THE-AMBRICAN-PRESBYTE RIAN ANDIT

#### GENESEE EVANGELIST. A Religious and Family Newspaper,

IN THE INTEREST OF THE Constitutional Presbyterian Church.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY. AT THE PRESBYTERIAN HOUSE,

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1865.

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#### PERVERTED VIEWS AND FALSE EX-PECTATIONS OF REVIVALS.

'.". After all," says Dr. Bushnell, in his Christian Nurture, "there is no cheap way of making our children Christians. Nothing but to practically live for it application to the sentiment, and say there is no cheap way of making Christians of our fellow-men. Revivals must not be viewed as designed to save trouble. to take the work of converting the world out the hands of the church, or to relieve nomena; the rapidity and ease with which multitudes are savingly impressed; the crowding into a few weeks of results to which years of ordinary labors would have proved inadequate; the extraordinary power with which the means of grace are attended at such times, may suggest, and, indeed, have suggested, the idea of turning over the entire work of the church to such seasons and such agencies as these. On a superficial view, the thought is but too natural. If these sweeping, powerful manifestations, these wide-spread excitements, this secret allpervading influence alone can convert the world, then surely we have nothing to do but to hand over the entire undertaking to the reviving Spirit. We need expect nothing of any account from the ordinary ministrations of the word and ordinances. The world will jog on in its old course. Here and there, perhaps, a conversion may occur. But a drought must of course be expected, a winter season among the other seasons of the year. We need not trouble ourselves overmuch for the unconverted while these seasons last. We need not pay any unusual attention to the duties of religion. Meetings for prayer and worship may be comparatively few. Why interrupt our innocent gajeties, or the intensity of our pursuit for learning or for wealth, by an inconvenient number of , church appointments, when nothing of a special nature, in the way of results, is to be expected? Why may not the pulpit relax its evangelical faithfulness, and directness, and simplicity, and conform somewhat to the reigning taste of the people for literary entertainment, for the excitements of the lecture room, or for topics of merely moral and social interest? In short, there is a disposition to post Pone almost the entire great work of re-iligion to seasons of revival, to put up with declension, and to run the risk of the loss of immortal souls, who may be called to their account meanwhile. There is a sort of indolent expectation ere long to be caught up in some general religions movement, originating outside and independent of ourselves, in which all the reddness, and neglects, and worldliness of past time will be more than made up, and all the results of gospel teaching that can be wished will be realized. Even some Christian families are brought up, as Dr. Bushnell says, "for the converting times." We trust the shameful and perilous neglect which such a view of revivals is described as introducing into piety living and happy; characters conthe household, is very rare, yet we transcribe part of Dr. Bushnell's powerful description, as the best exhibition of the false view of revivals which we can give:-"To bring up a family for revivals of religion requires, alas! about the smallest is revival which the whole evangelical possible amount of consistency and Chris than assiduity. \* \* \* Any one can see, off a great part of their responsibilities, and nfort themselves in utter vanity and <sup>9</sup>Worldliness of life, by just holding it as a principal hope for their children, that they thereof go forth as brightness, and the are to be finally taken up and rescued from sin by revivals of religion. As it costs much to be steadily and thif ormly spiritual. 



#### Genesee Evangelist, No. 978. ÷Ē# PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1865.

of expectation that permits, for the present, | PROGRESS IN WILMINGTON, DEL. nodes of life and conduct which they cannot quite approve. \* \* \* The family prayers grow cold and formal, and are often intermitted. \* \* \* In this kind of wington in Hanover Street Church, element the children are to have their mington, in Hanover Street Church, growth and nurture, but the parents piously tope that there will some time be a revival make up what they conceive to be only the sermon was preached by Rev. Geo. natural infirmity of their lives."

