

Editorial Items.

GENERAL BUTLER'S BLUNDER.

What the great majority of the people of this Union meant when they cast their votes for Abraham Lincoln, on the 8th inst., is clear. The seventy-five thousand majority in Massachusetts, and the forty or fifty thousand majority in Tennessee, the ten thousand majority in Kansas and the eight thousand majority in Maryland, the forty thousand majority in each of the great States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, protested against two things: Against any and every form of conciliation addressed to armed rebels, and against any steps calculated to bring back the rebellious States, with their slave code intact, into organized connection with the Union. We say this is clear, because the party against which the North so emphatically decided, was organized on these issues: Offers of peace to rebels, and a restoration of the rebellious States of the Union on the old status. The one party repudiated Mr. Lincoln and the whole policy indicated by his name; the other party meant to endorse all that is distinctive and essential to that policy. WAR AND EMANCIPATION is what the loyal masses of the people meant. They meant that the cause of rebellion must go down, and that its very foundations must be broken up. They meant that they were prepared to endure suffering, to pay taxes, to give their sons, and if need be themselves, to see the conflict prolonged, to sustain with ardor and emphasis any policy which would crush out treason, utterly eradicate its cause, and write the nation's abhorrence of its crime, its malignity and its mischief so deep and so broad, that all coming generations of men should see it and take warning.

We regard it therefore as a blunder—as nearly an insult for any man, upon the heels of such a decision, to hint at offers of peace and terms of conciliation, as Gen. Butler has done in his New York speech, of Nov. 14th. It would be childish for the nation, just after it has girded itself afresh for its malignant foe, just after it has calmly looked at all the fearful consequences of its decision in the face, has heard and silenced all the arguments and clamors of the advocates of peace, and has passed the word "Ready" to its leaders in the front, to pause, to lay hand upon rein, to sheath the sword, and beat a parley. Such conduct must encourage the foe and must destroy the force of our previous decision on his mind. He will ask whether, indeed, our vote meant anything at all, whether it was not a mere bravado to hide a weariness and a weakness, which he may use, to gather up afresh his own resources, and to encourage the faint and desponding among his own people.

But we should not have noticed this singular speech of Gen. Butler's, had it not been for a covert thrust at the emancipation policy of the President. We find it in the language he proposes to use to the rebels; (the italics are our own.) "Come back," he says, "and you shall find the laws the same, save so far as they have been altered by the legislative wisdom of the land, both for leaders and followers." Now, since the President's proclamation stands simply as a military measure, unconfirmed by "legislative wisdom," (and in the popular opinion needing no such confirmation,) Gen. Butler must mean that the rebellious States are to be invited back in the teeth of this proclamation, with their slave-code intact! We see no alternative. The only redeeming feature of the General's proposal, and the only point which essentially distinguishes it from the policy of the Chicago Democracy, is, that the author would limit it to the period between this and the 8th of January. We confess our utter surprise that a proposition of this sort should emanate from such a source. A fruit of our unparalleled victory over copperheads and pro-slavery sympathizers of the North, forsooth, is that we, for two whole months, shall put ourselves on the copperhead platform! This penance we must do for having whipped them so badly—must take their place for sixty days! No! Gen. Butler; in the sight of God and the civilized world, and in the conviction of Mr. Lincoln and the two and a half millions who voted for him, the slaves on every square foot of rebellious territory are FREE. Rebel soil is free soil, if not by legislative wisdom in military wisdom, which Gen. Butler himself, in many conspicuous instances, has shown, may be the better wisdom of the two. Mr. Lincoln will not offer, to save treasure or blood, to remand two millions of free people to slavery. He will not offer, to pacify rebellious masters, to bind afresh the broken yoke of slavery on loyal necks. The people who have just voted, so liberally to approve his policy, will not sustain any such shameful vacillation in their leader upon such great and solemn issues. The regenerated South, Maryland, West Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri, will not sustain him. It is im-

possible for him to be so untrue to his constituents. And if he needs it, they have given him a legislature of the sort still further to confirm him in his policy and to supplement, so far as need be, the military by the legislative wisdom. Gen. Butler is a shrewd man, and may discern some points to be gained by such a declaration, which is not within the ordinary ken of mortals. Knowing, as we think he must, that all offers of peace on the basis of Union, would be rejected by the rebel leaders, he may aim to sow disturbance in the South, and to conciliate the defeated copperheads in the North. He, without being sincere in his proposal, may think it no harm, as we suppose many lawyers, politicians and military men do, to use strategy of this sort in managing a people. But for our part we regard it as a blunder in any point of view; as an insult to the determined and elevated spirit of the North, just expressed, and as calculated to disaffect towards us the lovers of liberty and humanity in every part of the civilized world. Should such a policy be really entertained in Washington, we would be shorn of half of the fruits of our victory at the ballot-box. We do not believe it will be.

