THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1862.

GENESEE EVANGELIST.

JOHN W. MEARS,

RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS.

Among the permanent and most cherished customs of men is the observance of anniversary occasions. Around these cluster many of our best and happiest associations, many of the most humanizing and elevating influences, many of the brightest moments of our existence. They aid in preserving the choice memories of the past. and in repeating its lessons to new generations of patriotism, they bind communities and families ness of God. Hitherto hath the Lord helped us, we say, as on these days we set up our Ebenezer. Life would be but a drudgery without them.

Large numbers of Christians, by far the greater part of the Church visible, carry this custom of annual observances into religion. Indeed, with the primitive church the celebration of festivals was universal. But the Evangelical church of our day is not agreed as to this practice. The Reformation of the sixteenth century was a return from a church life deformed and perverted by human authority, to the simple standards of the Scripture. It aimed, in radical disregard of the developments of history, to carry us back of the so-called primitive church, back of the age of the fathers, to Christ and the apostles themselves. Rightly regarding them as the only infallible authority in the church,-the reformers sometimes failed to consider the question of expediency, in regard to customs for which no express warrant could be found in the Scriptures. Rising up with the spirit of Christian freemen, standing fast in the liberty wherewith Christ had made them free, they protested against being entangled in a yoke of ceremonies, devised and authoritatively imposed upon the necks of the people, in a spirit of revived and intensified Judaism. They nobly broke the bonds of a combined spiritual and temporal despotism, worse than that which he denounced with seven-fold woes. They liberated the consciences of men from these false and irksome restraints, but did not some of them err in an opposite direction by charging their consciences with the avoiding of all these and \_ like observances as a duty? Things which may justly be rejected and denounced when claiming the sacredness of a religious obligation, are at least deserving of examination when they put forth the modest plea of Christian expediency. an illustration of conscientious attachment to And it is to our minds a fair question for our section of the Reformed churches to consider: whether an unforced observance of some of the leading festivals of the church year is not expedient? loyalty to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Whether our religion would not gain by it! Church has been naturally and logically followed Whether our conception of the facts of Redemp- by loyalty to the National Government; and it tion and of the person of the Redeemer would not become more vivid? Whether our Christian experience would not gain in variety, full- their streets, the pastor and elders of the First ness, beauty and health? Whether a much- Constitutional Presbyterian Church stood firm needed larger infusion of the devotional element for the truth, and by their public teaching and might not thereby be introduced into our services? Whether the preponderating secular character of our life, from day to day, and from year to year, fact, and one worthy of record in the history of

to observe them? The religion of Jesus has a human side and a strong human interest. It is quite as needful doubted; and while among our people, a small for us to remember that the Divine Word became number have been deluded by the insanity of Aesh as that he was " in the beginning with God and was God." The ministry of Jesus Christ on our earth lasted between two and three years. Certain parts of it are known to have coincided true and fervid has been the patriotism of our with certain periods of the year. The Evangelist John, especially, gives us the chronology of Union, was the response to the President's proour Saviour's ministry by the Passovers, and clamation for seventy-five thousand volunteers other feasts of the Jews which he notices. We more promptly met; and that in no one did a can especially trace with accuracy the last few larger proportion enrol themselves in the ranks days of our Saviour's life, his crucifixion and his than in Washington. Among these were the resurrection, his ascension and the outpouring of most conscientious and faithful of our church his spirit, "when the day of Pentecost was fully come." Now since this can be done in strict accordance with historical verity, what valid objection can be made to marking the correspond- vised, not only by their pastors, but even by their ing days of the year, through all time, as memo- wives and mothers and sisters. However much rial days-in a word, to giving the Church, as | indifference or treachery to the Government there in nart a human institution, as well as to the fa- may have been among a portion of our fellowmily, or the nation—her anniversaries?

minations frequenting their places of worship on patriotism—a patriotism manifesting itself in enlast Friday and Sabbath with pleasurable sympa- listments, in visiting the hospitals and the camps. thy, mingled with regret that our own people and in ministries of love which regarded the were outside of the circle of these becoming and wants of both the bodies and the souls of the truly Christian celebrations. Days, justly recog- sick and wounded soldiers. nized as the most distinguished in the whole year, were honored, enjoyed and turned to profit may be known to the country and to posterity by the devout-minded. To them the year had but because they illustrate the true influence of brought round not merely birth-days, or remin- our theology and our religion. The fact is, that iscences of national peril, or secular epochs, but the religion of our churches during the past year the areat day of the world's atonement: the day has been summoned by our Divine Lord into a of the uplifting of the cross, and of the agony of new field of activities. The life of the nation Him that hung upon it for man's redemption, - has been in imminent peril, and with this, every the day when the sun was darkened and nature thing sacred in the church has been at stake. was convulsed in sympathy with her dissolving The question has been, Shall we have a free Lord. To them it was not merely a period of church, an open Bible, a free press, and a land revival in the natural world, but of happy and of universal liberty, or the reverse? appropriate association with the triumph of the We have felt that with the loss of our national Lord of life and glory over death and the grave life, we not only surrender our republican instiforever. These associations are precious. They tutions, but the rights and the hopes of the ornament, they gem, our daily life with spiritual world. Our pastors and churches have apprepearls. We plead for the stringing of a few of clated this. Hence they have heard the call of in danger of becoming monotonous.

