JOHN W. MEARS.

-A N D-GENESEE EVANGELIST.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1863.

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 carriers, in the city, 2 50 "
Fifty Cents additional, if payment is delayed three

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Keligious Antelligence.

RELIGIOUS WORLD ABROAD.

Great Britain.—The annual meeting of the Na tional Bible Society was held in Edinburgh on the 20th ult. The Duke of Argyll presided, and delivered an admirable address, in which, after commending the catholicity of the Association, and the excellence of its object, he adverted to the recent meeting of the Synod of the Episcopal Church in the Southern States of America, and pointed out the evils which must result from their attempt to associate slavery with Bible principles, and from their denunciation of the abolition sentiment, as infidel in its character. The mischief which such a declaration must have, he believed, would be far greater than any which would arise from the application of the rules of arithmetic to the Pentateuch, though Dr. Colenso were to publish a similar book every year of his life, and though he were to live to the age of Methuselah. In Scotland, as elsewhere, there is nothing about Socinianism to give it any hold upon the sympathies of a religious people. There are only five congregations in that connection in the whole of Scotland. There is but a moderate attendance at the church at Glasgow, and in the other four churches, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Paisley, and Girvan, the congregations are so small that they are hardly worthy of the name. It is a curious circumstance, however, that there are persons professing Unitarian sentiments who connec themselves with Presbyterian and other evangelical denominations, from a feeling that their reputed respectability will suffer if they attach themselves to a Unitarian church. In Edinburgh and Glasgow there are probably as many Unitarians regularly attending the minstry of the established and dissenting clergy, as there are who attend the Unitarian churches.——In a pastoral letter to the clergy and laity of his diocese, the Bishop of Argyle urges such a change in the canons of the Episcopal Church in Sectland as will admit of its union with the Episcopal Church in England, Ireland, and the colonies. The bishop looks even further, and fancies he sees in the proposed change a possibility of union between the Scotch Episcopal and the Scotch Established Churches. — Proposed Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in England.—The following occurs in a report of the proceedings of Glasgow U. P. Presbytery, at its last meeting. The proposal to establish a provincial synod for England, which had been before last meeting of Synod in Edinburgh, and by them remitted for the opinions of Presbyteries and Sessions, having been brought before the Presbytery, a discussion took place, at the close of which the following motion by Dr. Robson was carried by a majority:-"That the Presbytery offer no obstruction to the formation of an English Synod, provided that care be taken to preserve intact the powers of the supreme court, and the subordination of said Synod to it."——Rev. William Arnot, of the Free St. Peter's church, Glasgow, has received a unanimous call to the St. George's (English) Presbyterian church, Liverpool. Mr. Arnot is well known by his published writings on both sides of the Atlantic.—Bishop Moriarty, of Tralee, Ireland, has been able to weather the storm raised by the Ultra-montanists of his parish, against his humane proposal to send contributions from Ireland to the Lancashire fund. He is said to be the only Popish prelate in that unhappy country that refuses to endorse the violent measures and spirit of Dr. Cullen, who aims at nothing less than a secession from England, and the supremacy

