

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1890.

JOHN W. MEARS, EDITOR.

ALBERT BARNES, THOMAS BRAINERD, JOHN ZENKINS, HENRY DARLING, GEORGE DUFFIELD, THOMAS J. SHEPHERD.

ORIGIN OF THE AMERICAN HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

We acknowledge that we do not attach much importance to the question: With whom originated the idea of a National Society for evangelizing our country? If an institution has been convicted of abandoning the principles on which it was based, and if it cannot be brought back again to the exercise of these principles, it is of small consequence to know from whose fertile brain and large heart the principles were first derived.

It is claimed that the key was furnished by Rev. Dr. (then Mr.) Bouton, on some day later than the 27th of January, 1826. The United Domestic Missionary Society was formed by a convention of delegates from ten missionary societies within the State of New York, at the Brick Church, in New York city, on the 10th of May, 1826.

If clearer evidence is wanted to establish the claim of the United Society to priority, in the suggestion of nationalizing the work of Home Missions, we shall find it in the address which it issued some three months previous to the gesture and the animated expression of Mr. Bouton.

But how was the United Society actually nationalized? Dr. Bouton desires to make it appear that the A. H. M. S. was the result of almost exclusively New England movements, into which the United Society consented to merge itself.

On Monday afternoon there was a discussion of deep interest on a motion of Rev. Mr. Duffield, calling the attention of Synod to the importance of carrying the preached gospel to the neglecting and neglected masses by means of open air preaching.

The sermon of Mr. Barnes, on the evening of Monday, was one of his happiest efforts. The text, David's charge to Solomon, "And now, Solomon, my son, know that the God of thy fathers," &c., was analyzed, and the subject divided in the most natural and simple manner.

The beauty of the church edifice is really remarkable. The brethren of Harrisburg have spared no pains or expense in constructing a building which is not only spacious and convenient for all the purposes of a church, but which in its exterior and interior, is just in proportion, and rich, and yet chaste, in ornamentation.

ganic laws, as the future constitution of that Society.

And now, we beg leave to ask, to what does all this discussion—the struggle on the part of our Congressional friends for historic precedence amount? How is it that they display such zeal upon an abstract question? Settle it either way they please, does it furnish any justification of the extraordinary and uncharitable course they have chosen to pursue towards our body, on a question of high and present practical importance?

Notwithstanding the comparative smallness of the number in attendance upon the recent meeting of this Synod,—the result in part of the change from Tuesday to Friday as the opening day of the sessions,—a delightful spirit pervaded the deliberations, the brethren felt that the meeting had been a source of profit to themselves, and the good people of Harrisburg, as represented by Mr. Robinson, shared fully in these sentiments.

A memorable feature was the presence and participation in the doings of Synod of two such interesting persons as Pastor FISCH, of the Free Church of France, and Rev. Mr. LINLEY, of the A. B. C. F. M., from the mission to the Zulus.

It was matter of remark how much the devotional and public services of the occasion were aided by the use of the excellent Hymn and Tune Books of the PUBLICATION COMMITTEE in the pulpit and the choir.

Yet no public services were more clearly illustrated the fact that a warm and earnest denominational spirit is compatible with the fullest exercise of Christian liberty.

On Saturday afternoon the Christian public in the words which follow: "Some great National Society for Domestic Missions is needed, which shall incorporate all inferior efforts; which shall have its seat in the centre of the zeal and manliness, and its arms in the remotest regions of our country.

On Monday afternoon there was a discussion of deep interest on a motion of Rev. Mr. Duffield, calling the attention of Synod to the importance of carrying the preached gospel to the neglecting and neglected masses by means of open air preaching.

The sermon of Mr. Barnes, on the evening of Monday, was one of his happiest efforts. The text, David's charge to Solomon, "And now, Solomon, my son, know that the God of thy fathers," &c., was analyzed, and the subject divided in the most natural and simple manner.

The beauty of the church edifice is really remarkable. The brethren of Harrisburg have spared no pains or expense in constructing a building which is not only spacious and convenient for all the purposes of a church, but which in its exterior and interior, is just in proportion, and rich, and yet chaste, in ornamentation.

diffused lustre to the light, harmonizing remarkably well with the solemn purposes of worship, and yet furnishing a perfect illumination to the entire apartment.

The proceedings of the Synod have come to hand to late for insertion in our present issue. They will appear in our next.

THE WORLD'S APOLOGY.

In an article of two columns in length, the N. Y. World attempts to apologize for the admission of theatrical advertisements into its columns. We do not intend to make any formal reply to this apology. It is quite sufficient for most people to know that the objectionable advertisements are continued in increased numbers and enlarged space.

There is no "general criterion, on the admission or exclusion of advertisements" that will apply. It doubts, after much consultation, "whether there is any clear, settled opinion on the subject in our Christian community."

WM. A. BOOTH, Treasurer, 36 Front St., N. Y.

RESIGNATION OF A NEW YORK CITY JUDGE.