tion of the Atonement in the Resurrection. We American gresbuterian tion of the Atonement in the Resurrection. We know not why the seventh Sunday following might not furnish equally inspiring material as the anniversary of the Gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. And as the First Church in this city set the example by recently opening its doors on a week day that the pastor might preach a Christmas sermon, we know not why the same church and others in our connection might not be opened on week days to celebrate religious anniversaries, whose chronological claims have never been called in question like Christmas, and whose significance is as deep as the main facts of Christianity themseves.

No revolution—only development—is needed to establish such a custom among us. We need more festival days in the year in this country. Leave men's consciences free. Restrict all ideas of sanctity and obligation to the Christian Sab men. They vivify national life, they enkindle bath; and, then, in the spirit of Christian freedom and gladness, set apart anniversaries of the together, they remind us of the manifold good- great epochs of Redemption for universal observance. If any reader is inclined to dispute the expediency of such an arrangement, we will give him one or two of our reasons—not otherwise.

(For the American Presbyterian.) THE PRESBYTERY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Would begin their narrative of the state o

eligion within their bounds, by saying: That for several years past there has been marked progress in the visible or external king dom of God among them. This is seen particu larly in their enlarged church accommodations Three new church edifices have been erected in the city of Washington, in very important localities, at an expense of over \$50,000, and capable of seating nearly three thousand people. In addition to this, two of the oldest churches of the same city have been remodeled and much en larged at great cost; so that we have now six church edifices in Washington, capable of accom modating nearly six thousand people.

The congregations attending some of these places of worship have been very large during the past year. One of the new churches has doubled its congregation, and all are increasing in numbers and strength. All these churches have been supplied with pastors, and enjoy the régular ministrations of the Word; and though which our Saviour found among the Jews, and the three younger congregations are comparatively weak in numbers and in wealth, yet located in the midst of a numerous population and almost ontirely free from debt, the prospect of their growth and usefulness is very promising. This Presbytery has under its care, also, se

veral churches in Maryland, including the First

Constitutional Church in Baltimore. This last

church is the only one in our connection in that

city, and its history has been most interesting, as and vindication of the principles for which our branch of the church has contended ever since the memorable disruption of 1837. Its is pleasant to know that in the dark days of Bal timore, when treason lifted its bloody hands in prayers and example, aided to restore the city to its loyalty and to safety. It is a very gratifying might not be approximately balanced by marking the period through which we are passing, that some of these secular days as anniversaries of the every pastor and minister in this Presbytery is grand events in the religious history of mankind, an open, decided and outspoken friend of the and encouraging (not commanding) the people National Government. From the beginning of our civil war to the present moment, their testimony has been explicit, and their sympathy un secessionism, yet the great mass of our congregations have sustained and encouraged their pastors in their duty to our country. Indeed, so people, that we suppose that in no city of the members, especially the teachers of our Sabbath schools, and the active office-holders in our congregations. To such a course were they ad citizens, it is a fact that the members of the We confess we saw the crowds of other deno- churches of our connection have shown the truest

We mention these facts not only that they

them on the dull calendar of our secular days their Lord, and while they have avoided all poand our Sabbaths which, to many among us, are litics in their technical sense, yet they have endeavored to discuss and render more plain, the And how, in the Presbyterian Church, would immutable principles of the Divine government we have it accomplished? Not by authority, as over us; and have not failed to proclaim that the if the word of God contained the slightest foun- powers that be are ordained of God, and to pray dation for such requirements; not by any attempt for all our constituted authorities, and for the at legislation, by formularies and rubrics, savor- success of the national arms in the struggle to ing of ancient bondage; not by involving any secure law and order and peace in our land. Some man's conscience in any such observance; not of our pastors have been regular and almost by approximating these anniversaries in sacred. daily visitors to the sick and dying in the hosness, or expediency either, to the clear and posi- pitals, and a few of our people have given their tive institution of the Sabbath. But by develop- time to nursing thousands of these sufferers, and ing and extending the spirit with which these to ministering to the spiritual necessities of the days are already met in many of our pulpits, and ten thousands in our camps. It has been a year by encouraging the recognition so largely given of intense anxiety and of wonderful activity in them in various circles of business. Already not | these respects; and while we cannot speak of a a few of our clergy make it a point to preach ap- large number of conversions in our own congrepropriate sermons on Easter Sunday. We would gations, yet we feel that while the providence of have this custom extend from pulpit to pulpit. God has called the people to this new field of We would have this day seized as full of material labor, He has given his sanction to their efforts

