

American Presbyterian

GENESEE EVANGELIST.

JOHN W. MEARS, Editor

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1862.

THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, A WEEKLY RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

IN THE INTEREST OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, AT NO. 1334 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA.

TERMS.—(In advance.) By mail, \$2.00 per annum. By carriers, in the city, \$2.50

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Religious Intelligence.

Presbyterian.

A Letter that speaks for itself.—To Rev. A. Nevil, Editor Presbyterian Standard, 108 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.—I desire this 27th of November to express my gratitude to God for his great goodness to me and mine during the past year.

I send through you one thousand dollars (inclosed herewith) to be equally divided between the Home and Foreign Missions of the O. S. P. C. I designate these, as I think in consequence of the rise of exchange increasing the cost of Foreign Missions, and the rise in cost of living increasing the expense of Home Missions, the contributions of Christians should be increased instead of diminished.

I make this contribution, or rather distribution, through you, hoping it may induce some one who has been cared for, and prospered, as I have been during the past year, to inquire whether he is doing his duty to Him from whom comes all we have. I say distribution, for I have decided it to be my clear duty to see that the advancement of His cause a portion of that which I receive gratuitously from Him.

Whilst I desire to have some to join me in this, I remember the opening of the sixth chapter of Matthew, and subscribe myself A POOR SINNER.

The liberal "distribution" of our unknown correspondent, the post-mark of whose letter indicates him to be a resident of the Empire State, has been appropriated according to his desire.—Ed. Standard.

Spring Garden Church.—At its late annual contribution to the Board of Missions, the Spring Garden Church of Philadelphia, raised upwards of \$356. The aggregate contributions of this congregation last year were thirty per cent. greater than the year before. "Well done for hard times"—Standard.

The Synod of Baltimore.—The Synod of Baltimore, by direction of the General Assembly, in the Presbyterian Church of Harrisburg, Pa., on the 21st day of October. The number of members present was unusually small. On entire Presbytery—the Presbytery of Winchester—was unrepresented, and from three other Presbyteries, consisting of 68 ministers and 62 churches, only 12 ministers and 4 ruling elders were in attendance.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly reported among others the following resolutions, which were adopted:—"Resolved, That the Synod do heartily and cordially approve the paper on the State of the country, presented to the General Assembly by the Rev. Dr. R. J. Breckinridge, with the action thereon, in its general tenor and purport, as timely, needful, and wise, and still applicable to the present state of the country and the Church.

"Resolved, That the Synod does not hesitate to express its conviction, that it is the solemn duty of Christian people living under this Government, enjoying its protection, and owing its allegiance, to sustain it in its efforts for its own preservation, to be firm, steadfast, and true in its loyalty to it, and to endeavor to attain, so long as at all possible, a return of that unity and harmony which we once enjoyed; that it is their duty, in public and private, to pray for our rulers, and in all lawful authority to obey them, and to continue to bear our sins and shortcomings before God, asking his forgiveness, and beseeching him in his great mercy to grant us a speedy and permanent deliverance from existing and impending evils.

"Resolved, That we will earnestly unite in the observance of a day of national humiliation, fasting, and prayer, in whatever way and whatever time such a day may be set apart, and we hereby join in the request to the President of the United States to appoint such a day."

Receipt of the Board.—The receipts of the Boards of the O. S. Church, during the month of October, were as follows:—Board of Missions, \$424.95; Board of Education, \$242.01; Board of Foreign Missions, \$10,177.33; Board of Publication, \$2,910.25—Total, \$13,794.54. The Board of Church Extension, \$648.70. The Fund for Disabled Ministers has received, since the last report, \$905.72.

Dr. Plumer has been appointed stated supply for the Arch Street Presbyterian Church for the winter.

The recent Murder of a Missionary in Turkey.—Execution of the Murderer.—Commander Thatcher, of the ship Constellation, in a letter to the Navy Department, dated Spezia, the 3d inst., says he has just received advice from our consul at Beirut, Syria, that the Sultan's firman for the execution of Mr. Coffing the American missionary, anchor near that place, and the criminal was immediately beheaded in the presence of a vast concourse of people, and without any popular outbreak, as had been anticipated. The consular representatives of the United States, France, Prussia, and Italy, witnessed the execution, which is said to have been hastened on account of the presence of the presence of the ship Constellation. "The official announcement reached this port a very short time after she had sailed. The Turkish Government has behaved with great justice and comity towards the United States in this matter.

The New York Christian Times withdraws its recognition of disloyalty, made up what appears to have been insufficient evidence, against the church Book-Store. It says: "The misunderstood clerk has for months contemplated a kind of secession indeed, but only from the Church Book-store, with a view of joining the army of United States Volunteers."

