

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1865.

OUR CORRESPONDING EDITOR'S letter has not come to hand. It is, doubtless, delayed by the flood.

Subscribers whose year began January 1st, are reminded that after this month they become liable to the full amount of their bills rendered, without the reduction of 50 cents for prompt payment.

PAYMENTS for the current year are coming in slowly. Subscribers will remember that but few days remain in which bills dated January 1st can be paid at the reduced rates. City subscribers and others desiring to call will find the office open from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. No subscriptions received or accounts settled for less than six months.

MEETING FOR THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.—A meeting in behalf of the Christian Commission will be held in North Broad Street Church, next Sabbath evening at 7 1/2 o'clock.

DEATH OF A MISSIONARY.—On Thursday, the 2d instant, the Rev. Edward C. Jones died, after a short but painful illness. The deceased was an estimable minister, and, at the time of his death, the missionary at the Blockley Almshouse.

We learn that, on the 5th inst., the Rev. Dr. Patton, of this city, was unanimously called to the "Forest Presbyterian Church," at Middletown, Delaware. Whether he will accept the call, or that his congregation here will consent to his removal, we have not yet been apprised.

PINE STREET CHURCH.—At a late meeting of the congregation, to receive reports for the year 1864, it was ascertained that, outside of all church expenses, the congregation had contributed \$12,500, or more than 1,000 dollars per month, for general charities. Pretty well that for a down-town church.

DEATH OF MISSIONARIES.—Intelligence has just been received of the death of Rev. Austin H. Wright, D. D., of the Nestorian mission, (American Board), and of Mrs. W. Frederick Williams, of the Eastern Turkey Mission. Dr. Wright has been an honored and valued laborer in Persia for nearly twenty-five years. The missionary life of Mrs. Williams has been brief, but highly useful.

CONVERSIONS.—We are gratified at being informed of the conversion of two prominent Protestant clergymen of this city, the particulars of which, for the present, we shall, for prudential motives, not make public.

We clip the above paragraph from The Universe (Papal) of this city. It has the air of the late rebel despatches—"particulars withheld for reasons connected with the public welfare." The particulars, when they come, will amount to about as much in one case as in the other.

A NEW "OPENING" FOR ALARMISTS.—The last New York Observer, under the head of "Religion and Health," says:—"Several of our city pastors made the moral aspects of the city health question the subject of public discourse last Sabbath. The relations of the subject to the religious interests of the people, especially of the poor, are so intimate as to demand the earnest efforts of our spiritual teachers. No means should be spared to enlighten the public mind and rouse the conscience to the true bearings of this vital question." Here is another fine opportunity for the Robinsons, Van Dykes, and Hopkinses to send up a new veil over the degeneracy of the pulpit. Political preaching was not, after all, the climax of the falling away from the pure gospel. Even the domains of the doctors and health officers must be invaded. Worse than all, the Christian taste is not disgusted. Medical preaching! and the church sees no atrocity in it!

NEW RAILROAD ROUTE TO BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Recently, on a return trip from Brooklyn, we passed over the Raritan and Delaware Bay route, paying but two, instead of the three dollars, charged on the usual New Jersey road, with no material loss of time, and less than none of comfort. Starting from a clean and quiet wharf, the Brooklyn landing of the Wall street ferry, we had a splendid steamer route outside of Staten Island to Port Monmouth, and thence by rail, intersecting the Camden and Atlantic City road at Jackson, to Vine street wharf. Our time to this city was made in five hours; so much to our satisfaction, in all points relating to traveler's comfort, that, with the same journey to make again, we should unhesitatingly employ the same means of conveyance. Round trip tickets, with three days for use, are furnished for \$3.00. We are also able to state that arrangements have been made by which ministers of our church in this State, can obtain tickets for themselves at half fare, i. e., \$1.00 each way. Persons who wish to secure this privilege, should forward to the office of the Company, 65 Beaver street, New York, (enclosing stamps for return postage,) evidence of their ministerial standing, and receive in return an annual card, such as are given by companies in this state, for securing clergymen's tickets.

DEATH OF EX-SHERIFF THOMPSON.

Extract from the Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Western Presbyterian Church.

Whereas, God, in his providence, has suddenly removed, by death, the esteemed President of our Board of Trustees, John Thompson, Esq.:

Resolved, that we have heard of his death with deep regret, and mourn the loss of an associate who, for so many years, has been connected with our congregation; his connection with us dating back to the commencement of worship in our present building, whose influence with us was ever for good, and who made friends of all those with whom he came in contact.

