RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER, IN THE INTEREST OF THE Constitutional Presbyterian Church.

AND

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

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HOW THE WORLD MOVES.

"The world moves!" The most inveterate conservatism, under the heats and frosts of the centuries, yields at last Even the glacier, though with imperceptible motion, slides slowly down toward green fields and smiling valleys, and if it lived to curse, dies to bless. And so it is in the moral world. A false position cannot be maintained forever. Time and Providence will carry it at last against all odds.

It is now just two generations since the Established Church of Scotland resolved to shut out the southern sunbeams that visited her northern winter of moderatism. She forbade, by ecclesiastical statute, the admission of any minister outside the pale of her communion-not licensed by a Scottish Presbytery-into any of her pulpits. Rowland Hill and Simeon, of Cambridge, with their evangelism, threatened to create a stir in Scotland. They sowed the seed that ripened into Thompsons and Haldanes. They had done it at Glasgow and Paisley, and to thronging multitudes on Calton Hill. This was too much for the "moderates" to endure, and so they excluded from ministerial communion the very men whom the church needed most.

That was a dark day for the Scottish Church. The act followed close upon measures which branded the project of missions to the heathen as fanatic. Hamilton, of Gladsmuir, and the celebrated Dr. Carlyle, of Inveresk, distinguished themselves-infamously-by ridiculing overtures which looked toward the carrying into action the last great command of the Redcemer, to disciple all nations. It only needed the added exhibition of isolation and illiberality which the new statute afforded, to warrant Hetherington's description of the Establishment, as "swathing itself up in thick cerements as if to indulge in a long and dignified repose, like a lifeless yet life-like embalmed Egyptian monarch in his hieroglyph-encrusted sarcophagus." It is true, as he says, that there was still "an active life around it, and even a disturbed vitality within the oppressed heart of its own torpid opponents steadily advancing toward lection of valuable philosophical appaframe." But these were too feeble to rouse it to vigorous Christian activity. and it was more than forty years before the sarcophagus was rent, and the Free Church of Scotland issued forth, leaving behind it apparently only dust and -cerements. It might have seemed that, after the disruption, the Established Church would | to confess that " we move with it," that have sunk back for another century to the dignified repose of a second dynasty of moderation. But if the evangelical element had been powerful within the church, it did not lose power or influence by marching forth before the world, to plant itself untrammeled on its own platform, or fight under its own banners. Its example was not lost. Its leaven, though in feeble measure left behind it, wasstill at work. Another atmosphere. more vigorous and bracing, was abroad, and it was felt in kirk and manse. The Free Church had become free indeed, but it had let the world see it dash off its golden chains, and even Jeffrey applauding the act of Chalmers and his associates, said, "I am proud of my country."* Moderation itself could not regard with indifference what had kindled the cold critic of the Edinburgh Review to enthusiasm. The Establishdown the sunless forest and let in the nificance.] light of day. spread the feeling of popular dissatisfaction, and at length, at the last meeting of the Assembly in May, the act which



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reached \$650.

The collection taken in North Broad

LETTER FROM REV. WM. FITHIAN.

[The following letter refers to the

action of Chariton Presbytery taken

April 7th, and published in our columns

at the request of the stated clerk of the

MISSISSIPPI RIVER STEAMER, June 11, 1864.

REV. EDITOR MEARS-Dear Bro. : On

Presbytery, April 28th.7

PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1864.

THE SIMULTANEOUS PUBLICATION for sixty-five years had disgraced the churches, and has gathered influence cause of Foreign Missions would not be records of the Establishment, was rewhich he can pervert to the advantage COLLECTION. in such a position of deep prospective pealed. embarrassment.

of his own denomination. 2. The hearty loyalty of Philadelphia

3. Several of the Presbyterian church

es have been made vacant and in their

present destitution of pastors, strong

hopes are indulged that their people

4. The whole-hearted hospitality of

Philadelphia to New England soldiers,

through its Volunteer Refreshment Sa-

loons and its hospitals, has generated

feelings of sympathy and kindness to-

wards New England, and New England

men, and these sympathies may be used

This is certainly a step in the right direction. It places the church on the old ground which it occupied, when Samuel Davies secured its sympathy and church collections for Princeton College. True, there is room for a Storrs and Thompson among us, has led to their invitation to deliver patri-

ism

further advance. But it is something to. record such a sign of the times. There is a lesson for us also in the them an influence which can be subordiinfluence exerted by the Free Church nated to sectarian propagandism. upon the residuary elements of the Establishment, and one which finds other significant parallels.

