The American Presbyterian

# GENESEE EVANGELIST.

A RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER

IN THE INTEREST OF THE Constitutional Presbyterian Church.

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#### REVIVALS,-REVIVAL MEASURES,-EVANGELISTS.

After all the vehement discussions on these three topics, which from the days of Whitefield to the recent times, have distracted and divided the Church, some positions have been attained, which are generally acquiesced in by Evangelical Christians. It is needless for us now-a-days to fight over again the old controversies. We may, however, profitably take a survey of the ground which has been cleared away and recognize the general principles on which all can cordially work together for the conversion of souls.

1. Revivals may be admitted to bring

with them some evils; nay, we may freely admit that the phenomenon of a revival conveys a reproach to the church or community in which it occurs; we may insist that the normal state of the church is that of continuous revival; we may fear seasons of reaction and of acquiescence in present coldness and worldliness, in the expectation of a revival which will make good all the deficiencies and losses of such a time of Christ." coldness. But, in spite of all evils concomitant or apprehended, there is a settled belief in the evangelical part of means used in promoting revivals. the church, in the necessity of genuine | Perhaps there is more of lingering revivals, in a great remainder of gain when the balance of profit and loss is points already noted. But most enstruck; in a generally elevated state of lightened Christian people are prepared the church as a result of true revivals. It is felt that the conversion of the world is to be brought about mainly by and isolated cases of disappointment, Pentecostal effusions of the Holy Ghost, the office and labors of the Evangelist and by the preaching of the Gospel are to be accepted as a divinely recognizwith nothing less than an Apostolic measure of success. Our hope for the masses of neglecters in Christendom is in those extraordinary exhibitions of the power of the Spirit commonly understood by Revivals.

Perhaps not a score of our readers hesitates upon this point. They doubtless are prepared for some scenes of an unwonted character, some confusion in the simultaneous conviction and repentance of thousands; but they have long ago ceased to press the secondary precept "Let all things be done decently and in order" into the rank of the first great commandment of the law, and for order's sake to be willing to denude the church of that life and variety in which alone a place for order can be found. They will rather agree with the glowing language used by Albert Barnes, many years ago (1833) and lately republished in his Essays and Reviews: "This," said Mr. B., "is to be a land of revivals of religion. It accords with the character of our people; the active, hardy, mighty exterprise of the nation. It is the manner in which all sentiments have here spread, by deep, rapid, thorough excitement and hasty revolution. It accords with our history. It is the way, the grand, glorious awful is best apprized of the proper means of like ours were beyond computation. way, in which God has appeared to establish his church in our land." Especially since the blessed work of 1858, the whole church—and we may say the Bible to know what is to be done to fabric of our institutions might be in world too-has learned to look upon Revivals with far different feelings. God's people are prepared, as they never under such a theological training if not fears only in trusting his country with were before, to value, to pray and labor for, and to welcome them with all their hearts, as the most glorious manifestation of the power of spiritual truth. They look for revival to overtake revival, and for revival to touch revival, until "the Kingdom of Christ is the one thing thought of in the world, and at every market, in every Exchange and on every bulletin-at the street corners, men shall speak of the glory of His Kingdom and talk of His power, one to

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general and simultaneous religious interest. The multiplying of meetings, special appointments for inquirers, more familiar personal approaches, a more direct style of preaching with a view to immediate results, singing of hymns and tunes, which, from association or otherwise, are adapted to such seasons, special needy classes, children's meevto revivals, and they and other expedients should be used, as a wise regard to the varying circumstances may suggest. "Man," says Mr. Barnes, in another of his essays, written in the glow of early revival times, "must be roused, and severed-however rudely-fromearthly things; and hurried onward, and thrown into the deep solemnities of a universe where the God of justice reigns; where everything is full of God; and where voices from earth and heaven and hell meet and mingle and fall on his ear and tell him to hasten away from his delusions and be prepared to die." "Would to God!" exclaimes a writer, in a late number of the London Revival, "we all had that charity which 'hopeth as souls are being saved and Christ glorified. While extraordinary means are used to beguile souls to hell, the Lord's people are justified in the employment of any agency that is not un-