Resolved, that by his urbanity, liberality, consistency, and uniform cheerfulness, he had greatly endeared himself to us; and by his wisdom in council, and earnestness in every good work, he had proved himself an efficient co-worker in all the duties devolving upon us as a Board of Trustees.

Resolved, that we sympathize with his bereaved family, in their deep affliction.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions, signed by the President pro tem. and by the Secretary, be sent to his family.

W. E. TENBROOK, Pres. pro tem. J. T. CLINE, Sec'y.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

DONATION.—It affords me great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the handsome sum of \$373 during the present year as a donation from my congregation, in addition to the salary, which has been promptly paid.

In these trying times, such a donation is peculiarly acceptable; and the gratification of receiving it is greatly increased by the fact that my people, at the same time, have been giving generously to many noble objects.

D. H. EMERSON, Pastor. ST. GEORGES, DELAWARE.

CHURCH RE-CONSTRUCTION IN EAST TENNESSEE.

The Evangelist of the 2d inst. contains a letter from Rev. Samuel Sawyer, now in Knoxville, presenting what is probably a calm and well-considered view of the condition of that field. It opens before us a prospect of much toil, many vexations, a large expenditure, but with these conditions faithfully observed, we see nothing particularly discouraging. Mr. Sawyer says:

"After conversing or corresponding with official members of almost all our churches in East Tennessee, the conclusion reached is, that the churches which formerly composed the Synod of Tennessee are almost utterly prostrate. This is true with scarcely an exception. For years to come the Home Missionary Committee must take them under its fostering care, and the liberality of the North will have to repair the desolation everywhere apparent. This liberality, too, will be manifested in behalf of those who before this were stimulated by every appliance, to think evilly and speak calumniously of their present benefactors. White-washed rebels, who have taken the amnesty oath in most localities, make up a body not only of malcontents, but of malignant, who will do what they can to thwart all wise and judicious measures adopted by Christian ministers of genuine patriotism to build up the kingdom of God among them, and pliable and negative men under their aegis against the welded union of their opposition. Ministers of the Elijah and John Knox stamp, recognizing the fact that the Almighty, in his righteous displeasure, is crushing out the pro-slavery aristocracy and the peculiar institution together, and over their dishonored grave will rear up a nobler manhood and a higher civilization, and establish a glorious Church—whichever or whatever may hinder or oppose—such ministers, of Paul-like faith and toil, can alone go forward in God's strength conquering and to conquer, and such alone will achieve the glorious success. However discouraging matters may look at first, at various important points there is an element now too little appreciated, which, sooner or later, as they move on in their mission, will come to their aid.

"At Knoxville, for example, there are more persons, gathered providentially within a few months, of the Presbyterian faith, than all the rebel Presbyterians of both branches who were guilty of treason. And as the intrigue and mean persecution of some of the baser sort of the Corinthians served to bind the true-hearted the more closely to the apostle Paul, and furnished an occasion to present to the ages his genuine nobility and greatness, the chasteness and respect of our modern, malignant towards a faithful and loyal minister may rally around him a heaven-blessed band of noble-hearted friends—the very material out of which may be built a homogeneous, a missionary, a glorious Church. And what is true of Knoxville, will be found true, no doubt, of many places in East Tennessee.

"Nearly all unite in the opinion that, as soon as practicable, loyal ministers should occupy the more prominent and influential points, since it might be quite disastrous to have untried rebel preachers, black with the crime of treason, standing up as the guides and counselors of the people. The Church at Knoxville hopes, through our Home Missionary Committee, to secure the services of an experienced and useful pastor, who is expected here by the first Sabbath of March. As the weather begins to moderate, many churches will make an effort to revive their Sabbath-schools, and I will need, to meet the demand, quite a number of libraries. The third Sabbath of February I am to be at Eusebia Church, Blount county. Rev. Mr. Lamar is working most faithfully in Blount, and is hoping daily, the arrival of Professor Craig, of Anderson, Ind.

