

American Presbyterian

GENESEE EVANGELIST.

JOHN W. MEARS, Editor.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 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) \$2.00 per annum. By mail, in the city, 25c.

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Religious Intelligence.

Presbyterian.

Mr. Spurgeon a Presbyterian.—At a social meeting held lately in London...

A Methodist Church Calling a Pastor.—A meeting of the members and congregation of Union Church...

The Messianic Witness.—Dr. McMaster has deferred, for the present, the project of publishing this proposed periodical.

Miscellaneous.

Dramatizing Scripture.—The Archbishop of Tours has been making himself the subject of satirical articles in the Paris journals...

Study of the "Directory" Recommended.—At the recent meeting of the Synod of Baltimore...

Removal of Dr. Riddle.—The R. D. Church of which this brother is pastor, in Jersey City...

Resolved. That it is with unfeigned regret that this Consistory consents to breaking the tie which has so long existed between this church and its beloved pastor...

Methodist.

Methodism in Italy.—The New York Methodist gives an interesting account of the labors of Wesleyan Evangelists in Italy...

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may be permitted to say, in the way of explanation, that while at Ives a remarkable providence threw in our path an Italian lady of superior culture, and considerable experience in education, who, having become a convert to evangelical truth, was desirous of finding some employment in connection with the evangelizing movement in her own country.

The idea of opening in some central city a superior school for the education of young ladies, where the best advantages to be obtained in the country should be united with a sound and earnest Protestant training, was suggested by this providence.

We have now in Milan an excellent site, suitable premises, and are expecting daily a good English teacher from Westminster, to make the establishment complete.

Lectures on the Fathers.—The Rev. W. H. Milburn, proposes soon to deliver a course of Lectures in New York City on the Fathers of the Christian Church.

The first lecture will be devoted to the 'Age of the Martyrs,' who sealed the testimony of the Cross with their blood.

The second will be devoted to 'Origen, and the Schools of Alexandria,' showing the attempts that were made to engraft philosophical culture upon Christian truth.

The third has for its subject 'Anthony and the Life of the Desert,' showing the extraordinary forms which Monasticism first assumed, from the colonies of the Thebaid, to the filthy paler of Simon Stylites.

The fourth will treat of the great 'Athenasins,' with the more or less knight-errant's adventures of his romantic career.

The fifth brings out the sublime yet pathetic story of John of Antioch, surmounted the Golden-mouthed, one of the mightiest preachers that ever wielded the sword of the Spirit.

The sixth and last of the course will have for its subject 'Ambrose the Churchman,' reputed author of 'De Dum-Laudamus,' 'Jerome the Scholar,' and 'Augustine the Divine.'

A Methodist Church Calling a Pastor.—A meeting of the members and congregation of Union Church, M. E. Church, was held last evening, for the purpose of hearing a report from the official board as to their efforts to secure a pastor, the last Conference having refused to make an appointment to this charge.

On this occasion, therefore, was presented, the anomaly of a Methodist Episcopal congregation calling their own pastor. The board reported that they had unanimously called Rev. Charlton T. Lewis, Professor in the Troy (New York) University. The membership without a dissenting voice, confirmed the action of the officers, and Professor Lewis, being waited upon by a committee appointed for that purpose, appeared and accepted the pastorate. Professor Lewis filled the pulpit of this church some three weeks ago, and again on last Sabbath morning an overflowing congregation, the satisfaction of the large congregations assembled on these several occasions.

Though a young man, Professor Lewis ranks among the first scholars of the Methodist persuasion in this country, and as a deep thinker and extensive reader has no superior, for a divine of his age, in the M. E. Church. His style is at once unassuming, earnest, and fervid. Under his charge, this church will maintain its position among the progressive religious organizations of the city.—Cincinnati Gazette.

Miscellaneous.