course of the Government towards Protestants. The rally loved and esteemed. The New Testament, correspondent of the last News of the Churches wri- printed in the idiom of the country, has been extenting from Paris, January 20th, speaks of an inter-sively circulated, with a collection of hymns and dict of eleven years standing, against the church of other religious books. At five different stations Neuillac, which, after thirteen applications from there are over two thousand hearers, with about the people, was opened, January 4th, for services | 1100 communicants. At one station there are 125. once a month. Last spring, a goodly number of the and at another 67 converts waiting to be received inhabitants of Noncourt, wearied out with the con- into membership. The converted natives assist the duct of their priest, sent a deputation to Joinville to missionaries in spreading the glad tidings of the see what Protestantism was. After attending the Gospel every Sunday: many of them visit some of worship repeatedly, they requested the pastor to the villages of the district to which they belong, instruct them and their families at Noncourt. Pas- and avail themselves of all the opportunities of dotor Prunier went, and such was the interest excited | ing good and diffusing light that they meet with. that a written request, signed by forty-one heads of | Some of them have become very efficient schoolfamilies, was presented to him, urging him to se- masters and deacons.——The number of native cure the necessary authorization for holding public | Christians and missionaries (Protestant) in India services. The request was accordingly made and was recently taken by a careful census by Dr. Mulrefused by the Prefect; and notwithstanding Pastor lens. In 1861, there were 418 Europeans, and 81 Prunier in his subsequent labors never had the native ordained missionaries. There were 1070 catnumber of twenty present at one time, and so avoil echists, 890 churches, 118,893 native Christians, of ded any transgression of the law, he and his hearers | whom 21,252 were communicants: 54,888 boys and were fined and their appeal to a higher tribunal rejected. The people, however, go to hear Pastor P. is invading Africa as it never did before. Iu in his own parish, Joinville, though obliged to walk | Egypt the American and German Missionaries a considerable distance.—The new leaven of are doing a good work, especially in resus. Evangelical life in the Presbyterian churches of the South of France, is still working, and meets with opposition from the Socinianism and unbelief with which it is, in some parts, still allied. In Alais. Gard, a place of 18,000 inhabitants, 7000 of whom are Protestants, the Consistory, which is mainly rationalist, refused to regard the expressed wish of the church session for an Evangelical Pastor, and nominated one of their own sort. Happily, the French minister of worship has refused to sanction the nomination, in view of the earnest remonstrances of the people. In Vienne, an Evangelical church has been without a pastor nearly a year, from an unsettled dispute of exactly the same cha-

of the Pope in Ireland.

ral and friendly manner toward the suspended priests face to a work just published, the Rev. gentleman preceded it. A commission has been named to sug-duced him to abandon the ministry was a mistake, gest some positive remedy to defend the liberal in- and pleads for forgiveness from those whom he may tude they are assuming towards the reactionary expresses a desire to resume his labors in the priests in the South. Last week, on occasion of Church.

person by torchlight, a miserable attempt at a revolution was got up by the priests of the parish, who are noted reactionists. The attempt proved a complete failure, but the head of the police immediately arrested the parish priest, and some half-dozen more, in whose houses ample evidence of traitorous dealings was obtained. Those most gravely compromised will be brought to trial, others, the papers report as having been bundled off to Rome without delay. --- At this moment, says the correspondent of the News of the Churches, (in Tuscany, January 14th,) there are from 35 to 40 bishoprics vacant in the kingdom of Italy, and among the number are the archbishoprics of Turin and Milan. The blind obstinacy of the Papal Court in refusing to appoint successors to these vacant sees, and the many inconveniences arising from this state of things, begins to pre-occupy the minds of the intelligent Italians, and various theories are set affoat for remedying it. Among the rest, a dignitary of the Church of England has published a pamphlet under the name of Filalete, the tenor of which is an exhortation to the Government and people to make a coup-d'etat ecclesiastique, similar to that made by Henry VIII. in England. He asks, with some seeming trepidation, 'Will Italy become Presbyterian?''---Perhaps our readers are aware of the fierce opposition Professor Mazzarella met with when he first appeared as Professor of the History of Philosophy in the University of Genoa last year. His class was not an obligatory one, and the priests worked powerfully to keep the students from him. This year he has been promoted to the Chair of the Philosophy of History, which the students are compelled to attend, and they were no sooner brought into contact with him, than he became as popular among them as he was in the University of Bologna. His position now is assured as a most popular professor. He and Dr. Disanctis minister regularly to a large con-

