

## Correspondence.

## FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

A CONTRAST.

We have in this State a noble charity, the Idiot Asylum, located at Syracuse. The superintendent, Dr. Wilbur, is a man eminently qualified to have charge of just such an institution, intelligent, ingenious, patient, and persevering. But it is not for absolute idiots, as many seem to suppose, that this institution was founded; but for children who are of so low a grade of mind as to be excluded from other schools. It is not intended for adults at all, nor for the mere care of poor unfortunate youth, but for the education of such as are capable of making some improvement, especially so far as to be able to engage in some of the humble employments of life, and so take care of themselves.

Many that were entirely without education, and mainly without the use of their faculties, helpless, a burden to themselves and to their friends, by this patient process of training become in a measure useful to society, and a comfort to themselves. And although they are still of a low grade of mind, and able, it may be, only to do a little farm work, or house work, it is a great thing accomplished. The number of children now enjoying the advantages of this institution is about one hundred and thirty—the amount expended annually by the State in the support of the institution, is about twenty thousand dollars. We notice a proposition now before the Legislature to make the appropriation for this year, twenty-one thousand, which is all, doubtless, very well. We do not object to the expense. We admire the idea and the administration of the Idiot Asylum.

But now for the contrast. The American Board of Missions are expending, as may be seen by their Annual Reports, from seven to nine thousand dollars a year in the support of the *Micronesian Mission*. There are four or five missionaries from this country, and six or eight Hawaiians from the Sandwich Islands, who constitute that mission. The latter are supported, in part at least, by the Sandwich Island churches, making the entire cost of the mission, perhaps, twelve or fifteen thousand dollars. Upon the islands of Micronesia there are about one hundred thousand inhabitants, naturally a bright, active, and ingenious people. They are divided into four or five different groups, speaking as many distinct tongues. They had ten years ago no written language, no books, no schools, no just ideas of God, of righteousness, of a Saviour, or of eternity. The missionaries in this brief period have reduced four of their languages to writing, have prepared books, established schools, taught many hundreds, probably thousands, of them to read and write, have preached the gospel, have gathered some converts, established Christian churches, given them portions of the Holy Scriptures translated in their own tongues, and thus laid the foundations for the civilization and Christianization of this whole people, and already those remote islanders are manifesting great readiness to receive instruction. They are getting some of the arts of civilized life. There are acute minds among them. They give promise of an interesting future.

And yet there are many who, make no objection to the liberal support of the Idiot Asylum, that think it a great waste of money to send missionaries to Micronesia. It is well enough to pay twenty thousand dollars a year to give only the feeblest sort of an education to one hundred and thirty idiots; but to pay ten or twelve thousand dollars a year to send the gospel, and civilization, and every blessing of earth and heaven, to one hundred thousand fellow-beings in possession of their full faculties, capable of enjoying all, and of keeping the inheritance forever!—"that is quite another thing." So say we. And there are words of perfect wisdom quite applicable to the case—"These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

## NEW YORK STATE SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

A large pamphlet, of one hundred and forty-two pages, giving the "Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Convention of the New York State Sunday School Teachers' Association," has lain for some weeks upon our table, deserving an earlier and fuller notice. The pamphlet itself is a monument to the energy and industry of E. T. Huntington, Esq., the State Secretary of the Association. It must have required much time and patient

toil to obtain a compilo such a mass of facts and incidents, illustrating the value of Sunday schools, and the extent to which in state their blessings are now enjoyed. It must required an immense amount of correspondence to bring these facts together.

There are sixty countries in the State. Reports, were obtained from some portions at least of every one of them. And out of 914 towns, 694 were heard from, 43 more than in the previous year. Total number of Sunday schools in the State, 4,395; total of teachers and scholars 557,988; number of conversions for the year in fifty-five counties 8,812; being an increase of 2,500 over the number reported in the previous year.

But the pamphlet is not a mere mass of day statistics, but a summary of the proceedings of that exceedingly interesting and enthusiastic meeting of the association held in Troy last summer, with an abstract of speeches and anecdotes with which the deliberations of that gathering were so stirred and delighted. It is a readable document, as well as instructive and quickening. It ought to be in the hands of every Sunday school teacher in the State. No one could read it carefully without getting wisdom from its pages, and much help for the delightful work of guiding young minds in the way of Christian knowledge and experience.

