

American Presbyterian

GENESEE EVANGELIST.

JOHN W. MEARS, Editor

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1863.

THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN A WEEKLY RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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Religious Intelligence.

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the United States, devoutly recognizing the supreme authority and just government of Almighty God in all the affairs of men and of nations, has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and humiliation; and WHEREAS, It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.

And inasmuch as we know that, by his divine laws, laws which are just, are subject to punishments and chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power, as no other nation has ever grown in the like period of our history.

We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace—too proud to pray to the God that made us!

It behooves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.

Now, therefore, in compliance with the request, and fully concurring in the views of the Senate, I do by this my proclamation designate and set apart Thursday, the 30th day of April, 1863, as a day of national humiliation, fasting, and prayer. And I do hereby require all the people to abstain on that day from their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite, at their several places of public worship and their respective homes, in keeping the day holy to the Lord, and devoted to the humble discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion.

All this being done in sincerity and truth, let us then rest humbly in the hope, authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the Nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings, no less than the pardon of our national sins, and the restoration of our now divided and suffering country to its former happy condition of unity and peace!

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. By the President: WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Presbyterian.

The Union Movement in Great Britain.—The Weekly Review of the 11th reports interesting proceedings on the Union of Presbyterians, at the last meeting of the Free Presbytery of Dalkeith. Rev. Dr. MacFarlane offered a resolution which he accompanied with a capital speech, closing with the words: "It is an acknowledged fact, that the astuteness and laudable covetousness of the country are fast going over to Episcopacy. The Established Church is veering in the same direction; and therefore it becomes the more necessary that the middle and industrial classes who form the strength of the country and the Church, should be welded and kept together by one great central ecclesiastical power, the pulsation of which might be equally felt over the whole." The resolution was unanimously adopted, and is as follows: "Whereas, the unity of the visible Church is enjoined by the Highest Authority, it is conducive to the well-being of the country, and the honor of the living God; and whereas, it is the duty of every section in the Church to promote that unity upon a solid and scriptural basis, it is humbly ventured to the ensuing General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, by the Free Presbytery of Dalkeith, that they take such steps as to their wisdom may seem fit, for bringing about a union into one ecclesiastical organization of the non-Established Presbyterian Churches of this land. And the Presbytery rather hope for a favorable acceptance of this overture, because they believe that no insuperable obstacle exists to such a union formed upon the basis of the Westminster Standards; that the way has been in a good measure prepared for it by the progress of opinion and events; and that the aspects of the times renders it peculiarly incumbent on the friends of Presbyterianism to form themselves into one great and united body."—The Presbyterians of Worcester (a district included in London City) are taking the same course. They are forming a new church in connection with the Presbytery of London.—There is an appeal case before the Moderator of the Free Presbytery, in which a Mr. Meacham objects to a proposal to appoint Mr. David Phillips, publisher of the Crier, Herald, a deacon of the Crier congregation, on account of the unchristian character of several of the advertisements of professedly medical works which appeared in that publication.—The whole proceedings of a recent meeting of the Free Presbytery of Leeds, among the highlands of Scotland, were in good faith.

At the last meeting of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, on the report of a committee, it was agreed that measures should be adopted for the erection of manses to those ministers who are not receiving more than \$200 per annum of sal-

pend, and a special committee was appointed to raise a central fund of \$45,000, with the view of stimulating individual congregations in all parts of the country on the erection of suitable manses for their ministers. This committee has made a very good beginning, and has been able already to report subscriptions for this manse scheme to the amount of \$18,200. It was formed an encouraging effort to organize a Presbyterian church, and erect an edifice in Swansea, Wales, is in progress, under the fostering care of the English Presbyterian Church. The town has a population of 45,000, with a large Scotch element, yet this is the first movement to establish a Presbyterian Church among them.

Union Charge, Clarke Co., Ohio.—The German Reformed Messenger says: "One hundred and fifty-two persons have been recently added to this charge under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. Richards; twenty-three to the Jerusalem congregation; fourteen to the Immanuel congregation; thirty to the North Hampton congregation, and eighty-five to the congregation at Trementon.

Congregational.—The esteemed Dr. Bouton of the North Society, preached his 38th anniversary sermon on Sabbath afternoon, March 29. He is the fourth clergyman of a church now 133 years old, and is one of those servants of God whose feeble years only serve to extend and increase the sphere of his usefulness. There are only two ministers in the state whose pastorates are longer than Dr. Bouton's. They are Rev. Dr. Burman of Kings, and Rev. Dr. Barstow of Keene.—Rev. Alonzo H. Quait, pastor of the First Church, at Jamaica Plain, who has been for the past two years chaplain in the army, has resigned his pastorate, and the church has reluctantly consented to his dismission.—Rev. John P. Gulliver of Norwich, Conn., has received a call to the South Congregational Church, Brooklyn.