One of these is discerned in the Protestant Reformation. For centuries may be proselyted to Congregational before Luther there were restless elements in the Romish Church, demanding its purification. There were eloquent voices loudly and bravely raised to reprove and rebuke corruption. Not Wickliffe, Huss and Jerome only-men like Gerson and Clemengis, and some of those whose votes doomed the Bohemian martyr to the stake, insisted upon to conciliate favour for Congregationreformation. It was all in vain. A alism. dreary century rolled by, and the realization of the long-cherished hope was still deferred. But Luther lifted high the Protestant standard, and millions ranged themselves beneath it.

What then? Was Rome at peace? Was she simply delivered from the troublous elements? Far from it. Within her own communion, reform began in earnest. For centuries she had never had popes so free from scandal. She was forced into outward decency under pain of irretrievable infamy. If the question is asked, why the Protestant Reformation paused at a certain stage of its progress, a part of the answer must be that Rome seriously began to put off her most obnoxious vices. She had learned from her enemy, and to that lesson she owed her reform-her partial reform-that adjourned her doom. It is with no thought of reviving old issues, or making invidious comparisons -which we utterly disclaim-that we point to another illustration of reactionary influence. The portion of the Presbyterian Church in this country The above collection was appointed,

as we have already informed our readers. giving 7500 majority for the Governfor last Sabbath. But as many of the Street Church in this city, for the Board, churches may not have found it conveni ment, while New York city gave 30,000 some weeks ago, we are informed, ent to take it up at that time, we give against it, has induced a kind feeling towards Henry Ward Beecher and Drs. the letter of the Publication Committee

to the churches, to keep them in mind of their duty. TO THE SESSIONS OF OUR CHURCHES. otic lectures in Philadelphia, and given

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 10, 1804. DEAR BRETHREN :--- The late General

Assembly (at Dayton) determined that on the Fourth Sabbath of the present month, a simultaneous Collection should be made to secure the \$50,000 which it

had been previously resolved should be duty away down in the lower regions raised as a Business Capital for our Presof rebeldom, scarcely ever these days byterian Publication Committee. We do I see your paper, and can be but poorly posted in what is being published trust that it will be necessary only to call in the States up North. An Illinois your attention to the matter, to secure friend kindly informs me that a comyour kind offices in carrying the recommunication from Chariton Presbytery mendation of the Assembly into effect. in Iowa, appeared in your paper a few In some of the churches the appeal has weeks since, purporting to set forth that already been met, and \$30,000 of the \$50,000 secured. A similar response myself, or one of my name, had been from the congregations that have not yet thereby lately suspended or deposed

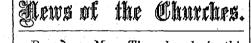
contributed their proportion to this from the Gospel ministry! And some, Special Fund will complete the effort, by that publication, I am told, are and place our Publication Cause on a misled to apprehend that Wm. Fithian, safe foundation for extended usefulness. of New Jersey nativity, New York Whilst this work is growing in favor pastorate, and now of Illinois residence with the Denomination, those to whose and U. S. service, doth really stand care it is committed have increasing suspended from the functions of the evidence both of the call for its existence Gospel ministry !

and the demands for an enlargement of Please, therefore, as a matter of simits ability to give currency to the truth. | ple justice, let those under that appre-There is before it an open door. We hension be disabused by the corrective earnestly ask you to make, in concert publication of this note. For by the with your brethren in other places, a grace of God I am guiltless of offence. special effort to attain the proposed re- and am not a member, nor ever was, of esult, and thus to give to our Church Chariton Presbytery, nor have I so

the satisfaction of success in an object so much as seen Iowa for these two and a half years. Moreover, providentially desirable and feasible. If each congrega-I have in my possession, as well as on tion does its part, the whole will be done. May we not expect that your Church public file, an official certificate of my own ecclesiastical membership and good will contribute its fair proportion of the standing; and also enjoy the signal \$50,000?

protection and favor of the Lord in the Should it be impracticable to take up important and gratefully acknowledged the subject at the time named by the Assembly, we hope that the earliest time services I am now rendering. will be assigned to it at which it can re-I remain very truly yours,

- WILLIAM FITHIAN.



