The American Presbyterian

GENESEE EVANGELIST.

A RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER

IN THE INTEREST OF THE Constitutional Presbyterian Church.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, AT THE PRESBYTERIAN HOUSE. 1334 Chestnut Street, (2d Story,) Philadelphia. Rev. JOHN W. MEARS, Editor and Publisher

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THE ARMENIAN CONVERTS IN CON-STANTINOPLE.

The Evangelical Germans profess to take a very great interest in the Protestant Armenians in Turkey. We quoted from the New Evang. Kirchenzeitung, the organ of the Evangelical Alliance in Berlin a year or more ago, passages in which the management of the Constantinople mission of the American Board was severely criticised, and the schism of the church at Pera ascribed to the want of a thorough system of church government on the field. The disaffected church, with its plainly a first necessity with these pastor, Eutugian, it was then expected Armenians to find in some other evanwould be taken under the charge of gelical body the support they require. the German churches, furnished by The retrenchments which the Mission them with a Presbyterian form of and especially its educational departgovernment and sustained financially. Recently, the same organ has contained of our war, but strengthen this necesan article on the same subject, suggested by two publications just issued have been leading the Armenians to from the press of Berlin; one from the look for sympathy to Germany. Pastor pen of the chaplain to the Prussian Eutugian has been among the Chris-Embassy in Constantinople, Rev. C. N. Pishon; the other by Pastor C. P. Pfeiffer who has had the charge of the education of the Armenian youths who came to Berlin with pastor Eutugian . some two years nyo. The object of both the volumes, says the Kirchenzeitung, is the same, to show the necessity which exists that the Evangelical Christians of Germany should be foremost in the support, the spiritual training and development of the Protestant Armenian communities in Turkey.

The Kirchenzeitung in its further notice of the books, proceeds to give an account of the mission of the American Board among the Armenians, from the commencement, in which the most cordial appreciation of the labors and successes of the missionaries is shown. The account concludes as follows:

At present the community [of Protestant Armenians] may number nine thousand souls, which are ministered to by twenty-seven native preachers, thirty-five Armenian missionaries, sixty-one teachers and about thirty colporteurs; there are nearly fifty formally organized churches (with 117 schools, containing over 3000 scholars.) Eight or nine of these churches are found in Constantinople alone: [the American Board reports but three;] aside from this natural centre of the entire organism of the new community, the distinction seems to belong to the church at Aintab in Northern Syria, which has a very large number of members and sustains prosperous missions in many

of the surrounding neighborhoods. The article then proceeds to comcondition of the converts, and to give of exhibiting their own superior abilities of war, these very things may be, even that now is the accepted time. state of things. Chaplain Pischon is of our war is only another reason for inquoted as casting doubt upon the utility of the selection of English authors all this with the refined Christian feeling But suppose we are not now to reap are tolk, thirteen rose for prayer; and responsible position, the services of new settlements.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1864. PHILADELPHIA.

translated and employed as Text books amongst Armenians, such as Bunyan, Whately, Upham, Abercrombie, Wayland, Doddridge and D'Aubigne; draws unfavorable contrasts between schools of the missionaries and those established for Roman Catholic Armenians, close at hand, in Venice, Padua, Vienna, and Paris. Chaplain Pischon accuses the in communities formed on heathen ground. He says: 'The Puritan mode of worship, and the isolation and independency of the churches are distasteful to many Armenians, who have embraced the essential doctrines of the Gospel in all their clearness and who have made a decisive open profession of their faith. Moreover, the prospect lumes, octavo, now in its second edition, held out in the beginning of the misecclesiastical affairs was never realized. The native pastors found themselves frequently in a position of dependence on the missionary often very irksome to themselves, and, influenced by the danger of losing the support of the Mission, they prepared to abandon any direct connection with it, and to form an independent organization. A degree of friction must unavoidably attend such a movement; but in the lapse of time all may again be made good.'