"We hope," says the Independent, "he will accept it. The congregation intend, on his acceptance, to take immediate steps for the erection of a new building. Mr. Gulliver will be welcome in Brooklyn. He is a brave, honest, and able man. For years past, he has been one of the foremost men in Connecticut. The late successful election in that state was helped in no small degree by his personal efforts and influence. Our only fear is, that when he comes to Brooklyn he will be likely to introduce politics in the pulpit."

Baptist.—The Chronicle of this city says: "The religious interest in our city churches continues and increases generally, so far as our information extends. The Examiner says: 'The South Baptist church at Hartford, Ct., of which Rev. C. B. Crane is the successful pastor, have just done a right noble thing. On Wednesday evening of last week, they completed a subscription of sixteen thousand dollars, to meet the debt on their house of worship, and on Saturday last, the last dollar of the debt was paid. It is said in Hartford that the pastor will preach, next Sabbath, a jubilee sermon from the text: 'When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing.' And the singers will sing the 'Gloria in Excelsis,' and all the people will sing in their hearts, 'Not unto us, not unto us, but unto thy name be all the glory.'"

Miscellaneous.—The Sabbath in Pittsburgh.—Efforts are now made, by the proper officers, to enforce the State laws against the selling of liquor on the Sabbath. Their success is cheering, and it indicates that the people will choose upright and energetic men for their municipal magistracy, who may have a quiet and orderly city. The Chronicle, of the 20th inst., says: "Yesterday was one of the quietest Sabbaths ever passed in Pittsburgh. There was not a single drinking house opened in the city, and there was no disorder, which in times past have so disgraced the Lord's day. This is a most satisfactory result of affairs, and we trust it may continue. There is no excuse whatever for liquor-selling on Sunday, and we hope never again to see it tolerated in Pittsburgh."—The Trustees of the Episcopal Divinity School, Philadelphia, have purchased for its use the mansion and grounds in West Philadelphia, formerly occupied by Mr. T. Allibone.

Army.—A chaplain in the Army of the Potomac, writes to the Evangelist, from Stoneman's Switch, April 13th, describing a meeting of chaplains held at that place, as follows: "This morning's meeting was of great interest. It was attended by chaplains from widely distant parts of the army, nearly all with tidings of the presence of the Holy Spirit in their regiments, awakening and refreshing Christians and converting sinners. I do not mean that a revival so great as to force itself upon the notice of all is going on, but that there is a quiet work pervading the army, the aggregate result of which are of great value. Every regiment is blessed only as my own has been, the sum total is so great as to call for hearty rejoicing, for we count upon six or seven hundred conversions from that part of the regiment near this station. In some of the regiments there are a score or more hopeful converts. The causes to which this work can be ascribed are various. In some cases the chaplains have been the honored instruments. In others it is traced to religious reading distributed by various hands. In still others the converts ascribe their first serious impressions to the letters of pious friends at home. In some cases the work has been instrumental, visible. It is just as in revivals at home in which the Spirit of God makes more or less use of means, or works, as far as we can see, without means, just as He pleases. In this vicinity it is easy to trace effects to their causes. There are near us some more than ordinarily earnest and laborious chaplains. Mr. Alvord, of the American Tract Society, Boston, makes this the centre of his operations. And here the Christian Commission have established an agency and are holding meetings, which are attended by hundreds. Their chapel tents will now hold nearly two hundred, and is nightly filled to overflowing, while the Word is faithfully preached, and the returning backsliders and young converts tell what God has done for them. To these meetings I attribute mainly what has been done among the men of my own regiment.—Carleton (C. C. Coffin) reports in the Journal quite a wide spread religious interest in some of the regiments at Hilton Head, including the 9th Me., and 115th N. Y. Several hundred profess conversion. Nearly fifty were baptized on a single Sabbath. Profanity and wickedness have been greatly checked."

Domestic News.

