

Religious Intelligence.

Presbyterian.

Denominational Growth.—The last issue of the Presbyterian of this city has the following editorial notice, which breathes a fraternal and appreciative Christian spirit.

The advance of the New-school Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia is constant, and, we believe, wisely conducted. A new church building is going up for the Olivet Church, in the neighborhood of Mount Vernon and Twenty-second streets.

We wish we could chronicle a similar activity in the Old-school branch of the Church. No new enterprises that we have heard of are in contemplation in either of the Presbyteries of the city.

Call Accepted.—Mr. James M. Stevenson, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Troy, New York, and a member of the last graduating class at Princeton, has accepted a unanimous call to the Second Presbyterian Church of Jersey City.

Father Chiniquy.—The Rev. Mr. Chiniquy, who is now in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, is on a visit to Philadelphia, with the view of awakening an interest in the missionary work among the French Romanists in Illinois.

A New Church Edifice.—The General Presbyterian Church, on Gates Avenue, corner Hunter Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., was formally dedicated to the worship of God on Sabbath, June 19th, under circumstances of peculiar interest.

The Vaudois Synod, Switzerland.—The letter of the Italian correspondent of the Evangelical Christianism contains an interesting outline of the proceedings at the Annual Synod of the Church of the Vaudois at their principal town of La Tour. It was opened by a special religious service, at which Pastor Meille, of Turin, discoursed eloquently on the parable of the talents.

Canada Presbyterian Church.—The Synod of Canada, held its annual meeting at Toronto, the third week in June. The report on the state of religion was full and encouraging, indicating an increase of church members and attendance on prayer meetings; also the general observance of family worship.

Dutch Reformed.—The Classes of Holland and Wisconsin, in carrying out the plan to support a new mission in South Africa, on the 24th of June laid the keel of a ship of 300 tons, at Holland, Mich., for the conveyance of missionary families, &c. The vessel will visit New York, en route to South Africa.

Congregational.

General Convention of Vermont.—The Vermont Chronicle in the report of the late meeting of this body says: "There are times when it is more to hold our own, than at others to make large advances. And the aggregate results of our labors the past year will suggest the query if this may not have been the case during that period. So much, indeed, is not all that should be desired and sought, but there is a measure of relief in the thought that, if we have not made a large gain, we have suffered no loss, made a large more or less to be reported that will cheer and quicken, but the summation of the whole will leave us nearly where we were at the beginning of the year. The whole number of churches is 152: Of these 38 are destitute, 70 have pastors, and 85 stated supplies. The additions have been 496 by profession, and 243 by letter,—a total of 739. There have been removed 689; 424 by death, 240 by dismission, and 25 by exclusion. 214 children have been baptized, and 253 adults."

Ecclesiastical Change.—The parish of the Epiphany, in Cincinnati, heretofore of the Episcopal order, with Rev. B. K. Maltby as rector, which was recently organized into an independent congregation, has received official recognition by the Congregational communion. Rev. Mr. Maltby received and accepted a call to become their pastor, and since installed as such.

The Salem (Mass.) Register says:—"The 28th day of the present month of June will be the thirty-first anniversary of the settlement of Rev. Daniel Fitz, D. D., as pastor of the South Congregational church in Ipswich. Dr. Fitz was settled (June 28, 1826,) colleague with Rev. Joseph Dana, D. D., who was more than sixty-two years pastor of the same church, and who died in November, 1827. It will thus be perceived that the pastorate of these two ministers will complete a century of service, should Dr. Fitz remain in the ministry one year longer in that parish. Another remarkable fact is, that a female member of the parish has been connected with it during the whole of Dr. Dana's and Mr. Fitz's ministry: She is now in her 102d year."

Baptist.

Pittsburg Baptists, Campbellism and Mormonism.—We clip the two following items from the N. Y. Chronicle:

Pittsburg, the Metropolis of Western Pennsylvania, is one of the most thriving as well as loyal cities in the land. Here Campbellism had its birth, in connection with the Redstone Association. Alexander Campbell was originally of the hard shell Baptist school. In a sermon, preached in 1810, which was printed, he takes the ground of the Supralapsarism. Soon after we find him in the lowest depths of Arminianism, with the dogma of baptismal regeneration added.

