

American Presbyterian and Genesee Evangelist.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1880. D. C. HOUGHTON, JOHN W. MEARS, EDITORS.

THE TRUE DISCIPLE. The conversion of a sinner is the most important event in the history of earth.

Some either believe, or act as if they believed, that one can be religious by proxy. They cherish the hope that the piety of a father or mother, a husband or wife, or a friend may avail for them; or, at least, that union with the church by baptism, or by their own profession, will secure for them a passport to the Divine favor.

Others, overlooking this vital truth, concern themselves mainly, in finding fault with their neighbors. They think only of the delinquencies of others, instead of rectifying their own.

The true disciple makes the written word the rule of his life. He not only believes God, but believes His word, and regulates his heart and life by its teachings.

When duty is clearly made known by the written word, illuminated and enforced by the divine Spirit and providence, the real child of God does not confer with flesh and blood, but immediately obeys the heavenly message.

It is cordial. What he does—he does it heartily as unto the Lord. His love is not in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth. It is universal. It regards all the requirements of God. He who is governed by such a spirit of obedience, does not perform this duty and neglect that. His experience corresponds with that of the Psalmist, when he says: "I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right, and I hate every false way."

henceforth he is to be a stranger to all the joys and pleasures of life—that no smile hereafter is ever to radiate his countenance, rather, that the sad and gloomy aspect of the recluse is to be his earthly portion. Would that we could dispose of the ungodly of this pernicious prejudice!

On the happy day that fixed my choice On thee, my Saviour and my God; Well may this glowing heart rejoice, And tell its rapture all abroad.

Were all the professing disciples of Christ His true followers, how efficient and joyful would they be in His service!

What matters it, if we are not compelled to pass through the antiquated ordeals of fire and sword in testifying to the reality of our religious convictions?

It is well known that there is in every large city a numerous class of females, who have left the path of virtue and happiness, and who wander in the midnight darkness of sin and misery.

And for just this purpose there is a society which is working unobtrusively, but steadily and hopefully. The Industrial Home for Girls is trying to do just this work.

Every age of the world demands among Christians the cultivation of the martyr spirit, and this humane age, with its trading, money-making, speculating, making-baste-to-be-rich aims, demands it as much as any other.

A CHURCH OF NATIVE CHRISTIANS IN MADRAS.—A "native church" has been regularly settled in Madras, and the Rev. P. Rajahgopal settled over it as pastor.

of the mission in Britain.—Record of Free Church of Scotland.

LIBERALITY COMMENDED.

To chronicle good deeds, is one of the agreeable incidents of editorial duty. It is with satisfaction, therefore, that we call attention to the acknowledgment of moneys received by our Publication Committee during the past forty days, which has been handed us for insertion, and will be found in its appropriate place.

The purchase of the Presbyterian House seemed, for a while, to be an obstacle to the Committee's success. It wore a local aspect, and did not call forth lively sympathy or large donations.

The Committee, in the meanwhile, were not inactive. It was meeting the demands of actual existence, and receiving and obeying instructions of the Assembly calling for large outlays.

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"HISTORY OF NORRISTOWN" CORRECTED.

We have lately seen a book purporting to be the history of Norristown, in which are a variety of statements that may be regarded as interesting character to those concerned in them. It will, no doubt, be entitled to respect and consideration in proportion as it is found to be truthful and impartial.

All we feel concerned about at the present time, is what we read recorded on page 62, and relating to the history of the First Presbyterian church of Norristown, from the year 1838 till it was seized upon by the Old School party and brought into the 2d Presbyterian of Philadelphia.

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FOR THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

This matters remained quiet till the meeting of the General Assembly. But before the appeal of the Session, as directed by the congregation, could be issued, the Assembly had divided into two parts, each claiming to be the true General Assembly, and each equally worthy, no doubt, in the sight of God.

The following is found in the Minutes of the General Assembly of 1838: "The appeal, from the church of Norristown, from the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia, was taken up."

The course was now plain for the people of Norristown. The subject being referred to the Synod of Pennsylvania, which was to meet in July, it only remained for them to wait the action of that body.