TERMS

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Sabbath, April 10, 1864, regular services in this hall. On the 23d of April last, Mr. Winters was received as a member of the New School Presbytery of Northern Missouri. At the same time, on application of thirty of its members, his church was restored to its original connection with the same Presbytery. The Sabbath school convenes in the same hall every Sabbath morning, and numbers already seventy pupils. A weekly prayer meeting is held on every Thurs-day evening at private houses. Palmyra has a population of 2000 or 2500, about 30 business houses, a superior courthouse, a banking building, two incorporated colleges, each having a male and female department. Previous to the war two female seminaries were in successful operation. It is sixteen miles northwest of Hannibal, at the junction of the Hannibal and St. Joseph, and the Palmyra and Quincy railways. It is surrounded by an unusually fertile and well cultivated country.

NEW CHURCHES IN MISSOURI .--- The same number of the Reporter informs us that at the meeting of the Presbytery of Northern Missouri, above-mentioned, committees were appointed to organize a church in Hannibal and in Canton each. Of the latter undertaking, the following report is given:

Rev. W. Dunlap and Rev. J. A. Darab, the committee appointed by the Presbytery of Northern Missouri to organize a church at Canton, visited that place for the purpose, the fourth Sab-bath in May last. The church was organized with nine members; four males and five females. Two excellent brethren, being chosen by the church were ordained and set apart to the office of Ruling Elders. They elected Trustees and expect immediately to purchase a lot and house of worship. The prospect of growth and success is very encoura-

REV. L. P. CRAWFORD, of Sandwich Ill., writes to the Reporter that the church there has paid all its indebtedness but a balance of interest. Also that at a recent communion, eleven persons were received by profession and one by certificate. He also says:

The church of Somonauk has met with a windfall, in the gift by the railcoad of a piece of ground, which relieves them very much of the debt by which hey have been embarrassed.

The people of his two charges have resented him with \$120.

MINISTERIAL 'ITEMS .- Rev. R. H. Williamson, late of Fond du Lac, Wis., has accepted a call from the church at istrations of Rev. D. K. Eddy, has given him a call for settlement. His installation was expected to take place on the 4th of May.——Rev. Wm. M. Kain has taken charge of the church in Weston, late of Durham, has accepted a call to the church at Angelica, N. Y., where his letters should be directed in future. Mr. B. had received three friendly calls enburgh has resigned his pastorate of the church of Oak's Corners, N. Y., and accepted a call to the First Congrega-THE SIXTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. (Island,) of Washington City, have extended a unanimous call to the Rev. Geo. H. Smyth, of New York, to become their pastor. Mr. Smyth is a graduate of the University of New York, and has just closed his course of theological studies in the Seminary at Princeton, New Jersey. The call will probably be accepted. THE FIRST CHURCH OF LAWRENCE, in connection with the Presbytery of Kansas, was duly organized on Wednesday, the 8th of June. A Lawrence paper says :--- "Two very desirable lots on Kentucky Street have been purchased, and a building for religious worship is to be erected at once upon one of these lots. Some of the material is already on the ground. The church mentioned is the first and only church ever organized in direct connection with the Kansas Presbytery in this city. At a meeting held in the Unitarian house last Wednesday afternooon, the roll of church membership embraced twentynine names of those who had applied to become members and were received. A session was constituted by the election of five elders, all of whom had been previously ordained to the office in the Presbyterian Church. The meeting was one of peculiar interest and harmony.'

5. It so happened just at this time in our city that one minister had a church without a denomination, and another a church, but himself rejected by existing denominations, and by sweeping these into the fold, a show could be made for

ceive suitable attention.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN W. DULLES, Secretary.

ALBERT BARNES, Chairman.

the interests of Congregationalism. 6. The absorption of the public mind in the great conflict of the country, and the bleeding sympathies of all hearts for our suffering soldiers, had to such an extent, blunted denominational feeling and promoted the spirit of union, that shrewd and far-seeing sectarians could avail themselves of the spirit of charity to push in their own denomination.