many hundreds in the camps. And in this connection, it is proper for us to testify to the great fidelity and success of a large number of the chaplains of the regiments stationed in the vicinity of Washington. We have become personally acquainted with many of these men of God, representing all the evangelical denominations and while their patriotism and their consecration to their work have excited our admiration, we have had occasion to rejoice with them over the wonders of divine grace wrought in the midst of them. Among many others which might be mentioned, we have been particularly interested in one regiment whose chaplain is connected with our branch of the church, and who has been per mitted to see a most powerful work of grace, extending through the winter months, and resulting in the conversion of over fifty souls in the course of one week, and of many others in successive weeks, till, when their camp broke up and made its advance into Virginia in the month of March, their régimental church contained between two hundred and three hundred members. We believe that there have never been, in the history of the American church, more pure and healthy revivals of religion than have been witnessed in several of the regiments encamped in our vicinity, and we record the fact with gratitude to the great Head of the church, and with

new hopes for the stability and glory of our be-

We have also in our Presbytery a Church of

loved American nation.

colored people which we have cherished with much interest for several years. They have a very commodious brick edifice, located in a most eligible part of Washington, and fitted up with great taste. They have a membership of one hundred and fifty and a congregation very respectable in character and promising in numbers Though their present pastor is about to be transferred to another field of labor yet the Presbytery feel that the Lord will not forsake this congregation or the class of people whom they represent. Indeed, we feel that our relations to the colored race among us are of most solemn and responsible character. In Washington they number now some twelve thousand or about one sixth of the population. As a community, they compare most favorably with the poor laboring class in this city or in any city. Indeed, when we consider the peculiar disadvantages under which they have long struggled, we are amazed at the progress which they have made in knowledge, in and numbers, exists in religious circles as it does the comforts of living and in true Christian virtues. They have eleven Evangelical churches | Mellin, Jeffrey & Co., and others, monopolize an in Washington. Each church has its Sabbath School, and there is, in connection with almost every Church a day School where their children with huge capitalists and overgrown monopolies. are taught to read and write and where they In religious circles it is somewhat the same. The learn Geography and Arithmetic, Grammar and large, rich churches grow larger and richer, while history. The result is that almost all the colored the small poor churches decline in wealth, numchildren in our city are enjoying the privileges bers and usefulness. There are radical wrongs surport the public schools of our city where manent spiritual prosperity can be expected, or a ring whole or part of sessions eleven ministers white children alone are admitted. Some of the real pecuniary thrift secured. On some future and nine elders. colored people have accumulated wealth by their occasion this point may be enlarged upon and The Rev. Wm. T. Eva was elected Moderaindustry. Not a few live in their own houses, illustrated. most comfortably furnished, and a very large proportion are among the most orderly, moral and with the Ministry. Among the many, Rev. Dr.

religious of our population. It is well known to the managers of our beneare, of course, exceptions. There are careless, en, dissolute and abandoned colored men and accomplish this object. We have, however, no sent distractions and weaknesses. barbarous legislation in some of the free States, by which this race are forbidden even to enter into their domains. Such legislation is a disgrace to the civilization of the nineteenth censentiments, but believe that while our States. our cities and our churches should be free and here, but by the good which they may accomplish for their race, who are calling to them esthem on earth and prepare them for heaven.

In conclusion, the Presbytery would simply that quarter. sav. that whatever be the result to them or to us of our present war, we have the utmost confidence that through the conflicts of sin and the Female College" to lecture before the good clouds of war, and the oppressions of man, and the malice of devils, the kingdom of God is ever making its onward way, and is destined, ere long, to fill the earth with holiness and peace.

NORTH BROAD ST. CHURCH, received nineteen persons into its communion. Sabbath before last, twelve on certificate and seven on profession. Ground was broken for the new building on Monday morning last, April 12th, at seven o'clock in the presence of a large assembly. The had unfitted them for any other preacher and all occasion was appropriately marked by devotional exercises. And thus a most important enterprise parishioners had also spoiled him for any other 14th street Pres. ch, New York, in part, \$50 00 is fairly inaugurated. We congratulate pastors ecclesiastical position. He comes back thither and people on this happy termination of protrac- with fresh interest and unabated devotion. ted delays and join our fervent wishes and prayers with their own for the speedy and prosperous completion of the work. And we are warranted in saying that so far as merely human instrumentalities are concerned, no doubt need be entertained of the issue. A correspondent says:-