3. Evangelists are part, and may be by far the most efficient part, of the doubt on this than on either of the to conclude that, with all the defects, singularities, objectionable methods, ed instrumentality of the highest utility. for developing to decisive results the lingering, half-formed religious purposes of the unconverted hearers of the word or for awakening the neglectful masses of the community. Such men as Whitefield, Wesley, Rowland Hill, Finney, Summerfield, Nettleton, Kirk, Radcliffe, Hammond, are now recognized as forming a peculiar class, raised up to show God's willingness to facilitate the work of saving souls, to carry it forward more rapidly than by the regular labors of pastors bound to their separate

Frequently there is some idiosyncrasy about these men—often the out-cropping, in another direction, of the very character which peculiarly fits them for their work; but rendering them unacceptable to many who mightfully sympathize in their zeal for the cause. Sometimes their style of teaching is outre and alarms the critical; but the true and faithful evangelist, by long experience, has gained such facilities for his great work of dealing with the souls of men that his usefulness must far outweigh all objections based on such subordinate points. Says Mr. Barnes in an essay already quoted: "He is the best theologian who ling events in a time of national trial conducting a revival of religion, who under the inexpressible pressure on his spirit of a revival has been urged to the save trembling sinners." And who is hopeless ruin or tottering to its fall; habitually in such circumstances and many a pious person could calm his the faithful evangelist? Yes, our sys- God. On the night of November 8th, tems may be logically admirable and our instead of weakness, confusion and ruin, mode of handling the truth charmingly he saw revealed new sources of strength, adapted to the cultivated judgments and new assurance of stability; he saw the tastes of our hearers, but the efficiency Republic steadying itself amid the conof our teaching is likely to pale before flicts of the people, riding over the theology like that of the evangelist, waves as calmly as on the unrufiled learned under the training of that "in-bosom of a most quiet harbor: he knew expressible pressure on his spirit."

These are the conclusions which, after long years of controversy, the church, at home, in a time when appeal had on both sides of the Atlantic, has reached; been made to the sword and great quesanother, making known his mighty acts genuine revivals are to be prayed for tions were being settled by bullets, had and the glorious majesty of His King- and welcomed as the greatest of blessings. Special measures are, as a matter issue between them, to the simple deci- faith is-lost in sight, and hope absorbed 2. Revival measures are acquiesced in, of course, to be employed, when special sion of the ballot. No quieter election in fruition. Even among the most the rapid and hopeless overthrow of all subscribers will be found in another

With wide room for diversity in regard uable of all special instrumentalities is to particular measures, and with a felt a true and tried evangelist. So clear tainly fewer brawls and violence, than necessity in any case for the exercise of and fixed are these conclusions that we Christian wisdom, it is admitted that a may set it down as a deliberate judgvariation from the stereotyped modes ment of the church that it is perilous of procedure is both justifiable and and hurtful in the extreme for a comnecessary, in efforts contemplating a munity to remain long indifferent on these points; that objections are but the cavils of lukewarm and backslidden souls; and that it is the most solemn and delightful duty of the Lord's peonle to be prompt and active in availing | for the institutions of his country, led themselves of every facility in their reach for promoting true revivals and rousing the masses to repentance, upor open-air preaching, special efforts for pain of being held responsible for the on the process of disintegration at the loss of souls. We speak, of course, of ings, parlor-meetings; all these and the general principles involved and not other measures are admitted to belong of honest objections to particular measures or particular men.

#### THANKSGIVING, 1864.

The fourth Thanksgiving since the war began, is no vain appointment. The loyal people feel that they are appropriately called to this observance by the Chief Magistrate of their choice. In the progress of the war to a successful issue, in the moral certainty of the removal of a prime cause of the war and a great curse and blemish to Christian civilization-American Sla | give thanks this day. very,—in the unanimity, decisiveness and great advance and elevation of the DR. TUSTIN'S REPLY TO SENEX ON popular sentiment, in the unabated all things and beareth all things' so long streams of beneficence that flow to dance of the products of the field and the unwonted and remunerative activity lawful in itself for winning souls to of all kinds of trade and business, peaceful as well as warlike, in the North, we find cause for devout and hearty thanks, even when remembering the drawbacks which must necessarily attend a state of war. The most heart-broken sufferers in the land must feel that this nation is rightfully summoned to the services of this day, and that it would be shameful negligence and base ingratitude, on account of local and partial sufferings however great, to omit public recognition of the general and signal favors which characterize the dealings of Proidence with us as a people.

