

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1861.

JOHN W. MEARS, EDITOR.

ALBERT BARNES, THOMAS BRAINERD, THOMAS J. SHEPHERD.

THE NEW YEAR.

Eighteen hundred and sixty has come—eighteen hundred and sixty-one has gone. The one has already made an epoch in the world's history; the other is likely to make a mark equally lasting and significant.

Shall we not then with our friends and readers a HAPPY NEW YEAR? Or shall we do it only as a form, without faith or courage to expect the realization of the wish?

May you be happy in the inestimable possession of a heart at peace with God in Christ. May you be happy in a conscious growth in the principle of grace within you.

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Our Union may be dissolved. God may suffer it even so to be. He may suffer a blind and revolutionary fanaticism to hurry good and bad alike, to the desperate work of tearing apart this Union, even when every concession that can reasonably be asked, is made to the disorganizers.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FAST DAY. In pursuance of the recommendation of the chief executive of the nation, the churches of our denomination will observe Friday, the 4th of January, as a day of fasting and prayer.

LARGE RESULTS FROM SMALL LABORS.

The following narrative will cheer our Christian readers. It is a ray of light falling upon the gloom that overhangs our churches and our country.

There resides, in a little village at the foot of the Allegheny Mountains, a few miles from Altoona, a good old mother in Israel, who delights in nothing so much as in following in the footsteps of her Divine Redeemer.

We held our first meeting on last Tuesday week, at which there was a fair attendance. Much solemnity prevailed. We felt, indeed, that we had occasion for encouragement; and we thanked God who had put it into the hearts of so many to come out and hear the gospel.

SINGAPORE AND ITS MISSION. Prepared for the American Presbyterian by Rev. V. D. Collins. The perusal of several letters from Malay youth, and a recent visit to the city of Singapore, suggest to me several topics of interest to American Christians.

THE ISLAND AND ITS INHABITANTS. The island of Singapore is so situated at the southern extremity of Asia, that to past it, sweep the great tides of travel, traffic, and immigration, leaving the rich deposits of wealth, religion, civilization, and soon to become the great entrepot of the East.

THE PUPILS' MAGAZINE—THE GRADUATES. These schools aim to give the pupils a thorough knowledge of Christianity, and a fair education, especially in their own tongue.

OTHER LABORS OF MR. KEASBERRY. Mr. Keasberry, besides preaching to Malays and Chinese, and teaching, translates, superintends the press, visits neighboring places, and distributes tract books.

come a lamb in the Saviour's fold. From subsequent conversations with her, from her intelligent and feeling answers, we doubt not that she too was brought into the fold of the good Shepherd.

Besides these instances, we could supply other instances of hopeful conversions to God, of the most intelligent and influential men of the place. One more only will I mention now; that of a noble young man, of great intelligence, who, before our visit, was inclined to skepticism.

We held our last evening meeting, (after staying several days longer than we had arranged for,) on Wednesday last. The church was crowded. As we desired that the good work which the Lord had only begun, great as that beginning was, should go on, and believing that the most effectual way for accomplishing this, was in letting those who loved the Lord feel that we were all battling for the same purpose; and that, however much we might love the particular branch of the church of Christ, with which we were each connected, that after all, it was in the united effort of the whole church that the great power for good lay, we thereupon the meeting, with the intention of inaugurating a Union Prayer Meeting.

We gave notice that we should hold our next meeting between 9 and 10 o'clock the next morning. A goodly number were present, most of whom seemed anxious about their souls.

And now, if we look at the commencement of this glorious work, we perceive that it began with, and was the result of, that good old saint's earnest prayers to God. How encouraged then should Christians be to pray and work when they read or hear of such great results!

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education on the part of the British Government, and one or two foreign societies; but there has been no positive religious effort made to reach the masses, except by one individual.

In the year 1830, the American and British Societies established missions at Singapore; but as their attention was directed chiefly to China, when that vast Empire was opened, the missions were broken up, and the men sent to China. All the missionaries left except the Rev. B. P. Keasberry, who preferred to remain and devote himself to the Malays, though without any promised support.

On the mission premises, there are two native schools—male and female. I have incorporated two verbatim letters of rare penmanship, addressed to the Secretary of the American Tract Society, giving a description of these schools, one of which is under the charge of two accomplished daughters of the Missionary.

