WILMINGTON, N. C.

SUNDAY MORNING, JAN, 22, 1882 In the February number of the North American Review, Prof. George P. Fisher of the Yale Divinity School, whose writings on the supernatural origin of Christianity and on ecclesiastical history are well known, comes to the defence of the Christian Religion against the attacks of modern doubts and infidelity No abler or more eminent advocate for the orthodox faith could be summoned into the controversy that has lately been waged on this high theme, and it is not too much to say that Prof. Fisher justifies every expectation by the vigor and clearness with which he handles the subject. He disclaims, however, the position of a debater, and makes no direct reference to Col. Ingerso'l's assaults, although be necessarily deals with the objections so brilliantly and audaciously presented by that doughty combatant. He proceeds in a very orderrly manner to maintain a series of positions in regard the origin, essential character and benelicent effects of the christian faith, which are intended in themselves to furnish the answer to all objections and cavils. In the first place he takes advantage of the position that christiani ty is no new thing whose present existence calls for justification or apology. he is inwrought with the very fibre and substance of the best part of modern institutions and civilization, and has contributed more than any other force to making them what they are. We are impressively invited to imagine what they would have been without its ageney. The difficulties which its presents, some' of them, of a very perplexing character, are frankly acknowledged, and differences of interpretation and understanding are aliuded to as somethe human mind in dealing with any system, complex in its details and bear ings, however simple in its character and purpose. The idea that christianity has been a bane to mankind is very effectually disposed of by an appeal to history and the experience of the race. in tracing the development of Divine Revelation and the gradual establish- STAPLE & DOMESTIC GOODS. buying and selling. ment of the religion of which christianity is the consummation, Prof. Fishergives a very broad interpretation to the idea of inspiration in the writings which contain lis record and its prewith skill and effect some of the most telling arguments of the skeptic and the infidel. - He claims, for instance, that the Divice method was to select a chosen people and lead them gradually up to the plane upon which the fullness of truth could be revealed to them with a possibility of being received and propated. There was no audden transfor-mation of human nature, no violent sweeping away of old institutions and miraculous introduction of a new system, to which there must be a sudden and complete adaptation of mankind, equivalent almost to a new creation of the race; but instead of that the chotheir own era, and those that surrounded or came in contact with them were similarly treated according to the requirements of the stage of progress reached from time to time. Hence the vils or abases characteristic of ancient days were not suddenly rooted out, but 11 & 13 SO FRONT STREET, be forces were set at work which were to effect their final annihilation. This idea of the gradualness of revelation and the modified character of inspirabut at the same time it approximates the process of religious development to that of political and social development and the growth of civilization generally. To many minds it will seem in no small measure to abolish the distinction between religious revelation and the general supervision of human affairs which all devout min's attribute to the Deity.

to the Deity.
Is dealing with the facts and docplays much of the same breadth of method. While he resolutely maintains the genuineness and credibility of the miracles of the Saviour and the Divine Character of the Gospel record, his arguments regarding the authenticity, substantial harmony, and essential truth as to facts of the New Testament scriptures, are such as would be appiled to any other controverted writings. Considered in that light they are well nigh conclusive, but they are in some respects, quite different from what we have been accustomed to in religious controversy. The testimony of the disciples is tested as human testimony and the research mony, and the records treated as sub-ject to the ordinary accidents and inci-dents of literature. All this, of course, does not affect the essential character does not affect the essential character of christian revelation or the religious belief and practice that is founded upon it. In dealing with these, the learned writer has a strong case, and presents it with much vigor and force. His contribution to the controversy will be remarded with great interest, as furnishing the latest statement of orthodox views in what may be regarded as an authoritative form. Taking it as such, so the least part of its value will be found in the evidence it affords of the regressive character of the most strict-formordox thought of the day.

Other articles in the February number of the Review are: "Do the spoils being to the victor?" by President Antrew D. White; "a remedy for railway thuses," by Isaac L. Rice; "repudiation

abuses," by Isane L. Rice; "repudiation in Virginia," by Senator John W.John-iss; and "the lancet and the law," by Mrs. Partington Says

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PASSENGER, MAIL AND EXPRESS TRAIN: DAILY. Leave Wilmington 8.20 P M Arrive at Charlotte at.......5,50 A M

Leave Charlotte at......... 10.10 P M Arrive at Wilmington at 7.32 A M Treins No. 1 and 2, stop at regular stations only, and points designated in the Company's Time Table.

PASSENGER AND FREIGHT. Daily except Sundays.

Leave Wilmington at........ 5:40 A. M Arrive at Charlotte at 7:55 P. M Leave Charlotte at........... £15 A. M Arrive at Wilmington at...555 P. M SHELBY DIVISION, PASSENGER, MATI.

EXPRESS AND FREIGHT. Daily except Sundays. Leave Charlotte... Arrive at Shelby. Arrive at Charlotte... Trains No. 1 and 2 make close connection t Hamiet with R. & A. Trains to and from taleign, and at Charlotte with Shelby Di-ision Train.

Train No. 1 makes connection at Charlotte with A., T. & O. R. R., for Statesville, connecting there with W. N. C. R. R., for all points on said Road.

Trains Nes. 1 and 5 make connection at Charlotte with A. & C. R. R., for Spartanburg, Greenville, Athens, Atlanta and all points beyond.

Train No. 6 makes close connection at Wilmington with W. & W. R., R., for points North. Train No. 2 makes close connection with

General Superintender Jan. 8 tf Wilmington & Weldon R. R. Company.

OFFICE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 1, 1881.

O'N and after Dec. 1st, 1881, at 6:50 a. m., Passenger Trains on the W. & W. Rall-road will run as follows:

DAY MAIL AND EXPRES TRAIN Daily-Nos. 47 North and 48 South.

FAST THROUGH MAIL AND PASSEN-GER TRAINS, Daily-Nos. 43 North and 40 South.

Arrive at Wilmington, Front Street DAY MAIL AND PASSENGER, Daily, No. 45 North and 42 South. eave Wilmington, Front Street

Reave Weldon..... Arivre at Wilmington...

Trains on Terboro Branch Road leave Rocky Mount for Tarboro at 7:15 P. M. Daily, and Tuesday, Thursday and Satur-day at 3.15 A. M. Returning leave Tarboro at 3.00 A. M. dally, and Monday, Wednes-day and Friday at 8.50 P. M. Train No. 67 makes close connection at Weldon for all points North Daily. All rail via Richmond, and daily except Sunday via Bay Line.

Train No. 63 runs daily and makes close connection for all points north via hich-mond and Washington. No. 65 makes close connection for Tarboro. All trains run solid between Wilming-ton and Washington, and have Puliman Palace Sleepers attached.

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re Florence 20 A M
free at C. C. & A. Junction 5.30 A M
free at Columbia 6 60 A M
re Columbia 10 00 F M
re C. C. & A. Junction 10 00 F M

ive at Wilmington..... 4.10 A. h

Right Mail and Passenger train, Daily, No 40 West, and Day Mail and Pas-senger Train, No 45 East.

Mail and Passenger Daily, 42 East 45

A PARTIE OF THE PARTIE OF THE