

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1865.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ANNIVERSARIES.

The Anniversaries of the St. Lawrence County Benevolent Societies are to be held this year on the 17th, 18th, and 19th days of January, at Madrid.

It is a three days' meeting, to consider the interests of religion and humanity at home and abroad.

We may be pardoned, perhaps, for feeling a special interest in Foreign Missions, and we notice that Hon. C. T. Hulburd, the President of the St. Lawrence County Missionary Society, auxiliary to the American Board, is out with a brief, earnest, and appropriate circular, calling upon the pastors and churches of the county to remember this good cause.

SABBATH SCHOOL FESTIVALS.

What a "Merry Christmas" the children have been enjoying in all this region. We hear of Sunday School festivals almost without number.

It was a joyous occasion. The best of feeling seemed to animate all minds, and what was still more, they raised \$215, clear of all expenses, for the missionary cause.

OTHER COMPLIMENTS.

The friends of Rev. Dr. Smith, of the North Church, Buffalo, we found last week bestirring themselves to give him a merry Christmas.

BLIND WILLIAM.

There is a well-known and worthy character, bearing this designation, who stands habitually in one spot on Main street, in Buffalo, to beg.

The Sunday School of this church numbers 240 scholars, and the whole school is trained to systematic benevolence, having raised in the last year the sum of \$300, one-third of which is devoted to Mission Schools in India.

ANOTHER GENEROUS THING.

We notice in The Utica Herald (one of the best papers, by the way, published in this or any other State) that T. L. Kingsley & Son, of Utica, the proprietors of a large clothing establishment, gave notice that they would give the entire profits of their sales on Saturday to the Christian Commission.

MORE "COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON."

Twenty-six young men of the First Presbyterian Church, in Watertown, have presented Rev. J. J. Porter, the new pastor, with a handsome sleigh and robes for his winter rides.

THE BUFFALO "SANHEDRIM."

So we may call the Monthly Meeting of Pastors and Elders. It is the Buffalo churches in council, by their proper delegates. It needs no argument to show that it is a most excellent arrangement.

Thus each brother may get at the united wisdom of the body; valuable information possessed by any one in regard to impostors and shams, may easily be communicated to all; unity of thought, and plan, and purpose, in regard to the interests of the Church, is thus secured.

THE OLDEST LIVING YALENSIAN.

We see it stated by The Utica Herald that the oldest living graduate of Yale College is the Hon. Erskine Bacon, father of the Hon. William J. Bacon, of Utica. He is a graduate of the class of 1794, and was eighty-eight years of age in September last.

A DANGEROUS MAN.

Such, we are sorry, or glad, to say, the well-known lecturer, Mr. JOHN B. GOUGH, is becoming. Perhaps he cannot help it, perhaps it is no fault of his; yet it is fearful to think of the peril to life and limb which must now be encountered in order to hear him.

WE EXPECT HIM IN THIS CITY NEXT WEEK,

and the same scene will doubtless be enacted here, as, in fact, it was last winter. How glad some of us less fortunate mortals would be to get a small portion of that popularity, a part of which it would seem as though he might so easily spare, and yet have enough for all practical purposes.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

The year is slipping away quietly enough on this side of the Atlantic, while with you it rushes out in darkness and storm. We find it very difficult here to realize the terrible reality of your position when not even a distant sound of the great struggle reaches our ears, and we know of the carnage only by report.

There was a rumor about, that poor old Dr. Philpotts, the Bishop of Exeter, was about to resign his see, but it appears that the wish was father to the thought, but had no reason for it. He is now 87 years of age, "but his mental powers are unimpaired"—a statement one can hardly believe.

Another bit of ecclesiastical gossip, is that the Dean of Dromore recently preached the anniversary sermons in the Donaghmore Primitive Methodist Chapel. If this be true, I can only say hurrah for the Dean!

SEVERE MEASURES AGAINST THE POLISH MONASTERIES.

Grave events have occurred in Poland, grave because they now place the Czar of Russia and the enormous Greek Church in direct and angry antagonism with Romanism once more.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR SOLDIERS' PAPERS.

From W. E. Tenbrook's children—Christ-mas money, \$10 00. Right papers, six months, to Chaplain Armstrong, Fourth Michigan Cavalry.

LIST OF NEW SUBSCRIBERS IN THE SYNOD OF PENNSYLVANIA TO JANUARY 3d, 1865.

DEATH OF GEORGE W. FOBES.—Our church has been called to sustain another great loss. A Christian merchant, a ruling elder in Clinton street Church, and one of its founders, a faithful participant in our ecclesiastical assemblies, widely known, and just as widely useful and beloved, has gone to his rest.