Utah.—Brigham Young's Annual Message speaks of rapid advancement in the Mormon realm. Population has increased, harvests have been bountiful, mines of coal discovered, commodious stores and dwellings erected, and machinery for the manufacture of cotton and woolen fabrics has been put in successful operation. Cultivating cotton proves to be less remunerating than raising cereals. The overland route by the plains has been so much disturbed by Indians, that a safer and more regular communication is offered by the Colorado River, and, in anticipation of a change, the Deseret Mercantile Association have built a warehouse at the head of navigation on that stream. In reference to the refusal of Congress to admit Deseret into the Union, Brigham Young thinks the time is "not far distant when she will be requested to solicit to assume the dignity and responsibilities of a sovereign State."

News of our Churches.

FROM DELAWARE, OHIO, we hear of a revival in progress. Several new members were received to the church by profession on Sabbath, the 12th inst.

EDINA, MO.—On the 12th inst. a (N. S.) Presbyterian Church was organized in Edina, and on Sabbath, the day following, two additional members, both heads of families, were received on examination and profession of their faith.

COLLEGE HILL, OHIO.—This church is about to receive the valuable acquisition of an organ. We say, about to receive, for we noticed an appointment for a lecture from John B. Gough there, on last Friday evening, the avails of which were to go for that object, and we may safely assume that by this time the fund is rolled up to the point which insures success.

LARGE ACCESSIONS.—The Westminster Church, Philadelphia, received an addition of twenty-two members at its last communion. Of these, seventeen were on profession of faith. This church, now under the pastoral care of the Rev. Dr. Irvine, continues to flourish. The debt which for a long time burdened it is rapidly diminishing.—Presbyterian.

WELL DONE.—We record no special benefactions to ministers with more pleasure than those in which brethren who have been cut off by infirmities of body from pastoral ties are remembered in their isolations from active service. The church in Albion, N. Y., has just made an expression of this form of Christian kindness, by a visit of sympathy and aid to Rev. O. C. Beardley, who resides among them in feeble and failing health. The visit was accompanied with a cash present of \$123.

ERIE, PA.—Rev. Dr. Lyon's church in this place has just given a noble finishing to the enterprise so far consummated four years ago, as to put them into the occupation of one of the finest churches on the lake shore. The main drawback to their comfort in this possession was an ugly debt, which, in more or less proportions, had scowled upon them for some thirty-five years, and which, after this last church-building, had grown up to \$10,600. A resolute movement has now put an end to it. Following up this successful effort, four hundred dollars have been added to the pastor's salary, besides the presentation to him of a purse of five hundred dollars, intended especially as a testimonial of regard.

JOHNSONVILLE, N. Y.—A great refreshing has been enjoyed by our little church in this place—much greater than appears simply on the face of that part of its results which consists in the reception to the church of twenty-one new professors of religion. The community generally has been stirred; men who about their places of business were profane, are thoughtful and correct; family altars have been erected, and old professors have, for the first time, opened their lips in social meetings. The revival has been one of quiet earnestness, led by the pastor with almost no ministerial aid, but relying on his own flock for the aid essential in such a time of interest. The Sabbath-school is blessed. The majority of those received to the church are men, many of them heads of families.

DEPOSIT, N. Y.—Concerning a revival in this church, Rev. C. H. De Long, pastor, writes to The Evangelist:—"The death of a young man, near the close of last year, much impressed our young people. Some special prayer-meetings were held, in which the influence of the Spirit was manifested, and several were led to take a stand for Christ. The week of prayer came which extended the interest. After this meetings were held every night for two or three weeks. Between twenty-five and thirty have been hopefully converted; nineteen have connected themselves with the Presbyterian Church, and several more are expected to join the next communion. There has also been an awakening, and a number of conversions in the Baptist Society." In the same communication, the pastor also makes pleasant record of an increase of \$100 to his permanent salary, and a special gift of \$179 for personal comfort.

GOOD USE OF THE GREAT ENGLISH CATHEDRALS PROPOSED.

The British Herald, Rev. W. Reid's paper, speaking of the evangelist Richard Weaver, recently preaching in Dr. Candlish's church, Edinburgh, says:—"Richard Weaver preaching in Dr. Candlish's pulpit, was giving him a recognition in Scotland as an evangelist, the same as if he were found preaching in Westminster Abbey or St. Paul's in London. And a happy day it would be for England, if those two noble structures, and all the cathedrals throughout the land, were restored to their original use, and Richard Weaver appointed as cathedral evangelist. We write this in downright earnest; for these cathedrals were originally intended for the masses of the people to meet in for their spiritual benefit; and it is a pity to exclude the people from them, and devoted and talented men like Richard Weaver, who could awaken their echoes with the trumpet-utterance of the glorious gospel of Christ, and fill the largest of them with eager multitudes of perishing sinners, to hear the Gospel of God poured forth like a river of life from living lips, to the conversion of thousands, and the glory of the mighty Lord.