The Siege of Vicksburg.—A new phase has been given to this protracted and troublesome affair by the passage of the rebel batteries, on the night of the 16th, by six of Admiral Porter's gunboats and three transports. The batteries, on their side, opposite the upper battery, heading the line of vessels, before the rebels opened fire, which they continued from 11 P.M. until 2 A.M., upon each succeeding vessel as it passed them. The only damage done was the firing of the Henry Clay, one of the transports, and the temporary disabling of the Forest City, another of them, and a shot through the Benton's hull. Our loss was but one man killed and three wounded. The rebels' fire was far less effective than was anticipated. They burned two or three houses in the town, as our squadron was passing, to light the river, so as to enable their artillery to get good views of our steamers as they went down within range of their guns. On reaching Warrenton, Admiral Porter bombarded that

village, with what effect is not known. The transport Henry Clay was fired by the rebel shells. All hands on board were saved, the pilot remaining at his post until the flames forced him to leave. Our gunboats destroyed the rebel casemated guns at Warrenton, on their passage down and were at anchor at Carthage, La., on the 17th. Gen Grant has gone there. Troops are moving in that direction, and hot work was expected soon.

A new canal is in progress to reach from Duckport, five miles above Young's point, to New Carthage. It will be aided by a number of bayous in its progress.

On Monday, April 20, another fleet of gunboats and transports ran the batteries. The transports were the Tigris, Empire City, Moderator, Anglo-Saxon, Chaseman, and Harrison. The transports ran past Warrenton without difficulty, the rebel batteries having been silenced there.

Tennessee.—On Wednesday, the 22d, a successful attack was made by our forces under Brig-Gen. Reynolds, upon McMinnville, 75 miles southeast of Nashville, the headquarters of Morgan. They entered the town at one o'clock in the morning, and completely surprised the rebels, capturing 250 prisoners, and putting the rest to flight. Two wagon trains were also captured. Col. Longworth, of the Ohio Cavalry, destroyed the telegraph and bridges between Morrison and Manchester, and burned a train of cars and a locomotive and the spare cars. Large quantities of wheat were also destroyed at several places. Gen. Reynolds then moved towards Liberty, but Gen. Morgan had departed towards Carthage, near Alexandria. Our scouts kept picking up the rebels every half hour. Among them are captain Reynolds, and he had destroyed a mill at Liberty, which had been doing good work for the rebels.

The Rebel States.—There have been broad riots, according to the Savannah News, in two places in North Carolina. The Richmond Examiner says, "Our tables must be put upon a war-footing." Placards, headed "Bread or Blood," have been posted up in the streets of Mobile. Recent acts of the Georgia Legislature must be rather discouraging to the rebel cause. They are: a refusal to pass a bill compelling the planting of provision crops, also a bill taxing those who refuse the rebel currency fifty per cent. of the amount refused, also the bill to endorse the rebel bonds, passed by the House, but indefinitely postponed by the Senate.

Much interest is felt in Richmond in regard to matters at Suffolk. The papers admit that a rebel battery was captured. The tone of the editorials is desponding.—The Atlanta, Georgia, Confederacy says there was a woman's riot at Milledgeville, April 10. They pitched into the dry goods store of Mr. Gans' a jar and seized his fine goods. After a frightful flurry, the delicate crates were dispersed by an eloquent appeal from Judge Harris, of the Superior Court. The correspondent said the women "didn't want anything but the fine things."

New Orleans.—By advices to the 13th, we learn that important military movements were in progress against the rebels at Bayou Teche. The rebel Banks is in the field, at the head of Groror's and Emory's division and Weitzel's brigade. On the 11th General Weitzel's forces crossed Berwick's Bay on pontoons, and advanced to Pattersonville, five miles up the Teche. The enemy retreated upon the approach of our forces, which steadily advanced. The latter were reinforced on Sunday by Emory's division, and proceeded into Grand Lake to a point called Indian Bend, above Franklin. This, if successfully accomplished, will bring the enemy between two fires, and cannot fail of good result. The rebel forces are estimated at four thousand men. On Sunday afternoon sharp skirmishing commenced between Weitzel's advance and the rebels, the latter retreating towards Franklin.

General Banks' plan of free negro labor for the plantations meets with daily success. Obeying reports from the planters from all quarters continue to be received, and if no interference is attempted, with the present system, within ninety days, Gen. Banks will have demonstrated the practicability of obtaining by voluntary labor, as satisfactory a result as was obtained under the old system.