The action of the Synod in reference to the transfer of the church we regard as interesting and important, and we therefore give it in full.

The church was now regularly and constitutionally under the care of the 3d Presbytery of Philadelphia, which had been formed by the action of the General Assembly in 1836.

Mr. Samuel M. Gould, a licentiate of the Berkshire Association, Mass., made application to be received under the care of the Presbytery, and having presented a certificate of his licensure, with other testimonials of his good standing, he was accordingly received.

Mr. David Getty, a commissioner from the First Presbyterian church of Norristown, presented a call for Mr. Gould, which having been found in order was put into his hands, and he having declared his acceptance of the same, it was—Resolved, that when the Presbytery adjourns, it adjourn to meet at Norristown, on Tuesday, Sept. 25th, at 11 o'clock, for its ordination and installation, if the way be clear.

Mr. Gould was examined on experimental religion,—his views in seeking the sacred office,—on the languages,—arts and sciences, and his examinations were sustained as parts of trial. 2 Timothy i. 12.—"Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus," was assigned to Mr. Gould as a subject for a popular sermon previous to ordination.

ANNALS OF THE POOR.

An impression seems to have obtained, however, that the wants of the Mission in this department are, for the present, met. This is far from being the case. A great deal has certainly been done, and after five months' constant exertion, we are unable to discover more than here and there an instance in which what has been done was done improvidently, and there is plainly seen a corresponding effort of self-reliance in many families who, at the first, seemed to be without hope.

What, then, we desire it, that every lady who reads these annals will accept this as a personal application to herself for such aid as may be in her power.

As before stated, things may be sent to the Presbyterian Home, 1334 Chestnut St., marked "Annals of the Poor;" or the writer will call on any one on the receipt of a line, as above. B. P. S. In last week's paper, "Mourners' class," should read "Women's class." We have no mourners' class.

STORIES OF INVENTORS AND DISCOVERERS IN SCIENCE AND THE USEFUL ARTS. A Book for Young and Old. By John Timbs, F. S. A. With Illustrations. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Lindsay & Blackiston, Philadelphia.

THIS is a valuable book, recording the progress of science and art, and brief histories of the men who have been successful in identifying their names with some truly useful invention. The author begins with the zealous Archimedes, who believed, in his ardor of discovery, that he could overturn the world, if he could secure room for the fulcrum of his lever; and concludes with the electric telegraph, especially that part which refuses to respond, "All right, De Saaty!" The press, and the perfection of the art of printing, are the most practical and useful inventions of modern times. It is true that man has sought out many inventions, some useless, but many useful, and others seemingly indispensable.

THE HISTORY OF FRANCE. By Park Godewin. Vol. I. Ancient Gaul. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Lindsay & Blackiston, Philadelphia.

OLD LEAVES: Gathered from Household Words. By Mrs. J. C. Tullih. New York: Robert Carter & Bros. For sale by the Presbyterian Book Store, 1231 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

THE WAY TO THE PIT.

Author of "The Frowned Robe," "The Ministry," etc. Boston: Henry Hoyt. For sale by W. S. & A. Martin, Philadelphia.

TAKING A STAND. By the Author of "High Fisher," "Jane Robinson," etc. Boston: Henry Hoyt, Philadelphia, W. S. & A. Martin.

THE FLORENCE STORIES. By Jacob Abbott. Grandville, N. Y.: Sheldon & Co. For sale by Lindsay & Blackiston, Philadelphia.

THE BIBLICAL REASON WHY: A Family Guide to Scripture Reading, and a Hand-Book for Biblical Students. By the Author of "The Biblical Reason Why" General Series, etc. Illustrated by numerous Engravings. New York: Robert Carter & Bros. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.

BLIND MAN'S HOLIDAY; or Short Tales for the Nursery. By the Author of "Sidney Grey," etc. With Illustrations. New York: Robert Carter & Bros. For sale by the Presbyterian Book Store, 1231 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

SKETCH BOOK; or Miscellaneous Anecdotes, Illustrating a Variety of Topics Proper to the Pulpit and Platform. By William O. Smith. New York: Robert Carter & Bros. For sale by Parkinpie and Higgins, 66 North Fourth Street, Philadelphia.

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