Religious Intelligence.

For additional Religious Intelligence see page 95, of the inside.

REVIVALS.—From Butler, Pa., Rev. Dr. Young writes to the Presbyterian Banner:—"The Week of Prayer was observed, and at the close, the Lord's Supper was administered. Four of the youth came forward and made a public profession of their faith in Christ. More recently the Lord's Supper was again administered, when twenty-five young persons came forward, and standing up in the presence of the great congregation, took the vows of God upon them. Two of them were baptized, and thirty-three have been baptized in infancy." Revivals are reported from Clarksville, Stewartstown, and Plymouth, in Pennsylvania.

PRESBYTERIAN FOREIGN MISSIONS.—Mr. Blackford mentions the admission to the church of Rio de Janeiro of six new members, all of them on profession of their faith—one American, three Brazilians, and one Portuguese, besides a gentleman of education and influence, to whom the missionaries will probably refer more particularly hereafter. The Canton Mission reports the accession of eight members to the church during the year, of whom seven were received by profession of their faith. The Ningpo Mission reports the addition of fifteen new members to the church in Ningpo and twenty-six to the church in Yuyiao during the year. These churches have been divided, making four churches, and having 177 members. At Etawah, India, the wife of one of the Scripture readers was baptized, after having for a number of years refused to follow her husband as a disciple of Christ.—Home and Foreign Record.

REVIVALS.—We have interesting accounts of the spiritual condition of the "Church of the Sea and Land," a New York enterprise for seamen and their families, and other persons in the lower part of the city, recently started under the auspices of the Presbytery of New York. The second communion was held on Sabbath, the 12th inst., with nine accessions by profession. The religious interest is progressing, particularly among sailors, who attend upon the meetings. The latter follow the pastor from the meetings to his study for personal religious conversation. A large Sabbath-school is gathered and well sustained, and the enterprise, since its organization, Dec. 29, has at no time been without marks of the Divine presence.

IN A SABBATH-SCHOOL.—On Sabbath, the 12th inst., twenty-seven persons were received to the communion of the Fifth Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, by profession, all of them members of the Sabbath-school, their ages ranging from twelve to eighteen years. All but three of this number were children of the church, who, in their infancy had been consecrated by the sacrament of baptism. The religious interest among the scholars of the Sabbath-school still continues. Many of the children are earnestly asking the way of salvation.

CONGREGATIONAL.

ORDINATION OF A NATIVE GEORGIAN.—Rev. Harvey Mobley is a native of Augusta, Ga., who was born a slave, as were his wife and children, but who by his energy and industry succeeded, about ten years ago, in buying the freedom of himself and all his family for the sum of three thousand dollars. On Monday evening, Feb. 27th, he was ordained as a missionary by a council convened in the Union Church, Brooklyn. Rev. S. S. Jocelyn, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, and Rev. Dr. Storm took part in the services.

THE PRESBYTERIAN TENDENCIES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MIND.—We give below the closing sentences of a long article in The Congregationalist, by Rev. A. H. Quint, on the question whether a church has a right to ordain a minister against the advice of a council. "The chief want in our denomination," says the writer, "is the recognition of 'fellowship.' The centrifugal force is powerful enough; let the centripetal have effect. We want councils to act decidedly. If any church insists on being 'independent,' let it go; and there it must go, if the churches do their duty. There is not the least danger to the church at large will impose any man on a church; for it has not the slightest power to do so. But the danger is, that local churches will unwittingly or perversely have pastors who are unfit to be fellowshipped. There is not the least probability that a council will ever dis-fellowship a good man; but there is the lamentable fact that they are often afraid to do their duty as to heretical men. When a council does its duty in such a case—let a church persisting, against its decision, to settle such an unfit person, be summarily dropped from our fellowship, and let the council be counted worthy of all praise."

EPISCOPAL.