RUMORS AND GOSSIP. DEAN STANLEY'S LAST.

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EVERY MAN wishes to have his own individual farm, or lot; but the grave-yard is the common lot.

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Then the Dean of Westminster, Dr. Stanley, has been giving vent to more of his shallow and brilliant folly, in a lecture at Islington, on the three centennaries of 1864—Calvin, Galileo, and Shakespeare. Calvin, he said, was an instance that a man may be greatly esteemed in his own times, and his fame become, greatly diminished after death.

PREMIUMS FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

CASH PREMIUMS.—For one subscriber, paying full rates in advance, seventy-five cents; for four subscribers, paying in the same manner, \$5.00, and for more at the same rate.

VALUABLE BOOKS.

For four new names, paying at full rates in advance, we offer the choice of JOHN HUSS AND HIS TIMES, 2 vols. 8vo., SHELDON'S HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE, 2 vols. 8vo., LANGE'S GREAT HOMILETICAL COMMENTARY, 1 vol., royal 8vo., or Gillet's HISTORY OF PRESBYTERIANISM. These books will be sent, post paid, on the receipt of the names and the money.

ASSEMBLY'S DIGEST.

For Three new subscribers, paying as above, we will send, post paid, a copy of the Assembly's Digest.

THE DIGEST WITH JOHN HUSS, OR THE HISTORY OF DOCTRINE.

For a club of ten, paying club rates in advance, we will send, post-paid, both the DIGEST and JOHN HUSS, or Shedd's HISTORY, as may be preferred.

CHILDREN OF THE BATTLE-FIELD.

This elegantly illustrated piece of music, the words of which were first published as a prize poem in the American Presbyterian, and which has been sung with great applause, especially in Western New York, will be sent, post-paid, for a single subscriber paying in advance.

IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT PREMIUMS ARE AWARDED FOR BONA FIDE SUBSCRIBERS ONLY—NOT FOR NAMES PAID FOR BY THE PERSON SEEKING THE PREMIUMS.

NO PREMIUMS GIVEN FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS OF MINISTERS OR HOME MISSIONARIES, UNLESS THEY PAY AT FULL RATES, THE TERMS BEING AS LOW AS PRACTICABLE ALREADY.

Religious Intelligence.

PRESBYTERIAN.

MISSIONARY REINFORCEMENT.

The Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, (O. S.), has just sent to India two new missionaries, Rev. Messrs. Joseph H. Myers and S. H. Kellogg, accompanied by their wives. They sailed from Boston to Calcutta on the 13th ult.

TO THE POINT.

The Presbytery of Marion, O. S., at its recent meeting in Upper Sandusky, adopted the following resolutions: 1. That it is the sacred duty of every member of each particular Church to attend regularly and conscientiously upon the ministry of the word, and other means of grace, at the place and by the minister regularly chosen by the congregation of which he is a member, whether that minister be the pastor or temporary supply.

2. That the practice so deplorably prevalent in many parts of the Church, of members absenting themselves from the ordinances of God's house, as regularly administered to the Churches of which they are members, on the ground that something on the part of the minister or some member, has displeased them or some action of the Church has grieved them, is an error, and a sin against the order of God's house and the authority of its head.

CHURCH EXTENSION IN LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND. The Presbyterians in Liverpool are just now, wide awake over a colonizing enterprise from St. Peter's, at present the only church of our denomination in that city. At a congregational soiree, held in St. Peter's, on the 13th ult., where more than five hundred sat down to tea, the chairman, Rev. James Paterson, stated that he was able to calculate upon £2500 toward the enterprise from friends outside of the congregation.

BELFAST PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE.

was opened for the session of 1864-65 on Thursday, Nov. 10th. It is a Theological Institution, having professors of Moral Philosophy, (Gibson); Hebrew, (Murphy); Divinity, (Edgar); Church History and Pastoral Theology, (Killen); and Biblical Criticism, (Porter). Rev. H. Cooke, D.D., LL.D., is President. Professor Gibson delivered the introductory lecture, a masterly and brilliant performance, on "The Knowledge of Christ, the True Theory of Human Development."

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN.

A renewed effort is making to change the name of this denomination—the movers desire to be called "The American Presbyterian Church." Rev. D. N. Porter says "a change of name will do us as much good as the change of our status on slavery."

REFORMED DUTCH.

