The American Presbyterian

# GENESEE EVANGELIST.

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.

#### LETTERS BY THE SEA.

CAPE ISLAND, August 11, 1864. Christian people certainly need admonition, if not severe reproof, upon the duty of honoring their profession amid the gay scenes of a fashionable watering place. Without binding them to the entire round of observances which we expect of them in the regular course of life, we may well require them to maintain their Christian character free from reproach or stain, and to resist the extravagant claims of the giddy and pleasure seeking world upon themselves and families. The ambition to shine, to exceed in the expensiveness of dress and living—a low and undignified, and yet very frequent accompaniment of wealth in America, and which seeks the watering place as its favorite theatreis one which Christian people should eschew as unworthy and sinful. They should enter into no such mad race with the worldling. The fashionable amusements in which mere pleasure-seekers are content to spend night after night; to which they look forward as almost the entire sum of their enjoyments, cannot, we think, consistently be patronized by the Christian; and scandalous is it to see Christian people manifesting the same fervid interest in these amuse ment as the worldly; devoting the same amount of time to dressing and preparing for them, and allowing them to rob them of the best hours for sleep; thus

We talk somewhat about martyrs now-a-days; and we consider it a mighty triumph of principle for a man to be willing to peril health and life for the cause of his country; but we shall find not a few martyrs got up cheaply, and without special sensation, at every fashionable gathering place of pleasureseekers. Peril and death are not faced more coolly by our volunteer soldiers, for the high principles of liberty and good government, than they are by feeble and delicate women, in their reckless pursuit of enjoyment; night after night, from nine o'clock until two. in the absurd performances of the heated ball-room. With their waists sacred time. Religion is too much regathered up to the space of a handbreadth or two-for the murderous little persisted in under unfavorable and by considering the state of the vast fashion of tight lacing seems coming into associations; too little appreciated as vogue again—shuffling and flying back the greatest of all joys and recreations. and forth, and up and down the length But enough of this for the present. of the hall for five mortal hours, losing the balmier portions of the night for sleep, they risk the loss of health, of all the solid enjoyments of life, and life itself, for what they call "pleasure:" They verily count not their lives dear unto them, that they may but catch some evanescent gleams of gay and fashionable enjoyment.

destroying the value of the season as a

time of recreation.

The comparison of fashion to Moloch is not new, but it gains terribly in truthfulness when we find children among the sacrifices to the remorseless deity. A "hop" is not considered complete, we believe, without one "sett," close around the station-house, as if the at least, of very young children, from six years old and upward, among the the noise and stir of modern life. Yet dancers; who go through the same ma- there is an air of peaceful order and cozy the opposite pole of the social sphere; nœuvres, and who are instructed in the comfort about their dwellings, and in same unseasonable and pernicious habits | the whole aspect of the town, that with their giddy seniors. It is a sad looks like content and enjoyment. sight to see these pretty puppets follow- Broad streets are laid out and planted ing the music with heel and toe, gazed with trees. Small farms of two to ten upon, admired, and criticised out of all or more acres, with the neatest of the freshness of their young lives, and Yankee frame dwelling houses, wellhardened thus early for a career of utter painted, with small barns, all in perfect worldliness and levity. After all, was order, have changed the rude bush-land it much worse for those heathen parents almost into a garden. Two neat frame to cast their children into the heated churches are in sight; the Presbytcrian, arms of the grim idol, who could only under the care of Rev. A. W. Loomis, kill their bodies, and after that had no being the largest and most tasteful. It more that he could do; while these so-lies far to the east of the road. called Christian parents sacrifice youth, freshness, modesty, taste for home affect the condition of an experiment to that of prosperity and peace compared with tions and solid enjoyments, unfit their of permanence and success. So we that of the South. Long ago the paper oughly under way, it seemed so perchildren for anything but a butterfly might judge from the large stone depot money of the rebels became almost feetly easy and natural, we could but life in this world, and imperil the happi- going up on the railroad. ness of their souls forever. The perverse direction of modern fashionable society seem to be advertised in the name is is seen in no sadder colors than in a extensively carried on or not, we cannot children's sett, dancing at 11 o'clock of say. One vineyard is pointed out from ness is merged into that of war; the green and bright again. a Saturday night, in the thronged saloons the road; but we imagine the main deof a Cape May hotel.

