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THE PRESBYTERIAN QUARTERLY.

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I.

THE ADAMIC PRINCIPLE IN THEOLOGY.

THE origin of our race is Adamic; its probation and apostasy were Adamic; its guilt and depravity are Adamic; its redemption, as far as it is redeemed, is Adamic. This word *Adamic* is the italic word in our language, having more meaning and distinction than any other. Without it, human history would be an enigma, mental philosophy a puzzle, and theology but a vain logomachy. Anthropology and soteriology both turn upon it as a pivotal word.

What, then, is its import in theology—what underlying, informing, and shaping principle does it symbolize as it stands in the vocabulary of the science of religion?

To this question three typical answers have been proposed, giving three fundamental hypotheses as to the nature of the union between Adam and his posterity, and as to the nature of our participation in his guilt and depravity; and the constructive influence of these theories reaches into soteriology. One class of theologians translates the word *Adamic* by the word *parental*; another, by the word *realistic*; and the third, by the word *federal*.

I. According to parentalists, Adam sustained no other relation to his posterity than that of a father to his children; and this relation ruled the whole Edenic probation, and all the consequences of the fall, as they flowed down to the race. This is the key to all the arrangements and consequences of the covenant of works. As a race-father, Adam sinned; as children, all mankind heir his misery and the defects of his character. The Adamic principle, then, to them is precisely and definitely the law of genetic transmission.

VII.

GENERAL NOTES.

EDITORIAL GREETING.

THE PRESBYTERIAN QUARTERLY has recently come again into the hands of its former publishers and manager. They will seek most earnestly to make of it that for which it was established fifteen years ago, viz., a true exponent of the principles and life of our church, as well as a thesaurus of the best and most mature thought of the church in more elaborate form than the weekly religious press can conveniently use. The QUARTERLY's principles will remain the same, so far as the doctrine and life of the church are concerned, as in the years past. It will stand for conservatism, as against the advanced ideas of the day, but will seek to base its conservatism upon an intelligent and scholarly view of the word of God and of the progress of learning.

In deference to the wishes expressed by many, there will be added such new features as, it is thought, will increase the interest and usefulness of the periodical. Besides the more profound studies of theology, philosophy, history, and literature which its pages will contain, as hitherto, there will be added departments of General Notes, for less elaborate treatises and the record of current thought and events, and of Practical and Homiletic Notes, for the giving of practical suggestions, methods of treatment of subjects and texts, and other matter which may be of use to ministers and others in everyday work. Careful criticisms and reviews of books, as well as briefer notices of recent publications, will be continued. In each issue it is hoped that there will be at least one article from the pen of some of the many capable writers whom our church numbers in her ranks outside of the roll of her ministers. Provision has also been made for a leading article in each number by some representative writer of our sister evangelical churches. It gives the management special pleasure to announce this feature, as it is one which will signalize the fellowship which it is the glory of our church to recognize among

the true people of God, and will tend to bring us all closer together in life and work as we are already in purpose and heart.

The Managing Editor of the QUARTERLY will have associated with him Drs. G. B. Strickler, of Virginia, R. C. Reed, of South Carolina, and F. R. Beattie, of Kentucky. These brethren will take larger part in shaping the periodical than the Associate Editors have done in the past, and will themselves contribute frequently to its pages.

In this renewed effort to make a periodical worthy of our beloved church, its publishers and editors earnestly ask the hearty co-operation and loyal support of the ministers and officers of the church, and of all others who have an interest in the permanence of its literature. They invite, as well, suggestions as to its various features, whether mechanical or literary, and will gladly do whatever they can to increase its value to all who read it. They will also welcome contributions from all who may desire to put their ideas in permanent literary form and to give others the benefit of their thoughts. They feel confident that the stimulus that will thus be given to our writers will be helpful both to themselves and to the church.

It is regretted that there has been unavoidable delay, largely incident to starting out upon a new enterprise, in the issuing of this first number under the new *regime*. The succeeding issues will appear at shorter intervals, however, and it is hoped that nothing will interfere with the subsequent prompt appearance of each number.

For the benefit of those subscribers or libraries accustomed or desiring to bind their volumes, there are appended to this number suitable title-pages and tables of contents for Volumes XIII., XIV., and XV.

THE NEW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

THE Synod of Texas last fall framed a formal constitution for a theological seminary, and directed the Board of Trustees to which they entrusted the work of raising funds and making an organization to take steps to open the Seminary as soon as the sum of one hundred thousand dollars was raised for its maintenance. That end has lately been reached, and the seminary is announced to be opened for work in the coming autumn. Two professors, besides the president, have been elected, and announcement is made, according to the Synod's order, that first-year students only will be received. Rev. Robert A. Webb, D. D., of the Clarksville Divinity School, has been