### THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN

#### GENESEE EVANGELIST.

Religious and Family Newspaper IN THE INTEREST OF THE Constitutional Presbyterian Church. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, AT THE PRESBYTERIAN HOUSE,

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# American Presbuterian.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1865.

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#### THE NEW YEAR.

By divine grace, we are permitted once more to greet our readers upon the opening of the new year. May it be a

We especially greet our readers upon e new year of the American Presby-RIAN. We hope its appearance on ir congregations, and through the v help to make the year a happy one. indard holding up great truths and not, in ecious principles, and urging them paper. on the public conscience and heart. will give no uncertain sound upon Editor in Rochester. the aspects and relations into which signed to lead us.

in the devotion of all its departts chiefly and directly to the promoof spiritual aims. We ask the ers of our readers for this result. it be your earnest petition that this more than ever, the AMERICAN BYTERIAN may be an efficient proof revivals, and a powerful adin elevating the spiritual life of iduals and of the church.

r family department, with the aid well-known authors of the "Wide, World," "Dollars and Cents," bourne House," &c.,—the Misses ner-will be found well adapted to arious wants of the houshold. Few, y, papers devote an entire page, as , to this department. We are conthat it is space well employed. now a word as to the degree of rity enjoyed by the paper. We

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#### PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1865.

there has been a gain above losses, to the subscription list, of one thousand names during the past year. We have Christian Commission and otherwise, with over one thousand copies a week circulation, and a much greater increase in a given time, than has ever before many subscriptions were taken in the early part of the year at very low rates, and as paper and wages rose constantly upon us until the expenses of publication are double what they formerly were, we have published the AMERICAN PRESBY-TERIAN at a very considerable loss; and we do not now know whether we shall not again lose in the year just commencing. Relying upon the Divine favor, and looking to our subscribers for cooperation in prayers and efforts for the increased circulation of the paper, we have determined to go forward. We want fifteen hundred new names added happy one to them all! May the life to our list, to make our paper at present which is thus renewed to us be received rates self-supporting; we hope our friends vith grateful remembrance for the past, will secure them for us—as doubtless nd with consecration, hope, and submis- they can—by prompt and vigorous ion for the future, whether it be pro- efforts. Meanwhile, we have made new nged or brief. Whether we shall live to arrangements for the publication of our

e its close, or whether it shall outlast sheet, which is dressed in new type, and , and its figures mark the conclusion have secured a more regular issue and our mortal race, may we each be able mailing of the paper than, through the appropriate that Divine summary of first year, was always attainable. We hristian philosophy, that matchless epi- have been for some time aided in the me of duty and of consolation: "To preparation of the news and the selec-E TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND TO DIE IS tions for our columns, as well as, to some extent, in our editorial work, by our valued friend and brother, REV. B. B. HOTCHKIN; and it seems meet that this assistance should at this time be acknowledged. ir tables, in their families, among Mr. Hotchkin does not give up his pastoral relations with the neighboring mps of our brave soldiers, will materi- | Church of Marple, which are very happy, but he will continue to bestow a consideheretofore, it will strive to promote rable portion of his time upon the departeir spiritual interests, to inform them ments of the paper above named, and all that is transpiring of importance his skilful use of the pen, known by our own church and the various recent very marked successes in that anches of the Church of Christ, and line, his sound views, his ripe judgment, keep them acquainted with the de- his wide acquaintance with our church, opments of God's providence in these and his genial and spiritual tone have ring times. It will aim to be a already made themselves felt, we doubt

Our Rochester Correspondent, whose will aim to speak words of hearty letters have presented our readers with eer to the patriotic and the loyal, at the fullest and most varied intelligence me or in front of the battle. It will from Central and Western New York, e treason and rebellion and slavery, and have added greatly to the interest of th in their open defenders at the the paper, deserves an introduction to uth, and in their more covert allies at our readers, and a place on our editorial North. It will advocate uncompro- staff. He will be known hereafter as that sluggish acquiescence in a languishing opposition to these great wrongs, REV. CHARLES P. BUSH, Corresponding ing, lukewarm, inefficient condition of the