A NEW PHILADELPHIA PASTOR.—The Church of the Messiah, formerly under the charge of the Rev. Dr. Carden, and which has been without any regular pastor for the last seven months, has called the Rev. J. W. Bonham, of Rhode Island, to the rectorship, who has commenced his duties in connection with the parish. The Rev. Mr. Bonham comes highly recommended by Bishop Clarke.—Episcopal Recorder.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA.—The attention of the rector, Dr. Duacach, being so much engrossed with the Burd Orphan Asylum, a noble charity of this parish, the vestry sometime since obtained the services of Rev. Dr. William Rudder for the ordinary ministrations, and have recently, with the concurrence of the rector, more formally committed these duties to him under the title of Associate Rector.

CHURCH EXTENSION IN ENGLAND.—The English Church has caught the good church extension epidemic, carried over from this side of the Atlantic, and there first taken by some of the dissenting denominations. The Bishop of Durham has followed the example of the Bishop of London, and has established a church-building fund. He has contributed £2,000 towards it, and although no canvass has yet been made, about £5,000 have been raised. One gentleman has promised to contribute a fortieth part of whatever sum is raised. A public meeting has been held in Sheffield, with a view to a project for erecting seven new churches. The whole sum required is estimated at £31,200; but of this a great part has already been provided. The Archbishop of York, who presided, quoted the examples of two other towns. In Bradford a sum of £25,000 has been subscribed since 1860, with which seven new churches have already been built, and three more will be ready in the course of the present year. At Leeds a church-building fund has only been in existence for one year, but the subscriptions already amount to £55,000.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has presided at a great meeting in his cathedral city for church extension within his own diocese. The work was vigorously organized, and is going bravely on. The Bishop of London's fund, which contemplates the raising of £1,000,000, in ten years, reports at the end of its first year a total of £100,465 received, besides £72,003 promised. The fund is for church extension in the Diocese of London. The Bishop of Rochester is working for church extension within his diocese, and has gone a subscription (accompanied with a loud growl) even from Lord Ebury.

PENNSYLVANIA DIOCESE.—This Diocese is about to suffer the temporary loss of its accomplished and energetic chief Diocesan, Bishop A. Potter. In an address of recent date to his Episcopal charge, he says:—"For some time past I have been indulging the hope that strength might be given me to engage more actively and constantly in the visitation of the parishes in all parts of the Diocese. Repeated journeys and continued services seemed within the compass of my ability, as they were to me a source of exquisite satisfaction. Lately, however, I have been admonished how easy it is for one in my state of health, to pass the bounds of moderation and safety. My physicians counsel an entire suspension of active work for some time; and it is probable I shall seek change of climate, and sojourn in a distant part of the country." During the absence of Bishop Potter, the entire charge of the Diocese comes of course into the hands of Assistant Bishop Stevens, a popular and energetic administrator.

METHODIST.

PROTESTANT METHODISTS.—The Western Methodist Protestant reports revivals from York Station and Brownsville Circuits, Mumkingum, Ohio; Tyler and Harrison Circuits, West Virginia; and Leonidas Circuit, West Michigan.

METHODIST.

OVER THIRTEEN HUNDRED.—The North-Western Advocate, in its revival column, March 8th, records over 1300 recent accessions. At Albion, Mich., the work has been extraordinary. Over 400 have been converted, some 170 uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

BAPTIST.

IN PENNSYLVANIA there have been considerable gatherings, resulting from revivals in Reading, Germantown, Bridgeport and Allegheny City. In New Jersey interesting revivals are reported from Trenton, Haddonfield, Moorestown, Newark and Mullica Hill. Iowa sends us the like good news from McGregor and Mount Pleasant, Cambridge City, in Indiana, also rejoices in a gracious visitation. Concerning Ohio, the National Baptist says:—"Revival influences are visiting a number of the churches in the State; among them the churches in Lorain County, in the northern part of the State, seem to be sharing richly. Revivals are in progress in Penfield, Lagrange, Camden, Avon, and Columbia churches. Ironton, on the Ohio River reports a pleasant work of grace in progress." Itaska, in Illinois has enjoyed a large blessing. A good degree of interest prevails in Racine and Oskosh, Wisconsin; in Long Run, West Virginia; and in Bay City, Michigan.

BAPTISTS IN PENNSYLVANIA.—From the State Convention minutes for 1864, just published, we glean the following facts: There are seventeen Associations in the State, embracing 391 churches, with an aggregate membership of 39,326. Of English Baptists not connected with Associations in Pennsylvania, there are eleven churches, with a membership of 313; of Welsh Baptists eight churches, with 966 members; of German Baptists five churches, with 235 members—making altogether a total of 424 churches, with 40,946 members. The number baptized during the last associational year is 1,794; the number of death 614.—Nat. Baptist.