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to follow you in thanking your Society for their great kindness in sending us so many nice books. We will all endeavor to make good use of them, and profit by their instructions.

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to present a short account of our Mission School at Singapore. Perhaps, sir, you know, or have heard concerning our dear teacher, the Rev. Mr. Keasberry, Missionary to the Malays, who has been laboring now upwards of twenty-one years amongst the Malays, and has taken a great deal of trouble, that we, his scholars, may become useful to our fellow countrymen.

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other man in the East has preserved, in standard works the grace and purity of the Malay tongue—confessedly the Italian of the East. He has demonstrated, also, the fact that missions may, to some extent, be self-supporting; and that the Malay race—the most fierce, bigoted, and unteachable in the world, may be reached, educated, and Christianized.

It is omitted much that I desired to cite, by quoting the testimony of a late Governor of Singapore in a letter to the devoted Missionary.

Your labors in behalf of the rising generation have been greatly blessed, and very many of all classes, from the prince to the pauper, have felt the benefit of your unremitting exertions.

A LETTER FROM REV. DR. PATTERSON. REPRINTED BY REQUEST. In compliance with your request, I place at your disposal the following statement, which was prepared for one of the journals at the East.

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thought they would, that it was less clear and conclusive than the similar letters which they had in their possession. It was my intention to go to the counsel with Mr. B. and talk the matter over with them and show them the peculiar difficulty of my relations to the case.

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information to the student of history and of human nature.

THE LITTLE PILGRIMS IN THE HOLY LAND. By Rev. Henry S. Osborn, author of "Palestine Past and Present," and "Fruits and Flowers of the Holy Land." Philadelphia: James Chilton & Son. 16mo. pp. 298.

THE PHYSICAL AND MORAL ASPECTS OF GEOLOGY. Containing the leading facts of the Science, and a discussion of the great Moral Questions growing out of Modern Geological Discoveries. By W. J. HARRIS, M. D., President of M. I. Institute, Somerville, Mass. Philadelphia: James Chilton & Son. 12mo. pp. 411.

THE SKELETON MONK AND OTHER POEMS. By FRANKLIN W. WALKER. Philadelphia: James Chilton & Son. 16mo. pp. 148.

DRIFT-WOOD ON THE SEA OF LIFE. By WILLIAM WALKER. Philadelphia: James Chilton & Son. 12mo. pp. 300.

STUDIES FROM LIFE. By the author of "John Halifax, Gentleman." New York: Harper & Brothers. 12mo. pp. 290.

HERODOTUS. Revised and corrected by WILLIAM B. ELLIOTT. New York: Harper & Brothers. 8vo. pp. viii. 369.

THE ODYSSEY OF HOMER, with Hymns, Epigrams, and Battle of the Trojans. Literally translated into English by Wm. S. Alfred Martin. No. 590 Broadway. N. Y. pp. viii. 369.

THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK. THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK OF BIRDS. These two companion volumes are gotten up in square 16mo. style, on heavy-tinted paper, and illustrated with full page wood engravings, all in the most attractive style.

THE WAR OF DEATH. A Sermon preached in Southold, at the funeral of Clarence H. Tutbill, by Ephraim Whitaker. New York: Randolph. This is a memorial of an affectionate pastor, and a record of the death of a beloved youth, called away by death. We gave an extract on our first page last week.

THE GOODLY HERITAGE AND ITS HEIRS. This is the title of a thanksgiving discourse of Rev. H. Dunning, delivered in the 1st Cong. Church, Haverhill, after dedicating the new building, in a simple and emphatic manner, and in a most interesting and work of the American man, he proceeds to argue the value of his heritage, and earnestly to deprecate the movement on foot to bring it into reproach and ruin.

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY. No. CXXVIII. January, 1861. Besides the usual variety of readable articles, we find some announcements of concern in February, and a story by Thackeray, to commence in February, and a story to be furnished, which will secure a continuance, or even an increase of the liberal patronage already awarded to this valuable series.

THE WEST CHESTER ACADEMY.—We are glad to hear of the prosperous condition of this old-established and well-appointed seminary for boys. At a recent date we learned that it contained over ninety students. We have no doubt the excellent Principal, Mr. W. F. Wiers, could find room for more, if application were made.

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