NEW YORK RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

NEW YORK, April 19. the engrossing sympathy of all parties with the suppression of the rebellion, has had its influence upon the churches of this city. It has deadened the religious sensibility of many Christians, and closed their hearts and purses to the claims of religious charities and benevolence. In some dually to do what we can to advance its intercongregations of eminent wealth and known liberality, when the claims of the Christian organizations are presented, little else than coin is given, and that often of the smallest dimensions. the Government issues. But when the necessities of the soldiers, either physical or moral are offered, and aid solicited, it is wonderful to see the piles of bank notes given, and how opulently the plates are loaded. Nothing could be more TERIAN and some other papers for publication. gratifying to the heart of the philanthropist or the Christian. Yet while sympathy gushes so freely in that direction it should not be chilled and so cruelly restricted in so many others.

far from being at the revival standard. With very few exceptions, there is a uniform deadness in all the congregations of New York. Prayer the venerable brethren, chill all interest, and out the whole country. shuts out the young and sympathetic from being present. In Brooklyn it seems as if another of the prayer meetings are full of earnest, like Christian people. They pray with unction, and labor with earnest voices and hearts. The result has been that in most of the congregations, for months, a revival spirit has existed, and large numbers have been added to those "who shall be saved." It is a fact not to be controverted, that Brooklyn, with its population of less than 300,000, has as many, if not more, really working, toiling ministers, than New York with its almost a million. The laymen there are also

eminently valuable aids. Many of the congregations of this city are passing through exciting ordeals. Some are overgrown in wealth and numbers, and others, in desirable localities, are almost gasping for an existence. The great ambition to centralize power among business men. A. T. Stewart, Clafflin & enormous Dry Goods trade. They swallow up numbers of smaller houses, who cannot contend somewhere. There are great, inexcusable short

Change seems the order of the day in this city | Clerk. Spring has Professor Shedd, from Andover, as a colleague to succeed. Dr. Hoge. He was a are every winter clamorous for assistance. There who could not ask God's blessing even upon the delphia Third Presbytery. National Government which protected him. His Brick," his esteemed and loving wife having Gospel ministry. women among these many thousands, but the died, after the loss of two if not three brothers in proportion is by no means as large as it is often the Rebel army. Prof. Shedd is a Congregarepresented to be, nor as great, in fact, as it is tionalist of the New England type. It surprised among the whites. At the same time, there is many when he was invited to succeed Dr. Alex- sembly. Ministers-Principals: Rev. Messrs. in the sentiments and prejudices of many in this ander. He declined that parish, and the surprise Osborn and Eva; Alternates, Rev. Messrs. Brailand, a very formidable obstacle to their highest has not abated by his being invited to the Old nerd and Boggs. Elders—Principals: Dr. R. elevation in civilization and happiness, and on School pulpit of Dr. Spring, where even New Byington and Theophilus Trenchard: Alternates. this account we sympathize most deeply with School men rarely gain admittance. But the world John C. Farr and Samuel H. Perkins. those among them who may prefer emigration to rolls on as time advances; in the course of a few some other portion of the world, and feel under short years, doubtless the Presbyterian Church great obligations to aid all who are struggling to will be reunited, and again recover from its pre- in a late Message to Congress, proposed tender-

sympathy as Christians, with that oppressive and Preparations for the May anniversaries are in eral Government to such States as desire to free progress, but it is apprehended the interest will themselves from African slavery. Therefore be less than usual, and the attendance correspondingly small. The loss of that great ecclesiastical Mecca, the old Broadway Tabernacle, to which of an enlightened age; as essential to consistency tury, much more to the Christianity of the New all with one accord seemed to resort, has broken with the principles of a free Government; as Testament. It is most closely allied with that the social charm of the anniversaries. They are courteous to all parties in the country; as espemodern abomination, that the corner-stone of the now held in divers halls, churches, and even cially kind to those who are called to make a temple of the highest civilization is the subjective theatres. We all know and feel the power of change in their whole domestic policy; and as tion of this race to permanent bondage. This association. There is a growing interest to learn adapted to take from traitors the sole apology by Presbytery has no sympathy with either of these | the pecuniary state of the Bible, Tract, Sunday- | which they could excuse their wickedness before School, and Missionary (foreign and domestic) the world. organizations. The one upon which all Christian secure their greatest good by seeking the land of denominations—the American Bible Society from which their fathers were torn, and to which | shows receipts only about \$10,000 short of last they are invited, not only by their oppressions year, while the distribution of the Scriptures, adding those among the soldiers, will be found up to almost any former twelvemonth. The pecially for that Gospel which alone can elevate receipts South have never been large, but gratuitous distribution has always been extensive in

The venerable Dr. Cox is venturing out from the seclusion and classic shades of the "Leroy people of Brooklyn. Talbot, an artist of eminence and skill, has painted a series of Biblical pictures, and at the invitation of a number of clergymen and old personal friends, Dr. C. will elaborate them with his rich ecclesiastical lore and graphic descriptions. The estimable but facetious Doctor has still a yearning after his "dear Brooklyn." He never should have left there. His old people have had a succession of accomplished and beloved Pastors, but Dr. C. inferior kinds of sermonising. His affectionate

HARRISBURG PRESBYTERY.