A remarkable occurrence has lately taken place in New York city, which certainly has the effect of calling attention to the great abuses existing in the administration of the city government, and in the social life of the metropolis generally.

Two months have elapsed since, at a public meeting of citizens, the undersigned were constituted a committee, charged with the responsibility of an appeal to the benevolent public in behalf of more than one hundred thousand of the Christian population of Syria, who had been suddenly overwhelmed by a calamity alike atrocious and appalling.

These contributions have come in varied sums from all parts of our country. The rich have wisely invested his thousand, and the poor, of his penny, the fraction of his dollar.

Under date of Sept. 15, Dr. Thomson writes: "All these sums I now acknowledge, as chairman of the sub-committee, and desire you to convey the thanks of the committee to the generous contributors of the same."

Under date of Sept. 15, Dr. Thomson writes: "All these sums I now acknowledge, as chairman of the sub-committee, and desire you to convey the thanks of the committee to the generous contributors of the same."

whole case ourselves. No past experience throws any light on such a catastrophe as this. From a full day's ride north of Baalbek, south to Safed, the (travelling) city lies on a hill, near Tiboras, and from the sea-shore to the desert three days east of Damascus, the Christian population has been ruined.

Consul Johnson writes: "We are highly delighted at the energetic steps taken by the friends of humanity in New York for the relief of the Syrian sufferers. The commencement of winter, daily increasing the numbers and urgency of the applications for help."

Several churches reported interesting revivals: others had built edifices; and others had extended the kingdom of God in different ways. Some, including the church where we were met, were without pastors.

As to Church Extension, the Synod resolved in favor of the following measure: "First, an agent or district secretary for each of the North-western States, not merely to collect moneys, but to see to weak churches, and to do in fact what the agents of the Home Missionary Society have been accustomed to do; and that they act in correspondence with, and not in defiance of the several Synodical Committees on Church Extension."

WM. A. BOOTH, Treasurer, 36 Front St., N. Y.

PUBLICATION.

In the matter of Publication, the Permanent Committee on that subject were all absent. The Synod was addressed on the subject by Rev. J. A. Wright, who presented the claims of the Assembly's Committee as to the following points:

The Synod listened to several good sermons by the printing of the Synodical minutes for its general distribution.

ACTION OF SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD.

We are pleased to see the attention given to the claims of the Publication Committee at the Synodical meetings of the present year. In the Synod of Susquehanna the subject was introduced by the Rev. W. T. Doubleday, of Delhi, N. Y., and the following resolutions adopted:

Resolved, 1st, That the churches be earnestly exhorted to take up an annual collection, as soon as possible, for the Publication cause.

Resolved, 2d, That the pastors be requested to preach on the subject, or to urge it on the attention of their people, in connection with the call for a collection.

a judge on the bench shall be measured by the money which he shall there accumulate. If our wise and good, rich, intelligent, and honest citizens think these things of no moment, they will let them alone, as they have hitherto done; but they may rely upon it, these things will not let them alone.

FOR THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

SYNOD OF PEORIA.

The Synod of Peoria met at Peoria, on the evening of the 11th of October, and was opened with a sermon by the last Moderator, Rev. H. B. Holmes of Belvidere.

The annual business of the Synod was transacted with order and despatch. The free conversation on religion was one of much interest, and though, as usual, some made speeches to fill the time, and because they had nothing in particular to say, others, and the great number had stories of trials and success, in which God had dealt with them.

Resolved, 3d, That the pastors and officers of the Church be requested to introduce to the notice of the people, and circulate as extensively as possible, by gift or sale, the publications of the committee.

ANNALS OF THE POOR.

Let us again walk among the lowly. We will if you please find our way to a second story back room and enter it; there by the window sits a widow woman, intent only upon weeping. Her hair is white, and her face is a study of grief.

Resolved, 3d, That the pastors and officers of the Church be requested to introduce to the notice of the people, and circulate as extensively as possible, by gift or sale, the publications of the committee.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

At a late hour, we learned that the copy of our Secular News had been mislaid. As our columns are unusually rich in Religious Intelligence, we trust our readers will excuse the omission.

FULTON STREET PRAYER-MEETING.

Several conversations have taken place in connection with the services of the Fulton street prayer meeting, since the third anniversary of the late Rev. Mr. Seymour. On Monday of this week, a professor in one of the medical colleges of this city, a gentleman of high standing in the community, and who, since the anniversary, has been a daily attendant upon the meeting, and had once risen and asked for prayers for his own conversion, arose and stated in a few brief words, what miracle of grace he had become a witness of.

REV. NEW RULES OF THE A. H. M. SOCIETY.

Catalogue of Crittenden's Philadelphia Commercial College, for the 18th year of the Institution. Number registered and in actual attendance within the year ending April 15th, 1860, three hundred and sixty-three. See advertisement.

ACTION OF THE THIRD PRESBYTERY ON CHURCH EXTENSION.