## REVIVAL IN EAST BLOOMFIELD.

A delightful quickening has been at work for some time in the interesting and able parish of the Presbyterian church in East Bloomfield. The pastor, Rev. L. Conklin, has been aided some by Rev. Dr. Kendall, of New York, who was formally settled over this church by Rev. F. Starr, Jr., of Penn Yan. There has been no great or sudden movement, but a silent, progressive work of some weeks' duration, which has greatly cheered the hearts of pastor and people. It is hoped that some fifty or more have passed from death unto life.

## CHURCH IN ELMIRA BURNED.

Since writing the above, we get the news of a sad and disastrous fire in Elmira. The new church edifice, just erected by the 1st Presbyterian Society, in which the Sanitary Fair of the Southern Tier of Counties was being held, took fire at 6 o'clock on Friday evening, and in a short time was entirely consumed, together with its valuable contents. It is even feared that some of the visitors in attendance upon the fair were caught by the devouring element. The church cost \$35,000; insured for ten or twelve thousand.

Further particulars not yet received; but this is enough to show that the disaster is a most serious one. The loss of valuable articles must be great; and it would seem as though it must necessarily break up the fair. And besides the loss of twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars to the Society, whose new house of worship is thus laid in ruins, there must be a very inconvenient and uncomfortable delay before another can take its place. The Society, however, is strong, and they have an able and energetic pastor, in the person of Rev. Dr. Curtis, formerly of Adrian, Mich.; and will not, we are sure, suffer themselves to feel at all discouraged or seriously embarrassed. Another building, as good as that whose fair proportions have so suddenly vanished, we doubt not, will soon take the place of those unsightly ruins. But the church will have much sympathy in its temporary loss.

## GENESEE.

Rochester, March 18th, 1864.

## FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, March 5th, 1864.

There is just now a pause in events and we are waiting for the results of silent diplomacy, which is busily working underground, but must soon give the history of its movements to the open day. Galicia has been declared by Austria to be in a state of siege; the avowed reason being the condition of affairs in Poland, and for a day or two the impression has been gaining ground, that this indicates a secret understanding between Russia and the great German Powers—in other words another Holy Alliance of Despotism to put down and crush out freedom in Europe. This has altered our prospects in England since I last wrote: for it is felt that we cannot see such a confederacy let loose upon the Continent without interfering. In France the public feeling is even stronger, and a spirit is rising which will soon break out into irresistible flame. The *entente cordiale* between us and France is not perfect, and the Emperor hangs back from united action because our present ministry has proved itself so untrustworthy and

vacillating in its diplomatic projects and arrangements. But the inevitable force of circumstances is driving the two governments together, and I should not be surprised if within the next fortnight—especially if the Germans gain any successes—you hear of most important movements. One thing may come between—I mean the dissolution, which in the present condition and temper of the House of Commons may occur any moment. But gradually and surely the current of opinion in this country is verging towards something more than diplomatic obfuscation. Those peaceful articles in the *Times*, which is quite a tool of certain persons, have merely been to gain time, but now the *Morning Post* which, as you know, has the credit of being "inspired" by Lord Palmerston himself, has come out with a warlike article declaring that dark days are impending—and that now the great battle of liberal principles against despotic powers is to be fought out, and the knights are to be the kingdoms of Europe. I know that the people of America have looked upon England with more than suspicion that she favored the intolerant doctrines of the Continental Monarchies, and that they have been ready to form of Russia a higher opinion and with her a closer union, because her civil expressions of sympathy went to their hearts; but I am certain that, should you see us in conjunction with the great, free, civilized powers engaged in the defence and propagation of liberal policies, you will believe better that, with all our conduct in regard to the American war, and all our diplomatic vagaries, we are not in the degraded and declining state in which your analysis of our public sentiment is apt to place us, but are at heart and indeed true to Christianity, and Freedom, and Progress. Almost a countryman of both countries, I desire to draw the attention of American friends to this opinion.

## DEATH OF SIR WILLIAM BROWN.

I ought to mention here, that it may be published through the medium of your widely-circulating columns, the death of Sir WILLIAM BROWN, a man as well known perhaps in America, as in England and known everywhere with honor. The energy, the industry, the talent and probity which signal belong to his family, and of which you have now living in America distinguished specimens, were singularly exemplified in the deceased baronet. His liberality and the pride that he took in acts of improvement and charity, will secure for him a long remembrance in the mind and heart of posterity. Such a life and death as his give us a higher idea of humanity.

## THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Mr. Jowett is creating quite a disturbance again at Oxford. He holds the Greek Professorship, to which is attached the income of £40 a year. The government has the appointment and placed him there in 1855. He has since then published some of his heretical books. Now, a few "advanced liberals in politics and theology" have proposed to pass a statute of the University giving Mr. Jowett £360 a year additional out of the University coffers. Most orthodox people object to his being in the professorship at all, and this is not the first excitement he has occasioned, but the conservatives are strongly moved in the matter, and many of the professors at Oxford have issued a circular condemning the proposed statute and urging opposition to it. "How is it possible," they ask, "for Mr. Jowett with his avowed opinions and as one of the chief contributors to 'Essays and Reviews' to discharge his duty?" Well may they ask. But how is it possible, we may ask, to make him do his duty? The church sees her own difficulty but cannot get over it.

The following circular has been issued during the week, and is an important fact in the passing history of the decline and fall of the Church of England:

The Committee appointed, at a meeting held in Oxford, on Thursday, Feb. 25, 1864, have drawn up the following Declaration, which is in course of circulation among the clergy:

"We, the undersigned presbyters and deacons, in holy orders of the Church of England and Ireland, hold it to be our bounden duty to the Church of England and Ireland, and to the souls of men, to declare our firm belief that the Church of England and Ireland, in common with the whole Catholic Church, maintains without reserve or qualification the inspiration and Divine authority of the whole canonical Scriptures, as not only containing but being the Word of God, and further teaches, in the words of our blessed Lord, that the "punishment" of the "cursed" equally with the "life" of the "righteous" is everlasting;"

\* Homily on Information for them which take offence at certain places of Holy Scripture. Pp. 236-244. (4to. Edit.)  
† Art. vi., vii., viii., xvii., xx., xxi., xxiv., xxvi., xxviii., xxxiv., xxxvii.  
‡ Athanas. Creed, Litany; Catechism, Communion, Burial Service.  
§ Matthew xxv. 41-46.

Signatures to be sent to the Secretary, Committee-room, 3, St. Aldgate's Oxford.

## NAMES OF COMMITTEE.

C. C. Clarke, D. D., Archdeacon of Oxford.  
R. L. Cotton, D. D., Provost of Worcester College.  
G. A. Denison, M. A. Archdeacon of Taunton.  
W. R. Fremantle, M. A., Rector of Claydon.  
F. K. Leighton, D. D., Warden of All Souls' College.  
J. C. Miller, D. D., St. Martin's Birmingham.  
E. B. Pusey, D. D., Regius Professor of Hebrew.

In Scotland or America, men retaining these opinions, and assured by solemn ecclesiastical and juridical determination that they were not correct in the "firm belief" would retire from the Church. We shall see whether they do more than make this weak exhibition.

## OTHER ITEMS.

THE BROWNLEY BEQUEST turns out to be more than at first stated, and is somewhere between £35,000 and £40,000. It is all to go to the College, though it was left to four trustees, of whom Dr. Hamilton is one, to use as they like. The Doctor has written to the *Weekly Review*, to say that it will all be required for the original purpose.

Another important Presbyterian meeting is announced for Tuesday week, March 15th, at St. James' Hall, at which Earl Dalhousie is to preside. This meeting is under the auspices of the English Presbyterian Church, and on behalf of their Church Extension scheme. So, you will see, Presbyterianism is not torpid here. Energy is reviving, and we are determined on progress.

Professor OWEN, who is one of the few that unite the man of science and the Christian, recently gave a lecture to the Young Men's Christian Association, on "The Power of God in his Animal Creation." What is the disgust of the Evangelical public, to find that contemptible paper, "The British Standard," (?) ruthlessly imputing "Sadduceism," "Infidelity," and so on to the good professor, and calling him a "bone-grubber," a "scientific chifionier." Verily, some of our professedly Christian sheets are our shame and disgrace; and the worst of them come from the sanctified radicals, who call themselves "Independents!"

ADELPHOS.

## THE MISSION AT KOLAPOOR.

Rev. R. G. Wilder writes as follows, under date of January 25th, 1864, to the Committee in charge of the Kolapoor Mission, India:

DEAR BRETHREN,—With this I send you our accounts for another year, which I trust you will find intelligible and satisfactory. You will notice the generous donations of our India friends and thank God with us on their behalf. The amount they have given to help us in our work, viz., Rs. 1585,15,0, is even greater than it was last year.

The avails of "Mission Schools in India," (Rs. 196,00,) and the Rs. 45 received for vernacular tracts and books sold, are both gratifying items to us.