DEAR BROTHER MEARS, TOUR Presbytery Sabbath Sch, Pres, ch, Owego, NY., has just concluded a very interesting Session held in the First Church of Northumberland. The ground was first broken by the Pastor. The very stormy weather prevented a full attendance of Missions, Pres. ch, Carlisle, Pa.,

Mrs E. Adams (wife of the Pastor) gathered dance but the heavy fall of snow repaid us by Third St Pres. ch, Dayton Ohio, a box of the first earth thrown out, which she in-tends to preserve as a momento of the common of the Suscuelanna from Daubhin to Northum. tends to preserve as a memento of the commence of the Susquehanna, from Dauphin to Northumment. A general invitation was extended to all berland. The fields, the rolling hills, the high street Pres. ch; Orange, N J, additional, to come forward and lift a spade full of the earth, bluffs of the Kittatiny, and the trees everywhere "Marshall, Michie Lockport, N Y, which was cheerfully and cordially responded to. | were laden with the heavy mantle, while the Conoga Pres. church Mrs. Alex. Whilldin was the first lady to put the spade in the ground.

The whole services were attended with great through this pathway of beauty.

Why do not the sea, through this pathway of beauty.

Why do not lockport Ladies H. M. Soc, Rochester Central Pres. church, Young through this pathway of beauty.

Why do not lockport Ladies H. M. Soc, Rochester Central Pres. church, Young through this pathway of beauty.

Ninevah Pres. church, for the very highest eloquence on the crowning in the salvation of many of the dying in the hos- interest, and the day will be long remembered by tourists visit more frequently this most beautiful Palmyra. theme of evangelical preaching—the consummapitals, and in the communication of a new life to those who had the pleasure of being present.

| The tree of evangelical preaching—the consumma| District theme of evangelical preaching | Distr

Among the most interesting items of business were the following. After a free interchange of views, it was Resolved, First, that we regard THE excitement connected with the war, and "THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN as a Paper of great importance to our Church, and highly approve the position it occupies on the great question of the day. Resolved, Secondly; that we again recommend it to our congregations as wor-

> Rev. William Stirling and Elder John B. Wall, were chosen our Commissioners to the next General Assembly, with Rev. J. Miller and Hon. M. McKinney as their alternates.

thy of their support and pledge ourselves indivi-

The following resolutions, after eliciting some spirited speeches were unanimously adopted and ordered to be sent to the AMERICAN PRESEN-Resolved. 1. That we regard with entire abhorrence and reprobation the unjustifiable and wicked rebellion now existing in our beloved country, and do proclaim our unqualified loyalty The religious interest in the city churches is to the Constitution and the Union and our approval of the efforts of the National Administra

tion to restore Unity and Peace. 2. That while we return unfeigned and joyful meetings are the barometers by which to judge thanksgiving to Almighty God for the victories of the spiritual atmosphere of the churches. But which his hand has wrought for us, we will confew of them are generously attended, and the tinue our constant prayers for a speedy and enlong prayers and dreamy exhortations of many of tire success in restoring law and order through-

3. That we deem it to be the solemn duty of the Church, to express through all her channels atmosphere existed-just across the river. Most her abhorrence of treason and disloyalty, and to inculcate earnestly upon the people the virtues of patriotism, of subjection to law, and of faithfulness to Constitution

4. That, viewing the system of American Sla very as the main cause of all our National trouoles, we hail all lawful and constitutional measures for the abolition of this great evil and pray that they may be speedily successful. 5. That we will cheerfully bear any burdens

of taxation that may be imposed on account of this war and will in every respect inculcate this loyal and patriotic duty. Interesting Sermons were preached before the Presbytery by Revs'. Thomas Street of York,

and Alex. D. Moore of Dauphin. Our Churches are all supplied with settled Pastors with the single exception of the United Charge of Hublersburg and Spring Mills. The Narrative of the state of Religion gives

an encouraging view of the financial and spiritual condition of the churches, notwithstanding the depression occasioned by the war. Harrisburg, April 10, 1862.

PRESBYTERIAL ACTION.

PHILADELPHIA FOURTH PRESBYTERY.—The complished this entirely by their own money and comings among Christians, in relation to religious nesday morning, 9th of April, in Fairfield First energy, while they have been paying taxes to societies, which need to be remedied, else no per-church, Fairton, N. J. There were present du-

tor, and the Rev. Charles F. Diver, temporary

The principal items of business transacted were the following:

1.—Dismissal of Rev. William J. Erdman to volent associations among the poor, that there great loss to the parish, yet they were loyal peo the Presbytery of Onondaga: of the Rev. Chas. are comparatively few applications for aid from ple, and preferred their venerable but patriotic R. Bliss to Hampden East Association. Massacolored people, while hundreds of suffering whites | pastor to one younger and more impulsive, one | chusetts; and of Rev. John McLeod to Phila-

2.—Reception, under care of Presbytery of shiftless, improvident, dishonest, vicious, drunk trials have been severe since he left the "Old Wilberforce, Kerr Boggs, a candidate for the

3.-Licensures of Charles Donelly Shaw and Ira Charles Tyson.