dishonorable, and dangerous view of revivals, but it is taking an attitude essen- evangelist was delivered by Rev. W. tially antagonistic to them. It is pursuing a course which must land those who profitable, the choir rendering very acpursue it in utter deadness to the power ceptable assistance. Mr. Edwards is of religion. It will make of them mighty engaged by the Hanover Street people, obstacles to the breaking out of a revival to labor in the chapel they have recentwill be perpetually grieving away-the Wilmington. They have liberally unbarrenness will surround them. The his work is no excuse for their lapse into blessing upon their own pastor's labors. indifference. Just as sovereign is He in his work with the individual heart, yet is the sinner, on that account, excusable for indolence in all spiritual affairs, for an inactive waiting, or for persisting in all and handsome presents about Christmas, his old courses of worldliness and dis- have added \$300 to his salary, making obedience? To plead in defence of his it \$2000 per annum. Thus our churches

conduct that the Spirit has not chosen to are manifestly on the advance in this makes it sure." We may give a wider convert him is nigh to blasphemy; yet beautiful and loyal city. In fact, we has the inactive, formal, worldly church scarcely expect three months to pass, any better right to plead it? In fact she now-a-days, without some cheering word, has less right than the unregenerate man; for the temple of the Holy Ghost is the mington churches. In addition to their Let none be surprised if they gain tem-Church. He is given to her as a perpetual indwelling influence, to take the place of the risen and ascended Lord. If | Delaware a free State, in five minutes, if individual Christians of their everyday place of the risen and ascenard Lora. It they could. And when it is done, for it pray, repent, believe NOW, in confidence that the Holy Spirit is now ready to convert him, much more must the church live and act upon the belief that the quickening influences of the Spirit are constantly within her reach. She must arise and shine, and simultaneously will it appear that her light, the light by which she shines, is come. She must awake from sleep and arise from the dead; Dispatch. and in that act she shall find that Christ is giving her light It is her indolent, unbelieving, waiting for that sovereign light that keeps her in eclipse. It is her own false, perverse confidence in revivals that shuts out revivals. Her misconception is gross and lamentable. Revival is regarded as an exception in her condition, brought about by a supernatural agency, coldness and inefficiency being her normal state; whereas, not to be revived should be the marvel of her experience, in whom dwells the divine and overeign Author of revivals, whose greatest act of sovereignty was to choose her Seward on peace, it would not, indeed, for the vehicle of his gracious manifesta- have been possible for them to procure tions to the world. Not to be revived at the independence they are fighting for, any time should be her grief and her or to stay the amendment to the Constiburden. To be as salt which has lost its tution, by which their peculiar institusavor, as inert substance without leaven, tion is abolished. But they might have as a lamp exhausted of oil, should sting saved their lives and the lives of their her with shame and repentance before associates; they might have saved their God. The chief business of the unrevived estates from confiscation ; possibly they church should be to get revived as speedily | might have procured some guaranty of as possible, instead of settling herself to compensation for the loss of their proa contented acquiescence in the mournful fact, and adapting all her arrangements in the closet, the family, the Sabbath the slave power of the South would school, and the pulpit, to a condition of have preserved some of its ancient presspiritual hybernation and dormiency. Even for the sake of quietly and symmetrically cultivating our Christian char- with an extensive affiliation at the acter, and maturing our acquaintance North. Old political ties, the reputation with Christian truth, if such a thing were for military prowess they have gained, possible in a state of spiritual mediocrity, we dare not let the church shrink out of able to exact favorable terms in making its bold aggressive posture, or the pulpit peace, would, doubtless, give them no lose its distinct attitude of authority, embassage. and entreaty to unregenerate men, while their perishing masses foll by us in undiminished volume, and in un their cause during the war. The antimoved obduracy to destruction Each individual Christian, each Christian household, and each pulpit must aim to place appeared in a peace and a submission, lished at the Summit House Hospital the church altogether, and for all periods, on a higher spiritual level. Revival should join revival, until the phenomena became continuous-not in all their peculiarities or their extreme degrees of excitement or extraordinary labors-but in all that is essential to a true awakening: sistent with profession; prayer-meetings animated, earnest, varied, enjoyable; preaching direct, evangelical, earnest, authoritative, with the highest practical objects plainly in view; family influences | should go free, and so he suffered Phashaped for the conversion of the young rach to harden his heart, to let every op- singing. While the hymn is sung, the at the earliest reasonable period. This church must hold before it as an indis in his rebellion, until he madly plunged Bible is then read, and one of the solpensable object to be sought, as a per- himself and his host into the Red Sea, manent condition. For Zion's sake let her in the very wake of God's miraculous heartfelt prayer this is, in which the not hold her peace, and for Jerusalem's interposition for the salvation of his teacher is never forgotten, but God's sake not rest, until the righteousness people, and was overwhelmed in the re- richest blessing is asked "for these salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. MonronAir, N. J.-The salary of the a Red Sea overthrow to the slave power believe that amongst all these men, not