tainsy are, which represents the people delivered by tainsy are, which represents the spectal expression on many lips. expected, with many others, to see an Rev. Dr. Poor; and the charge to the night after night, and looked ferward to No speculation in the lands is allowed. night after night, and the come to work out their living by alike; at the North, with all our bick. It is worth more than that, in teaching aged man, almost superannated, but paster by Rev. Mr. Ford. as the only resource te-save the season All come to work out their living by alike; at the North, with all our bick.

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#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1864. PHILADELPHIA.

the crowning point of the young people's existence at the watering places. Cheerfulness, refined enjoyment, recreempty headed, frivolous, and often pernicious gaities of a sea-side ball-room are unsuitable to the sweet sobriety and and abroad.

are unhesitatingly devoted to the "hop;" and the recent day of national prayer was closed-desecrated, we ought to government! The feelings of the managers toward Him in whose hands are all | tance to be put in print. governments, was no better and no worse than is sure to be engendered by the reckless pursuit of worldly amusements everywhere. They harden the heart, defile the taste, sear the conscience and make all the ordinary duties and every-day enjoyments of life irksome. Sabbaths and days of public prayer are annoying interruptions to the pleasureseeker. Just scruples are petulantly thrown aside. A godless and profane mirth is indulged, from which the Christian should carefully keep himself

It is clear that the ordinances of pub. lic worship are apt to be neglected by Christians and other church-goers at watering places. Here, in a population of visitors, reaching five to seven thousand, which is at its maximum on Sundays, there are certainly not over five hundred different persons, besides residents of the island, in attendance upon all four services held on Sabbath in the the more powerful is their ambition to two protestant churches. We fear that attain them, and the more consuming among the thousands of 11 o'clock Sunday bathers, are to be found many Christian people, not excusable on the ground of health, for such a use of garded as a moveable commodity; too

Prominent among the objects of interest along the route to Cape Island, is this thriving village. It lies on both sides of the road, some distance above Millville. Its very neat and bran-new appearance puts it in striking contrast with the old and not remarkably attractive towns which lie off at a shy distance from the railroad, as if the locomotive was regarded as an intruder upon their quiet. Vineland is not ashamed of its dependence upon the railroad for an existence. It clusters people were of that sort that relished

Vineland, we believe, is passing from ter? The condition of the North is one

pendence of the people is thus far upon furies who will not tolerate the men at We protest against the countenance vegetables and fruits raised for the mar- home; the brunt of the war, its desola- horses, and all the oxen in western New given by Christian people to these per- kets of Philadelphia and New York. tions and devastations,—its sieges and York had been employed for fifty years, micious and extravagant amusements. This could easily be made a most lucra- invasions—have fallen upon the South; carting water from our Lakes, and pour-We protest against the tendency in tive business. We are informed that its cities and railroads have been cap-American society, which they encour- one man in this village, from the sea- tured, and its cherished institutions are age, to settle down to the stupid sports son's proceeds of two acres of strawber-swiftly trembling to their doom. Civil of the ball-room; for stupid they cer- ries, supported himself the entire year. war in other lands, in France and Engtainly are, when repeated over and over, The inhabitants are all hona fide settlers. land, has run a dividing line through

from being "intolerably dull," and as honest toil. No immoderate expecta- erings, we are in organization and feeltions are fostered; and it seems likely ing substantially one. We have no imthat a substantial, contented and happy mense servile class whom we cannot rural settlement, eminently favorable to trust with arms in their hands. In ation which enlists mind and heart, as the culture of domestic and social vir- short, our condition when compared well as nimble muscles and animal tue, and to the growth of a sound, inspirits, we most heartily approve of, in telligent, Christian yeomanry, will be Christians and all other people; but the the result. Should the growth of the vine, however, become the principal means of support to the people, we could not prophesy such a favorable good sense that should characterize issue; but would be compelled to intro-Christians and their households, at home duce certain features of levity and irreligion into the picture. At least, so far The heartlessness of these perform, as any precedents exist, they justify ances is seen in the fact that Saturday such forebodings. We therefore hope night and the early hours of the Sabbath | that Vineland will rather be corn and melon and cabbage and berry-land than what its name would import.