PHILADELPHIA, June 27, 1864.

A NEW OHUROH ENTERPRISE.

There is located on Seventeenth St. north of Columbia Avenue, a building of huge dimensions, known to few comparatively of our citizens, designed and constructed in all its parts, by its benevolent founder, with a view to the Hoping for your hearty co-operation, advancement of science, and known as which claims to stand on old constitu-"the Wagner Institute." The upper tional ground, has not lost influence by part of this large edifice (160 feet in

*Lord Jeffrey was sitting reading in his quiot room, when one burst upon him raying; "Well, what do you think of it? More than four hundred of them are actually out." The book was flung aside, and springing to his lest, Lord Jeffrey exclaimed; "I'm proud of my country! There's not another country upon earth where such a deed could have been dono."-Wayland's - Chaimers:

occupying a position independent of the elements, with which it was formerly associated. If, by its continued and distinct existence it has vindicated the principles of its platform, it has seen its itself. There are few of them to-day who will question the revolutionary ing there are rooms, some eight character of the acts, by which the in number, of convenient size for the Four Synods were exscinded, and a presbytery ecclesiastically annihilated without trial; and the unanimity is every day becoming more perfect. "The world moves," and free as we are

as a denomination we too have learned some important lessons, we will not deny ourselves the satisfaction of feeling, what experience justifies us in asserting, that we have lived also to teach others.

THE MYSTERY SOLVED.

sent.

The attention of one of our corres pondents has been attracted by the following passage in the "Appeal" to the Congregationalists of Philadelphia, published in the Independent a week or two before the recent sectarian demonstrations in our city.

"There are circumstances which designate this as the opportunity which we have only to improve that we may plant our cause on sure foundations. We are at not liberty at present to state what these all are; the statement might tend to overthrow. There are reputed charms which a word may break.⁵ He sends us several reasons, explanament soon began to feel that it must tory of the nature of these "reputed conform to the age. It must speak a charms," which, if we do not greatly more modern dialect. It must put new mistake, will do the work of an Ithurwindows into its castle. It must cut iel's spear, in exposing their dark sig-

MR. EDITOR-Dear Sir: I submit to the Establ shment doubtless tended to ing the "opportunity" spoken of in that document, as now existing for planting Congregationalism in our city.

> profession for a secular calling, who has bers may be largely increased. allied himself with one of our leading [

length) is occupied as a vast museum with numerous alcoves in which are

arranged and classified an almost endless variety of specimens in mineralogy and natural history, with a large colratus. On the lower floor of the builduse of professors and for recitations, &c., besides a large Lecture room capable of seating about one thousand persons. Professor Wagner having kindly grant. fore, the receipts of the Board for the ed the use of this large audience room, for the purpose of religious worship, ac- should average nearly seventy thouscordingly last Sabbath afternoon a series and dollars a month, debt is inevitable. of services was inaugurated by Rev. Dr. Brainerd, in a sermon of rare beauty and power, from the impressive words thousand dollars.

Such an unfortunate result would do of our Lord, "take heed how ye hear." mischief to the cause in many ways. It Although the day was oppressively would not only discourage the missionwarm, a numerous audience was prearies abroad and the friends of the cause

at home, but would disconcert all In his exordium, he commended in plans of operation for the coming year. fitting terms the benevolence of the Attention would be called off from the scientific gentleman who had so generforeign field by the effort required for ously granted the use of his building for cancelling an unprecedented amount o the high and holy purposes in which we debt; and the interests of the cause were then engaged. At the same time would languish for months, and perhaps he took occasion, in chaste and eloquent years, to the remotest portion of the language, to pay a noble and just tribute to science confirming the highest field.