Missionary.—There is commotion among the Mahometans. The Rev. Dr. Pfander has translated his work, A Defence of Christianity against Mahometanism, into Turkish. The book was printed in India at first, and is a very able production. Its introduction has created discussion at once, and a reply was written by a learned Mahometan, and printed at the Government press. The Doctor's book has called out a complaint from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who, in a note to the representatives of the United States and Graat Britain at the Sublime Porte, accuses the missionaries of publishing calumnious works against the Mahometan religion, and declares such conduct quite unbecoming in those who have the protection of the Government of his Majesty the Sultan. He intimated also that such publications will be interdicted. We hear, however, that the few that have come into circulation are in great demand. ——The oldest Karen Mission originated by the American Baptist mission to Burmah, has been left to native laborers. for three years. The experiment has not proved seriously injurious, but it does not, on the other hand, very decidedly encourage the missionaries to pursue this line of policy. In Toungoo, missionary work is carried on with great vigor and with wonderful success. It is now about nine years since Qualah first proclaimed the gospel of Christ on the and a few Burmans have been gathered into the churches there. These new converts have been wonderfully liberal, i. e., they have from the first almost entirely supported the gospel among themselves, and also carried forward their own educational operations; though aid from the local government, and some foreign aid, has been received for erecting buildings and purchasing apparatus for the normal schools. The Bassein Mission, Sgau, and Pwo Karen, numbers more Christians than any other mission in Burmah: there being in it about 6000 souls! These disciples are connected with more than fifty churches, all of which are under native preachers and pastors. These churches. many of them, will compare favorably with churches in England and America. The churches not only support their own religious teachers, but they also nearly support their missionary, Rev. Mr. Beecher, and also a large English school now in full operation. — The Paris Evangelical Missionary Society has been, in the hands of Providence, the means of rescuing from impending ruin, and restoring to a state of comparative prosperity, an important tribe of South Africa, the Basutos. The country inhabited by those natives is situated nearly in the latitude of Natal, to the west of that colony, from which it is separated by a high range of mountains. It is remarkably fertile, abundant rains visit it regularly in the summer, and in winter, owing to the elevation of the land, occasional falls of snow maintain the moisture of the soil. This, with the return of peace, brought on by the arrival of the missionaries, has enabled the Basutos to repair their fortunes, which the constant inroads of their enemies had so completely destroyed, that a part of the population had recourse to cannibalism to maintain their wretched existence. The mass of the population are still heathen, and there, as in all Caffraria, superstition and the crafty devices of diviners, and other supporters of Paganism, often thwart the efforts of the missionaries. Much encouragement has however been granted to these good men. Ten stations, every one of which is to be considered as the centre of an important district, have been founded in Ba-France.—Strange inconsistencies still mark the suto land. The preachers of the gospel are gene-14,753 girls in the schools. —— CHRISTIANITY

the preaching of the Word. Episcopal.—The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, of which Bishop Colenso is one of the appointees, and Vice-Presidents, have under consideration a proposal to strike his name from the list of Vice-Presidents. If these are true men, unleavened by the poison of the prevailing church-unbelief, they move with an extraordinary coolness and deliberation in a matter so clear. American Christians would not need to think twice on such a proposition. The Rev. J. Macnaught, late of St. Chrysostom's church, Everton, Liverpool, has completely changed the views which led him to make the sacrifice of resigning a good living. In the preof Passaglia's circle, than any ministry which has frankly acknowledges that the scepticism which inferior clergy from the oppression of the retrograde have misled by his teachings. He narrates the inhigher dignities. The present Ministry are also cidents which led him to retrace his steps and emdistinguishing themselves by the very decided atti-

citating the Truth among the Coptic Christians, by

means of Schools, the distribution of the Bible, and

PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

nittee of the Presbyterian Historical Society, Samuel Agnew, Esq., Libarian, reported the following gifts to the Society: 1. From John W. Cowell, Esq., of Philadelphia, a number of autograph letters in relation to the settlement of a President of Nassau Hall College by Rev. Samuel Davies, Rev. Aaron Burr, Rev. Dr. John Ewing, and Rev. David

2. From James M. Preston, Esq., of Coving on, Ky., a file, more or less complete, of Western terian Herald and Protestant Herald 1838-1861; also a file, more or less complete, of Western Luminary and of Cincinnati Journal and Western Luminary, 1832-1838; all collected, ound and transmitted to the Society withou

The Rev. Dr. Baird, Corresponding Secretary eported the gift from Rev. Mr. Eells, of Carlisle Pa., of a collection of rare and valuable bound olumes, illustrative of Presbyterian History. The thanks of the Society were voted to the

The Committee appointed to draft a minute in elation to the decease of the Rev. Dr. Wallace. eported the following, which was accepted and

The Executive Committee in recording the ecease, on the 25th day of July last, of their ate Chairman, the Rev. Benjamin J. Wallace D.D., bear testimony to his vigorous intellect varied scholarship, cultivated taste, consistent piety, eminent ministerial qualifications, thorough Presbyterianism, and generous enthusiasm in forwarding the objects of the Presbyterian