Pastor Pfeiffer mentions a number of circumstances by which the eyes of the Protestant Armenians have been opened to see the poverty and barrenness of the American mode of worship, not to mention the doubts raised as to the appropriateness of the independent form of government to the state of things in Turkey, and the national character of the Armenians. The Armenian Protestants regard themselves as the true church of Gregory the "Illuminator," and cannot and will not yield to Congregationalists in America the right to lead them. Complaint is made that in the conduct of the mission, worthy and tried men among the pastors who have withstood persecution, are not invited even as guests to the councils held in reference to their own churches.

The Kirchenzeitung remarks that it is ments have undergone in consequence sity for foreign aid. Various causes tians of Germany seeking to interest them in the enterprise of erecting a church edifice for the Pera community, of more than one thousand souls. Meanwhile the church worships in the chapel of the Prussian embassy at Constantinople. Germany is the nearest of all Protestant countries to Turkey; coming half-amazed and confounded her ecclesiastical system, bearing so strongly the general impress of Lutheranism, is best fitted to serve as the training school of a church seeking an evangelical reformation, and not the destruction of its ancient forms and constitution. We have laid before our readers the substance of the article from the Kirchenzeitung. The following remarks upon the whole subject may be appropriate.

1. The Protestant Armenians have found a very slow set of friends among the plethoric Germans. Three years ago, substantially the same appeals were made for the Pera church, and the thalers are not forthcoming yet.

2. German evangelical Christians are treating the American Board with most unchristian discourtesy. They have judged in a quarrel between this great and honored Institution, whose good if Sherman does take Mobile, and Kilworks they cannot but acknowledge patrick does clear out Richmond, we and proclaim aloud the wrongs of the only bring away Jeff Davis and Mem. more marked than at present. A goodterference! In what marked contrast is thrills us as we write.

Great Britain!

Board are giving some alarming indi- mies, and consent to the dismemberment eations of instability. Energy, zeal, of our beloved country? Shall we give supposed to be two or three hundred: devotion, courage, prayer, well-ap- over the half of it to the control of and the work still goes on. pointed machinery at home and ably thieves and traitors, as a reward for planned missions abroad, with schools, their unparalelled treachery and baseprinting-presses, favor with the people, ness? Shall we fall down flat, despised missionaries of a certain narrowness of revivals and conversions—all these and and contemned, before the nations of view as exhibited in their attempts to many other element of success have the earth? Shall we let all the patriot enforce their own church arrangements been enjoyed by the Board, and great blood which has already been spilt go prosperity has attended many of its for nothing? Shall we suffer the most missions. But these things do not ensurepermanence. Connected with loose views, or indifference, on the subject of church government; or with a certain reserve, which discourages a hearty, prayerful, and earnest attention to the subject, from root to branch, as it deserves, the work of the missionary will be transient, will yield readily bethe price of which is \$6, for FOUR NEW SUB- sion, that by degrees the Armenian fore internal dissension, or outward proselytism or national fluctuations. Pure independency among missionary chuches, is such a palpable source of weakness, that we do not think it any where is inculcated; though by negligence, it may be the actual state of things in some cases. But the missionaries of a Board which combines two or more denominations, with diverse views on church government, naturally and without the intended or the felt exercise of authority on the subject, allow questions of church government to drift into the background; and the consequence is that the mission churches of this Board probably exhibit the most meagre and defective system of church government to be found upon any of the mission fields of the great societies of christendom. Only a couple of years ago, after thirty or forty years of missionary effort, a system approaching completeness was inaugurated on the Sandwich Islands, and that is the one solitary instance in the whole, world- quitt of the pagan. It is an able and wide field of the Board; after the lapse timely discourse, proving by impregnaof more than a half-a-century!

tural whole. Independency is a perilous experiment among old-established Christian communities; let the warmer. closer grasp of Presbytery, or of the best developed Congregationalism be thrown around the young converts. from the dense darkness of heathen to the marvellous light of the Gospel.

FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPON-

HOW WE FEEL.

Our city has been much excited for the last few days in regard to public affairs; saddened by the reverse in Fiorida. anxious because of the return of Smith's cavalry to Vicksburg, and yet elated, so far, by the movements of Kilpatrick and Sherman. We have rejoiced in the evidences of activity, both East and West, furnished by their early movements. We have hoped that our military leaders were stealing a march on the enemy, and might strike a stunning and perhaps final blow right between the eyes of the rebellion before they were prepared to ward it off. And

which the American missionaries have exhibited in the cordial co-operation of any such signal advantage. Suppose and among the young ladies of the which were cheerfully and gratuitously. Yours fraternally,

the Turkish Mission's Aid Society of Sherman and Kilpatrick both fail in the Ingham Female University, some twenpresent movements. What then? Shall ty or thirty are inquiring what they 3. The missions of the American we give it up? Shall we recall our ar- shall do to be saved. malignant foe which we could then "to its utmost capacity," it is estimated bave on all the face of the earth, to lie all along our Southern border, to provoke us to perpetual and relentless warfare, with no visible line to separate us or propitiate a peace between us? We hear no such response from the bold and free sons of western New York. Such failures would neither appal them nor change one iota their firm resolve. These would be but ripples breaking upon the solid rock. We should accept the only alternative, and that is renewed exertion still more earnest and determined fighting. We must conquer or be the hissing and the by-word of all the earth; conquer though it may take twenty years

> and a whole generation of men to do it. This is not the news of the churches. but this is the prevailing sentiment of this region, and it may encourage and comfort the faithful in other parts of the land to know that our pulse is still steady, our step even, and our eye to whom this esteemed brother is so riveted to the goal. All our reverses have their uses, while they make no difference as to the nature or certainty of the grand end at which we aim-one country, one people, one destiny, and one God over all, blessed forever.

A STRONG SERMON.

We refer to that preached last spring by Rev. Prof. Shedd, now of the Theological Seminary at New York, on the ble grauments that the heathen have The Hawaiian race is rapidly dwind, some first God and of right and wrong, ling away, and the Sandwich Island but to not live according to the light Mission will perhaps, in the lapse of a they have, and are therefore without generation or two, be blotted from the excuse, and in a state of utter condemrecords of the Board. By all odds, the nation and ruin. This is the foundation most interesting and important mission for missions. "Unless the guilt of the paof the Board at this time, is that to the | gan," as Dr. Shedd remarks in his Armenians. Let the Board be admon-lopening sentence, "can be proved, the ished by the symptoms of disorganiza- missionary enterprises of the Christian tion for some time exhibited at Con- church, from the days of the Apostles to stantinople, of the necessity of an the present time, have all been a waste element of permanence and a means of of labor." But he does prove the guilt promoting homogenity to be found in of the pagan beyond all controversy. a thorough, comprehensive, and tried "Men are condemned already previous system of church government; and let to redemption, by the law written on it there and everywhere instruct and their hearts; by their natural convicencourage the missionaries to organize tions of moral truth; by natural relithe entire Christian community into a gion, whose truths and dictates they sympathizing, well-ordered and serip- have failed to put in practice." Hence, "nothing but revealed religion can save him [the pagan] from an eternity of sin and woe," and hence, also the duty to go into all the world and preach the

gospel to every creature.

These are great truths, uttered in language most forcible and convincing. We sincerely thank Dr. Shedd for the utterance. And we notice with pleasure, that the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions have printed the sermon, by the author's consent, in the form of a missionary tract, and are scattering it broad-cast through the land. It will do great good. Many there are, otherwise well informed, who do not more than half believe that the heathen are really guilty; they only think of them as unfortunate, and trust that somehow or other their case will not be a very bad one in the end. But if they are really on account of failing health, he was reguilty, they need the Gospel; and we lieved of his charge. He was long a trust that all who read this sermon will director of the American Bible Society. be more ready than ever before to send and several years ago rendered valuait to them.