Mr. W. H. EDWARDS, a graduate of Princeton Seminary, was ordained as an February 8th. The Moderator, Rev. John W. Mears, presided, and proof religion, and that so God will mercifully posed the Constitutional questions. The age repudiates them. They have striven F. Wiswell, on Mark x. 1; the or-Now this is not only a terribly false, daining prayer was offered by Rev. H. J. Gaylord; and the charge to the Aikman. The services were solemn and so far as their influence extends. They ly crected, in the suburbs of the City of capable of systematically inflicting on Holy Spirit, and wide spread waste and dertaken his entire support. We rejoice glut the rage of a Torquemada, or shame at these indications of vitality in that a red Indian-whose kindest act to our sovereignty of the Holy Spirit in reviving | ancient church and look for an abundant | starving, freezing prisoners, is to suffer as well as those of their missionary.

THE CENTRAL CHURCH, not satisfied with making their pastor, Rev. Geo. F. Wiswell, and his lady, very valuable some note of progress from these Wilother good works, they would pass the Constitutional Amendment and make will be,---the share of these faithful pastors and people in the result, will be by no means insignificant.

#### SELF-DOOMED.

"There is but one thing left us, fight fight, fight."—Richmond Examiner. "We ask no more for peace."-Richmond

"We are reinvigorated with a resolve to conquer or die."-Richmond Sentinel. "We must beat back this enemy thirsting for our blood, or be destroyed by him."— Richmond Whig.

"We renew our resolve to maintain our liberties and independence."—Public meeting in Richmond, Teb. 6. "But the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go. And Pharach said unto him, get thee from me, take heed said theorem in the set of the s When the rebel Commissioners agreed "confer with Mr Lincoln and

gance of the slave mart and the planta- er's attention. Here is one class in spel turned with the almost unquestioned political power they have hitherto exercised on this continent, to be ever fit to hold a position of respectability among the citizens of a free Republic. The to stop the wheels of human progress; they are even now throwing their bodies in its path, and they must needs be crushed. Nay, we need but remember that they are the brutal captors and murderers of our unfortunate soldiers in their hands; we need but rement they have deliberately inflicted on men taken in honorable warfare. Men their fellows slow tortures that would their guards, in very wantonness, to shoot them on the spot-how can it be safe or profitable for such men, for the class to which they belong, to live, except as outcasts and criminals, forever disarmed of power and banished from all position in society?

society? They will fight; they will ask no more for peace; they feel reinvigorated for the conflict; they are facing the alternative of beating back "the enemy," or being destroyed by him. But let none be surprised at their renewed purposes. porary advantages. It is of the Lord, that their overthrow may be more com plete, their doom final and utter. It is not needful that every individual of them should perish; we do not ask it or desire it. But, as a dass, they are doomed; delenda est is written of them, and the straightest, simplest, surest way to it, is to leave them to their own Pharaoh-like obstinacy, until they sink like lead in the mighty waters.