Another speech was made by Gen. Butler in New York, on the 8th of Jan., 1863—a singular coincidence of date with the limit to the offer of peace proposed in his recent New York speech. He then said: "This is not a rebellion against us, but simply a rebellion to perpetuate power in the hands of a few slaveholders. The war can only be successfully prosecuted by the destruction of slavery, which was made the cornerstone of the Confederacy." This puts emancipation fairly and squarely upon the ground of military necessity, and all talk or hint of legislative wisdom as antagonistic to, or as needed in justification of the measure from the lips of a politician and a soldier, may be set down as—buncombe.

A DESEVED TESTIMONIAL.

As is known to his friends and our churches generally, Rev. George A. Howard, of Catskill, N. Y., received from his church leave of absence to permit him to aid our Publication Committee in the special effort to secure a working capital of \$50,000. The undertaking was one of difficulty and delicacy, in the intensely preoccupied condition of our people's minds and purses, but it was prosecuted with a spirit and ability that entitle Mr. Howard to the thanks of the Church at large. It will, we think, please Mr. Howard's friends, now that he has returned to his parish, to know that his labors are fully appreciated by the Publication Committee, as will appear from the following resolutions, adopted at their last monthly meeting, viz: Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to communicate to Mr. Howard this Committee's entire satisfaction with the earnestness, wisdom, perseverance and success which have marked his labors on behalf of the Special Publication Fund of \$50,000; and to express to him, with this appreciation of his past services, their kind wishes for his future labors in the ministry.

The subscriptions to the Fund reach \$47,000, leaving but \$3,000 to be secured to complete the effort and endow our Committee with a good working capital.

CITY RELIGIOUS ITEMS.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW ROMISH CATHEDRAL.—Last Sabbath was a high day for the Papacy in this city. The consecration of the cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul brought together the greatest ecclesiastical array of that Church, ever witnessed here, there being in the procession, the Archbishops of the Province of Baltimore, (to which Philadelphia belongs,) Cincinnati, and New York; twelve Bishops, one mitred Abbot and five hundred Priests. The ceremonies were intensely Romish, and hence of necessity, they were as a pageant, artistic and imposing in the highest degree. Only a miracle was wanting, (a thing which, on the other continent, would certainly have been gotten up,) to delude the enormous crowd of spectators into the fancy that they were really witnessing a scene in southern Europe. The consecration service was conducted by the Bishop of the Diocese, Rt. Rev. James F. Wood, D. D. The details are spread over some columns of Monday's dailies. The following is a specimen:

The Deacon and sub-Deacon of the Mass then invested Bishop Wood with his canonical vestments, the alb, albicincture, stole, tunic, dalmatic, gloves, chasuble, mitre and crozier. The prelate just invested with the robes of office crossed to the altar and commenced the chant of the "Indigentia" of the psalm "Judica Me." The "maniple" the last of the vestments, was then presented by the sub-Deacon. As the psalm was sung all the attendants, save those with the investments and the Bishops, reverently knelt. When the solemn

chant was over the Bishop laid aside the mitre, took the silver "thurible" or incense chalice, and filling it with incense, incensed the altar with fire. Then he resumed his mitre and marched to his throne, while the choir and the clergy sang the "Kyrie." When that was finished the Bishop read the "Introit" of the Mass, which is composed of a portion of Scripture and a versicle of a psalm. All rose as the "Introit" was read, and the entire audience sang the celebrated chant, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo."

The Cathedral has been more than eighteen years in process of erection. It is modelled after the church of St. Carlo Borromeo in Rome, a massive structure beautifully ornamented with in, and is claimed to be, as it probably is, the largest church in the United States. It is cruciform, with an extreme length of 216 feet, and breadth across the nave of 192 feet. The dome has, at the base, a diameter of 71 feet, and its top is 210 feet above the floor.

THE PRESBYTERIAN PULPITS OF PHILADELPHIA ALL FILLED.—Our old school cotemporary, The Presbyterian of the 19th inst. says:—"The Rev. Alexander Reed has accepted the call to the Central Church, Philadelphia, and will soon enter upon his duties in his new field. The Rev. Dr. R. W. Henry has been installed pastor of the North Presbyterian Church by the Central Presbytery, and is earnestly engaged in his work. There are now no vacant churches in either of the city Presbyteries of Philadelphia, and we believe that since the Rev. Mr. McLeod has accepted the call to the South-western Presbyterian Church, there are no vacancies in the other branch of the Church. This is unusual, and we hope a sign of good to the churches. If it would please God to pour out his Spirit upon the ministers and churches, incalculable good would be done. Might not the ministers and ruling elders of both branches meet together to pray that this blessing may be granted?"