Historical Society.
One of the Society's original corporators, a ember of its Executive Committee, from the e-organization of the Society in the year 1856 nd the Committee's Chairman since the decease of the lamented Dr. Van Rensselaer, Dr. Walace had, in very great degree, the confidence and affection of the widely-branched Presbyteri-

The Committee account his decease, in the rime of honored manhood, a loss to themselves, the Denomination he so worthily represented to the Church at large and to the world. With painful sense of the void in their own ranks, hey are admonished to be "not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord," that, at death's call, they may, like their departed brother, move into the light.

The Rev. Henry Darling, D. D., was elected fill the vacancy in the Committee, occasioned y the decease of Rev. Dr. Wallace. The Rev. S. O. Wylie reported that the Rev. Thomas Sproul, D. D., delivered in May, 1862, pefore the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, an address on the History of Schism in he Presbyterian Church. Mr. Wylie was reuested to obtain, if possible, the manuscript of Dr. Sproul's address, for the use of the Society. The Rev. Dr. Baird and the Rev. Messrs. S. O. Wylie and T. J. Shepherd were appointed a

annual meeting. True extract from the minutes, T. J. SHEPHERD, Recording Secretary, pro tempore.

committee to devise a plan for endowing the

Society, to be submitted to the Society's next

Domestic Mews.

Congress.—Iuesday, Feb. 13.—In Senate, a bill was passed to prevent agents of the Government, as well as members of Congress and officers of the Government, from taking any consideration in procuring place, office, or contracts. A bill was passed authorising the President, in all domestic and foreign regulations, limiting the authority conferred to three years. A resolution of inquiry into the steps taken by the Secretary of the Treasury, to investigate the New York Custom House frauds, was passed.

In the House, after ineffectual opposition by the ecessionists, Messrs. Hahn and Flanders, representatives elect from Lousiana, were declared entitled to seats, 92 to 44. In answer to an inquiry: How many loyal men had been furnished to the Union army in Louisiana, Mr. Hahn said: "That when General Butler's army came to New Orleans, it was much diminished, but he filled up the vacancies by two thousand enlistments. Besides this, there were formed two Louisiana regiments of loyal soldiers, making four thousand men in a short space of time. In this, he did not include three thousand colored soldiers. He said the loyal people of the two districts now sought to be represented, and recognize and approve of Governor Shepley's act. After replying to the several objections urged against his dmission, he said he stood by the Union because t was the most perfect the wit of man ever designed. The people of his district were willing to make any sacrifice to remain as a part of the Union." Mr. Lewis McKenzie, who claimed to be elected a Re-

Wednesday, February 18.-In the Senate, the remainder of the session. Senator Foot, of Vermont, was chosen President pro. tem. The Fortifi-Railroad was fixed at four feet eight and a half his command, the convention adjourned. inches. The bill donating lands to Michigan and Wisconsin for a military road was passed-

resentative from Virginia, was refused a seat.

In the House, a bill authorizing the construction of a Railroad bridge over the Ohio river, below the Big Sandy river, was passed. The Senate's substitute for the House bill to aid Emancipation in Missouri, was referred to the Select Committee on Emancipation. The Senate bill indemnifying the President and others for suspending the writ of part thrown into the river. abeas corpus was debated until 111 o'clock, P.M., when the previous question was ordered, and the House adjourned. During the debate, language was used by rebel sympathizers, equal in the bitterthing reported of the rebel Congress. Henry May of Baltimore, astounded his loyal colleagues by the utter recklessness of his language; and to all appearances, drove them to a more decided position for the Union. Certainly, Baltimore must keep such man close at home if she would pass for a loyal city. Mr. Julian, Republican of Indiana, said some decided things, of which our too-easy rulers should take notice. He said it was because of the remorseless despotism which the Democratic party would certainly establish that he denounced it, and would plead with the President to smite it with all the power of the Government if he would save either at this moment swings in horrid alternation of life and death. To falter or hesitate now is self-dethe crisis. Nothing can save us but the earnestness cy of the war is not enough. Proclamations of freedom will of themselves accomplish little. What we scourging faithless men from power, sweeping away and assurance, when speaking of a Republic. obstacles, and kindling in the heart the fires of a new courage. -In reply to a resolution of inquiry, the