These are grave periods. The influ questions of the day may be drawn. ence of the newspaper press never was will co-operate with every instrumen- greater for good or for evil, than now. ity aiming to raise the standard of Hundreds and thousands of people look time, their energies, their zeal; which political life and legislation, and to the newspaper for almost all their eking to gain those great national mental food, and receive from it their vances in morals, in politics, and in guiding light and watchwords of opinion. igion, to which the fearful judgment The religious press has no small share God upon our land is most manifestly in these responsibilities. It is absolutely Yet there is one great aim which, the intelligence and enlargement of further; the Church hinders revivals by religious journalists, we feel bound to view of the people, and to the prosep pre-eminently in view—we mean perity of the church. No better work spiritual welfare and advancement of for the church or society can be done, ividual Christians and the Church of than to maintain and circulate the organs blindness to the dark and terrible facts be stimulated to new devices where he is rist. If there has been in our expe- of loyal, wholesome, outspoken, religious in the condition and destiny of men, and nce an urgent feeling of the need of sentiment, and the representatives of per consecration to Christ in our pecu- such great principles in morals and in field of activity, we trust the fruits doctrine, as are cherished by our own it may henceforth be seen in the denomination. We shall at least aim to deserve recognition as fulfilling the conroved spiritual tone of the paper, ditions of usefulness of the religious newspaper in these days, and in our own branch of the church.

> DITTO TO THAT .- The San Francisco Pacific says :- "Rev. J. B. Lowe has advertised to preach on the Camanche ground. Last Sabbath he published his subject. The first head was 'Caveat against Jump-Jim-Crow preaching!' followed by several other caveats. We put in our caveat against any such notices. They are not in him, and which, if they be taken away. the style of the great Preacher, and they | will reveal in full measure the Antichrist are not Presbyterian either."

A GOOD APPOINTMENT.—Rev. C. S Michigan Cavalry, and is now on duty with the regiment in Kentucky. He is a brother highly esteemed in Michigan, and Church which grovels in stupid insensithe pleasure of promising to our readers an | fronted and overcome. enture to inform our readers that excellent letter from his pen next week.

HINDRANCES TO REVIVALS.

A spiritual life has begun its course also supplied the army through the kindled upon earthly altars. A power has been given to the Church adequate to the vast spiritual needs of the fallen race of man. With manifestations suited during the year. This is a much greater to its might and its glory, the Holy Spirit signalized its entrance upon the career for which the ascension of our Lord prebeen enjoyed by the paper. And yet, as pared the way. The heavenly messenger came and opened the new dispensation in a series of revivals, of such power and fruitfulness, that a prosperous and powerful church rose immediately in the midst of Jewish and heathen opposition. And He who thus announced His nature and His peculiar functions, whose very name declares Him to be the Vivifier, whose continual tendency is to press on the Church to a higher—a revived spiritual state, is He not with her still? Is not the Church still possessed of this principle of the new lite, and is it not communicable to the perishing world as truly, as energetically, and in as abundant supply as ever? The very pith of the Saviour's consolations to the disciples, as they contemplated in amazement and sorrow his approaching death, was the permanence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit which He should send in place of Himself. Christ, as man, must die; as God, He abides forever in His Church, and reveals all the riches of His grace and wonders of His power by the converting and sanctifying energy of the Holy Spirit.

> While all the sin in the world is leagued against the kingdom of Christ, and while wicked men resist, and grieve, and quench the Holy Spirit, yet it is in the Church, and among good but imperfect men, that we must look for peculiar hindrances to the reviving work of the our desires for the glory of God, and the Spirit. Such there were, in the view of joint intercessor with us. and helper of the Apostle, in the Church of the Ephesians, whom he charges: Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby ye are sealed, &c.; such, too, he beheld in the almost blameless Church of the Thessalonians, whom he is inspired to admonish is similar language: Quench not the Spirit;—texts both of which are, with an exclusiveness altogether unwarranted, applied to the case of the unrepentant sinner. How many of our clerical readers have used them in preaching to the Church? How many of them cherish the conviction, and act upon it, that their first, truest, most important application is to the household of faith? How many of them keenly feel that the absence, the ness of revivals is due to the quenching, which were committed to her in sufficient measure and degree for the conversion of

