

American Presbyterian and Genesee Evangelist.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1861.

JOHN W. MEARS, EDITOR.

WE ARE NOW sending out bills enclosed in the papers of our subscribers...

NEW SUBSCRIBERS from the city, are coming in, in encouraging numbers. One pastor has handed us thirteen new names within a week...

TODAY.

It is meet that the nation should fast. The greatest of all calamities that can befall a nation has come upon us. Treason in all places, high and low, has been allowed to run on unchecked...

That in this age, and among us, should arise such a storm of anarchical opposition against the freest of human governments in its regular constitutional operation; that there should be no better pretext for it than the probable future restriction of the growth of the system of American slavery...

Oh! brethren, were we but up and doing,—were we but witnessing and cross-bearing for the Master's cause,—were we but humbling ourselves for our sins, and stirring up ourselves to take hold upon God in prayer,—were we but making religion our business, instead of postponing it at every worldly demand,—were we, and all Christian people, alive unto God, what work that the church could be called upon to do, would be too hard for her?

Yes, if any word seems to come near them unto their disquietment, they are apt to think it was spoken out of spite and ill will toward them; they approve of themselves in their present condition.

The peril to our own souls, and the injury to the cause of Christ, arising from the state of delusion, should set us most earnestly to work in escaping from it. That it is perilous, no reader of the New Testament can, for a moment, doubt.

III. This action contemplates the healthful development of our Presbyterian system. One grand object of our union in Presbyteries and Synods is, that we may engage in a common effort for the advancement of a religion. The greatest enterprises of the church have a claim to the constant attention of these bodies.

IV. This action will, we trust, secure what we have long felt—the need of direct correspondence with our missionaries. That there may be a lively missionary interest at home, the churches must be thoroughly identified with the brethren abroad. The work is one, whether we support it by our prayers and contributions at home or as messengers of the churches to labor in heathen lands.

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SYNDICAL ACTION ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

At the instance of the indefatigable Secretary of the American Board for this district, Rev. John McLeod, several of the Western Synods, last fall, took action looking to the more direct and active connection of those bodies with the work of foreign missions, as carried on through the agency of the American Board.

SPIRITUAL DECAY.

The individual Christian and the individual church may suffer declension, even when the great general movement of the kingdom of Christ is clearly onward. Nay, the true Christian, who on the whole is making real progress, may suffer occasional relapses, and even remain for long periods in a cold and profitless condition. It is to be feared there are few Christians, who have not considerable experience in this matter of spiritual decay.

Resolved, That a Committee of four, one from each Presbytery, be annually appointed to superintend and have special care of the cause of Foreign Missions in this Synod, and to report to the same annually on this subject, presenting all such information and matter of interest as in their judgment will stimulate and develop the spirit of missions, giving the number of men we have employed in this work, and corresponding with them, the success of the cause in which we co-operate with others, and report fully all collections, and all delinquencies, throughout each Presbytery.

Resolved, That a Committee of four, one from each Presbytery, be annually appointed to superintend and have special charge over the cause of Foreign Missions in this Synod, and to report to the Synod, annually on this subject all such information as is adapted to stimulate the missionary spirit.

Resolved, That it be the duty of the members of this Committee to have the care of this great interest in their respective Presbyteries, especially to secure, if possible, the taking of collections in every church, and to report fully the collections and delinquencies throughout each Presbytery.

the dry detail of the forms of order in the working of our system, there is need, as far as possible, of the introduction of those great enterprises of the church, which take hold of the heart, and are vitally allied with the progress of the kingdom of Christ.

II. Again, such attention on the part of our Presbyteries and Synods, to the great causes of the New Testament can, for a moment, doubt. The churches of Sardis and Laodicea were in danger of utter rejection for their continued coldness.

III. This action contemplates the healthful development of our Presbyterian system. One grand object of our union in Presbyteries and Synods is, that we may engage in a common effort for the advancement of a religion. The greatest enterprises of the church have a claim to the constant attention of these bodies.

IV. This action will, we trust, secure what we have long felt—the need of direct correspondence with our missionaries. That there may be a lively missionary interest at home, the churches must be thoroughly identified with the brethren abroad. The work is one, whether we support it by our prayers and contributions at home or as messengers of the churches to labor in heathen lands.

V. If this action of our Synods is properly carried out, we shall secure the co-operation of each church in the Presbytery, no matter how small or feeble. Let the subject of Foreign Missions be annually presented to every church, and the pastor, or, in his absence, by an elder, and let the contribution be taken up if it amount to no more than a very few dollars from the entire body. This would be a recognition of the obligation. No church, however few in numbers, can afford to be out of sympathy with the cause of Christ.

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THE NEW "TERTIUM QUID."

The Presbyterian Herald in Louisville, Ky., is evidently much exercised at the indications of union among Presbyterians in the North, now happily so prevalent. In a late issue it says: "The attempt at such a union, if it is ever made in earnest, will, in all probability, result in a tertium quid, which will be neither fish, flesh, nor fowl, nor good red herring."

CONSOLIDATION OF NEWSPAPERS.