As we have a number of friends and say-with a concert and a hop at a readers in Vineland, we look to them house which makes ostentatious and, we for a correction of our statements if we believe, sincere displays of loyalty to the are in error, or for such additional statements as may be of sufficient impor-

#### THE COMPARISONS WE MAKE,

Most of the discontent in this world arises from the wrong direction in which we look for objects of comparison with ourselves. It would seem as if we were under a certain fatal necessity of lookalways to those above, rather than to those below us. Yet why should we? One would think if ambition led us in one direction, pride itself might at least equally draw us in the other. The commight take in regarding the superiority of its position to that of others, should be pleasurable enough to insure it a frequent and prominent place in our expesons and objects there are above them, their envy if they fail in the attempt. Contentment, when a Christian vir-

tue, arises from humble and hearty acquiescence in God's will concerning us. But it may be greatly aided by avoiding the usual process of the worldling, multitudes who are inferior to our selves. "Mind not high things but condecend to men of low estate." Wisely look downward and at least temper the earnestness of your ambition to excel, by a thankful view of what you have already attained above others. Are you less handsomely dressed than others? Does the sight of their handsome equipages as they roll luxuriously past your humble door, disturb your peace? Are you but slowly attaining a higher degree of wealth, while others in a few transactions move up to princely heights of fortune? Or are you still in the humble walks of life, denied any hope of materially improving your condition while you live? Turn from so fondly viewing these more favored persons and positions; reverse the direction of your contemplations; look at surely there is as much reason for looking in one direction as in the other. What orders of society, what millions of human beings, what nations, what ages of the world, have been and are immeasurably below the position you occupy, at the worst. Those above you are not a tithe of those beneath you; and they are, perhaps without exception, not a tithe so far above you as the mass of men are beneath you.

Are we discontented at the burdens of the war; the rise in gold; the drain upon our population; the terrible slaughwomen are transformed into secession

with that of others, either closely related to ourselves or in the general course of history, presents grounds of contentment sufficient to rebuke all tendency to croaking and repining.

This line of remark may be carried out indefinitely. To stop our complaints of excessive heat or cold or personal discomfort, we at home need but think of brothers and friends in the field and the hospital, suffering all the fatigues hardships and perils of war, in addition to those which, alone, we think unendu-

But the Christian has far higher grounds of contentment than are furnished by worldly comparisons. The joys, the honors, the possessions, of which he is made heir by faith, throw into the shade all mere worldly wealth and greatness. The inferiority of his present condition to that of others, whom he might be tempted to envy, is but one of the stepping-stones, the disciplinary process, by which he is reach ing a station far above all the honors and dignity and power and magnificence of earth's loftiest condition. "For our light affliction which is but for a mo ment, worketh out for us a more exceed ing and eternal weight of glory." Let the Christian try this standard of comparison, and consider those in every placency which a perfectly selfish mind station, who are inferior to him in spiritual advantages. Whatever the ungodly, for this brief life time, may en joy, he has Christ, the unspeakable rich gift of God. For all that the world rience. It is remarkable that men feel could bestow, he would not exchange it so seldom; and as they rise higher and his hope in Christ. Kings might offer have greater occasion to feel it, most him their crowns, millionaires their seem to feel it less; and the fewer per- wealth, great men their fame, wise men their wisdom-all all, without Christ, are to him but an empty, deceiving, transitory, show, but vanity of vanities. He esteems the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt.