4.—Election of Commissioners to General As-

5.—Adoption of the following paper; Whereas the President of the United States. ing the sympathy and pecuniary aid of the Gen-

Resolved. That we hail such a measure as de manded alike by the spirit of Christianity, and

Resolved, That this Presbytery most deliber open to them as to others, they themselves would sympathies and efforts concentrate, irrespective ately express their willingness to bear any burdens essential to carry out the wise, just and conervative policy of our Chief Magistrate.

After a pleasant and harmonious session, Pres bytery adjourned to meet in the Presbyterian House, Monday, 5th of May, at 12 o'clock, M. T. J. SHEPHERD. Stated Clerk.

COMMISSIONERS TO THE ASSEMBLY. Third Presbytery of Philadelphia, Rev. Messrs. B. B. Hotchkin and F. S. Johnston, Principals. Rev. Messrs. T. J. Wallace, D. D. and F. L. Robbins, Alternates.—Ruling Elders—Hon. Wm. Strong and Isaac Ashmead Esq. Principals; Alex. Whilldin, and W. E. Tenbrook. Alternates.

HOME MISSIONS. PRESBYTERIAN ROOMS,

No. 150 Nassau street, New York. THE Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions acknowledge the following contributions during the month of March:

Mrs. G. B., Chicago, Illinois, Presbyterian ch, Coldwater, Michigan, Bloomfield, N J., " Kanona, NY., 1st Pres. ch. Brooklyn, N. Y., mon con, 25 58 3 00 Buttonwood St ch, Philadelphia 1st ch. Harrisburg, Pa, coll., 137 00

187 00

50 001

50 from C. C. Kingsley, H. H. Hurd 5, John Hurlbert 5, Miss E. Kelly 30, Miss Jane Kelly 10, Mrs. W. H. Ferry 10, J. B. Wells 5, T. Sayre 5— 248 73 Rev. C. E. Knox, Utica, NY., Waterville Pres. ch, mon. con, Buffalo N. Pres. ch. Ladies H. M. Soc. Binghampton Pres. ch, mon. con,

Newark Pres. church, Medina, Mrs. J. S. Bayne, Rochester Brick ch, in part, Ogden Presbyterian ch, in part, monthly con,

" Miss'ry Soc, New Hartford Presbyterian ch, including 10 from Mrs. H. Butler. Albion Pres. church, Miss. Soc, Presbyterian ch, Arkport, NY., Mason. Mich. Bunker Hill. Mich.

Fairbury, Ill, Camanche, Iowa, Manitowoc, Wis, Rev. Justin Marsh. Somerset. Mich. Presbyterian ch, Maple Grove, Wis, " Eaton, Wis, Rev. J. N. Williams, Lake city, Minn, Congregational ch, Richland, Mich, Pres. church, West Bloomfield, N J., J. W. Wheeler, Hyde Park, NY., 14th street Pres. ch, New York, in part Presbyterian ch, Bloomfield, NJ., add'l.

Baldwinsville, NY.,

McGrawville, NY.,

Redford, N Y., Kanona, N Y., add'l Congregat'l ch, Yellow Medicine, Minn Pres. ch. Lapeer, Mich. 1st Pres. ch, Cazenovia, N Y., Pres. ch, Medina, NY., 1st Pres. ch, Beloit, Wis, 2d "Paterson, N J., N. C. Ryder, Dubuque, Iowa,

Presbyterian ch, Plymouth, Ohio, Toronto, Indiana, " Clinton, " Olivet Pres. ch, Chicago, Ill, in part, Pres. ch. Washingtonville, NY., L. Winne, New Baltimore. Presbyterian ch, Mid.Granville, in par

Avon, N Y, Lansing, Mich, Stillwater, Minn, Mrs. W. Jones, Iowa Falls, Iowa, Pres. ch, Vassar, Mich, Allen street Pres. ch. New York. Daniel A. Jones, Chicago, Ill Presbyterian ch, Brighton, Ill,

Prairie Bird. Ill. 3d Pres. ch, Chicago, additional, Knoxville, Ill, Westminster ch, Rockford, Ill, Pres. ch, Jerseyville, Ill, additional Lewis B. Parsons, St. Louis, Mo, 1st Pres. church. Ypsilanti, Mich, in p't

Stoney Creek, Mich, Alton, Ill, in part Presbyterian ch, Caledonia, Ill, Lacon, Ill,

Foreston, Ill, Waukegan, Ill Fremont, Ohio, Lake Forest, Ill 2d Pres. ch, Chicago, Ill, in part, Pres. ch, Cerro Gordo, Ill,

North Pres. ch, St. Louis. Mo. Pres. ch, Saline, Mich. Cong'l ch, Michigan City, Ind, Booneville Pres. ch, N Y West Bloomfield Pres. ch, NY., S. W.