the world to Christ? 1. The Church hinders revivals by the means of grace, the regular ordinances of apathy and worldliness of her members. We speak not merely of personal coldness, which may more truly be defined as the lack of revival; we refer rather to Church, of which the vast majority of church members are, for so long a period, guilty. We refer to that conformity to the divine blessing. The evil often mixed the world which involves the affections of God's people, which consumes their allows them to give but the remnant of disrepute, and lest the divine be fortheir life to the service of the Master; saken for human appointments. There which makes them formal in their religion. and robs them of every distinctive feather the phenomena and the necessities of a ture before the world, and of all will or wide-spread religious excitement. Becapacity to exert a positive influence as cause at such a time special and someindispensable to the life, the sympathy, Christians upon the unconverted. Nay, gency of the race; by falling into utterly arities of human nature are necessarily would require, for a report from the of an immortal soul; by a contented citements, because Satan will naturally by Mr. Hale, covering the request of the its own failure to cope, in any appreciable degree, with the problem. It is motionless to use the means placed in its hands, because it is insensible to the indescribable urgency of the demand, and the infinitesimal degree in which the demand has been met. The Church is too selfcomplacent, too fond of recounting its conquests, too much inclined to repose as substantially victorious; it will not look listen to the tumult of that "man of sin." mystery of iniquity, that already worketh, raging to be loosed from the bonds which social order and government throw around of anarchy, the masterpiece of Satan, which, with his great power, his signs and wonders, and deceivableness of unworld, the nominally Christian world, is yet to be converted; in its bosom rankle all the elements of Antichrist, and the

perhaps many, are awake to the startling | despising, decrying, or discouraging a | not but dread and hate a republic as a facts of the situation, and revolve them revival agency because we have at times most serious obstacle to his scheme of upon earth. A fire from above has been gloomily in their minds. They see found it producing evil results. Pene- universal supremacy. The spectacle is wickedness rampant and the Church in- trated with our need of all the agency unbecoming a free people who are making different. Overwide districts Zionmourns, which can be brought into operation for new and costly acquaintance with the and languishes, and withers, from lack of the rescue of the perishing millions of our value of liberty, and who are more than spiritual supplies. Great and rapid ad fellow-men, let us eagerly, gladly welcome ever reminded of the sin and danger of vances are few, are singular, are the noted every instrumentality which the Holy guiding their policy by the low views of exceptions instead of the rule. The work | Spirit has used in quickening the impeni- party expediency. of God, on the whole, advances; but so tent masses, and in revealing His true slowly, it is like the advance of the sea nature as a giver of spiritual life on a of the coast of Norway from the sea; it the Church and the world with more than needs the lapse of a generation to mark | Pentecostal effusions of his grace. its progress. The living portion of the Church begins to regard a revival as an exceptional state, and cease to look or to pray for it, save in that aspect. A revival is something wonderful, out of the ordinary course of nature or of grace; a large ingathering is not to be looked for every year. A certain gradual growth comes to be considered the normal, healthy condition of the Church, and if a handful appear at every communion season, it is not only matter of gratulation, which is proper enough, but it is considered perfectly satisfactory, and the Church is of course reported as in a

flourishing condition. This, then, is the view taken by many of the true friends of Zion. The Holy Spirit is not actually expected to manifest His true nature and operations save in a limited, incidental way. There is little or no large expectancy or holy confidence in Him as the author of revivals. The greatness and the urgency of the work to be done is indeed beheld, and dying souls are watched with yearning for their deliverance, but the conviction, which would seem inseparable from these experiences, that the compassionate, longsuffering Holy Spirit, the author of all our infirmities, with groanings which cannot be uttered, Himself desires the salvation, speedily and by multitudes, of these objects of our solicitude, and is ready to repeat the scenes of Pentecost in an equally united, praying, and believing Church; this conviction is not fixed, clear, controlling in the minds of the true people of God.

This unbelief we reckon as a hindrance to revivals. It paralyzes effort, it produces acquiescence in the existing state of things, it cools the ardor of prayer, it dishonors God, and it paves the way for another and a still greater hindrance, which we now name:

3. The ill-timed conservatism of many fewness, the transiency, the ineffective- of the ministry and laity in regard to all special movements, measures, agencies, by the Church itself, of those influences and states of the Church. Revivals are not merely despaired of, nor yet viewed with indifference only; they are suspected, feared, disliked, repelled. The ordinary the Church, the gradual and steady working of the truth in methods not interfering with the usual arrangements of business and society, notwithstanding their inadequate results, are insisted upon as allsufficient for the purposes of the Church and the world, as in fact alone of divine appointment, and in the way to receive with revivals is represented as overbalancing the good. Fear is felt lest the regular services of the sanctuary fall into arises an utter incapacity for appreciating not shown in matters of the gravest to answer the numerous inquiries, "What inadequate views of the worth and peril developed under great and general ex- Finance Committee, a bill was submitted assailed in any unusual manner, these conservatives brand the whole procedure as a delusion, and set their faces against all such developments. Like the Thessalonians, they quench the Spirit and despise prophesyings, because they have

more sensitiveness than zeal for the truth. It is, alas, too true, that not a few

THE GREATNESS OF ROMANISM IN THE EYES OF POLITICIANS.