> Is it not then a wonder and a pity that the heart of the Christian should ever harbor discontent at the superior ling, at every corner of the streets, belirection of faith, shows him a whole world at his feet and an immortal, heavenly inheritance within his grasp? Let us learn with Paul, whatsoever state we are in, therewith to be con-

# FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT

# THE DROUGHT.

Two weeks ago it was severely felt in all this region, and our prospects were somewhat gloomy. The ground was dry and parched, the grass crisp and brown, the oats heading out at half growth and promising only a quarter yield, the potatoes half formed and standing still; and beside all, numerous fires were raging in fields and woods, filling all the air with smoke, throwing a sickly haze over the sun by day and the moon by night, until it seemed gloomy enough. Men grew sad at the prospect of half crops, and another doubling of prices on all the necessaries of life.

But how easily all this has been changed. It required no sudden convulsion of the powers of nature, no munity. mighty shock in earth or sky. But one Monday morning, after about the hottest, dryest Sabbath of all the summer, it began to sprinkle; gently, quietly the tiny drops came down as though they would not disturb the smallest leaf or starting the Hungerford Collegiate Inbud or flower, and so it kept on sprinkling until it got to be good soaking rain. And when once this operation got thorworthless; to-day it will not bring over wonder why it had been so long coming. Whether the business which would live cents on the dollar in exchange for It rained all day, and a good part of the our own currency. Every luxury is next day, and the next, steadily, sweetbanished from the South. Every busi- ly, copiously until all nature seemed

What a change those three days wrought. If all the men, and all the ing it over the land, they could not

millions of dependent creatures to look up to Him who sits above the clouds, and guides them where he will. Tn spite of all the gloomy forebodings in many minds two weeks ago, and while well as entertaining in his remarks. some of the crops will not be very abun- We wish that all the enemies of our dant, there will be no serious lack of any of the products of the earth in this region. Thanks for the rain! It made have gone away wiser and better men millions of hearts to sing for joy.

#### OUR FRUITS.

It is well known that this a fruit region, the place of nurseries, gardens and orchards. We doubt if there is any better fruit market than this; any greater variety, or better qualities. And while some years we have fruit in something more of abundance than we shall have this, yet here also there is no lack. The supply is fair, of peaches, pears, apples, and smaller kinds. We still live in a land of plenty. Our graneries are full. Our streets thronged with people. Evidences of thrift and prosperity are manifest on every side. We ought to be thoroughly loyal, patriotic and generous, ready to do all that is necessary to sustain our own government, and at the same time go straight forward with every other humane and be-

nevolent enterprise. We are happy to say that there are not a few in this garden of the land who so understand their duties and privileges at the present time; noble spirits, pouring out their money, as good stewards, at every call for benevolence, for the soldiers, for education, for missions, and among men. They are trees of righteousness, just fit to grow in such a land of fruits and flowers, a land of beauty and fatness, of peace and plenty. The rain is beautiful, the crops are beautiful. the fruits are beautiful, and the good men are more beautiful..

### THE WAY TO DO IT.

A young lady in Adams thinks that something ought to be done for the sick and wounded soldies. She does not sit and wonder why some lady does not do it. She does not go scolding and grumberality in Adams;" but like a sensible impulses as an intimation from above that she to is lead off in the matter. She communes with a kindred spirit, and their plans are laid.

A Branch Christian Commission is formed, soon embracing two hundred members, at one doller each for entrance fee; and so there are two hundred dollars already in their treasury. But that is not enough; and so an ice cream and joyment of the occasion, and all the talk elicited about the sufferings and wants of the soldier boys, opening deeper and deeper the fountains of benevolence in many hearts.

And this is but the beginning of the matter. The Branch Society is now can tell? How many lives they may save; and how many souls from perdition. Two sensible, resolute ladies may do almost anything in a Christian com-

But Adams is a pretty good place in which to do such things. They are getting accustomed to liberal acts, we should judge as matters have been going there of late years. What with stitute, and for benevolent purposes, there have been eighteen thousand dollars raised, we believe, in the Presbyterian church and society alone. within the past year. And this Institute is to open under flattering auspices the next month. Mr. Houghton, who has been for many years the successful and esteemed Principal of the Belleville Academy, in the same county, is to take charge of its instruction, with a competent corps of assistant teachers. It is an important institution, and starts well.