### "NEIGHBORHOOD MISSIONS."

We call attention to the circular let ter of the Presbytery of Utica, on this subject, on page 54 of the inside of this paper. It suggests an excellent scheme for employing actively all the effective. force of the church, as well as for meeting the wants of vast classes of the community not as yest reached by the Gos-pet. It brings the church face to face with the great problem of practical heathenism in the heart of Christian countries, and beneath the eaves of our churches, - a problem which must be met. Great as it is, we believe the simple means recommended in the document referred to, the application of the members of the church generally to the work, each one in a sphere fitted to him, would solve the problem : would disperse the ominous gloom which has surrounded it. Many hands make light work. The ir religion of the country would disappear in the general revival of the feeling of personal responsibility for the spiritual condition of our neighbors on the part of Christians generally. The world could not stand it Read the Presbytery's letter, and put its simple yet earnest and judicious recommendations in prac tice. In Utica itself, such a work is al ready in progress, and we hope 'to' hear of good results, ere long. art riste [For the American Presbyterian.] SCHOOL FOR COLORED SOLDIERS. Amidst the many objects of interest which occupy the public mind and at tention at this time, there is one with which many readers of the Presbuterian may not be at all familiar. I would like to take these readers a short distance from the city, this morning, to visit, school for the colored soldiers, estabarranged in an agreeable, social, unoffi- As the car stops at the gate, you may cial interview between leading rebel see; our scholars coming from the tents, officials and our own. It would have across the road, where they are camped survived, and with vitality and vigor out. Some on crutches, a few with only sufficient to work immense mischief to one arm, many weak and feeble from the cause of liberty and good government sickness, but all will give you's smile of in the world. Humanly speaking, Pha- welcome, and a military salute as you raoh might have repented at an early pass in. In the school-room you will stage of the mission of Moses, and, for find from 40 to 50 awaiting our coming, aught we can see, have continued to hold and again that pleasant smile, and the We will begin with a familiar hymn all sing, and you feel that all enjoy the school increases in size, until we number from 90 to 100. A chapter in the diers will lead in prayer. A touching, young ladies who come to teach us all the arts and sciences of wisdom." Now the classes are formed, and few would

tion, their heads are too hopelessly ling, and some men will surprise you by spelling words they cannot pronounce, and will read very fluently, where not one word they read will be in the book at all Here sat two men who knew only their letters on the 1st of January; now they read, pretty well in the simple, reader, and can write their own names. Another, in the same class, formerly a slave, reads and writes tolerably well, having taught himself almost entirely. Here is a man, 40 years old, learning to read, write, and spell. He feels that "having no learning" has been a great call the harrowing details of the treat- hindrance to him, and he is determined to improve this time of leisure. He is lame, having been badly wounded. If I tell him, "don't get discouraged, these words will not always master you," you will hear his answer: "don't be afraid of that, if you don't get discouraged trying to teach an old fool like me, I'll get along after a bit." This young man showing all his teeth, will say as we pass. " Here's a word that takes me;" but, if you notice, it is a word farther on than the one that "took" him yesterday, or even an hour ago.

But our time has passed, we will sing another hymn, and with the salute again, our scholars pass, out to their tents. You may not feel that much has been done to-day, but we who go regularly, are surprised at the progress made. There is so great a desire for "learning," and it is gratifying to see their anxiety to read. Simple arithmetic, counting, the multiplication table, are also learned very quickly, but geography and grammar and not valued, at all, and it is hard to awaken an interest for these studies. Reading and writing is the great object of their ambition. Many of the men have been slaves, very many have lived where it was not lawful to have schools for blacks; but all are anxious to improve, now that they have the opportunity.