Dramatizing Scripture.—The Archbishop of Tours has been making himself the subject of satirical articles in the Paris journals, by some efforts of his to raise money. Monsiegnor, a year ago, at the cost of several million francs, had a basilica erected in honor of St. Martin. The fun to build a new basilica was at the end of a sermon, and the town of Tours contributed the rest. This new church was consecrated, and the consecration celebrated by a religious pageant, in which several bishops joined, amongst whom were Mgr. Pionard and Mgr. Dupanloup. In short, no trouble was spared to excite the enthusiasm of the townspeople, or to warm their zeal to such a degree that an appeal for more money to buy altar-pieces might be successfully made. A procession was at the end of a sermon, and the town of Tours in full medieval style. A great many young girls, dressed in what were three centuries ago called biblical costumes, took part in it.—One was the Queen of Sheba, the Immaculate Conception; another St. Veronica, holding the shroud; a third, the penitent Magdalen; a fourth, Salome; and a fifth, Phoebe carrying a bag of letters from St. Paul to the brethren. There was then a cluster of angels with wings of crimped muslin, and a St. John the Baptist, with a lamb and a cross. The procession was headed by a boy about eight years old, who wore a crimson tunic, a cord round his waist, and a crown of thorns. His cross was very heavy, and the child shed unfeigned tears as he called out in French to his mother, who walked near him, "Mamma, carry my cross for me."

Domestic News.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury takes a comprehensive view of the financial affairs of the country, and boldly deals with existing difficulties. After stating the receipts and expenditures during the fiscal year ending July 1st, 1862, he estimates that if the war continues until the 1st of July, 1863, there will be a deficit of \$276,912,517.64, the deficit to be met will amount to the enormous sum of \$622,388,183.56. He admits the inconveniences and dangers of a circulation of Government notes, but had to choose between those which could be provided for and protected, and a currency furnished by numerous and unconnected banks in various parts of the country.

The amount of Treasury Notes already issued or ready to be circulated, was on the 1st of December, 1862, \$32,932,111. Authority exists under the law to issue \$27,067,889 more. The rise in gold is attributed to speculation. This is clearly shown. In order to meet the demands of the future, the Secretary proposes the organization of BANKING ASSOCIATIONS, and the negotiation of LOANS at home. The plan of these associations is thus briefly stated: "It is proposed that these associations be generally voluntary. Any persons desirous of employing real capital in sufficient amounts, can, if the plan be adopted, unite together under proper articles, and, having contributed the requisite capital, can invest such part of it, not less than a fixed minimum, in U. S. bonds, and, having deposited these bonds with the proper officer of the United States, can receive United States notes in such denominations as may be desired, and employ them as money in discounts and exchanges. The stockholders of any existing banks can, in like manner, organize under the act, and transfer by such degrees as may be found convenient, the capital of the old to the use of the new associations. The notes thus put into circulation will be payable, until resumption, in United States notes, and, after resumption, in specie, by the association which issues them on demand; and if not so paid will be redeemable at the treasury of the United States, from the proceeds of the bonds pledged in security. In the practical working of the plan, if sanctioned by Congress, redemption at one or more of the great commercial centers will probably be provided for by all the associations which circulate the notes, and, in case any association shall fail in such redemption, the Treasurer of the United States will probably, under discretionary authority, pay the notes, and cancel the public debt as security."

These advantages are minutely specified. They would cause a steady demand for United States bonds amounting in a few years to not less than 250,000,000; would furnish agencies for the deposit of public money; would reconcile the interests of the banks with those of the people; would induce a more speedy resumption of specie payments than any other plan; and would supply a firm anchorage to the Union of the States. In making the changes implied in their organization, there need be, he says, "no sudden change or rash innovation upon existing interests. United States circulation could be easily and gradually substituted for the present bank circulation."

The Secretary then refers to the security of our National credit, to the gold resources which, as a nation, we possess, to the necessity of retrenchment and economy, to his intention of making the treasury the saving bank of the people by further loans, to the stamp currency, and to other matters of importance. His plans as to raising revenues in the future, may be briefly summed up as follows: He recommends that whatever amounts may be needed beyond the sums supplied by revenue and through other indicated modes be obtained by loans, without increasing the issue of United States notes beyond the amount fixed by law, unless a clear public exigency shall demand it. He recommends, also, the organization of banking associations for the improvement of the public credit and for the supply to the people of a safe and uniform currency. And he recommends no change in the law providing for the negotiation of bonds, except the necessary increase of amount and the repeal of the absolute restriction to market value, and of the clauses authorizing convertibility at will.