Whereas, This Presbytery has noted with deep interest the action taken by the General Assembly and other ecclesiastical bodies on the subject of Home Missions, therefore

Resolved, 1. That Presbytery earnestly approve the truly dignified and conservative course pursued by our Assembly. Though the provocation to a different course was great, yet mindful of its long-cherished attachment to brethren with whom it had cordially co-operated in this hallowed work, the Assembly has made every possible effort consistent with self-respect either to continue co-operative efforts or to separate from their brethren amicably.

Resolved, 2. That, agreeably to the recommendation of the Assembly, all our churches which do not receive aid through the American Home Missionary Society be requested to take up a collection this year for the Church Extension Committee, the peculiar state of the Home Missionary cause having thrown upon that committee a very large number of feeble churches in the West and South.

THANKSGIVING DAY IN PENNSYLVANIA.

PENNSYLVANIA, SE.—In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, William F. Packer, Governor of the said Commonwealth.

Resolved, 3. That the pastors and officers of the Church be requested to introduce to the notice of the people, and circulate as extensively as possible, by gift or sale, the publications of the committee.

THE COMPLETE FRENCH CLARIS BOOK.

Containing Grammar, Conversation, and all the most useful and interesting phrases of the French Language, with the most beautiful and striking manner of writing, and admirable drawings of astronomical and geological objects, while the tone of the reverent and pious author is so general and sympathizing towards the reader, the matter is of such real scientific value, the views so enlarged, and so fully explained, and so yet so deeply devout, that we do not see how it cannot fall to become a universal favorite with parents, Sabbath-school, and other teachers, and the whole course and wakeful-minded generation of youth.

THE BLUE LAWS OF CONNECTICUT.

Edited, with an Introduction, by Samuel M. Smedley, LL. D. Philadelphia: Duane, Ralis & Co. 12mo. pp. 236.

THE CHILD'S ILLUSTRATED SCRIPTURE QUESTION BOOK.

Edited by Wm. H. Dyer. Philadelphia: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 151. Phila.: W. S. & A. Marven.

WHEAT AND BARLEY.

Edited by Wm. H. Dyer. Philadelphia: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 151. Phila.: W. S. & A. Marven.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE WORKS OF FRANCIS BACON, Baron of Verulam, Esq. Collected and Edited by James Spedden, M. A., ROSE T. ELLIS, M. A., and DOUGLAS D. HEYD, M. A. Being the Works of the Learned and Profoundly Learned Statesman, Lawyer, and Philosopher. Boston: Brown & Taggart, 12mo. pp. 454. For sale by S. M. Henry, 400 Walnut Street.

This is the second volume of the American edition of Bacon's works to which we have already referred in these columns. The celebrated ESSAYS comprise the principal part of its contents. To show the completeness of the work, we may mention that it contains three separate editions of the Essays entire. First, the one completed and enlarged by the author in 1625, and next the two less complete and less extensive editions of 1607 and 1612, besides a reprint of the MSS. in the British Museum, showing another stage in the growth of the volume intermediate between these two latter dates.

THE DEBATE BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND SCIENCE.

By the Rev. J. A. Wright, of Chicago, and Rev. J. H. L. Loos, and Edward Marsh, of Peoria, Ill. Philadelphia: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 437. Price, \$1.25. 1860.

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS.

Illustrated in a Series of Discourses on the 12th Chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. By ROBERT S. CALDWELL, D. D. New York: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 351. For sale by Smith, English, & Co., Philada.

CHRIST'S PRESENCE IN THE GOSPEL HISTORY.

By the Rev. J. A. Wright, of Chicago, and Rev. J. H. L. Loos, and Edward Marsh, of Peoria, Ill. Philadelphia: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 306. Philadelphia: for sale by Smith, English & Co.

THE WORLD'S BIRTHDAY.

By Prof. L. GAUZEY, Geneva. London: T. Nelson & Sons. 16mo. pp. 270. Philadelphia: for sale by Smith, English & Co.

THE COMPLETE FRENCH CLARIS BOOK.

Containing Grammar, Conversation, and all the most useful and interesting phrases of the French Language, with the most beautiful and striking manner of writing, and admirable drawings of astronomical and geological objects, while the tone of the reverent and pious author is so general and sympathizing towards the reader, the matter is of such real scientific value, the views so enlarged, and so fully explained, and so yet so deeply devout, that we do not see how it cannot fall to become a universal favorite with parents, Sabbath-school, and other teachers, and the whole course and wakeful-minded generation of youth.

THE BLUE LAWS OF CONNECTICUT.

Edited, with an Introduction, by Samuel M. Smedley, LL. D. Philadelphia: Duane, Ralis & Co. 12mo. pp. 236.

THE CHILD'S ILLUSTRATED SCRIPTURE QUESTION BOOK.

Edited by Wm. H. Dyer. Philadelphia: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 151. Phila.: W. S. & A. Marven.

WHEAT AND BARLEY.

Edited by Wm. H. Dyer. Philadelphia: T. Nelson & Sons. 12mo. pp. 151. Phila.: W. S. & A. Marven.