LUTHERAN.

NEW FIELDS.—The Lutheran Observer says that Rev. R. F. Delo, returned from three years' chaplaincy, is successfully engaged in building up a Lutheran Church in Elkhart, Indiana. From Nevada, Rev. J. G. Beckly writes to the Observer:—"Will you tell your readers that I have organized a Lutheran congregation, five miles from Nevada, at Johnson's Grove, and have a fair prospect of building up a church, and advancing the cause of Christ, where formerly there was but one Lutheran family? Assisted by Rev. S. Ritz, I commenced a meeting about two weeks since, which was attended by the Divine Spirit, and many became the subjects of saving grace. We closed our meeting with a communion service on last Sabbath, which was very solemn and impressive, the like never having been witnessed in the community before."

REVIVALS.

Between twenty and thirty hopeful conversions are reported from the Lutheran congregation in Lucas, Ohio, and some forty-five from St. John's, another congregation of the same pastorate. They are the fruits of protracted meetings which, in each place, were attended with signal tokens of Divine influence, and have left the churches in a greatly revived state. A revival, of much interest, is also reported from Noblesville, Ind., resulting thus far in an accession of twenty-one persons to the church—the first revival which the congregation has ever enjoyed.

MORAVIAN.

The New York Observer, after saying that there is, in New York City, no adequate provision for the 160,000 Germans there, mentions of them Jews, Infidels, or Romanists, adds:—"It has been found, by careful inquiry, that there is no religious body which can supply the requisite force, save one—the Moravians. This pious and laborious, but humble church of Christ, can send into the field as many German missionaries as can be supported, and their support costs less than that of any other class of city missionaries that can be named. A work has been begun by them, which has already accomplished much good. Mr. Erdmann, the faithful missionary, has gathered a congregation as large as his limited space will permit in a very unsuitable upper room; and he combines a school for Christian training with his other work. His scanty support is raised by the contributions of Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Dutch Reformed, and others. But the time has come for trying the experiment on a larger scale. A decent church should be provided, and the means for several missionaries should be forthcoming. Nobody who knows what the Moravians have done, or are now doing, in Europe and all over the world, can have any doubt of their missionary zeal and efficiency."

THE CHURCH CATHOLIC.

THE UNION EFFORT IN LYONS, IOWA.—We have before alluded to the progress of the revival in this place. A correspondent of The Evangelist adds:—"Union meetings, embracing the Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, and Presbyterian churches, were held during the Week of Prayer. The interest almost daily since that time. Sixty or seventy souls have been rejoicing in hope of salvation. There are heads of families, husbands and wives, parents and children—children gone a subscription (accompanied with a loud growl) even from Lord Ebury. There has been a greater

spirit of union and brotherly affection than has ever been manifested here before, and it has cheered the hearts of many Christians from abroad.

MISSIONARY.

THE KOLAPOOR MISSION.—Rev. R. G. Wilder writes from Kolapoore, India, Dec. 24, that the much-needed chapel is up and covered, and promises to be very useful among the 252 costly idol temples of the place. Great efforts are made by converts from priests and friends to prevent their being baptized. Out of seven inquirers, long convinced of the truth, and sufficiently moderate in their views, all but one have been prevented in this way. Mr. W. says:—"We are now on a tour in the villages, trying to make known God's message of mercy to a few of those thousands who have never heard it before, and who are literally sitting in the region and shadow of death. We have never been able to visit this region before, and the chief men of each village visited thus far tell us they never saw a missionary before. We find ready hearers; and many, under the influence of kind feelings and the movement of first hearing, admit the excellence of our doctrine, and ask for schools, books, and means of understanding and knowing more of the things we tell them. This village, Rooklee, has a population of 1,741 souls, and yet I can find but three readers among them all."—Independent.

CHINA.—Three years only have elapsed since missionary operations were commenced in Pekin, and the Rev. Joseph Edkins, of the London Society, is able to report the conversion of twenty Chinese and Manchus to the faith of Christ. Some of the converts afford indications that they are likely to become earnest promoters of the truth among their fellow-countrymen. One of these, in an important part of the city, imparts daily instruction to all comers in the afternoons, and holds meetings for prayer every evening. High officers of Government find their way to the missionary hospital, and Christian books find their way into the palace.—Evangelical Christendom.