REVIVALS. We continue to hear delightful news ters. For some time the special influ- Fund of the United States. ences of the spirit have been manifest

In Corning, the number of converts is

PERSONAL.

Mr. J. B. Gough, whom we recently introduced to our readers, as a young man of promise, is evidently becoming very popular in this region. After the Hall in Utica, in which he was to speak, was filled, and crammed, and jammed that near a thousand people were turned by it. away from the door, unable even to get their noses inside. We see no other alternative, but that Mr. Gough must manage to lose some of his popularity, or we must build larger halls in all our principal cities for his accomodation.

Many will be glad to learn that Rev. Mr. Ellinwood, of the Central Church in this city, who was much unwell for a considerable part of the Winter, has so far recovered as to resume his accustomed labors. He has now preached for three Sabbaths, and has been gaining all the time, so much so, that he already seems stronger and better than he has for a whole year before. This, after his being laid aside for two months, will be very gratifying intelligence we know, not only to his particular friends, and his own church, but to a great many others, in other parts of the land, well and so favorably known. His church is a model of kindness to their minister. They have desired he should have all the rest he needed, and they have been quite willing to take care of themselves in the meantime; but they are now very glad also to see him back in his accustomed place, and to hear the good word of life from his lips.

Rochester, March 4, 1864.

ALLENTOWN CHURCH.

The people of the Presbyterian congregation of Allentown, have subscribed between four and five thousand dollars for the purpose of liquidating their entire debt. This debt was originally contracted for important improvements upon the church property, and has, for me years, been a source of perplexity special grace of God will be so imparted thus bestowed.

KOLAPOOR MISSION.

In addition to the recent acknowledgment of funds received for the Kalapoor Mission, we add from

The Sabbath School of Buttonwood St. Presbyterian Church, per D. K. Ludwig, Treas., \$50.

DEATH OF REV. J. W. McLANE, D. D.

We regret to announce the death of Rev. James Woods McLane, D. D., of than those of any other Book concern Williamsburgh, N. Y., which took place with which I am acquainted. Your at his residence, after a long and severe | Sunday School Hymn Book is just the illness, on Friday, Feb. 26th.

Dr. McLane was born in Charlotteville, North Carolina, May 22, 1815. In 1845 he received a call to the First Presbyterian Church in Williamsburgh, where he remained as pastor until December, 1863, when, at his own request ble service in correcting and preparing the present standard edition of the Bible published by that society. He was of religious quickening in various quar- also Secretary of the Church Erection

In this capacity he has rendered and magnify, and one of its mission shall swing our hats, we shall burn some in the Presbyterian Church at Mt. Mor- signal service for the last eight years, is not some luxury in giving poor minischurches; and without any attempt at powder, we shall exchange peculiar ris, under the faithful labors of Rev. or ever since the completion of the ters at the West something in the form explanation, they hasten to take the congratulations with our neighbors, on Levi Parsons, Jr., the pastor; and the fund. He took a lively interest in its hospitable families and their bright-eyed recreant church under their patronage, the streets; and then if Kilpatrick will indications of divine favor were never management, and his annual reports children, and to put into Mission Sunday were marvellously detailed and accu- Schools. church, the gross errors and faults of minger and Benjamin and a few such ly number of the young people have rate. His presence on the floor of the day Schools is drawing on, and your The article then proceeds to comment upon the present unfavorable the Board and the fine chance presented
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ment upon the bate and in contact with the brethren School publications, I trust, to be orbefore our letter is in print, almost In Livy also, there is more than thrills us as we write.

Link now is the acceptance of that now is the acceptance of will not soon be forgotten. It will be dered by our Presbyteries; some and difficult to all his place.