Our balance in hand, viz., Rs. 624, 6s, is reduced very low. Our expenses now, while building our chapel, are fully Rs. 600 a month, and we have already given orders on Dr. Campbell for \$1168.30 which are not credited in this account because not yet realized.

We again find ourselves able to credit half our house rent, viz., Rs. 300.00 to the Mission, which, with last year's interest, makes a little "permanent fund" of Rs. 618.00.

We have heard nothing more of the "Legacy of \$1000," but hope it may have been paid to our agent by this time, less the income tax, which we grudge not to our noble government, in her life and death struggle with that gigantic rebellion.

We have had much that is trying and discouraging in our work the past year, and yet we have much reason to thank God for the measure of blessing He has bestowed. Three adults have been added to our little church by profession, and our preaching and schools are pretty well attended. The foundations of our chapel are now laid, and we propose to prosecute the work so long as the Lord sends us means to do so. But a brief printed report will follow this as soon as ready and give details.

We have a trial in the continued lameness and failing health of our little boy, (Willie, five years old,) and have become so anxious about him that dear wife has taken him to Bombay for medical help. She left on the 22th inst, with Willie and the two younger children. She has to travel to Poona 150 miles, in an ox-garry or cart, at about twelve miles a day. I hope she is in Poona by this time, but am not yet able to hear. It has been hard to let her go off alone on such a journey, but I could not go without suspending all our Mission work, leaving our little flock among these heathens without a shepherd, and delaying our much needed

chapel a whole year. May the Lord accept us in this act and bless means for the restoration of the dear child. Let us share your prayers for ourselves and our Mission. In the service of the Gospel, yours sincerely,

R. G. WILDER.

P. S. The pirate "Alabama" is off the coast south of Bombay, having destroyed the American ship "Emma Jane."

## HELP FOR THE CHEROKEES.

We are allowed to publish the following letter from the Rev. S. B. Treat, of Boston, to Wm. B. Staples, Esq. It shows that the appeal of the Cherokees for charity has the approbation of the American Board, by whose agency the nation received civilization and Christianity:

MISSION HOUSE BOSTON, Feb. 26, 1864.

Dear Sir:—Yours, of the 20th, I have duly received, with the Appeal of Mr. Ross. I am happy to say our next Herald will contain a notice of this appeal. The attention of your friends will be called to the subject of affording relief to the suffering Cherokees. If you see Mr. Ross, please to apprise him of our readiness to aid him in this matter. At the same time assure him of my kindest regards.

In January, 1848, I had a conversation with him, at his house, on the injury which slavery was inflicting upon his people. We agreed perfectly in respect to this matter; and we also agreed in not seeing how deliverance was to come. It has come, at length, in a manner that neither of us could have imagined.

Very respectfully yours,

S. B. TREAT.

J. W. Staples, Esq.

## A PRESBYTERIAN FAIR.

The Ladies of the First Presbyterian Church of Manayunk intend to open a Fair, for the sale of useful and fancy articles, in the Temperance Hall, in Manayunk, on Easter Monday, March 28— to continue throughout the week. Indispensable repairs and improvements in their Church building induce them to make this effort; and as the work will involve an outlay of about \$3,000, we hope that our friends in the city will encourage the effort as far as possible.

Steam cars leave 9th and Green Sts. frequently through the day; and horse cars run, via Ridge Avenue, every 20 minutes. The Hall is near both the car depots in Manayunk.

THE PASTOR.

## Editorial Items.

## THE GOVERNMENT DETERMINED.

The manifest purpose of the government, including its legislative branch, is to bring the war to a close by the campaign now about to open. They are determined to throw into it such an accumulation of energy, resources and skill as will provide against any failure which might result from want of either. Gen. Grant, the incarnation of Western energy and the most successful military leader since the wars of Napoleon, has been placed at the head of the army, and a vast army is being summoned into the field by offers of bounty and by the promise of a draft; a half a million of men was called for, some months ago, and as there was a possible deficiency of numbers, even with this immense reinforcement, for carrying out the decisive measures contemplated by the administration—to make assurance doubly sure, two hundred thousand more are asked from the people. Nearly three quarters of a million of fresh men, many of whom are experienced in warfare, will thus be added to the immense forces already in the service. The advantages enjoyed by the rebels in the shorter lines of communication and facilities for a more rapid concentration of troops, will be overcome by the decided numerical superiority of the national forces, and a reserve will be at hand to reinforce such parts of the army as may be in critical circumstances; neither of these important points seem hitherto to have received proper attention from the authorities. We have allowed ourselves to be outnumbered as recently as at the battle of Olustee; and the victory of Gettysburg, resembling Waterloo in many respects, would according to Mr. Everett, have been a rout of Lee's army as complete as that of Napoleon, "if on the evening of the third day, Gen. Meade, like the Duke of Wellington, had had a powerful auxiliary army to take up the pursuit."