engaged in discussing the bill for the discharge of sensation sermon on Thanksgiving two years ago, State prisoners, and a House amendment to the is nearly forgotten,) is counsel for C. W. Car-Civil Appropriation Bill, in regard to the mileage rigan, in a suit against M. Russell Thayer, to oust of members West of the Rocky Mountains. The him from his seat in the State Legislature. In

money is in the hands of the Assistant Treasurer

indemnifying the President for arbitrary arrests was at Washington, it would be better for the country." AT a recent meeting of the Executive Comasked. The Senate's Finance Bill was taken up.

bill appointing an Assistant Treasurer, and raising of 1861, of 2820. the Treasurer's salary to \$5000. A Bill was passed providing a temporary Territorial government for Arizona. Also, one to re-organize the Courts of the District of Columbia

The House passed the Senate Finance Bill 78 to 64. An amendment was adopted, providing for a postal money order system.

corporate the National Academy of Science, was

In the House, the Post Office Reform Bill was transmit letters and newspapers free of postage, by dence with Rebels was passed. Also, the Senate Bill to prevent members of Congress or agents of the Government from taking considerations for procuring contracts, office, or place. The bill authorizing the issuing of letters of marque or reprisal was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Monday February 23. The Senate passed Mr. Trumbull's substitute for the Bill for the discharge of State Prisoners. In the House, Mr. Jennings Piggott's claim to have been elected representative the National forces.

The War.

Active Hostilities against Vicksburg commenced on the 18th. The mortar boats were towed into position and opened briskly. The effect of their shots was not known. The firing was responded to by three batteries, when our position was found to be too much exposed for effective operations, and it

was changed. The bombardment was then renewed. The new Monitor gunboat Indianola ran the blockade at Vicksburg on Friday night the 13th. In spite of the precautions taken, the rebels discovered the Indianola, and the various batteries vied with each other in their efforts to sink the gunboat. She, however, passed down safely. The Indianola carries two bigaguns in a turret. She is new, measures 442 tons, and was built at Cincinnati. She has stores for a 3 months' cruise.

Another canal is in process of construction on the Mississippi, by which boats may obtain access into Lake Providence and the Black Ouachita, and Red Rivers. General Gorman is pursuing with energy the work of clearing out the old passage, so as to make it navigable to the Blackwater. There is depth of water enough; but stumps, trees, and vegetation choke up the passage. If the pass is cleared, it gives admission to the Blackwater: thence to the Tallahatchie; whence the boats can reach the near of Vicksburg via the Yazoo river. This work of Gen. Gorman appears to be a sepa rate, or third operation. Lake Providence is on the opposite side of the river from Vicksburg. This canal, says the Memphis Bulletin, if successfully to Jacque bayou, thence to Bayou Bouf, Bayou Macon, Bayou Tensas, Quachita (or Washita river, thence to Black river, thence to Red river, and from that river by Atchafalava bayou to the Gulf.

The principal object in view is of course, to obtain communication with Red river, and thus to get between Vicksburg and Port Hudson, interrupting communication between the two, an important Rear Admiral Porter says in his official report that the rebel steamer Vicksburg was so badly injured by the Queen of the West that she has to be buoyed up with Coal barges and will probably be destroyed. A coal barge was safely sent past the rebel batteries, with 7,000 bushels of coal to the Queen of the West in the night of Feb. 7th, and

the admiral says she arrived in safety not having been seen by the rebels. Murfreesboro, Feb. 20.—The capture of Vicksburg was reported to-day, by Rebel officers who approached our lines with a flag of truce from the rebel general commanding at Tullahoma.

Cantain Hoblitzell, of Gen. McCook's staff, received the flag, and in conversation the officer in charge of the mission remarked, "Well, you have got Vicksburg at last, though you have paid dearly for the prize." After adverting to the subject in these words, he refused to give any particulars. The rumor is credited at headquarters.

The rebels say that a large force of National troops were landing at Newport News on the 15th. The Nahant Iron-clad, left Fortress Monroe bound South, on the 16th.