Any act of deference to the Romish Church from the politicians who govern by their aid, let it be. The conjunction New York city, is not to be wondered will be appropriate. Both will fall into at. They seek power, and they have the ditch. But let us hold our political no scruples as to whence it can be leaders who have shaken off their slavish obtained. Once they found it in alliance deference to the South, responsible for with the men who now figure as the secession leaders of the South; and at of religionists equally hostile to freedom, the last Presidential election they made and whose power to cajole to mbarrass a desperate attempt to open communica and to injure the cause of freedom, is tion with them again. But failing that, testified by every page of modern history. they naturally turn to that body of men in the North who are even more com- and bloodshed, one voke of servitude pactly organized than the pro-slavery Democracy of the South ever was, and in like manner must be broken too? who have shown themselves just as ready to play into the hands of politicians for a consideration. We mean our Irish Catholic population. No doubt the 'peace" proclivities of this class of voters gave them additional favor, and were a new proof of availability in the eyes of the secession sympathizers who rule New York city. Especially the demonstration of the great mass of the Romanists and their leaders in the late came to his residence on the 21st ult., and election, against the government, drew after a pleasant social interview departed, the regards of the New York Councilmen leaving behind five hundred dollars as a towards them, and they have recently practical testimonial of their affection. The shown their appreciation of the position Church in Erie, Mich., have complimented of the church on public affairs, by voting their deserving pastor, Rev. S. Fleming, several large sums to Romish institutions—as \$5,000 to the College of St. Francis Xavier, \$30,000 to St. Joseph's Asylum, \$15,000 to the Society for Destitute Catholic Children, and \$3,000 to from his parishioners, "pleasant and gene-St. Theresa's Industrial School. It is rous." Rev. P. S. Cleland, of Greenwood, superfluous to say that no such appro- Ind., the twenty-fifth anniversary of whose for Mr. Lincoln. These appropriations, made in almost the same breath with a refusal to vote a moderate sum to the

unsectarian useful Children's Aid Society, do not surprise us. But our readers will find in the Congressional proceedings loyal public men, which does seem to us own city. surprising. It appears that one of the superstitious practices connected with the order of the Sisters of Charity-in many respects an eminently useful and charitable institution-consists in wearing certain goods, the material of which cannot be produced in this country, and must therefore be imported, under all the prevailing disadvantages, from a foreign market. Whereupon, the Mother Superintendent of the order sends a petition to that the order cannot pay the high charges required, and asking for a remission of the duties on the article. The petition was presented by Hon. John P. Hale, and with a promptness frequently importance, was referred to the Finance Committee. As if this was not a sufficient proof of deference on the part of on that church (lately \$5,300) is paid, what novel arrangements must be made the dignitaries of the American Senate, ground included; that they are now worto the head of a Popish order, on the shall I do to be saved?" because peculi-next day, without waiting as decency lady Superintendent, and referred to the Committee.