The Reformed Dutch Church is called to mourn the death of the venerable Rev. Dr. Alexander McClelland, for nineteen years professor of Biblical Literature and of Oriental Languages in the Theological Seminary in New Brunswick. The event took place on the 19th of the last month. The Christian Intelligencer says of him, "Possessing an enthusiastic love of study, and urged by an insatiable thirst for philological knowledge, he became a great master of the Hebrew and its cognates, at a time when Oriental acquisitions of this kind were the property of only a very few in this country. The majority, as we suppose of the present pastors of the Reformed Dutch Church, received their training in part under Dr. McClelland, they all are witnesses of his surpassing ability as a teacher, and of his overflowing fullness. He was not a mere philologist, but was truly a theologian of wide research and of most comprehensive views. His professional chair was often the throne from which he thundered with an impassioned and entrancing eloquence that displayed the riches of his mind, and the scope of singular genius. The professor loved to preach the gospel as often as his strength and occasion would permit, and the people loved to hear him. A rumor that he was about to occupy the pulpit on a given day would crowd the building to repletion, so great was the desire of the students and of his fellow-townsmen to listen to his fresh, thoughtful, and eloquent sermons."

BAPTIST.

A NEW "BOSTON NOTION."

We learn from The Chronicle that the laymen of the Baptist churches of Boston and vicinity have formed a "Social Union," for the promotion of friendly-intercourse between the pastors and churches of the neighborhood. This club meets monthly, at which time a sumptuous repast is furnished, after which, denominational matters are discussed in a friendly, social way. Sometimes the Union meets at the houses of its members, and sometimes in a fine room in Tremont Temple, which has been dedicated as "Social Hall." This Society is composed of the most intelligent, active, and wealthy Baptists of the region, and its meetings are said to be very pleasant and profitable.

REVIVALS.

Another shower grace, says The Chronicle, is resting upon our beloved University at Lewisburg. Many are very thoughtful; some have professed conversion, and one young man has been baptized. The revival is of recent origin. Meetings for prayer are deeply solemn and well attended. Hopes are entertained that the work now confined among the students may spread and become general in all the churches.

Revivals of more or less power are also reported from Reidsburgh, Pa.; Port Jervis, Pa.; South Carrollton, Ky.; Sheldonsville, Mass., and the Tenth Baptist Church, Philadelphia.

ARIZONA.

Prescott, the capital of Arizona Territory, it was thought in August last, would have one hundred houses by Christmas. August 11th was in the midst of the racing season. There is irregular Baptist preaching on Sunday. A Sunday-school and Bible class are in successful operation, and pupils, including several young ladies engaged in the mission day-school, are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the teacher. There was not a Romish priest in the whole region, which is a wonder indeed.

LUTHERAN.

LUTHERANISM IN WISCONSIN.

The Lutheran Church is making good progress in Wisconsin, having now some 59 ministers and 190 congregations, but is troubled in keeping harmony between the foreign and native-born preachers. Some valuable men have been received from the Mission House at Basle. One of them, of German parentage, is a Russian by birth, from one of the German Lutheran colonies on the Black Sea, which were established during the reign of the Empress Catharine, who so zealously encouraged the emigration of Germans to her dominions. In the south of Russia there are now some sixty churches, consisting almost exclusively of these emigrants.

METHODIST.

A CHURCH-DEBT-PAYING EPIDEMIC.

is just now prevalent in the Methodist Church. One Church in Brooklyn has just wiped out an indebtedness of \$17,000: one on Washington Square in New York, has accomplished a like result by raising \$20,000; St. Paul's in the same city, paid off, a while ago \$30,000, in part; and old John street is now making an effort for \$13,000 for the same purpose. The Methodist, from which we condense this statement adds,—"The Methodists of Philadelphia, too, are bestirring themselves. Trinity, St. George's, and Fifth-street have freed themselves from old and burdensome incumbrances. A meeting has recently been held, under the call of Bishop Simpson, to promote the efficiency and unity of Methodism in that city, and especially to consider the best means of liquidating church debts. We anticipate good results from this beginning; and we suggest that like meetings of Methodists be held in all our cities, and that the questions relating to church extension, church building, and church debts be fully discussed and plans devised for the steady development of Methodism in the great centres of population."

PREVENTIVE AGAINST BACKSLIDING.

A correspondent of The Methodist writes the following:—"Send me about two hundred missionary cards for pastors, two hundred pictures of missions, ten collector's books, and one juvenile certificate. I am about entering more fully upon my missionary work, and want all the helps that I can get. Last year we raised our contributions from \$45 to \$175, and by the help of the Lord we will increase the per centage this year. The Missionary Advocate which we ordered continues to come. Our plan is to circulate missionary intelligence among the people, and keep the subject before them, setting them to read, think, and feel. When you get people truly converted to the missionary work they never backslide."