It behoves our churches solemnly to forms of truth as presented in the inspired word. There never could be any consider their present measure of redisagreement in the most advanced state sponsibility to this great cause. However they might prefer other methods of science with revealed religion. On the contrary, the development of the of action, the American Board is our one, as a sequence was the advancechosen agent; and while it is so, should ment of the other. receive our cordial support. Beloved

He regarded the present movement brethren of our connection are in the as eminently hopeful and promising, and demanded by the increase of popuin their far-off homes, from our inadelation in the neighborhood, with which quate contributions. Let not their

A year ago its attention was drawn your judgment the following reasons, he was quite familiar, having himself re- hearts, be grieved, or even broken, and to the odious and illiberal statute of hinted at in the recent appeal to Phila- sided in it for a number of years. At their work be brought to a stand-still 1799. Dr. Guthrie's recent correspond- delphia Congregationalists, published in the close of the services he announced through our neglect. Many, very many ence with one of the best members of the Independent, and probably constitut- that the Rev. J. S. Willis was expected churches, we regret to say, are reported to preach there next Sabbath. as omitting, from year to year, to take

It may be proper to state in connec- any collection for Foreign Missions. tion with this movement that a flourish. Some congregations, of great wealth, 1. There happens to be settled in ing Sabbath school of more than one contribute surprisingly small amounts. Philadelphia at this time, a man who is hundred and fifty scholars is in opera- Others, who may be regarded as having either a broken-down Congregationalist tion on Columbia Avenue, and only done well, undoubtedly can do a great minister, or who has abandoned the needs more room in order that its num- deal better. Certainly there has been

PALMYRA, MO.-The church in this place was identified with our body until FINANCES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD 1859, when it was carried, by a pro-Our readers will notice, by a stateslavery pastor, to the "Old School." ment published in another column, that After this pastor left, Rev. F. A. Shearer, up to the last of May there had been no of Iowa, a loyal and anti-slavery man, considerable improvement in the finanwas for a short time in charge, but was was for a short time in charge, but was Mo., having commenced his labors there compelled to leave by the power of the first of last May.——Rev. E. Boing, ces of the AMERICAN BOARD, while, on the other hand, the extraordinary and disloyal opinion in 1861. Latterly, Rev. unforeseen advance in the rates of for-James R. Winters, also a Union man, eign exchange had made the situation has been the pastor, but in March of this year the disloyalists rallied in their from his people in Durham, during the strength, elected two elders, ousted a year at the last of which he was pre-loval elder and received endorsement sented with \$126.----Rev. W. J. Stoutstill more embarrassing. Unless, thereremaining months of the financial year loyal elder, and received endorsement from the Presbytery which met in that city March 31. The main facts in the At the present rate of income, that debt case have already been given in our tional Church of Allen's Grove, Wis. will not fall short of one hundred columns of May 5th. We quote from

the Presbytery Reporter :

The Moderator of this meeting of the Presbytery was Rev. John Leighton, of Hannibal, the very man who deserted the New School and took this Palmyra church over to the Old School in 1859. The Clerk was Rev. A. P. Forman, also of Hannibal, who in 1862 was enrolled as disloyal. Another man was Rev. John Travis, of Monroe county, who once assisted in secreting some bushwhackers, and then coolly told the Federal commander that no such men were on the premises. (Fortunately the rebels were immediately found and brought from their hiding place.) This Travis was also present at a caucus which planned and ordered the immediate hanging of one of his Union elders, whose only crime was fidelity to his Government. Nothing but the providential escape of this elder prevented the consummation of this horrid crime. These, with others of similar proclivities, constituted the majority of the Presbytery. With a few exceptions this disloyal Presbytery refused to take employ of the Board, and are suffering, the oath prescribed by General Rosecrans-thus still more clearly defining their status. To remove Mr. Winters from the church, to weaken and destroy his influence, and to break down the

loyal congregation of Palmyra was now the grand object. . . The final results were that Mr. Winters asked and received a letter to the New School Presbytery of Northern Missouri; his own house of worship was denied him-he being peremptorily refused its use for fulfilling his appointments already made. The disloyalists thus holding the church by the power of numbers, the Union

portion engaged Concert Hall, where preach in the German language, can they now worship. Taking with them hear of an interesting and important very great dereliction of duty somewhere the organ harmonium, which was pri- field by addressing the Alton Editor of J. S. C. or in this time of our abundance the vate property-they commenced on this magazine.-Presbytery Reporter.

Accessions in Newark, N. J.-The Evangelist of June 23d, says: Quite large additions on profession, doubtless fruits of the late revival, were received into two of our Newark churches on Sabbath last. Thirty-four were received into the Second Church, Dr. Few Smith's, and nineteen into the High Street Church, Rev. Dr. Poor's.

A MINISTER in our church, who can