Our people should receive these late measures of the government, including its call for two hundred thousand more men, as indications of a purpose, conceived upon a survey of the entire position, to put forth, without reserve, whatsoever degree of energy is necessary to the immediate suppression of the rebellion. The grandest marshalling of military forces yet made, is now in rapid progress; the already exceedingly formidable navy is receiving constant accessions; ordnance of a calibre exceeding even the monster guns already tried are going through the last stages of

preparation; armies are being reorganized and placed under tried commanders, and with the blessing of God, which may the more confidently be expected when men diligently use the means already placed in their hands, the coming Summer will see the rebellion reeling under even heavier blows than those inflicted last summer; while the assailed Republic comes forth secure from the final perils of the conflict.

Let us brace ourselves for the final shock with the determination which newly animates our Government. Let us cordially second its great purposes. Let us once more respond to its calls for men and money, and above all, let us pray most earnestly that the war may this summer culminate in overwhelming victory.

## "ABOUNDING IN THIS GRACE ALSO."

The Trustees of Green Hill Church, on Girard Avenue, in this city, have added the liberal sum of \$700, to the salary of the pastor, Rev. F. L. Robbins, an addition warranted by the increased income of the church. It will be remembered that a large sum has recently been expended by this enterprising people, in liquidating the debt, in beautifying the interior of the building and in purchasing a bell. None of our congregations have recently given more abundant evidence of growth in the grace of liberality than this. The not unusual attendant of liberality—an encouraging degree of spiritual interest—is also reported as prevailing.

## AN INTERESTING COMMUNION.

The Sacramental occasion on the 20th inst., in the Third Presbyterian Church in this city, was one of unusual interest. The body of the church was completely filled with communicants, among whom were a score or more, who came from other altars, to their former spiritual home; a beloved member of the church was dying; and fourteen persons, including an old man of seventy-six years, were admitted by profession of faith. The pastor, who had spent much of the day in the chamber of death, was affected deeply, and the Holy Spirit was sensibly present, in the impressive concurrence of circumstances.

## "THANKFUL FOR SMALL FAVORS."

Under the above heading the *Watchman and Reflector*, justly shows the absurdity of claiming, as "liberal" papers do, that the evangelical ministry is compromising with error, or changing their position in regard to teachers of opposing systems of faith, because Rev. Dr. Worcester of Salem, preached recently in a Universalist pulpit. As if, from the ministry of Christ till now, his ambassadors had not been ready to declare his truth anywhere, when there was hope of doing good. It is quite another thing to exchange pulpits, and thus wipe out vital distinctions in matters of religion.

## PAPERS FOR THE ARMY.

On account of the steady advance in prices of material and labor, we shall be obliged on the 1st of April, to cut off a number of copies of the paper sent gratuitously to Chaplains in the army. The means generously contributed to supply others, will also be almost entirely exhausted at that time. Those who are desirous of assisting in keeping up this supply, will please send in their contributions without delay.

Those who desire to send papers through the Christian Commission will indicate it in their contributions.

## REMOVAL OF REV. T. S. JOHNSON.

Rev. Thos. S. Johnson, late of the Mantua Church, in this city, has accepted a call to the English Speaking German Reformed Church, of Lebanon, Pa., late Rev. H. Harbaugh's. We regret to part with our friend and fellow-laborer, and cordially wish him success in his new field.

Mr. W. E. BAXTER, M. P., whose address in favor of Presbyterian Union is referred to in another part of this paper, is a Congregationalist. He takes ground in favor of Presbyterian Union, against Mr. Adam Black, also an "M. P.," who had expressed his views at the late meeting of the Congregational Union. Mr. Black expressed his fear of the political power which would be wielded by the United Presbyterian bodies. Mr. Baxter was prepared to welcome Presbyterian Union, as a great triumph to the cause of non-conformity.

CAPT. SPEKE, the distinguished explorer of the Nile, offers 100£ towards the expenses of a missionary to the Wahuma Kingdom on the upper waters of that river. Missionary Societies may receive valuable hints from a letter of this gallant Captain, published in the *Christian Work* for March, in which important points for missionary operations are indicated and great interest in the work of missions and the suppression of the slave-trade expressed.