The Protestant martyrs of Spain.—The court of Granada has pronounced its sentence in the matter of the Protestants who were so long detained in the prisons of that town; and that the decision involved for some of them a penalty remarkably severe. Senior Jose Alhama Tevis was condemned to nine years of imprisonment, and Manuel Matamoros to eight years, with costs, deprivation of civil rights, etc. The Triega, husband, and wife, were acquitted and discharged.

The Spanish Paper.—The Correspondencia says that these persons were not condemned as Protestants; that no one is punished in Spain for any religious belief or opinion (!)—"but because they were setting up, with a loud voice and with pens in their hands, a propagandism in favor of the Protestant religion, such as has been forbidden by the constitution of the state; a constitution conformable in this respect with the most democratic institutions that have existed in Spain since 1812."

The Paris Secular.—(liberal Romanist) expresses astonishment; that such a law should still be in force in the nineteenth century, and should be applied with so much rigidity. Nine years of imprisonment, a perpetual interdiction from exercising the functions of a teacher, and an exclusion from all civic rights,—all for having read in public or lent a bible to a neighbor, this punishment, if we consider the progress that has been made during the last century, with comparatively softened manners and cultivated intelligences of the present day, comes to much the same as those that used to be inflicted upon Protestants amongst us, in the reigns of Louis XIV. and Louis XV.

"The Correspondencia assures us that no one is persecuted in Spain for religious opinions. But what is the outcome of a religious belief which cannot be manifested without a transgression, and which it is forbidden a man to transform into worship? Spain loves to boast of the material improvements which have been accomplished within her recent times; she is vain to talk of her military glories; of her industrial prosperity, of her agricultural resources; and she loses no opportunity of maintaining her claims to the rank of a great power. But that is insufficient. It is by her generous principles on which their institutions are based, that nations grow great or decline. All the railways, all the bridges, all the canals in the world, will not raise Spain from the secondary position that she now occupies. If she wants to take her seat by the side of the great powers, let Spain begin by adopting those principles of religious toleration which mark the strength and the superiority of France and England."

Sarcly we are making some progress when we find Roman Catholics pleading for toleration; and the land of St. Bartholomew's Day rebuking the prosecuting spirit that yet lingers in the land of Torquemada.

The News of the Churches says of the sentences: "Such acts must materially damage the cause of those who perpetrate them, especially when it is known that they are loathed by the Prime Minister, and that the death of Senator Thomson of New Jersey was referred to, and appropriate eulogies were passed on his character by several senators, after which the customary resolutions were adopted."

The House tabled certain resolutions introduced by Mr. Wickliffe (Kentucky), inquiring by what authority a Military Governor of District of Columbia was appointed, and what power he possesses. Mr. Stevens offered a resolution declaring it a high crime for any executive or legislative department which shall propose or accept terms of peace on any other basis than the unity of the States as they existed before rebellion broke out. Postponed until Tuesday week.

General Halleck's Report appears in connection with that of the Secretary of War. He gives a full account of the movements of the War since he became General-in-Chief. On the 24th of July he visited the Army of the Potomac, then on the Peninsula, "to ascertain if there was a possibility of an advance upon Richmond from Harrison's Landing; and, if not, to form some plan of uniting the armies of General McClellan and Gen. Pope on some other line. Not being familiar with the position and numbers of the troops in Virginia, and on the coast, I took the President's estimate of the largest number of reinforcements that could be sent to the Army of the Potomac. On the day of my arrival at Harrison's Landing, Gen. McClellan was of opinion that he would require at least fifty thousand additional troops. I informed him that this number could not possibly be sent; that I was not authorized to promise him over twenty thousand, and that I could not see how even that number could safely be withdrawn from other places. He took the night for considering the matter, and informed me the next morning that he would make the attempt upon Richmond with the additional twenty thousand. But immediately upon my return to Washington, he telegraphed that he would require thirty-five thousand men, a force which it was impossible to send without leaving Washington and Baltimore almost defenseless. The only alternative now left was to withdraw the Army of the Potomac to some position where it could unite with that of Gen. Pope and cover Washington at the same time that it operated against the Army of the Potomac. He then states that he ordered General McClellan to remove his army from the Peninsula, on the 3d of August, but that he was not obeyed for eleven days, and that in the meantime General McClellan strongly protested against the movement."

After a review of the operations of General Pope before Washington, he says: "Although this short and active campaign was, from causes already referred to, less successful than we had reason to expect, it has accomplished the great and important object of covering the Capital till troops could be collected for its defence. Had the Army of the Potomac arrived a few days earlier, the rebel army could have been easily defeated, and perhaps destroyed. The battles in Maryland, the surrender of Harper's Ferry, and the operations in the South West, are referred to at length."