NORTH BROAD STREET CHURCH.—The Mission school of this church, at the corner of Eleventh street and Columbia Avenue has grown beyond the bounds of the room at present occupied. It is now proposed to obtain a lot and erect a suitable building for the purposes of the school. In the church itself the pecuniary prosperity is almost unexampled in the history of new enterprises. All but two or three of the pews are rented; and the income from pew rents is over \$8000.

IMPROVEMENT IN PREMIUMS.

In raising the price of the paper, it has seemed proper to raise the premiums given for new subscribers, in some proportional degree.

CASH PREMIUMS. We accordingly offer for each new subscriber, paying in advance, SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS premium, to the agent procuring and forwarding the amount.

For every four new subscribers with \$12, (or, in the city, \$14), in advance, the agent may retain a premium of FIVE DOLLARS, and at the same rate for every additional subscriber.

The agent raising a club of ten new subscribers, and forwarding the amount in advance, can retain \$7 50.

OTHER PREMIUMS. For THREE NEW SUBSCRIBERS with \$9. (in the city \$10.50) in advance, we will forward, free of expense, a copy, either of John Huss and His Times, or of Shedd's History of Doctrine. These are new works of standard value, each in 2 vols. 8vo., worth \$6. in ordinary times.

SEWING MACHINE. For twenty-five new subscribers and seventy-five dollars (in the city \$87.50) we will give a Fifty Dollar GROVER and BAKER SEWING MACHINE. The same for three clubs of ten each.

CHILDREN OF THE BATTLEFIELD. This patriotic song, with music, and finely lithographed, accurate, portraits of the Three Children on the cover, sent post-paid for one new subscriber with pay in advance.

MEETING THE EMERGENCY NOBLY.

The Presbyterian Church of Catskill, N. Y., have increased the salary of their pastor, Rev. G. A. Howard, \$500—the year to date from the day of his return to them. This, added to other generousities, have made a pleasant, welcome home to him, and intimates their willingness to prolong a pastorate which has already reached its fifteenth year.

THE REV. DR SAUNDERS has been confined to his bed for more than a week by injuries received from the accident which occurred on the railway beyond Havre de Grace on the night of the 7th inst. He had been at Washington to obtain appointments which would encourage recruiting in order to furnish volunteers to the Government, and thus prevent the necessity of a future draft in the city.

We have in hand the 1st chapter of a new story founded on fact by Miss S. Warner, which we expect to commence publishing in two weeks.

MARRIAGES.

On the 18th inst, by the Rev. J. Garland Hamner, Mr. JOHN RESENE to Miss MARY P. B., daughter of James Hitchens, Esq., all of this city. On October 17th, at the residence of the bride, by Rev. Robert White, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Wood and Rev. Samuel Patterson, Mr. M. GUNNINGHAM, of Haver county, Pa., to Miss A. M. SILLIMAN, of Lawrence county, Pa.

On Thursday evening, Nov. 17, 1864, at the residence of J. Smith Harris, Esq., in this city, by the Rev. A. C. C. YER, Mr. DICKSON STANSBURY, of Baltimore County, Md., to Miss MARY B. GARR, formerly of Wheeling, Va.

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Special Notices.

The Installation of Rev. Isaac Riley as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, Pa., is appointed for WEDNESDAY EVENING, November 30th.

Daniel March is to preside and propose the con- stitutional questions. Rev. W. Taylor to give the charge to the people. Rev. John McLeod to give the charge to the people.

Notice.—Buffalo Presbytery hold their stated meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, Pa., on the 1st day of December, at 4 o'clock, P. M. TIMOTHY STILLMAN, Stated Clerk. DENVER, November 21st, 1864.

[From the Editor of the New York Evangelist.] I have used Brown's Weather Strips for the last eight months, and find that they add greatly to the comfort of my house. No more cold drafts from sitting near the windows.—The sashes never rattle even in the wildest winter night. They save much in fuel, while they keep the temperature even and pleasant. Would not be without them for double their cost. Rev. HENRY M. FIRM, No. 55 East 38th st. CHARLES B. BAKER, Agent, 38 South Fifth street.

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Advertisements. OIL SUBSCRIPTIONS, NOTICE. The Books now opened at my office will positively close ON MONDAY NEXT, NOVEMBER 28, unless the list is sooner filled. Those intending to take one or more of the remaining shares should send them by mail or otherwise, at once, as the probabilities are that the last day there will be such a demand all cannot be supplied. THE SONG GARDEN, BY FURNAN M. FITCHESON, Office, N. E. cor. FOURTH and WALNUT, Phila. E. BORDA, Trustee, 327 WALNUT STREET.

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