A convention of rebel sympathisers met at Frankfort Ky. on the 18th. The Legislature having denied them the use of the state capitol, they convened in a theatre. A regiment of our soldiers with fixed Secretary of that body, Colonel Forney, announced bayonets formed in front of the theatre and Col. that the Vice-President would be absent during the Gilbert with his adjutant entered the hall, to take the names of the delegates as they were called. After an address in which the Colonel warned them that cation bill was passed. The grade of the Pacific no such meetings could be held within the limits of

It is now quite certain that the rebel Congress will overrule Jeff Davis in his retaliatory proclamation and message, and exchanges will go on as heretofore, under the cartel.

The office of the Keokuk (Ill.) Constitution was destroyed Feb. 9th, by a party of convalescent soldiers from the hospital. The types were thrown into the street, and the presses broken up and a

A dispatch from Fort Henry Feb. 12th, says "The forces of General Rosecrans' command have captured six hundred of General Morgan's men. We are still picking up dead and wounded in the less of its denunciation of the Government, to any- neighborhood of Fort Donelson. The dead now number more than two hundred. W. H. Lowe, Colonel Commanding."

On Wednesday the 11th, a scouting party met a body of the enemy six miles back of Lake Providence. A warm engagement ensued, in which our troops lost a few men. A number of the rebels were killed, and thirty-two taken prisoners. We also captured ninety of their horses.

Foreign.—The insurrection in Poland was still spreading, by advices to the 8th inst.

The Queen's speech at the opening of Parliament contained the following sentence relative to interthe country or himself. The Republic of our fathers | vention : "Her Majesty has abstained from taking any step with a view to induce a cessation of the conflict between the contending parties of the struction. Rose-water statesmanship will not meet | North American States, because it has not yet seemed that any such overtures would be attended which finds its reflex in the rebels, and the courage with the probability of success." In the remarks which gathers strength from despair. A wise poli- subsequently made on the address, the policy of the government was generally acquiesed in, but the certain disruption of the Union was taken for grantneed is action-instant, decisive, defiant action, ed, with the loftiest airs of aristocratic prescience

The duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has refused the crown of Greece, which again goes a-begging.-Secretary of the Treasury reports that up to June | The King of Prussia maintains the course of his last, negro labor on the Sea Islands had netted the ministry against the remonstrance of the House of Government over half a million of dollars. The deputies recently addressed to His Majesty.

Miscellaneous.-James C. Vandyke, Esq., (bro-Thursday, February 19.—The Senate was mainly ther to Rev. Henry J. Vandyke, whose pro-slavery Naval Appropriation Bill and the Bill to organize some preliminary proceedings, Mr. Vandyke is rethe Territory of Arizona passed.

Some preliminary proceedings, Mr. Vandyke is reported to have said in response to a remark about tisfaction.

In the House, the Senate's substitute for the Bill | Vallandigham: "If we had a thousand such men disagreed to, and a Committee of Conference was | ----- During the year 1861 the Scriptures were not read in 4545 schools; in the year 1862 they were not Friday, February 20.—The Senate passed the read in 1725, showing a decrease in 1862 over that

Special Motices.

"A Subscriber," and perhaps well wishing friend writes us to inquire "why we advertise patent medi-cines." We will here and now answer him that we do not. Our readers are aware that we have for Saturday, February 21.—In Senate, a bill to inorporate the National Academy of Science, was
ment of Dr. J. C. AYER & Co.'s remedies, which now introduced. A bill to grantlands in Kansas for the construction of Roads and Telegraphs, was passed.

The discussion of the bill for the Discharge of State and has moreover had the a pproval of the highest medical authority in the land. But what affords us passed. Soldiers in camp and hospital receive and perhaps still greater confidence in their worth is our personal knowledge of the man who makes them and this bill. The Senate Bill to prevent correspon- as familiar to our readers and to the whole community as they are to ourselves.

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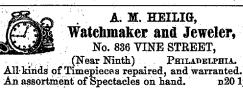
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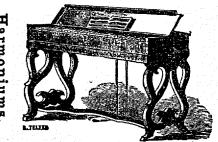
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