It was stated by parolee seamen from the U. S. frigate Mississippi, who had reached New Orleans, that the rebel gunboat Webb was destroyed in the Port Hudson fight, and that our fleet did great damage to the batteries there, on one alone of which twenty-five rebels were killed. The enemy were several times driven from their guns, and one of their batteries spiked. The steamer Queen of the West and Diana taken from us by the rebels, have been recaptured, or destroyed to prevent their falling into our hands. Our own account says: "The ram Queen of the West was captured from the enemy, in Grand Lake, April 14th. Captain Fuller, her commander, and all her crew and officers, numbering ninety souls, are now prisoners at Berwick Bay. The Richmond papers say that the Queen of the West got aground in Grand Lake and was blown up by a shell from the Union gunboat Galba. The Diana was burned by the rebels. One hundred and six prisoners, including seven commissioned officers, were captured from the Queen of the West. Among the officers was Captain Turner, commandant of the fleet. A despatch from Berwick Bay, April 15th, reports, a Union force beyond Franklin, La., and marching on."

Army of the Potomac.—General Stoneman's proposed cavalry movements have been frustrated by the continued bad weather. Compelled by the swollen state of the fords to remain north of the Rappahannock, he has scoured the country, and captured the commander of the Black Horse Cavalry, with 60 prisoners. Gen. Halleck paid a visit, April 22d, to Fortress Monroe, Norfolk, and Suffolk. Skirmishing continued on the Nansemond river; the monitor Lehigh was engaged in shelling out the rebel batteries.—The Lunatic Asylum at Williamsburg, although within the lines of the enemy, is dependent upon our Government for supplies, the rebels having sent us word to that effect.

John's N.B., bound to Charleston, was captured by the Vanderbilt, April 16th.—Gen. Elliot's Marine Brigade and Gen. Fifth's light dragoon gunboats have nearly swept the Cumberland river of rebel cavalry, who were sent out on both sides of the river. Some severe fighting occurred and many prisoners were taken. Florence, Tusculum, and other places were visited.—The late Gen. St. Thomas and Bernhardt, who led the barque Loring and the boat J. M. Colford, captured by the rebels, have been named by piratical crews, and guns put on board of them, with directions to cruise in company with the Florida. Every vessel which the rebels capture hereafter, fitted for the service instead of being burned, will doubtless be manned with a piratical crew, and sent to capture our commercial vessels.

The conversion of Legal Tender Notes, on Saturday, into the Five-Twenty year 6 per cent. Government loans, at the office of Jay Cooke, was the largest of any day since the opening of the agency here. The amount reached about a million and a half of dollars, and for the week ending on Saturday afternoon, amounted to between eight and nine millions of dollars. The only check to the funding of the legal tender currency into the bonds now offered, seems to be the inability of the Treasury Department to furnish the bonds as fast as they are demanded.

The growing popularity of the U. S. 6 per cent. loan surprises even loyal men. On Monday last, two and a quarter millions were subscribed at the office of Jay Cooke and Co. for the week ending on Saturday afternoon, and the following day, the agents were received from Kentucky accompanied with cheering accounts of the growing popularity of the loan in that State. From Maryland the orders are steadily on the increase.

An order was received on Monday from Key West, Florida. A soldier in the Army of the Potomac sends to the subscription agent his surplus earnings, with the remark, "If I fight hard enough my bonds will be good." Another "brave defender" sends from Suffolk five hundred dollars to invest in five-twenties, and says, "I am much pleased with my purchase. I believe in the Union, and I will not buy a rebel bond, nobody else will." While soldiers exhibit such a spirit, there can be no such word as fail. An agent, writing from Louisville, says, "I am crowded with applications for five-twenties, and trust the orders I am getting forwarded will be speedily filled. I am holding letters from all parts of the State, making inquiries, and look for large sales."

Miscellaneous.—Ship Building in Kensington.—The activity which has for several months past characterized the operations of the ship yards in Kensington continues unabated. In consequence of the demand by the government for iron vessels of war, Messrs. Cramp & Sons, who have heretofore constructed ships of wood only, are preparing to enter into the business of the former branch of the trade. They are now erecting a frame building in which to construct a monitor, the contract of which has been awarded to them. The work on this vessel will occupy about seven months. This firm will soon launch a government side wheel double ended steamer, of one thousand tons burden, intended to be used as a transport on the Mississippi river. Her dimensions are 240 feet long, 35 feet beam, and 12 feet hold.—Over seventy applications to bank under the national currency recently launched at the Treasury Department.