In 1822, or thereabouts, Campbellism made its first assault on the then first Baptist church of Pittsburg. The church at the time numbered 115 members, and was the only Baptist church in the city. Ninety, including the pastor, the somewhat noted Sid-

ney Rigdon, embraced the new faith and became followers of Mr. Campbell. They also claimed and held the house of worship—a frame building, on the same ground where now stands the first Baptist meeting house. Sidney Rigdon went from bad to worse. After a few years' service in the reformation, he became a Mormon. Indeed, Rigdon, rather than Jos. Smith, may claim to be its founder. Mr. Rigdon lived near and was intimate with Mr. Stiles, who was foreman for a publisher of the name of Patterson. There was, moreover, a Mr. Spaulding, a Presbyterian minister, residing at Conneaut in Ohio. Mr. Spaulding wrote what he called a religious novel, after the style of the Bible, and put it into Mr. Patterson's hands for publication. Mr. Patterson places it in the hands of Mr. Stiles, to read and decide whether it would pay to publish it. Mr. Stiles intrusts the reading to Rigdon. He has the facts, while reading it, "I have I small book in hand."

Subsequently Mr. Stiles died, and also Mr. Spaulding. Mr. Patterson in the meantime lost sight of the book until called upon from her home on horse-back to inquire concerning her husband's book. It could not be found. Soon after, Rigdon goes to the State of New York, falling in with Jos. Smith, who claimed to have found certain plates. Smith interprets, and Rigdon plays amanuensis. The result was the so-called Mormon Bible. The Bible thus published was the novel written by Spaulding, with a few alterations made by Rigdon. That Mormon Bible is the Spaulding novel has been verified by Mrs. Spaulding and others, who had read it before it came into the hands of Mr. Patterson.—Leaving the Fold.

The Watchman and Reflector mentions three Baptist ministers who have lately turned (or rather have lately come out) Episcopalians, viz. Rev. G. Howell, Jr., of Newton; Rev. P. H. Steensma, of North Dorchester; and Rev. J. W. Bonham, of Woonsocket. Mr. Bonham announces his change in a letter to the Woonsocket Patriot, with pathetic expressions of regret at separating from the Baptists. We think he may as well say all that; it is altogether best that every man should go to "his own place." He avers that he shall continue to preach the same old doctrines as before, but he does not say that he shall continue to administer the ordinances "as they were delivered."

However, if he and the others can preach any better for having a "regular" Bishop's hand laid upon their heads, by all means their heads should be subjected to the "imposition."

The above from the Christian Secretary, may be counted a little caustic on Rev. Mr. Bondam, who had earned a "good degree" as a faithful evangelical preacher. It is noteworthy of two of the men named in this record that one, Mr. B., is an Englishman, Mr. Steensma a German. Both were educated, consequently, under an ecclesiastical regime quite foreign to Baptist polity. It is further to be noted that Mr. Howell began his subsidence from us by an appeal from the standards of our churches as it respects the Communion Question. It will be seen how each fact here their bearing on the history of these men.—There are connected with the West New Jersey Association forty-three churches. These are all supplied with efficient pastors with few exceptions. The church at Beverly has become so reduced as to be unable to maintain a pastor, and the Tansboro' Church has only a nominal existence.

Methodist.

Rev. Dr. Bowman, President of Indiana Asbury University, who was elected chaplain of the United States Senate, in place of Dr. Sunderland, has been selected to accompany Bishop Doane on his official visit to the British Wesleyan Conference.

The Church South.—There is a decidedly lively view of matters in "Dixie" given by a correspondent of the Religious Telescope, in describing a visit to the Tennessee Conference of Southern Methodists:

"The Conference met in an old, unpainted frame church. Around the church, as I approached it, stood a few poor horses and well-worn buggies. I entered, and lo! there sat the venerable Bishop Soule, and gathered about him thirteen preachers! Three years ago, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred fiery rebel voices responded to the roll-call. Where are they now? South. Some officers and some chaplains in the rebel army, and others scattered, waiting for the return of Bragg's (now Johnston's) army. They have waited long and are waiting still, and Sherman's movements seem likely to postpone the day still further.