Coventry Pres. ch, N Y, Albion Ladies H. M. Soc. Utica 1st Pres. church, Mrs. Nancy G. Maine 25, A friend of H. M's 5, Burdett Pres. ch, N Y, Palmyra Pres. ch, bal. in part.

Rochester Central ch, in part, Young People's H. M. Soc. Niagara Falls Pres. ch, S. S. Miss. Soc, Eldridge coll. in part,

Grand total EDWARD A. LAMBERT,

the following ministers were commissioned by the Presbyterian Committee of Home Missions, at their last meeting:

Rev. R. B. Bull, Stillwater, Minnesota.

Linus Billington, Barre Centre, N. Y. Alvah Day, Gardiner, Ill. " J. S. Lord, Barton, Wis.

" J. F. Morse, Independence, Ohio. " J. McLeish, Clinton, Iowa.

" James Morton, Tremont. N. Y. G. D. Miller, Holly, N. Y. B. B. Parsons, Lacon, Ill.

CIRCULAR. TO THE CHURCHES AND SABBATH-SCHOOLS OF FHILADELPHIA.

The undersigned crave the attention of the Christian community to the fact that, in the Providence of God, large numbers of our Southern fellow-citizens are under confinement in the Northern States as prisoners of war. Five thousand it is understood are in Chicago alone. It has occurred to us, and to other members

of the Churches, that a favorable opportunity is thus presented for the manifestation of Christian kindness and love to persons who have unhappily placed themselves in hostility against those great National Institutions which we hold most dear.

It is therefore proposed, that arrangements be immediately made for supplying to these prisoners of war such religious reading as shall instruct and comfort them during their stay in the North, and, if possible, to furnish to each prisoner, in the shape of a Christian volume to be carried to his home after he shall have been liberated, a memento of the good feeling and Christian care for 1862, by James M. Wilson, has just been of his brethren in this section of our common

nut Street, on behalf of the committee This object is specially commended to the at-

No. 258 South 16th Street. Prof. Jno. S. Hart, at \$1 50. No. 148 South Fourth Street. W. Lyttleton
No. 148 South Fourth Street. W. Lyttleton
Savage, Esq., No. 1524 Walnut Street. Thomas
Latimer, Esq., Library Street.
Pastors are respectfully desired to read this
Circular from the pulpit.

No. 148 South Fourth Street. W. Lyttleton
Latimer, Esq., Library Street.

Circular from the pulpit.

ADDRESSES at the Inauguration of the Professors in the Theological Department of Yale
College, September 15, 1861. New Haven, E.
Hayes.

## New Publications.

TONY STARR'S LEGACY, by the author of Win and Wear," is a deeply interesting story of an orphan boy, left in the care of two pious but strict maiden aunts, whose methods of training 108 60 proved insufficient to restrain the wayward ten-51 38 denoies of the boy's nature, or to neutralize the 1 00 ill effects of bad company. Tony's career is re-70 00 lated with startling verisimilitude; the downward steps of his progress are indicated with a nice 23 50 discrimination and moral insight, conveying les-48 10 sons of the deepest importance, and forming a valuable guide to those who have in charge the training of the young. 16mo, 338 pages, illustrated. New York : R. Carter & Brothers. Phi. 4 00 ladelphia: Presbyterian Bookstore, 1334 Chest-10 00 nut street.

LOUISA JULIANE, Electress Palatine and her Times. By Fanny Elizabeth Bunnett. This is 5 00 a tale of that era of judgment and-humiliation to Germany and the Protestant cause—the Thirty Years' War; in which the Palatine was the 25 00 theatre of untold tragedies and desolations. The 152 28 subject of this biography was the wife of the 50 00 Protestant Elector Frederic, a devout, spiritual. 2 00 minded Christian, who saw her husband robbed of his possessions, and lived, mostly an exile 20 00 through the whole distressful period, exhibiting 5 00 the calmness, the trust and the sweet peace of 3 00 the believer, in the darkest hour. Wallenstein Tilly, Gustavus Adolphus and other great characters appear in these pages, which are drawn chiefly from original sources, some of which, we 50 00 are informed, were undergoing examination by Mr. Motley at the same time. A valuable addition to the stores of female Christian biography and to the history of that eventful era. New York: R. Carter & Brothers. Philadelphia. 29 67 Martiens.