# BISHOP SIMPSON'S LECTURE.

We had the pleasure of listening last have accomplished that which was so evening to an earnest, thorough, loyal,

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the Bishop would still be classed almost among the young men. But he spoke with wisdom, for all that, and was truly eloquent, original and instructive, as country, both North and South, could have heard him. Some, at least, would

#### SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The Ninth Annual Convention of the New York State Sabbath School Teachers' Association, is to be held at Bur-FALO, in Dr. Heacock's church, to commence on Tuesday, August 30th, at 4 o'clock, P. M., and continue through Wednesday and Thursday. Pastors, officers and teachers of all evangelical Sabbath schools in the State, are cordially invited to attend and participate in the deliberations of this body-names to be sent by 20th inst., to L. Danforth, Secretary of Committee of Arrangements, in order to secure entertainment during the meeting.

This Convention is a great institution in this State. It is a meeting of rare and blessed interest. It is worth a journey from Texas any year to attend it. Those who felt its mighty pulse at Troy last year, or at Canandaigua the year before, will know that we are not speaking in terms of exaggeration at all. Let all who can, be present on this occasion, and judge for themselves, and feel its power. Buffalo is a good place for such a meeting. There are large hearts, for the country. We should love to and large people there. None need fear name some of them. They are princes to go, only send on your names, as desired, and send in good season, and we will assure you of a cordial welcome, and a rich feast of spiritual things.

> GENESEE. ROCHESTER, August 13, 1864.

# Alews of the Churches.

REV. H. KENDALL, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of our Home Mission Committee has undertaken an important exploring service, extending from the Missouri to the Pacific. The effect worldly condition of neighbours and as- cause it is not done; and complaining of such a visit upon our vast work in sociates, when a single glance, under the that there is "no enterprise and no lib- that region, present and prospective, will be of the highest importance. Dr. person she regards her own thoughts and K. will return to the Committee with such information, gathered from personal observation of the fields, with their respective importance, material and wants, as will enable them to act more intelligently, and of course more economically and efficiently in the great enterprise of our church in that direction. At the same time his visit, as the official representative of the church, will be to the isolated missionaries and scattered cake festival is inaugurated, from which sheep in Colorado, Nevada, California one hundred and fifty dollars more are and Oregon, a pledge of larger effort realized, besides the pleasant, social en- for the occupancy of all that wide and well-opened region. By the way we notice that the Doctor, on his way to the Pacific, has been among the Mormons; has actually preached to them. and, strangest of all, has found in that nest of heathen pollution a hopeful opening for christian effort. The Salt Lake organized, and hard at work. How Telegraph has the following notice of much they may yet accomplish, who the departure of the Rev. "Gentile" from the land of the "saints:"-

"Labor of Love .- The Rev. Henry Kendall, who held forth in the Bowery on Sunday, left yesterday morning by Overland Mail for California. He is deputed to look after the stray sheep of the Presbyterian fold throughout Nevada, California and Oregon.'

REV. F. F. ELLINWOOD of the Central Church Rochester, is acceptably supplying the pulpit of North Broad St. Church of this city. The congregations are

REV. Dr. SUNDERLAND will sail for Europe on the 20th inst., to take charge of the American Chapel in Paris.

REV. EDWIN E. MERRIAM Was ordained and installed Pastor of the Presbyterian congregation in Salem, Pa., by the Presbytery of Montrose, on the 3d of August; sermon by Rev. C. S. Dunning; charge to the Pastor by Rev. T. R. Townsend: charge to the congregation by Rev. H. Van Houten: 37

REV. T. L. KENYON was ordained and installed pastor of the new Presbyterian church at East Orange, N. J., on Tueseasily lone in three days by the great and patriotic address upon the affairs of day, August 2. The sermon was cloud sprinkler above. "This rain is the country, from the lips of Bishop preached by Rev. Dr. Hoyt, of Orange; worth untold millions to the land," was Simpson, of the Methodist Church. We the charge to the people delivered by