A leading cause for thanksgiving is the simple fact, that this year has witnessed a Presidential election successfully conducted in the midst of a greatrebellion. This has never occurred in our history before. It was, therefore, a serious trial of our free institutions and of the right of suffrage. It brought out all the disaffected elements of the North, whose inflammatory harangues were sufficient to disprove all the accusations of interfering with liberty of speech which they charged on the Administration. "A free election or a free fight" was one of their watchwords. A formidable organization to resist and overthrow the Government had just been discovered in their ranks. Predatory bands from Canada and gangs of desperadoes in our northern cities were organized to interfere with the election by violence, and by the burning simultaneously of several leading cities. What scenes of carnage and anarchy might prevail, they could imagine, who remembered the fearful riots in New York in 1863. What revolution might be brought about amid prevailing confusion, they could anticipate who remembered that the possibilities of start-

On the night of November 7th, many wise and intelligent people felt that ere another return of darkness, the whole bosom of a most quiet harbor; he knew that four million of voters without molestation or disorder, in the army and been content to submit the questions at

tion. Perhaps less of fraud even, cerusual, were observed. And on the morrow, when the decision of these paper weapons was announced, not a voice was heard in opposition. It was felt that a fair expression of the public will had been made, and the good sense, the inhate regard for law and order, and the love and reverence of every American citizen out of the reach of slavery the people to a contented and unmurmuring acquiescence. All threats, all North, vanished like mists in the morning sun, and we were in a sort of maze and doubt, as if waking from a troubled dream and finding all our fears but phantoms of a night, while the Union for which we trembled, looked forth in the light of day like a resplendent and glorious palace, fairer, brighter, stronger than ever before.

For this speedy clearing of the air, of late so thick with fearful rumors, for this great comfort and assurance to all patriotic hearts and this signal and overwhelming proof of the strength of our Republican institutions and of God's care over our country, in perhaps the the country as well as a disgrace to very worst of all its perils, we may well

RE-UNION. We observe in The Presbyterian for assuage the wants of the suffering, in November 12, a letter from our vene the absence of foreign intervention, in rable Old School friend, Rev. Dr. Tusthe prevalence of health and the abuntin. It is in reply to a communication in a former number of the same paper, over the signature of "Senex," which besides expressing some grave doubts whether the "N. S." church was yet sufficiently reformed of its doctrinal errors to render a re-union with it safe, contained some insinuations personal to the Doctor, as if he was seeking, through the movement, distinction and leadership. We have not room to quote the graceful and decidedly successful manner in which the latter disposes of what relates to himself personally. Respecting the doctrinal harmonies between

the two churches, he says: tions. In the language of a distinguished transatlantic divine, we would not sacrifice one particle of essential scriptural truth for a whole ocean of brotherly love. All attempts to establish a permanentunity upon any other basis must terminate in failure. The Bible is the great pacificator between theological disputants, and if we decline its friendly offices, we may as well retain our armor, and resolve to continue the conflict. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, according to my theological to whom it was announced, but was training, were the only infallible rule of faith and practice'—the only symbol and basis of union-the assertion of Senex' to the contrary notwithstanding.

'This is the judge that ends the strife When wit and reason fail.'

"Pre-supposing this to be the acknowedged basis of all desirable and permanent unity, why may not the two great branches of the Presbyterian Church be brought together into one fold, there being but one Shepherd? Having thus received the Bible as teaching 'what man is to believe concerning God, and what duties God requires of man,' we have mutually accepted the standards of the Presbyterian Church as containing the system of doctrine taught in the sacred Scriptures, in contrast with Arminianism and Pelagianism, as well as Socinianism and Romanism, and have thus given a two-fold guarantee of our mutual fidelity to the cause of truth and righteousness.'