"As I was that day present, I was, as a matter of course, pretty closely questioned; but I told them I was from Dayton—that I knew Vallandigham like a book—had heard him speak many a time, and had often seen the marks made on his door when it was forced open to effect his arrest—and I was soon made welcome. In the afternoon, however, I took a note of a few things, and the moment I was discovered writing down a bitter remark made by the Bishop about Secretary Stanton, every eye was turned fiercely upon me, and I shall never forget those glances. My situation now became very unpleasant, but I sat it out, keeping an eye upon my fine horse, for I was a little afraid some bushwhacker in or about thought I was a neighbor of the celebrated Val. At about 5 p. m., the Conference closed. 'A short horse,' to use a modern classic phrase, 'is soon carried,' and I gladly galloped back to town. I will relate why I know this Conference to be a rebel, or a grey-back concern—

"1. The ministers were nearly all dressed in gray-back or butternut cloth. These colors are worn as a sign here, and for conscience' sake.

Episcopal.

Bishop Brownell, the Senior Bishop of the United States, has appointed Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, to go to Paris this summer, to consecrate the new Episcopal church recently built there by American citizens, with permission of the French Government. Dr. Morgan, rector of St. Thomas' church in N. Y. city, has been appointed by Bishop McIlvaine to preach the sermon.

The following declaration on the state of the country, by the Protestant Episcopal Convention of the diocese of Pennsylvania, was passed after a long and acrimonious debate—such as occasionally breaks out in a political Convention where party feeling runs high:

"Whereas, There exists in this country an

organized and armed rebellion, whose purpose is the destruction of our national Union and the perpetuation of negro slavery; and Whereas, This rebellion has more and more assumed a character of barbarous fanaticism and murderous ferocity on the part of the enemies of the nation; and therefore, in view of the causes and character of this struggle,

"Resolved, That we hereby declare our unflinching allegiance to the government of the United States, and that we pledge it our willing devotion and service, and that as a body of Christians, we will ever pray that in God's own time and way this rebellion may be put down; that oppression and slavery in all its forms may be done away; that freedom of body and mind, political and religious, may everywhere prevail; that the emancipated negroes, whom God in his providence committed to our care, may be the object of our liberal and Christian regard and instruction; &c.

Miscellaneous.

Roman Catholic.—The Right Reverend Bishop Timon, of Buffalo, has just received a restriction from Rome, dated the 19th of April, 1864, by which a concession to our aldermen, obtained from the sovereign pontiff in the Holy Week of 1850, and augmented subsequently in Rome, is now continued for ten years. By it all soldiers, sailors, and their families, in the service in the army of the United States are dispensed from abstinence all days of the year, except six, namely: the eve of Christmas, Ash Wednesday, the three last days of Lent, and the eve of the Assumption.

Universalist.—The Ambassador is credited by an exchange paper with the following:

"Our Unitarian neighbors are rapidly coming to be Universalists. A quarter of a century ago it was very rare for an American Unitarian to utter a word that could be construed in favor of the final salvation of all mankind. Some were understood to maintain the popular doctrine of endless punishment, some perhaps entertained the notion that 'the incorrigible' were finally to be annihilated, and others were eminently reticent with respect to the ultimate fate of the wicked. Dr. Channing, we think, never expressed himself clearly upon the subject, while Dr. Dewey was even more orthodox than the orthodox themselves. At the present time, the great body of Unitarians, we suppose, are avowed Universalists."

The Unitarian Christian Register, in publishing the fact that a minister had been excommunicated for moral delinquency, very justly remarks: "It is somewhat curious, in a denomination to cover up and conceal the sins of its members, thinking thus to save Christianity from discredit. The only real discredit to Christianity comes from such concealment. It was no disgrace to Christianity that Peter denied his master, and that Judas betrayed him; but if the Evangelist had attempted to hide these facts, the gospel would then have sustained a real injury."

Swedish.—The General Convention of the New Jerusalem Churches of the United States was held in New York, last week. Rev. Thomas Worcester, of Boston, delivered a striking discourse, in which he disclaimed that the religion he professed was known as the Swedenborgian, regard himself as the special custodian, or recipient of the New Church; and stated it as a most hopeful feature of their belief that the New Church, in its widest sense, is now descending from the heavens into the hearts and minds of men in all nations, and of all creeds, irrespective of ever having heard of Swedenborg or any humanly organized New Church.

Reverals.

The Evangelist contains the following.—A Summer Revival.—That a revival of religion should commence or continue through this season of the year, ought not to be considered a matter for special comment. And we are happy to believe that even the most fervent and demonstrative of our evangelical denominations is learning so to indoctrinate and educate its youth as to forestall the violent reactions which marked its early history. A local paper thus alludes to the present work of grace in one of the leading Methodist Churches of Lynn, Mass.:

"It has several interesting and somewhat remarkable features. It began and continues without extra services, as a season of the year when revivals are scarcely expected, and already includes among its subjects the greater portion of the Sabbath School, several of the officers and teachers, and many others who hitherto have had little interest in these things. The meetings are singularly free from excitement, crowds rising up dispassionately, and without urging, and going forward to be prayed for. At a class meeting held on Tuesday evening, expressly for the recent converts and seekers, some seventy-five were present."