If Congress shall concur in these views, the Secretary, though conscious of the great difficulties which, sudden and protracted expenditures impose on him, ventures to hope that he may still be able to maintain the public credit and provide for the public wants.

Congress.—On Monday, Mr. Stevens, carried through, under the previous question, a vote indentifying the President and Cabinet for suspending the habeas corpus act and for military arrests. The vote was 90 to 45. On Tuesday, the Senate was employed in considering a resolution of inquiry as to arrests of so-called loyal Delawareans. The House debated the proposition to admit West Virginia as a Free State: Mr. Conway (Rep.) of Kansas, and Mr. Crittenden of Kentucky, opposed it. On Wednesday, the House passed the Senate bill for the admission of West Virginia, by a vote of 90 to 55. The probable character of this new State may be inferred from the fact that the Assembly at Wheeling, recently by a large vote, requested the pro-slavery, lukewarm Senator Calhoun to resign his seat, as not fairly representing his constituency.

On Thursday, the 11th, the Senate was engaged with a continuation of the rapping debate ostensibly on arrests of suspected men in Delaware, but covering the whole question of the suspension of the habeas corpus act. In the House, Mr. Yeaman of Kentucky, proposed a resolution condemning the President's emancipation policy, which was summarily tabled, 95 to 47.

Affairs in the South.—Nothing more clearly exhibits the deplorable and desperate state of things in the South than the enormous and continued rise in the price of the most necessary of life materials used in manufacture and labor. At a meeting of manufacturers and others, held at Augusta, Ga., Nov. 19th, it was formally stated that most of the articles in use in various manufactures, including cotton, labor, oil, leather, steel, iron, hardware, nails, screws, etc., "have increased in value over one thousand per cent., and some extend to the fabulous advance of ten thousand per cent.," (one hundred times their former value). The Richmond Inquirer of Dec. 3d, states that corn was \$3.25 per bushel in that city, and that measured in progress, to procure a supply by subscription, which could be sold at two or three times the price. The price of the article in this city is from 70 to 80 cents. Secretary Chase, in his magnificent Treasury report, shows how little the war had affected prices with us two months ago. There has been a rise of perhaps ten to twenty per cent. since, on an average, but it is sustained with difficulty. He says: "That the prices of many of the most important articles of domestic produce have declined or not materially advanced during the year. Wheat, quoted at \$1.38 to \$1.45 per bushel, on the 1st of November, 1861, was quoted at \$1.45 to \$1.50 on the 1st of November, 1862. Prime mess pork, 1862, at \$12.50 to \$13. Corn sold on the 1st of November, 1861, at 62 to 63 cents per bushel, and on the 1st of November, 1862, at 71 to 73 cents. A comparison between the prices of hay, beef, and some other staples of domestic produce at the two dates, exhibits similar conditions of actual depression in price or moderate rise." And the financial condition of our own Commonwealth in these war times is so favorable, that the tax on real estate will probably be reduced one-half, on recommendation of the codifiers of the tax-laws of Pennsylvania.

The Savannah Republican makes a piteous complaint over the rebel losses in recent battles; it says that the total loss amounts to seventy-five thousand men. It says that the people of Charleston have paid up their lead pipes, and contributed sixty thousand (60,000) pounds to government, and that the Confederate Government will issue receipts for all lead pipes and other fixtures, and binds itself to replace them at the end of the war.

At Columbus, Georgia, Liverpool salt sells for \$120 per sack; Virginia sides, 85 and 90 per hundred; bacon sides, 50 cents per pound; hams, 60 cents; flour, \$25 per barrel; doekskin pants, \$30; bed blankets, 85c.

The Richmond Examiner says:—"The preparations of the United States to subjugate the south are now truly gigantic.

"In the east, west and north, on land and water everywhere, and on all sides afar, the movements of the Union armies and fleets indicate a zeal, a hope, a fanaticism, a desperate avidity, that should banish from every southern mind all thought of an early peace, and nerve every loyal southern hand for a battle in which there can be no question. Northern Virginia is again overrun; Richmond, Petersburg, Weldon, Charleston and Mobile are once more threatened. Texas, undefended, lies helpless and bleeding, in the power of the enemy. Forces are being prepared in Missouri and Kansas for the invasion of Arkansas. The communication between the west and Richmond is menaced at Chattanooga and Knoxville, and the Mississippi and its tributaries are bristling with gunboats for operation soon as the floods come."