The Secretary of Navy proposes our present naval force at 427 vessels, having an armament of 3268 guns. He favors the establishment of a naval depot at League Island, near Philadelphia, and also on one of the rivers in the valley of the Mississippi, where vessels may be constructed, armed, and armed.

In the South West, Rosemont is moving upon Knoxville. General Blunt has gained an important victory at Cave Hill, Arkansas. General Grant has advanced at last accounts to Abberville, Mississippi, and occupied that town. Gen. Sherman is at Sena, tobia, on the Memphis and New Orleans Railroad. He will form a junction with Grant's main army at Grenada Junction, where the rebels will probably make a stand. The general impression seems to be, however, that Gen. Pemberton has fallen back to Jackson, which is on a plain that runs east and west through Vicksburg. It is plain that General Grant now has the advantage of breaking east along the enemy's line of operations at Meridian Junction, on the Mobile and Mississippi Railroad. Such a movement, if successfully executed, will end the war in the Southwest, as the enemy's entire communications would be in our possession. Victories of the most substantial character await our armies in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The expedition

Miscellaneous.

The Southern Religious Press.—We believe says the Buffalo Advertiser there is but one religious weekly remaining, which is the outbreak of secession joined hands with the South. That one is the Southern Christian Advocate now published in Atlanta, Ga., and is the result of the union of the Charleston and Memphis Advocates. [The N. Y. Tribune recently quoted from the Richmond Christian Advocate. And we have recently seen a notice of the Rev. James McNeill leaving the editorship of the N. C. Presbyterian.] Five religious papers have gone down in Missouri, viz: the St. Louis Christian Advocate, of the M. E. Church South, the St. Louis Observer, of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the Union Presbyterian a Baptist paper, a Catholic paper, and we think one more.

The Central (at St. Louis) is the only religious paper remaining in Missouri. It is thoroughly loyal and most ably edited by Dr. Elliott, who says in his last week's issue that it "will live and send its thousands of issues weekly throughout Missouri, Arkansas, Texas and Kansas, and the southern regions of Iowa and Illinois, as well as Nebraska and Colorado."

Western Virginia.—Advices from Wheeling up to December 6th state that the State Senate had passed a preamble and resolution, setting forth that the United States Government had violated the instructions of the people, in failing to maintain the legitimate efforts of the Government to suppress the insurrection, in opposing by his votes and speeches, both in and out of the United States Senate, measures which were absolutely necessary to the preservation of the Union and enforcement of the laws, and in opposing the admission of Western Virginia as a new State into the Union. The resolution requested the Senate to resign his seat in the United States Senate. It is expected to pass the House by large majority.

In the House, a resolution was offered requesting the United States House of Representatives to pass the new State bill into law before it, without alteration or amendment.

The Governor's Message, which was sent into the Legislature to read, endorsed the emancipation policy of the President.

South West.—By intelligence from Cairo, Dec. 6th, we learn that General Sherman, has been taken out of the country by General Hovey commanding the expedition, 3,000 strong.

Marriages. Nov. 25th, in Pine street church, by the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D.D., assistant to the Rev. Dr. Nassau, Rev. R. Hamlin, D.D., of New York, to Miss Adelia Tamm, of Philadelphia.

At Jacksonville, Pa., Nov. 25th, by the Rev. J. A. Patterson, Mr. H. Cyrus Johnson to Miss Ellen Mary Smyth, both of Jacksonville.

Special Notices. HOME MISSIONS. PRESBYTERIAN ROOMS, 150 Nassau Street, New York.

The Presbyterian Board of Home Missions hereby acknowledges the receipt of the following contributions during the month of November, 1862.

Table listing contributions to Home Missions from various churches and individuals across different states like New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.

Notice.—The Annual Meeting of the American Presbyterian and Genesee Evangelist Association will be held in the Presbyterian Church, New York, on the 1st day of January next, (the 1st) at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Manfield's Dispensary. The Dispensary of Dr. Manfield, which is in his writings of the year 1840, is in fact a book of the year 1840, which is in fact a book of the year 1840, which is in fact a book of the year 1840.

Gen. Banks, which is in fact a book of the year 1840, which is in fact a book of the year 1840, which is in fact a book of the year 1840.

Third Presbytery of Philadelphia.—An adjourned meeting of this Presbytery will be held at the Presbyterian Rooms, on Tuesday, December 16th at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Important Facts.—Constant writing for six months does not doer with our Gold Pens than with steel; therefore, it is economy to use Gold Pens.

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