CONGREGATIONALISM AND PRESBYTERIANISM IN THE WEST.

The Christian Register, (Unitarian organ,) has an article in review of ministers of the N. S. Assembly of last spring, which says:—"The Orthodox Congregationalists are gaining on this body in the West, and as the war will spread New England ideas, the church polity represented by Congregationalism, which is preeminently a child of New England, will gain in strength. The National Convention, soon to meet in Boston, will give momentum to this ecclesiasticism. Our sympathies, of course, are with Congregationalism."

It must be remembered that the Register speaks with the statistics of only one branch of the Presbyterian church for data. Its sympathies in the case are natural. Congregationalism has ever proved a better soil than Presbyterianism for the growth of Unitarianism.

SABBATH SCHOOLS IN MARYLAND.

At a state convention of Sabbath-school Teachers, recently held in Baltimore, the following interesting and highly encouraging facts were brought out. There have been organized during the year, as far as reported, about one hundred and twenty schools, composed of about nine thousand six hundred scholars and about nine hundred and fifty teachers. In addition to these there have been gathered into schools already in existence about three thousand neglected children; so that the Sunday-school army in Maryland has increased during the past year twelve thousand six hundred children and eleven hundred teachers. A large number of Sunday-school children have become members of the Church, and many schools have had extensive revivals of religion.

ITEMS.

The Presbytery of Buffalo has chosen Rev. Wm. Waith, of Lancaster, Rev. Sylvester Cowles, of Randolph, and Walter Elders, of Andover, as Messrs. Moses Bristol, of Buffalo, Commissioners to the next General Assembly.—New York Christians have in contemplation to establish an "up town" daily prayer meeting on the Fulton street model. The latter is entirely too remote for the upper wards.—Union Theological Seminary has an attendance of 102 students, with 2 resident licentiates. It has educated 646 young men for the ministry. We learn that the effort to complete the endowment goes prosperously forward.—The whole number of Protestant Missionaries in China is 95. There are about 2,800 church members, nearly one third of whom are in and around Amoy.—A new church has been erected at Eddyville, Iowa, of the seats of which only the iron nails are to be sent, thus arranging for every second seat through the house to remain a free seat.—Bishop Bronwell, of the Connecticut diocese, senior Bishop of the Prot. Epis. church in the U. S., is lying very ill, and there is little hope of his recovery.—Capt. Winslow recently stated, at a public meeting in New York, that during the long cruise of the Kearsarge, only two Sabbaths passed without religious service on board. In addition to prayers, he himself read the Scriptures, and addressed the men. Far different from the case of the Florida, as narrated by Mr. Williams, who was captured, and a prisoner on board that pirate near China, Semmes did not know it was Sunday until reminded of it by one of the ship's company.—The school at Freedmen's village reopened Oct. 1st most encouragingly. About 300 scholars attend the day-school. The night-schools are also full. Rev. Mr. Aiken continues to minister to the religious interests of the more than 2,000 residents in the village, and with evidence of God's blessing in the conversion of souls.—The Freedmen's Relief Association has experienced a sad bereavement in the death of Mr. David H. Smith, its agent at Vicksburg, a faithful, and every way valuable laborer, and a man of great Christian devotedness.—During the year, 81,084 volumes, including Bibles, Testaments, and portions of the Scriptures, have been circulated by the American Bible Society in the Sandwich Islands, Cepion, Turkey, India, China, Germany and Russia, in six or seven different foreign languages.—A particularly good thing in the line of donation visits, was done a week or two since, in the neighboring borough of Media. Rev. J. Carlie, a super-annuated Methodist minister was the recipient of such a visit, the avails of which were about \$150.—Petroleum is now canonized. At Rome the Holy Congregation of the Rites, after examination of the article by chemists, has signed a decree permitting its use in holy anointings, in place of the Olive oil, where the latter cannot be obtained.—The Papal government has found that the detention of the Bibles of foreigners was becoming a little perilous, and has issued a decree that, for the future no Englishman's Bible is to be touched on his arrival, or during his sojourn in Rome.—We have, through the organ of the "Church Union Society," the important information that the cloak which St. Paul left at Troas is generally supposed to have been a Eucharistic vestment.—The consecration of Rev. A. C. Cox, as Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Western New York, is appointed to take place in Trinity Church, Geneva, Jan. 4th. Dr. Cox assumes a dignity, in the line of which he was born, his father having long been a distinguished Bishop in our own church.