Our school is open for visitors, and our school fund is open for contributions. There are expenses connected with the school, owing to its peculiar disadvantages. These men are here but for a time; as soon as they are able, they go back to their regiments. Our object is to give them, the greatest possible amount of information, in the shortest possible time. In order to do this, we must have many teachers, and we cannot afford to lose the assistance of valuable teachers, on account of the expense of going and returning, which, taken from day to day, is quite an item in our account. All the teachers cheerfully

TERMS. Per annum, in advance: By Mail, \$3. By Carrier, \$3 50. Fifty cents additional, after three months. Clubs. Ten or more papers, sent to one address, payable strictly in advance and in one remittance: By Mail, \$250 per ahnum. By Carriers, \$3 per annum. Ministers and Ministers' Widows, \$2 in ad-rance. By Mail 83

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#### TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

The time for the annual concert of orayer in behalf of Literary Institutions. the present year, will be Thursday the 23d instant. The reasons for its due observance are as numerous and weighty as they ever have been, with a superadded one growing out of the state of the country. Our institutions of learning more than ever need a copious effusion of the Holy Spirit to lift those in them who profess religion to a higher degree of sanctification, and to bring the large number of the unconverted to Christ. Our General Assembly has recommended the observance of the day, and our churches and institutions have heretofore reaped much benefit from its Its general observance is very desirable. The General Assembly, impressed with the necessity of securing an adequate number of ministers of the right kind, has, in addition to recommending its churches to unite in the general concert, urged them, if they have no other and better time fixed for the presentation of the subject of the increase of the ministry, to take it up on the Sabbath preceding or succeeding that day, making it a topic of discussion from the pulpit, and taking a contribution in its behalf.

Weighty considerations favor a comliance with this recommendation, among which are the following :----

1st. The matter is intrinsically worthy of such notice. The living ministry is the main spring among the instrumentalities for propagating the gospel; but the vastness and manifoldness of its relations is not comprehended by the church, nor will it be till it is properly discussed from the pulpit.

2d. The education cause, as conducted by our General Assembly, has never been so fully based on the Scripture, so conformed to our Presbyterian polity, and surrounded with such wise safeguards, as at the present time, and it needs but to be fairly carried out to confer the largest blessings on the church. If it ever designs to take a strong hold of it, there is no reason why she should not do so now.

3d. At present there is a large number of students under our care, and they are receiving larger appropriations than at any time heretofore. The number is increasing, and so are the demands on our treasury for their supply. The treasury must be filled by current contributions, or the credit of the church must suffer, and the young men be disappointed and discouraged.

4th. The calls made upon the church

perty in slaves. At any rate, conditions might have been obtained by which tige. It might still have existed as a wealthy, compact, sympathizing body, and the very fact that they had been little influence in the affairs of our councountry, as well as in the eyes of those foreigners who have so eagerly espoused republican, dehumanizing, haughty slavepower of the South would not have disthe children of Israel in bondage; but never-failing salute. God was determined that his people portunity of repentance and recovery pass by, to grow more obstinate and daring turning tide. We verily believe that God, in mercy

to the world, designs nothing less than

16. 15

give their time and services, and many of them much more; but it would be a great advantage to our enterprise. if our school fund was large enough to meet this difficulty. When the men leave us, they wish so much to take their spelling and copy-books, that we are obliged to yield to the request, and from day to day, all can see that there must be a great outlay in books, pens, ink, pencils, slates, &c.

This is our work, and these our wants. It is a pleasant thing to help those so anxious for improvement, and we have our reward in the present, seeing as we go along the fruits of our labor.

#### AN EMPTY TREASURY.

It will be seen by the acknowledgment of the men, and are bringing forth abun- to contribute privately, and who may be dance of fruit.

support of the Commission in its present | General Secretary. work. Now, while the army is comparatively stationary, the evangelizing good on such a scale, and in such a great is seeking to supply.