Then, referring to certain positions of 'Senex" respecting the necessity of minuter theological tests than those of anthems. Rev. Dr. March, as moderaour standards—that spirit of 1837, which, we are happy to say, has been largely eliminated from the O. S. church, many of its venerable Senexes (our classical readers will pardon us) having been translated to a better sphere—the

Doctor goes on to say: "From my knowledge of both branch es of the Church, however, I am prepared to affirm, what I sincerely beieve, that on the essential doctrines of the imputation of Adam's first sin, the imputation of Christ's righteousness, the necessity of the Spirit's influences, ability and inability, there is just as much difference of opinion among our selves as there is between the ministers and people of the two branches, of our dismembered Zion. To expect com plete and entire uniformity in every item of theological opinion, is to anticipate what will never be realized, until with very much the same reservations. results are expected, and the most val- had been known perhaps in a general intensified supralapsarians, a class of the leading errors—Ebionitism, Apollin- column.

theologians to which I presume 'Senex' belongs, there are some questions, such as whether, in the decree of election, man is to be considered created or creatable, fallen or unfallen, which remain somewhat in abeyance to this hour; and line of the whole history of Christian the magnitude of these questions depends very much upon which end of the telescope is applied to the mental vision. If my venerable friend would have employed his powers of analysis in eliciting and adjusting the elements of harmony and resemblance, instead of extorting and magnifying the points of difference and conflict, he might have produced a picture glowing with light and beauty, upon which the Church militant and the ugly hints, all wild schemes for carrying | Church triumphant would have gazed | with delight and rapture. Now, in this aspect of the case—and this is no fig-ment of the imagination—would it be inexpedient or unsafe in our approximation to our brethren of the other branch to accept the spirit, and adopt the language of the sentiment of that renowned maxim, which, however uncertain as to its earthly authorship, is undoubtedly of heavenly inspiration-'In things essential, unity; in things not essential, liberty; in all things, essential or unessential, charity."

"Senex" had been unable to discover any material abatement of the original causes of the disruption. Dr. Tustin finds them as follows:

"The Plan of Union, which admitted and was consequently a source of trouble, has become obsolete.

"Voluntary church associations have, from the force of experience, consented to recognize ecclesiastical authority and supervision.

scriptural conceptions of truth, both branches of the Church are yielding a deeper homage to the symbols of our glorious faith.

"The frigid indifference, not to say tween the Assemblies, and interrupted the courtesies of Christian communion, has vanished in the presence of the

"The mountains of jealousy and preudice which interrupted our Christian and ministerial intercourse, and thus damaged our influence and diminished our usefulness, have been either removed or tunnelled, so that we can now say, though in a higher and sublimer sense with the eloquent Editor of La Moniteur, a Parisian journal, 'The Pyrenees are no more!"

"If 'Senex' desires, as he professes to do, still further evidence that the shadows of the night are giving place to the dawn of the morning, I would earn-"We hold the cause of truth, scriptural estly invite his attention to the distruth, paramount to all other consideracourse on Christian Union and Ecclesiasticat Reunion,' preached at Dayton, Ohio, in May last, by the accomplished scholar and profound theologian, the Rev. Henry B. Smith, D.D., of New York, on the occasion of discharging his duty as the retiring Moderator of perity of our Zion, was to be done. the Assembly which met in Philadelphia in May, 1863.

"The scriptural sentiments of that truly admirable discourse found a corresponding response, not only in the hearts of the members of the Assembly also received and endorsed, as I have reason to know, by some of the most uncompromising theologians in the Assembly which met in Newark, New Jersey, at the same time.

# INSTALLATION OF REV. W. CALKINS,

Calvary Church on Sabbath evening last was thronged, in pews and aisles, with a deeply interested congregation participating in the installation services of the pastor, Rev. Wolcott Calkins. The entire service was performed in a most appropriate and impressive manner, marking the occasion as the most solemn and important of the kind held. or likely to be held, among our churches for years.

