

American Presbyterian and Genesee Evangelist.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1861.

JOHN W. MEARS, EDITOR. ASSOCIATED WITH ALBERT BARNES, THOMAS BRANNEN, HENRY DARLINO, GEORGE DEFORD, JOHN JENKINS, THOMAS J. SHEPHERD.

CHRISTIAN EMIGRATION.

Christian emigration is based upon the idea that laymen, as such, can and should share personally in the work of evangelizing the heathen world; that Christian society, and not a class only in that society, should acknowledge a direct duty to the heathen.

Here we may learn something from the missionary enterprises of the Church in the earlier periods of her history. The missionary monks who issued from the British Isles and spread all over the North of Europe, seeking the conversion of the Teutonic tribes, evoked much of their great success to their skillful exhibition of the secular, in conjunction with the spiritual, advantages of the religion which they brought.

Thus Neander tells us of the famous Irish missionary, Columban, who, at the age of thirty, started with a company of twelve associates, to proclaim the gospel to pagan nations on the continent.

The territory now occupied by the State of Louisiana, was purchased for the express purpose of taking the mouth of the Mississippi River, the great commercial artery of this continent, out of foreign hands, and removing all possibility of obstruction to the trade of the great valley, reaching from the foot of the Alleghenies to the foot of the Rocky Mountains.

Secession, disguise it as we may under States-right doctrines, is a stupendous political infamy. If our national government is a government, and if the United States is a nation, having a right to be treated with as such by other nations, there secession is rank treason, open and unjustifiable rebellion, a murderous assault upon the national life, a fearful and atrocious crime against the best and freest of all governments.

There is one aspect of the case which we have not, as yet alluded to; it is the economical. Such a colony would render the most important assistance in sustaining the mission. Indeed we cannot see why it might not, under peculiarly favorable circumstances, render the mission entirely independent of foreign aid.

Such economizing of means, would enable the missionary societies at home largely to extend and multiply their fields of labor abroad. As the missions already established become independent, not like those in the Sandwich Islands, after the lapse of forty years, but, as we might hope, in three, five or ten years, if not almost at the very start, new missions could be organized; new colonies with their outfit could be sent forth; the world could, ere long, be over-

spread with Christian institutions; and the points thus settled be regarded as secure and permanent centers of gospel light and Christian civilization for all future time. Our laymen have already waked up to a consciousness of their duty in evangelizing the neglected masses at home.

GULF STATE MORALITY.

We do not know but that, after all, it is a real relief that the Gulf States are out of our Union. The honor and profit of the connection were certainly theirs, not ours.

With theology, morals, social science and the traditions of the fathers thus lamentably perverted on this subject, can it be thought wonderful that whole communities should be carried away into most flagrant violations of the plain principles of morality, justice and honor?

The secession itself, of some of these States, was a sweeping act of robbery. Florida owes its whole existence to the Union, which bought and purchased it, and spent thirty-five millions of dollars, and we know not how many lives of its brave soldiers, in one of the most trying wars in its behalf, the country ever engaged in.

"But for the Union," says the North American of this city, in a recent article, "the Indians and the Spaniards would still have remained masters of it; and other millions have been spent to survey accurately its coasts and harbors, to construct a buoyed guide to commerce, to build forts for its protection, and to maintain a costly mail service, which has steadily been a losing operation. And yet this State is mean enough to go out of the Union without paying a dollar for all these debts, and to make insolent demands for the country of distant territories, while it has not people enough to fill a single county in its own area."

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DEATH OF REV. DR. MURRAY.

We briefly noticed this sudden and afflictive event in our issue of last week. The New York Observer of the same date, (February 7th) contains a fuller notice, the most of which we copy below.

Our friend and correspondent, (Kirkman) the Rev. Nicholas Murray, D. D., of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, died at home on Monday, Feb. 4th, at the 58th year of his age. Up to Friday last he was in his usual health. On that day, after attending a funeral, he was attacked with neuralgia in the chest, but with no symptoms that created alarm.

As a writer, he had earned a reputation as wide as the Atlantic. Many years ago he confined to us his purposes to prepare a series of papers, presenting his own personal experience in the Roman Catholic Church and faith: the steps by which he was led in early life to forsake it, and reasons to induce others to abandon their unbelief.

These Kirwan letters gave a sudden and immense popularity to Dr. Murray, as a writer, and he became conspicuous as one of the champions of Protestantism in this country. He was called to the editorial chair of the New York Evangelist, and his articles in this paper, and other parts of the land, and perhaps no man in his church has been more frequently called upon to preach on special occasions of interest than he.

THE RELIGIOUS PRESS AND COERCION. Some of our contemporaries, whose faces, like sun flowers, are always turned south, greatly deprecate the execution of the law of the land by the government of these United States.

PRESENT DUTY OF THE PULPIT. In times of deep and universal agitation like the present, a light, almost as of revelation, is sometimes flashed upon great truths and important duties, before so very long overlooked.