Ten or more papers sent by mail to one church or locality, or in the city to one address.

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Ministers and Ministers' Widows supplied at clubrates. Home missionaries at \$1 per annum. POSTAGE.—Five cents quarterly in advance, to be paid by subscribers at the office of de-

> rendered by Dr. McLane. He leaves the Fund in a highly prosperous condition, and doubtless with his accounts in such order that a successor will find no difficulty in resuming them at the point of interruption. Dr. McLane was an occasional contributor to the col-

TERMS. By mail, \$2.00 per annum, in advance.

By carrier, 50 cents additional for delivery! CLTES.

umns of the American Presbyterian. Thus again the grave opens and closes over the form of a fellow-laborer in the work of the gospel, and another admonition of our frailty and of the limits of our opportunities is administered to the survivors. May we profit

FROM IOWA.

From one of our Iowa laborers, to whom donation of books and tracts was sent by our Publication Committee, the Secretary has received the following letter:

Iowa City, Feb. 15, 1864. On my return this day (Monday) from a communion service, yesterday, thirteen miles west of town, to which and from which I walked and "caught rides" as well as I could, I sat down, for the first time, to peruse that capital book 'Our Laymen, by a Layman." The little church to which I went as a volunteer, has no laymen left: but I heard of one in the neighborhood from the North Church in Buffalo, N. Y., whom I mean to see and secure for the work of blessing a few Presbyterian women and their families, who, for the want of itineracy in our Presbytery, have not had the Lord's Supper for five years before. Nor is it my fault. I cannot do everything at my own charges. I have the last year served three churches, embracing four preaching places, and introduced two ministers into them, and am now introducing a third; when I shall be free to look after these lost

sheep in the wilderness.

But to return to "Our Laymen." You may well imagine my joy at reading the work of such a "Layman," after having labored at the West over fifteen years; often, as last Sabbath, without any layman to assist at communion; having, as yesterday, to ask the assistance of a good Methodist Class Leader, in the administration of the elements. Oh! how little do the "Laymen" at the East know how we have to work without lay help at the West. Do let them rejoice to work while they can; so that, if ever they should find places out here for themselves and their children they may have the harness on and work on and work ever. I cannot think of any respect in which the precious little book, "Our Laymen," could be improved, save in adding that "Our Laymen" should and embarrassment. They also, a few West. They often live here "out doors," months since, raised and paid three to use the expression of one of my parhundred dollars for repairs in and about the house of worship, and for the benefit of the Sunday school: so that the fit of the Sunday school; so that the with no church of their choice, grubbing secular affairs of the society are now about their acres of prairie like Bunyan's in quite a prosperous condition, and old man with his "muck rake," gathergood hopes are entertained that the ing "a few straws." True, they must be "diligent in business," at the far West, to make a new world from the te the people, that spiritual blessings wild prairie. But if only they would be will not fall below the temporal favors "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord," the wilderness would bud and blossom like the rose.

I thank you for the gift of so many copies of "Our Laymen," which I will scatter about in our feeble churches, as precious seed to be found after many days. I thank you also for your gift of a Sunday School Library and other vol-umes. Little do wealthy "Laymen" at the East know the good they are doing when they give such volumes as you have sent for distribution and introduction into our needy churches and Sunday Schools. They are better printbook for out-stations where we cannot always have the Church Psalmist. I carried a bundle with me in my hand, going on foot, and I found them a great help in such small communities, where we can seldom find two hymn books alike, and where it is too early in the progress of things to introduce a book so large as our Church Psalmist.

It really amazes us out here, dear brother, to see the indifference of our eastern ministers and laymen on the subject of supplying the West with good books, especially that portion of it which our church occupies. Let such read the chapter on being "more denominational—not sectarian," and that also on "Christian benevolence," as portrayed by the author of "Our Laymen," and then open their ears to appeals from these out-posts of our church, and see if there of good books, to leave behind with