The choir opened with the Te Deum, performed in a grand and inspiring manner as befits that noblest of Christian tor of the Third Presbytery, greeted the vast assembly with the apostolic benediction, and announced the nature of the business about to be transacted. Rev. the evening, Rev. R. D. Hitchcock, D.D., Professor in Union Seminary, was introduced. Prof. H.'s theme was the Doctrine of the Church on the Person of Christ, contrasted with the leading her-The speaker passed in rapid review the various phases of opinion in the differprompt and true condemnation by the false views which sought to usurp the ton, the army and elsewhere. the place of the true in its bosom, traced

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arianism and Arianism; drew with a few bold strokes, vivid sketches of leaders, and sects, and councils, and spread as in a map before us, a luminous outopinion on the person of Christ. The links with which this course of thought was woven together were not only ratiocinative, but brilliant with occasiona bursts of fancy. And how the orator put his overwhelming climax to the whole, by subjecting the testimony of Christ himself before the High Priest, to legal examination, and by putting with an awful emphasis the alternative of "God or perjury-the everlasting Father or a perjured man!" we shall not attempt to describe. Great as the preceding part of his discourse really was, it was but as the skirmishing that precedes the final and decisive charge of a victorious army.

The Constitutional questions were put by Rev. Dr. March, and the installing prayer offered by Rev. Dr. Kirk, of Boston. Rev. Dr. Adams, of North Broad street Church, gave the charge to the pastor. Which was based on the words of Paul: I magnify mine office, and which commended to the incumbent a a foreign element into our church courts, joyous, manly, bold, earnest course in the exercise of his high duties. The tone and point of view of the charge were healthful and encouraging, and came with eminent fitness from the lips of one whose own ministry is such a shin-From a better spirit, and more ingillustration of these qualities. Mr. Barnes, of the Fourth Presbytery, was fitly chosen and invited by the Third, to close these services with the charge to the people. The oldest settled pastor bitter animosity, which intervened be- of our churches, appropriately addressed the people who were thus settling the most recent of the pastors. Mr. Barnes briefly enumerated the various branches in which the relationship of pastor and people was expected to be profitable to the latter, emphasized the fact that the people called a pastor with a view to their own benefit rather than to his and charged them to open to him the homes and hearts, and facilitate his e deavors for their spiritual good.

The exercises were prolonged to half past ten o'clock, having been commenced at an unnecessarily late hour, yet scarcely any of the audience left before the close. It was felt that a great and important duty, certain to be fraught with incalculable results to the souls of men, and having a serious bearing on the religious interests of our city and the pros-May the new relationship be productive of a thousand fold more good than even the most hopeful anticipate, in time and in eternity.

The services of the morning were also arranged to form part of the solemnity, Rev. Dr. Kirk having preached a most able discourse on "Worship."

# A MERITORIOUS CASE,

Rev. A. Blakeley, pastor of the church in Lawrence, Kansas, is now in this city soliciting aid to complete a proper edifice for his church. The building is partially erected through a self-denial on the part of the congregation which has reached apparently the last possible strain. We hope that such of our readers as Mr. Blakeley may visit will respond cordially and liberally to his appeal.

Persons receiving specimen copies of the American Presbyterian are invited to examine them with a view to subscribing. It is believed that the paper fully answers the ends of religious family newspaper. Our list o regular contributors is unusually valuable, including the Rev. Edward Payson Hammond, well known as a successfu W. W. Taylor, of Olivet, offered prayer evangelist in this and other countries: a hymn was sung, and the preacher of Rev. E. H. Gillett, D. D., author of "Life and Times of John Huss;" Miss Warner, author of "Wide, Wide World,' and "Melbourne House;" the Rochester correspondent, whose weekly letters furnish the best view of the religious esies on the same subject. We need not life of Western and Central New York, nature and limits of the atonement, the say that this august and fruitful theme the great centre of New School Presbywas handled in a most masterly manner, terianism in this country—with others less regular; as Dr. Cox, who furnishes this week an article on the Union ent ages of Christendom, showed the movements in the Presbyterian Church; Rev. Dr. Marks, author of the "Peninvery instinct of the church of all the sula Campaign," and others in Washing-

The terms and premiums for new