THE DEGREE OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH. The doctrine, that Christian ministers as such, and church members as such, have nothing to do with politics, as all other theories either false or half-true, has given way like tow on the touch of fire, when the most serious cases are met.

It may be one of the gracious ends which God designs to answer by our present afflictions; to arouse the church to a higher estimate of her vocation; to make her feel that it is her prerogative and duty as God's witness on earth, to testify in behalf of all truth, and against all sin, whether in magistrates or people, whether in legislation or private conduct, and to teach publicly and effectually, that States as well as individuals, are bound to make the law of God the rule of their conduct.

ence of American liberty and civilization depends on it, and Christians feel that the cause of the Master is involved in it. All feel that the quiet allowance of disorganization and revolution by a Government that has the power to protect itself, and continue to scatter its blessings over the whole land, would be to proclaim the everlasting disgrace, not only of our nation, but of our race, and by an invitation to lawless anarchy, since it would show to all who desired to inaugurate a reign of terror, that there was no authority to curb them.

SHALL THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS PERISH?

This is the question which the providence of the hour asks of the American people. From forty to fifty thousand of our fellow citizens are to-day in a state of fearful destitution. The entire harvest of the last year has failed.

They need 600,000 bushels of grain for food, which would be barely ten bushels to each person for as many months—a bushel a month to each. They need wheat, corn, potatoes and other seed to plant 500,000 acres of ground this spring.

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PRINCELY DONATION.

The following instance of noble generosity occurring in the midst of the year, is exhibited towards interests of the greatest value to our Church, is thus welcome.

Generous Gifts.—We have received information from a reliable source, that on Tuesday of this week, Peter Douglas, Esq., of Sennett, well known as one of the oldest, most respected and benevolent residents of Cayuga county, paid over to Rev. Frederick Starr, Jr., agent of the Theological Seminary of Auburn, Twenty Thousand Dollars of Bank Stocks.

Ten thousand dollars of the said stocks are given to the Trustees of the Theological Seminary of Auburn, and are to be added to two of the permanent funds of the said institution. It is worthy of note that Mr. Douglas was one of the original contributors to the funds of the Seminary in 1820.

THE PRESENT NUMBER. We publish on our first page, among other valuable matter, the Fast Day Discourse of Rev. Dr. Breckenridge, which is interesting as presenting, from a Southern source, one of the most powerful arguments against the course of the Cotton States that has yet appeared.

LEGACIES TO THE CHURCH EXTENSION COMMITTEE.—DOUGLAS FUND. We are happy to announce that the institutions of our own Church are taking so strong hold upon the affections of our people, that they are manifesting it by noble gifts and legacies, which they desire to place under the guardianship of our Church.

THE AMERICAN'S PICTURE GALLERY. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston. Small octo. This is a collection of pictures illustrating scenes, characters, and incidents in the history of our country. Its exterior is very attractive, and the contents calculated to excite patriotic sentiments in the minds of the young.

THE OLD LOG SCHOOL HOUSE, furnished with Tablets of School Life, Notes of Travels, Poetry, Hints on the Conduct of the Pupil, by Mrs. J. B. Clark, Editor of Clark's School Book. Philadelphia: Leary, Geitz & Co. 12mo. pp. 268.

A Good Prescription.—The Nashville Advocate has this reasonable and valuable prescription: "Read the Bible before you look into the morning paper. The soul can't live on sensation dispatches; the bread of politics, mail, and crime, you will have enough, anywhere, and to surfeit. Seek the company of those who fear the Lord and think upon His name. Make it your daily religious conversation. Lose not the opportunity of assembling with those whose conversation is in heaven. You need it just now. Use the means of grace diligently, or you will be swept away by the current of this bearing all things upon its bosom. Keep yourself in these noisy times. A great excitement that he found the second Psalm an excellent meditation for a crisis."

EDITOR'S TABLE.

A TREATISE ON THE PHYSICAL CAUSE OF THE DEATH OF CHRIST and its Relation to the Principles and Practice of Christianity. By Wm. A. Stoddard, M. D. of London. With an Introduction by Samuel Hanson, Cox, D. D., L.L.D., Chancellor of the English University. London: First American, from the London edition of 1847.

ENGLAND'S YEMOANS, FROM LIFE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. BY MARIA L. CHARLESWORTH, author of "Ministering Children," &c. New York: Carter & Burgess, pp. 309.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW. Explained by Joseph Addison Alexander. 12mo. pp. 446. NOTES ON NEW TESTAMENT LITERATURE AND ECCLÉSIASTICAL HISTORY. By M. F. Burney, D. D. These works, translated by Charles Scribner, of New York, and for sale by E. H. Butler & Co., Philadelphia, are both fragmentary, the Commentary being complete only to the conclusion of the 15th chapter, and the Notes on New Testament Literature, &c., being all that was left of Prof. Alexander's remarkable Biblical and historical lectures in a fit condition for the press.

THE CHARACTER OF JESUS; forbidding this possible classification with men. By HORACE BURNELL. 2mo. pp. 178. Titled page, New York: Scribner, 1860.

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