THE ARMY.

FROM POINT OF ROCKS, VA., a correspondent of the Boston Recorder writes, under date of March 4:—"The work of grace in progress is without noise, and apparently genuine, very much like an old-fashioned New England revival. Young converts speak and pray in our meetings. There have been some cases of hopeful conversion of more than ordinary interest. One young man called on me yesterday, saying, 'until a few weeks ago, I was an infidel, profane, intemperate. Now, I feel that I am a new creature in Christ Jesus. I am soon to rejoin my regiment at Wilmington, and I hope you will pray for me that I may prove faithful.' I have not time now to narrate interesting instances of conversions, as I should be glad to. How many indulge hope in Christ, as recent converts, I cannot state, but the number is considerable. The meetings this week have been very large and solemn, and the work is progressing. Last Sabbath evening our chapel was crowded to overflowing. Let all God's people in the country pray for us, that we may see yet more glorious manifestations of the Holy Spirit's power among our soldiers. Almost every man in this army is accessible, on the subject of personal religion.

Field Secretary Ames, of the Christian Commission, writes from Sandy Hook, Maryland, near Harper's Ferry:—"A deep religious interest was, and is still, prevailing at this point. For nearly four weeks meetings have been held every evening; and during this time 150 men have given evidence of conversion, twenty-three, at their own request, have been baptized, and more are waiting to receive that ordinance; and about 40, on one occasion, received the Lord's Supper. The work seems very thorough and very clear. Striking cases of conversion are continually occurring. Those who desire religion do not merely rise to ask others to pray for them; they fall upon their knees and cry to God for mercy. They usually find peace, and rise and confess Christ before the meeting closes. They earnestly seek pleadings for pardon are most touching. Ten, fifteen, and even twenty go forward at once. One young man, as soon as he was converted, ardently confessed the Saviour, and then prompted by the new love in his heart, commenced shaking hands with all the brethren within reach. New men are brought at once under the prevailing religious influence. When a squad of soldiers arrives for whom no quarters are ready, they are received into the Commission tent for the first night. A meeting is held during the evening, which they must attend, or beat a retreat, after which they bivouac upon the table seats or floor. We thus have a hold upon them from the first."

THE FREEDMEN.

While attending the religious meetings among the colored people at Freedmen's village, on this beautiful estate, lately the property of the rebel General R. E. Lee, I have been particularly struck with the freshness and quaint expressiveness of many of their petitions during prayer. One, while praying earnestly for the impatient in the village, besought the Lord that he would "get around and about their hearts, and stir 'em up, that they might turn away from sin." Waxing more earnest for the salvation of his brethren, he prayed God "to rob hell of her large expectations." Another, praying for the chaplain of the Tract Society, entreated that the Lord would "backstay him with faith." Many are very intimate and fraternal in their approach to the mercy seat. A patriarch, who told me that he had been a preacher near Richmond forty-eight years, began his prayer, "We turn thanks to you, dear Saviour, and adore your blessed name that we have another Sabbath day." And as his heart warmed in recounting the proofs of the love of God to lost sinners, he exclaimed, in broken accents, and with a voice choking with emotion, "Didn't you give up your darling Son to die for us? Didn't you see you had balm in Gilead to cure our sin-sick souls?" His closing appeal touched every heart as the language of humble submission: "And when, dear Lord, you do us with trouble yourself, we have to take us all home to glory to praise you evermore." One who enters upon a great dread of sin, prayed: "May we oppose sin in every form, even though we be called on to meet as a bull in a gangway." Is there not a vivid power in that illustration.—Cor. N. Y. Observer.

ROMAN CATHOLIC.

BIBLE BURNING IN ITALY.—A curious incident occurred a short time ago in the Piedmontese town of Galatina. An agent of the Protestant Bible Association having made his appearance in the market of the town, began to sell Bibles. The customers were rather numerous, and almost all belonged to the class of the rural population. The rector of the parish having heard of the fact, hastened to assemble a general meeting of his priests, at which a subscription was made to raise the necessary money for buying up all the Bibles the wandering booksellers had not yet disposed of. The Bibles having thus been bought, a large bonfire was lighted on the threshold of the church, into which the obnoxious book were thrown; in the presence of the rector, who, of course, had prepared a sermon for the occasion. But, alas! the Bible-seller was an old hand; and as he had a large stock of sacred volumes in his cart,