Now if this very prompt and deferential action was designed to relieve "the Sisters" from suffering, or to facilitate their charitable labors, it might not be worth while to remark upon the distincseen some mixtures of disorder with the tion thus drawn in favor of a sectarian manifestations, and because they have organization; but as the legislation proposed would make the government the ally of an absurd superstition, the special zealous workers for Christ in the great protector of traffic in Popish rags and steadily at the roaring lion going about harvest field of revivals, have themselves mummery, we think it is demanded of and seeking whom he may devour, or proved hindrances and given cause for evangelical and liberal people of all or Esq., another elder, then came forward and stumbling. Some have shown such a of no denomination, to lift up their prothat embodiment of lawlessness, that want of discretion in their measures, have test against it. We protest against this proven so little capable of guiding or in- special favor shown to Popery in its structing an excited multitude, have lived most Popish aspects. We protest against such eccentric lives, and indulged such this extraordinary deference on the part extravagant notions; some have so un- of the highest deliberative body of the sparingly denounced the people and the nation, to the requests of a sectarian ministry of God, and have sowed such official for sectarian purposes. We prodiscords between pastor and people, that test against this accommodating the they must bear no small share of the United States revenue arrangements to expect to enter into their new house of blame for prevailing prejudices against the request of a sect, that has made the the appointment of chaplain of the Fourth | quished by the revived Church. The revivals and revival agencies. We do most palpable demonstrations of lukenot wonder that some are driven into a warmness and factiousness during our remote and chill conservatism on the struggle. We look with amazement at whole subject; but let us beware of rethe course of loyal statesmen who seem ceiving such an unfortunate impression; utterly oblivious to the lessons of recent wherever else known, and well adapted to bility to this fact, hinders the work of instead of quenching the Spirit and devents, and who act still as if something the work which he has assumed. We have revivals by which the evil is to be conspising to one readers as a something bath. We hear the influences of the hour the pleasure of promising to one readers as a something bath. We hear the influences of the hour the pleasure of promising to one readers as a something bath. We hear the influences of the hour the pleasure of promising to one readers as a something bath. We hear the influences of the hour the pleasure of promising to one readers as a something bath. We hear the influences of the hour the pleasure of promising to one readers as a something bath. prove all things, and hold fast that which their party, by conciliating these blind spoken of as delightful. Ten new members 2. The Church is unbelieving. Some, is good. Let us not hinder a revival by followers of a spiritual despot, who can were received—nine of them on profession.

We may be sure that in those new combinations for political power which upon our Atlantic coast, or like the rise great scale, and as ready now to bless will follow our restored union, the emissaries of the Pope calculate on playing an important part. If the pitiful fragments of the pro-slavery Democracy, which like remnants of corruption in the regenerate man, will still infest the renovated Republic, choose to dally with them and dream of regaining lost power What does it avail to break by violence only to take up and bear another, which

## the Churches.

TESTIMONIALS TO PASTORS.—We have another instalment of those comforting incidents in pastoral experience. The friends of Rev. Nelson Millard, of Montclair, N. J., with a present of one hundred and fifty dollars. Rev. J. L. French, of Batavia, O., makes grateful acknowledgment of a visit priation would have been made had the pastorate was recently made the occasion Catholic vote been given substantially of an interesting celebration, acknowledges the receipt of money and other valuable articles, contributed at that time as tokens of the regard of an affectionate people. Rev. E. S. Weaver speaks gratefully of a like remembrance from the people of Mason published in our last paper, an illustra- and Dick's Creek in the same State. We tion of the influence still possessed by notice, in another c. lumn, another of those the scarlet woman, even over our most | pleasant episodes in pastoral life in our

Rev. Geo. F. Wiswell, of Wilmington, received five hundred dollars from his affectionate people; his wife having previously received a silver tea service.

REV. JOHN McLEOD AND THE SOUTH-WESTERN CHURCH.—When the South-Western Church in this city secured the pastoral services of Mr. McLeod, they obtained a man whose efficiency was exactly Congress stating the facts, complaining adapted to their emergency. When he took the post, he obtained a field finely adapted to his untiring love of gathering in and building up. We learn that he isabroad among our generous people, endeavoring to secure aid for the completion of the newly erected edifice for his church. Let it be remembered that the whole debt shipping in a basement, and are in real need of better accommodation; that \$6,000 will now finish their house, and in fair probability render them a self-supporting church, and we believe their present appeal for help will secure a substantial response. Not the least important in this connection. is the fact that, at their last communion. twelve persons were added to their number, all but two on profession.

> STILL THEY COME.—At the close of the prayer meeting at Olivet Presbyterian Church last Friday night, the people were requested by one of the elders, to keep their seats for a little while. H. R. Raiguel, addressing him and presenting an envelope. in the name of the congregation, containing \$353. The surprise and pleasure of the occasion seemed to be shared by both the parties concerned, and was accepted as an auspicious preparation for another year's work, during which, the congregation worship, and are making appropriate efforts to that end.

Interesting Communion.—Dr. Marchs Church (Clinton street) enjoyed an unusually precious communion season last Sab-