A HANDSONE WAY OF DOING IT .- The following incident, which we take on the authority of The Evangelist, shows how a lady of means, who really wishes to express a practical Christian disapprobation of the folly of extravagance, can do it in a way to secure herself from the how agreeable the hope that gales of the pastor of our church in this place, Rev. the Pharachs of the South. He is more than 20 or 30 can read at all, and imputation of parsimoniousness. A New Spirit will come to make amends for their Nelson Millard, has been advanced from hardening their hearts so that they are of this number, many will stumble at York lady the other day went into Stewspirit will do not main-conscious defections. If they do not main-tain the unworldly and heavenly Spirit so as to make it the element of life in their Christmas day, received from his people as to make it the element of life in their as to make it the element of life in their Christmas gift of \$500. During the other day went into Stew-stand after carefully selecting a silk christmas gift of \$500. During the other day went into Stew-stand the unworldly and heavenly Spirit so as to make it the element of life in their as to make it the element of life in their and the unworldly and heavenly Spirit so as to make it the element of life in their as to make it the element of life in their as to make it the element of life in their as to make it the element of life in the spirit of the counter. Where house, God will some time have his day of a Christmas gift of \$500. During the rejecting offers of peace, they are writing is no disorder, no man has time to talk dollars! replied he of the counter. Wherenouse, too win some sine magaine tagents day of past year, the contributions of the church their own doom. They are too saturated with his neighbor, but, intent on his upon said lady retired in disgust, and hope that their children will then be con- to benevolent objects, outside of itself, with false ideas of human rights and books, each one plods on patiently, un- sent her check for one hundred dollars cepted for membership in the church of duties, they are too drunk with the arro- til his turn comes to receive the teach- to our Home Mission Committee. 

for general philanthropic or patriotic purposes, however important, cannot release her from the obligations imposed by her Lord, and acknowledged by herself, to carry forward the interests of his kingdom. The ministry in the field, and those preparing to enter it, are every way as worthy, to put the case no stronger, as those who are serving their country; and the patriotism that is exercised at the expense of piety, is, to say the least, of a questionable kind. Let us care for our church and our country at the same time, and train up well-qualified leaders of the sacramental host, while we do our whole duty to our faithful soldiers.

Circulars to facilitate the presentation of the subject to the churches have been widely distributed to ministers by mail: and will be sent to any who did not rethe Christian Commission, published in our ceive them, on application. Much incolumns to-day, that the Treasury of teresting information and argument, bearthis Institution is empty. This is not ing on this subject, will be found in the the time for the church to suffer the last Annual Report of the Permanent great work carried on by the Commis- Committee on Education, which has also sion to flag. The army is now a most been widely distributed. This subject encouraging field for its labors. The is also commended to the consideration message of truth which its agents carry of vacant churches. The main point to be to the army, and the services they hold attained is AN ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF among the soldiers, are received with THE SUBJECT, AND A CONTRIBUTION FROM the deepest manifestations of interest by EVERY CHURCH. Individuals who desire

willing to support one or more students, Let us come promptly forward to the are requested to communicate with the

On the first of May, a little more than two months hence, the financial year of work must be done. In a few weeks, it the church will close, and the report of will be too late, and as we all hope that the treasurer will be made up for the this is the last year in which so large an General Assembly. Funds in aid of this army will be required, this late winter cause will be acceptable at all times; but and early spring is probably the very those churches who wish their benevolent last opportunity of the century to do contributions to appear in the report of the present year are requested to make spiritual emergency, as the Commission the remittances at an early date. The sooner the better. Contributions should be forwarded directly to the treasurer, J. W. Benedict, Esq., 128 Broadway, New York; or where it is more safe or convenient, they may be sent to him through Rev. E. A. Huntington, Auburn, New York; Rev. G. E. Day, Walnut Hills, Ohio; or Rev. Charles Brown, Philadel-

phia. THORNTON A. MILLS, General Secretary for Education. PRESBYTERIAN ROOMS, New York, Feb. 9, 1865.

IN CHATHAM CENTRE, OHIO, twentyfour persons have been examined and ac-

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