Broad Shadows on Life's Pathway. This book, noticed in our last issue, gathers Christian lessons from a wide field; embracing household life in India—the horrors of the mu. tiny-and efforts for the poor dressmakers of London, engaged in by the bereaved family on their return from their desolated Indian home. R. Carter & Brothers, New York. For sale at 64 20 Martiens, Philadelphia.

PRISON LIFE AT RICHMOND.—In answer to many a fervent prayer from pious and loyal lips, 1 00 a large portion of the unhappy men who for months have languished in the grasp of the rebels, are now free and happy men-would it were true of all of them! Yet the volume before 33 00 us, while giving a nearer view of the hardships undergone by the captives of Manassas and Ball's Bluff, reveals such a fund of resources in the men of the North for keeping up the spirits, and 43 00 such an elasticity springing, doubtless, from the 3 00 consciousness of suffering in a good cause, that we experience a sense of relief as we read it. The author, Lieut. Harris, of the California Regiment, taken prisoner at Ball's Bluff, has given 6 00 us a deeply interesting book—one which will not 13 70 need to wait for recommendations from the cri-5 47 tics, before the eager public is testing its quality. Another volume of even more startling character connected with the history of the re-100 bellion, is about to appear from the press of the publisher, G. W. Childs, Nos. 628 and 630 Chestnut street: A Narrative of the Perils, Adventures and Sufferings of Rev. W. G. Brown-Low, among the Secessionists of Tennessee. The 35 00 manuscript is nearly completed, and will be put 19 25 to press forthwith. The appearance and typography of the work will be of the first class, and 9 00 it will be fully and handsomely illustrated with 40 00 sketches of the scenes referred to, and a finely 52 25 engraved steel portrait of the author.

Mr. A. D. F. Randolph, of New York, has recently issued STREAKS OF LIGHT, or Fifty-two facts from the Bible for the fifty-two Sabbaths of the Year. These facts are well selected and On application from the churches they serve, charmingly told, and the book is adorned with choice pieces of poetry, and illustrated with good engravings. Also, "My Times are in God's Hand;" "None Like Christ;" "Danger of Rejecting the Atonement"; "Going Home." Four 32mo tracts in flexible covers, by Rev. Octavius Winslow, D.D. A. D. F. Randolph. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Bookstore.

MAGAZINES AND PAMPHLETS. THE BIBLICAL REPERTORY AND PRINCETON REVIEW for April, Contains :- Remarks on the Ethical Philosophy of the Chinese-The Philosophy of the Absolute-The History and Theory of Revolutions-The Doctrine of Providence-The Nature and Effects of Money and of Credit as its Substitute-Short Notices. Peter Walker, 821 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

Messrs. Whiting & Co., 712 Chestnut street. have sent us the second number of their AME-RICAN EXCHANGE AND REVIEW for April. The articles are: - American Iron Manufactures -American History-Measure of Value-The Through Tonnage of the Pennsylvania Railroad -The Coffee Tree-A Glance at the World's Taxation besides a great variety of brief articles in the Insurance, Patent and Monetaty Departments. A valuable monthly for business men. EMANCIPATION: A Fast-Day Sermon by Rev. A. L. Stone, D.D., Boston.

Three more of Train's Speeches in England on Slavery, Emancipation and the Pardoning of Traitors, have just been published in this city. by T. B. Peterson & Brothers. THE PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL ALMANAC

issued, with the usual amount of valuable statis-Donations in money or in suitable books, will tics upon every matter of interest connected with be thankfully received and faithfully applied by all the branches of our Presbyterian Zion, chiefly any member of the committee, or by W. Lyttle- in the United States and Provinces of British ton Savage, Esq., Treasurer, at the Office of the America. It is really a noble undertaking, and worthy the warm and extensive patronage of our denomination, of which it is the only comprehentention of Superintendents and Teachers of Sab- sive record. We miss, however, amid its numebath-Schools, as embodying a practical lesson in Christian duty and love, which, in a time of except walks of the control one tabular and summary view, the results of the citement like the present, may be of great value whole survey. We also find our Church Exten-Any member of the undersigned Committee sion Committee still recognized as in existence will be happy to confer with individuals or with by the side of the Home Missionary Committee. representatives of Sunday-Schools as to the char- Among the professors of Lind Theological Semitee deem it suitable to supply.

The committee will meet on Monday of each

Bingham, who never accepted their appointments week, until further notice, at one o'clock, at the to those positions. A little closer attention to Office of Thos. Latimer, Esq., No. 430 Library the religious press would have kept Mr. W. from COMMITTEE.—Rev. John Jenkins, D. D., No. 1814 Pine Street. Rev. John A. Vaughan, D. D., No. 1438 Filbert St. Rev. Richard Newton, D. D., No. 251 S. 18th St. Rev. Wm. P. Breed, No. 250 County 18th S