Seven persons engaged in the bloody riot in Danville, Ind., have been arrested and held to bail. They have made a confession, and exposed the organization of the Knights of the Golden Circle.—The Nashville Union Club of five hundred members have adopted anti-slavery resolutions.—The Press of last Friday contains a list of six Pennsylvania and one New Jersey regiments, one of the former being composed of drafted men, mainly old Democrats, all of whom have sent copies of their names to the War Department in support of the government and the war.—Saint Louis, April 24.—Governor Gamble has called four regiments of militia into active service from this district for thirty days, in consequence of the extensive kidnapping of negroes in this vicinity recently.—Both Houses of the New York Legislature have passed Judge Dean's Gold bill, limiting corporations in their loans of gold or exchange to par of currency.—Boston, April 23.—Thomas Sims, a fugitive slave, who was returned from New Jersey, some years since, arrived back to-day, having escaped from the rebels at Vicksburg.

Foreign.—England.—About the same time with the seizure of the rebel gunboat Alexandria, recently launched at the Arsenal of London, Japan or Virginia sailed from Greenock;—the efforts of the British government to prevent her departure were dilatory as usual. It is asserted that Mr. Dudley, American consul at Liverpool, who discovered the character of the Virginia from a letter to her captain, was returned from Liverpool, some years since, arrived back to-day, having escaped from the rebels at Vicksburg.

Poland.—By advices to the 6th, the insurgents were active and successful in every direction, and it is reported that the entire Russian army had been placed on a war footing, and that Cronstadt had been placed in a state of defence. The London Times announces that dispatches on the Polish question were simultaneously sent to St. Petersburg on the 10th, from London, Paris and Vienna. They contained friendly terms, and clearing up an intelligible warning to Europe, St. Petersburg April 12th.—An Imperial manifesto has been issued, granting a full and entire amnesty to all the Poles in the Kingdom and entire Western Provinces, who lay down their arms, and return to their homes, by the 15th of May. Those charged with the ordinary crimes and military offenses are exempted from the operations of the pardon. The manifesto announces that the institutions which have been granted to Poland shall be maintained, and after a practical experience, shall be developed according to the necessities of the age and the country.

Later War News.

Good news has been received from General Banks. At last accounts two expeditions, one from Baton Rouge (probably) and the other from New Orleans, had moved triumphantly westward nearly to Opelousas, fighting some hard battles, and clearing the country by capture or pursuit of rebel forces, who also destroyed two gunboats and the captured U.S. boat Diana, with immense stores of provisions and ammunition. On the night of the 17th inst., Gen. Banks had reposed Vermillionville, 15 miles south of Opelousas, after a hard fight at Vermillion Bayou, where the rebels had posted batteries and infantry, but they were driven from them, after a hard fight, with considerable loss on both sides.

On the lower line of operations, towards Franklin and New Iberia, there were battles at Irish Bend and Bethel Place, on the 13th and 14th. At the latter place, the rebels left numbers of their dead unburied, and evidences were plenty of bloody work in their ranks. Large stores of ammunition some Enfield rifles, and other arms, were captured. This expedition was above New Iberia on the 16th. Over 1600 prisoners had been taken, many of them arming both. The feet were of the rebel fortifications at Gate La Rose, an important point. At Cape Girardeau, Mo., the rebels attacked Gen. McNeill, last Sabbath morning, but were repulsed. April 27.—A despatch from Colonel Pomeroy, dated Cape Girardeau, 10 A. M., says:—"The enemy are moving fast, and Gen. McNeill is

starting in pursuit. There is no doubt that Gen. Vandever will strike him to-day."

Cairo, April 27.—The latest advices from Cape Girardeau state that fifty or sixty rebels were killed in the attack of yesterday, and over two hundred wounded. Seventy-five horses were also killed.

Marriages.

On April 15th, by the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D.D., Mr. John Root to Miss Isabella Harrison.

In Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 23d inst., by the Rev. Albert Brown, David E. Marshall, Esq., of Blackwood, N. J., to Miss Rosa G. Roberts, daughter of the late Henry S. Burton, Philadelphia.

A. S. Stocks, Etc.

CORRECTED WEEKLY BY WORK, MCCOUGH & CO., BANKERS, No. 36 S. Third Street.

United States 7 1/2% Treasury Notes, 100 @ 105 1/2; 5% 1861 Coupons, 100 @ 105 1/2; 6% 1862 " " 100 @ 105 1/2; 7% " " 100 @ 105 1/2; Gold and Silver, 100 @ 105 1/2.

Special Notices.

General Assembly.—The Committee of Arrangements for the General Assembly, to be held at the City of Philadelphia, on Thursday, 2d of May, next, have the honor to inform you that the following Resolutions, on that day to be read: 1st, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 2d, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 3d, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 4th, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 5th, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 6th, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 7th, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 8th, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 9th, That the Resolutions of the General Assembly, on the 2d of May, next, be read: 10th, That the 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