The Presbyterian Recorder, the very promising organ of our Chicago brethren, which, but for the opening of its career in the most unpromising times, would doubtless have long and worthily represented the wants and views of the church in the great north west, has united with the Christian Herald, the organ of our church in Cincinnati.

SYNDOD OF GENESSEE.

We have received full reports of the proceedings of the Synod of Genesee, which shall have a place in our next. They reached us at too late a date for insertion in the present number.

THE NEW YORK OBSERVER ON THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

"Honour to whom honour!" We are rejoiced to find that the "Conservative" religious paper of the land par excellence, is coming up to the position which we, for months past, have felt it our duty to take on the subject of the present rebellion. In a circular which has been recently issued from the "Observer" office, the proprietors thus announce the principles which will hereafter mark the conduct of their journal.

That the Government is the ordinance of God; that the war was forced upon us by the unjust rebellion of the seceding States; that the Government is the ordinance of God; that the war was forced upon us by the unjust rebellion of the seceding States; that the Government is the ordinance of God; that the war was forced upon us by the unjust rebellion of the seceding States.

CHAPLAIN NEILL OF THE "FIRST MINNESOTA."

We clip the following letter from a recent issue of the St. Paul's Press. It is from the pen of a Mr. Craft, who was in the midst of the scenes which he describes. It gives us pleasure to present an additional testimony to the faithfulness of this man of God to the arduous duties of his position in the army.

Washington, August 14th, 1861. There is one man on the staff to whom I have not been awarded the honor which he won in that terrible battle, and that almost equally terrible retreat. I mean our good Chaplain Neill. I know the negligence has not troubled him, but the people of Minnesota have a right to know more of his services. According to the testimony of the men who saw him, and it confirms my own observation, he was every where present where he could render any assistance to the sick or prostrated, the wounded or dying.

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LETTERS FROM THE SEAT OF WAR IN THE WEST.

St. Louis, Missouri, September 17th, 1861. The most wicked and abominable exhibition of secessionism which has yet been seen in this State, and which abhors itself to be "from beneath," has taken place in Northern Missouri. This part of the land has been supposed to be superior in many respects to that south of the Missouri river.

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CITY RELIGIOUS ITEMS.

Our churches have all resumed their regular services with the usual congregations. If we are not mistaken, there is an increased seriousness and readiness to hear, as might be expected in men who realize that they are passing through a solemn and unprecedented crisis in history, and witnessing the judgments of God in our land.

The principal events of the past week have been the inauguration of Camp Benton, four miles to the north-west of the city, the military arrest of Frank Blair, and the attempt on the part of the government at Washington to modify and nullify General Fremont's policy as to "freeing the slaves of rebels," which has been called "the first effective blow aimed at the heart of the rebellion."

The arrest of Col. Frank P. Blair is supposed to be of more interest to himself than any one else or elsewhere. He has been a man of influence in this State, and was regarded as a good Union man. But he is considered too much of a partisan, and like all great men, is headstrong and selfish.

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LETTER FROM REV. DR. THOMPSON.

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WILLIAM R. MORRIS, ESQ.

We are pleased to see this gentleman in the city supplying some of our vacant churches. He was formerly a lawyer at York, Pa., and in this city, where he was elected a member of the Legislature. He narrowly escaped being elected to Congress, in Delaware, by the state of parties. Becoming, as he trusts, a Christian, he was licensed this Spring by the Presbytery of Wilmington, and is dedicating his cultivated and matured powers to the work of the ministry. We trust that he will be eminently useful.

WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT AT FUB CHAU A COPY OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE CHINA MAIL, HONGKONG, June 20th, containing the journal of a missionary tour along the East River of Canton Province, undertaken in the month of May, by Rev. J. LEEGE, D. D. It is deeply interesting in its political, geographical, and missionary aspects. We may refer to it again.

It is enough to say here, that no false impression has been made in regard to the religious character of the General. He has made no formal profession of his obedience to the gospel, but his conviction is that he regards himself, and is happy to be known by others, as a friend and follower of Jesus.

The country is deeply interested at this time in knowing who the men are, and what kind of men they are, that have charge of its affairs. It is no small comfort to be assured that the individual who now occupies in point of fact, the highest position in our armies, is one who fears God, and does not count it a vain thing to pray unto him. I am very respectfully yours, &c.

Cincinnati, Sep. 17th, 1861.

Each one on this very rich list of names, is aptly illustrated and enforced by numerous passages of Scripture, showing what a treasure house of consolation and instruction the soldier may find in the word of God.

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THE FAST DAY.

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THE AMERICAN FAST IN EUROPE.

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All the pews in the KENSINGTON CHURCH, (Rev. W. T. Eves,) have for some time been rented, and a large number of applications are standing.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The headings to the various sections of CROMWELL'S PRINCE, lately re-published by the Treat Society in New York, which connected together the various events of the Revolution.

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JOINT ACTION OF THE PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCILS, SEPT. 19TH.

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RESOLUTIONS OF THE PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCILS, SEPT. 19TH.

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