The North-western Association (Vt.) reports seasons of interest at Fairfield and Enosburgh. The former church was spoken of last year as "seemingly to be given over to infidelity and Catholicism." This year, however, it has been graciously visited in connection with a meeting of Conference held there, and revived and strengthened by the addition of nine to its number on profession, seven of whom were heads of families. Others also remain to be gathered in. "And this work is the more noticeable as having taken place where there was no minister."

In Carlyle, Clinton Co., Ill., there has been a religious interest awakened, in answer to a prayer for about four months it has been steadily increasing. At our late communion twenty-three persons united with our church on profession of faith. Eight have since handed in their letters from other churches, and twenty more will unite on profession of faith.

The recent meeting of the New Jersey Baptist Association at Red Bank has been followed by a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Middlefield, reaps a blessing in his family and among his people—a blessing that had been long withheld.

Degrees Conferred.—The Western University of Pittsburg, Pa., has conferred the degree of D. D., upon Rev. Daniel March, pastor of Clinton Street Church, in this city.

The University of New York has conferred the degree of D. D., on Rev. Robert R. Booth, of Mercer Street Church in that city; also upon Rev. Wm. P. Breed, of West Spruce Street Church, Philadelphia.

East Whiteland.—The interesting ceremony of the ordination of two Elders took place at this church last Sabbath afternoon, in the presence of a large congregation. The sermon was preached by Rev. W. E. Moorp and the ordaining ceremony was performed by the pastor, Rev. John McLeod. The brethren ordained were Messrs. Wm. Briggs and Wm. Davis. This is an encouraging indication in the history of the church.

Rev. Dr. Morgan, of St. Thomas' Church, New York, has been appointed by Bishop Potter to preach the opening sermon in the American Episcopal Chapel in Paris, and leaves by the next steamer for Europe.

U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

Cash acknowledgments for the week ending June 29, 1864:

Table listing donations to the U.S. Christian Commission, including names like Philip Hinkle, A. H. Conner, John A. Brown, and amounts.

FOR GENERAL PURPOSES. Philada., Pa.—Rev. A. H. Barnes, (For Prisoners) 5 00

Special Fund 4816 66

WM. L. HILDEBURN, Treasurer.

PHILADELPHIA, July 14, 1864.

Table listing various church and society contributions, including Philadelphia, Pa.—Wm. L. Hildeburn, John A. Brown, and amounts.

FOR GENERAL PURPOSES. Philada., Pa.—Rev. A. H. Barnes, (For Prisoners) 5 00

Special Fund 4816 66

WM. L. HILDEBURN, Treasurer.

PHILADELPHIA, July 14, 1864.

Special Notices.

Attention, Army Tailors. We desire to call your special attention to one of the most valuable and saleable articles for the use of the army—a preparation of medicine that has stood the public test for more than twenty years, and has become familiar in every household. This article,

"PERRY DAVIS' VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER," needs no introduction, everybody knows it, the soldiers know it, and you have only to keep it to sell it. No remedy is more efficacious in curing diarrhoea, cramps, dysentery, colds, coughs, slight wounds or bruises, and many other ailments incidental to a soldier's life. It is light and convenient to carry, and can be resorted to on the march as well as in camp, without trouble. Being used both internally and externally, its value cannot be over estimated—in fact, the soldiers want it and must have it, and to keep such an article is the duty of every soldier.—Louisville Journal.

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Direct not him whose way himself will choose; 'Tis health and thou lackest, and that health thou'lt lose."

The bard of Avon was a philosopher, and we shall follow his advice by advising those who will be advised of us, to procure their clothing at GRANVILLE GROSS' Metropolitan Hall of Fashion, No. 603 Chestnut street.

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The next session will commence on MONDAY, September 13th.

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Jacob Bercholzow, 408 South Fourth street.

Dr. David G. Walton, 154 North Seventh street.

Robert Johnson, No. 214 North Fourth street.

William G. Flanagan, 1609 Locust street.

Right Rev. Thomas M. Clark, Providence, R. I.

Rev. Daniel March, 822 Pine street.