thou bearest on thy anoma-ers?" He tells them of Chris's promise to him on the cross, and that as he ap-proached Eden "the flaming sword, seeing the sign of the cross, opened unto me, and Michael the archangel hade me wait here a little for our forefather Adam and the FANCIES ABOUT THE CROSS.

lowed to see it close, among the bishops who celebrated the passing of the dogma of Papal infallibility, says that nothing is visible on it, unless it be a sort of black stain in the general shape of a head. The woman whom Christ healed of the issue is said by some of the fathers to have reared a statue of of the fathers to have reared a statue at Paneus, commemorative of her miraculous cure, which was destroyed by the Emperor Julian, because he regarded it as a dangerous evidence of Christianity. It is now all but certain that this supposed statue of Christ and the woman was really one crected by the Emperor Hadrian with the title of "To the Emperor Hadrian with the title of "To the Savior," or "Protector," and that the woman represents the literary genius of the city. The complimentary title and the same city. The complimentary title of Soter, cr Savior, was often conferred on emperors by grateful cities. As regards the names adopted in those stories, they are generally corruptions from some well known word. Now the soldier

his name. To his wife was assigned the name of Claudia Procula. In the treatise known as "The Paradosis of Pilate," he is said to have been tried by Casear, condemned to death for having failed to save Jesus from the Jews, in spite of the many protests which had attended the trial and crucifixion. One of these is narrated in the gaspel of Nicodemus. It is said that when Pilate sent a crusor to arrest Jesus, the officer was so of block. In one form of the story, she asked Christ, on his way to crucifixion, if she may have a ploture painted of him, and He pre-sents her with a linen cloth on walch is the image of His face. In another, she plites Christ, when, bathed with perspiraton, He stanks to the ground, and she presents Him with her handkerchief to wipe His face. He presses upon it a likeness of His face. The presses upon it a likeness of His face. The insk to the ground, and she presents Him with standards bowed themselves to do Him hum-atandards bowed themselves. They set aside twelver of their strongest men for the task, but in spite of all their efforts the standards bowed themselves again. Caesar precious of all relies in the treasury of St. Peter's at Rome; and one of the meat prom-inent of Bernini's colossal statues near the altar represents Veronica "waving an enor-mous marble pocket handkerchief." As for the relic itself, the only layman who was al-lowed to see it close, among the bishops who celebrated the passing of the dogma of Papal infailibility, says that nothing is visible on it, unless it be a sort of black stain in the general shape of a head. The woman whom Christ healed of the laye is said by some

up the ghost, and was buried with her hus-band." Another group of legends is very dif-ferent. One is that Pilate possessed the scamless robe of Jesus, and that while he wore this, the emperor could not condemn him to death, however often, he tried to do so. He therefore condamned him to perpetual imprisonment, and then Pilate stabled himself with a dagger. His body was attached to a huge stone and flung into the river, where the demons contended for it, and raised such frightful storms, that the Romans took it to Vienda and sunk it in the Rhine. It was thence moved to Lorinia (which seems to be meant for Lu-cerne), and was flung into a mountain pool. It is only in living memory that a Swiss cure by actual experiment overthrew the

S. A. Quite recently, in looking over some of his old letters I found several which touch

second advent. But Christ toos Adam by the hand and raised him, and Adam kissed his hands and feet. Then, turning to the rest. Christ said, "Come with me all ye who died through the tree which he touched. For he-hold, I raise you all up again through the Tree of the Cross." Then the whole rejoic-ing throng entered Paradise, where Enoch and Ellish met them and they were diad and Elijah met them, and they were joined by the crucified repentant robber, who bore

who have been suffered to see these things that they may be then raised from the dead for the purpose of narrating them to the world.

Which he quotes the words: And if must not be thought that these for them are wholly beneated our noise. Therefore, and the gibbet for the wilcation are wholly beneated of the stress, the stre

• • I can with great propriety say that the Missouri region is the most fertile and desirable tract of country I have ever seen in the United States and I have traveled from New Orleans to Maine, through Canada to Quebec, and through all the western states. S. A. Quite recently, in looking ever some I have no doubt that the Missouri alone of his old letters I found several which touch upon this same subject, and as they have all the Atlantic states and Canada combined. "I4. ATKINSON, "Colonel Sixth Infantry."

never been published and may prove of interest to some I send you some extracts. The late general was my grandfather and at the time of the crection of old Fort Calhoun, or iment from Jefferson barracks, Missouri, and into general was iny granulturer and at the following account of the inovement of the reg-time of the creation of old Fort Calhoun, or Fort Atkinson, as it was also called, he was the colonel of the regiment to which I now belong. It is a matter of history that General At-

kinson was moved with his regiment, the trouble on account of the difficulty in nav-Sixth infantry, from northern New York to igating the river with the steamboats. Work Jefferson barracks, Missouri, for the pur-pose of ascending the Missouri to the mouth the command. The buildings consisted of The buildings consisted of of the Yellowstone. This expedition was called the Yellowstone expedition. After four blocks of hewed log barracks, comprebending eighty rooms with shingle roofs, plank floors, and brick chimneys; a strong magazine and the best kind of wooden storemaking the settlement at Council Bluffs Gen-eral Atkinson returned to St. Louis for the purpose of obtaining supplies, and it was at houses of ample size for the quartermaster's nd subsistance departments; a sawmill, capa-ble of sawing fifteen feet of plank per day; and a grist mill that would grind 150 bushel per day. A farm was at once begun and the this time that the letters from which the this time that the letters from which the following extracts are made were written: ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 3, 1819.—On my ar-rival here the 1st of June I found from the I bad arrangements of the contractors nothing in readiners to commence the long march that lay before us, nor was I able to make arrangements to justify a movement before the 5th of July, and then trammeled with three steamboats, which all failed after pass-ing from 100 to 400 miles up the river, and for the freight, of which I had to procure keel boat transportation, although in a first season there were raised 12,000 bushels of cora, the second 15,000 and the third 20,000, besides more potatoes than could be used by the command. Such is a brief description of the celebrated old Fort Calthe 5th of July, and then trammeled with three steamboats, which all failed after pass-ing from 100 to 400 miles up the river, and for the freight, of which I had to procure keel boat transportation, although in a wilderness country. However, thanks to good fortune, everything has been accom-plished relative to the contemplated part of the expedition for the winter season, and believe the government and the nation will be satisfied with it. On the ist of October we reached the Council Bluffs in good health and spirits. In the neighborhood of that

a cross upon his shoulders. The story is supposed to be told by the two sons of Simeon, Karinus and Leuclus,