The War.

Gen. Banks' Expedition left New York on Thursday evening Dec. 12th. There was a fall of snow on Friday the 5th and a severe cold followed on the 6th, but no news of disasters to shipping had been received. The destination of the fleet at this writing (11th) remains a mystery.

The Northwest corner of Arkansas has become famous in this war. The battle of Pea Ridge has been fought twice, followed by the battle of Cane Hill in the same vicinity; and now we have a fourth and bloody struggle brought on by the enemy on Sabbath Dec. 7th, near Fayetteville. After the defeat of the rebel Gen. Marmaduke at Cane Hill, Gen. Hindman hastened to form a junction with him; the combined forces then amount to over twenty thousand. Gen. Curtis at once ordered Gen. Herron to move by forced marches and join the victorious little army of Gen. Blunt, which would make it twelve thousand strong. But the rebels were too fast for us. They formed their junction, flanked Gen. Blunt, and pressed on with their whole force to meet Gen. Herron's advancing col-

umn. It was a well devised and successful piece of strategy so far; and the rebel army of the Mississippi, containing the flower of their forces, threw themselves suddenly upon the army of the victor. From Fayetteville no doubt a flock of that Sabbath, the battle raged with desperate fury.

Our artillery drove the rebels from two strong positions, and kept their overwhelming numbers at bay, until they were forced to abandon the four heavy guns, which were captured by our men under a murderous fire. The 19th Iowa also took the same battery, and fought most desperately, but was also obliged to yield it. About 1 o'clock General Blunt arrived from Cane Hill with 5,000 men and a strong force of artillery, and attacked the rebels in the rear. The rebels made desperate efforts to capture his batteries, but were repulsed with terrible slaughter. He held the whole field at dark, and before 9 o'clock the rebel force was in full retreat over Boston Mountain.

Our loss is 600 killed and wounded. The rebel loss is 1,500 by their own admission.

Gen. Curtis says: "The rebels on both sides is heavy, but much the heaviest on the side of the enemy; our artillery creating terrible slaughter in their greater numbers."

The enemy had great advantage in their position. Gen. Herron with 2,000 men, and the 19th Iowa, the Mississippi to a point opposite Grenada, Miss. marched inland to the plantation of Gens. Grant and Sherman approached it from the North. News from Oxford 47 miles, dated Dec. 4th, shows that the rebels at Grenada were still in full retreat. Their rear guard, which was still in advance that morning, the main body having retreated from Oxford to Grenada, Dec. 3d, at 11 o'clock, Oxford, Dec. 3d, at 11 o'clock, says Colonel Dick-ey's cavalry had a two hour engagement with the rebels near Coffeeville on Friday night. The rebels are said to have had 5,000 infantry, cavalry, and artillery. The Union loss was nine killed, fifty wounded, and sixty missing. The rebels were three hundred in killed and wounded. [Continued.]

Only ten miles north of Dickey's cavalry is probably a part of General How-

ard's army. It seems that the rebel army is a virtual aban-

donment of Mississippi; they have taken a north-

easterly direction and threaten to join the forces op-

posed to Rosecrans.

The Army of the Potomac and under Burnside is re-

ceiving large reinforcements. The rebels are very active about the out-

post positions, and are being actively opposed by the Army of the Potomac.

Profoundly interesting developments are being made in the Peninsula.

Gen. McClellan gave his testimony in the former case. Gen. McDowell seems to come off quite creditably. He is clearly agreed to co-operate with Mc-

Clellan, being solely with the view to reinforce the Army of the Potomac.

Gen. McClellan has not been satisfactorily explained.

Later intelligence from the Arkansas shows that the battle of Fayetteville was fiercer and bloodier than that of the 10th.

Gen. Curtis places our loss at 1,000 killed, and 2,000 wounded, including 2 Colonels and 5 Captains.

Gen. Herron puts our loss at 1,500 killed and 2,500 wounded. The rebels were 3,000 killed and 5,000 wounded.

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