# THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN

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chkin, Editor of News and Rev. C. P. Bush, Corresponding Editor,

## American Aresbyterian.

THURSDAY, MAY 11., 1865.

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#### THE GREAT APOSTASY OF THE SOUTHERN CHURCH.

It is a sad history of human weakness

that would have to be written in recording the defection of the Southern ministry and churches, from the spirit of the gospel in regardy to the moral equality and simple rights of men. At first, they hated and testified against American slavery, with all suddenly in an instant. And he shall away the weapons of honorable warfare the zeal of Northern men in later times. break it as the breaking of the potter's and seizes the assassin's knife, the incenthe zeal of Northern men in later times. Then they tolerated it as a temporary evil. After a time, they changed with the changing views of the community, and began to find excuses for the relation, and to draw nice distinctions, between slavery in its essence and in its adjuncts. Finally they came to IGNOMINIOUS END OF THE REBELan open, systematic defence of the system as it was, and brought all the keenness and subtlety of their intellects to the work of warping the Scriptures, the laws of nature. and the precedents of history to the support of American slavery. As far back as 1835 its abundant resources, its unsubdued spirit, or 1836, a minister of the Synod of Missis. | breathing undying rage and hatred, full of sippi preached a sermon to prove that the Bible sanctions slavery. And now, for thirty years, the spiritual and moral leaders | circles and among the Irish Catholic mob of the Southern people have been listening of the North; were not prepared to see to the calls of the "rebellious people, lying "the Confederacy" so suddenly overwhelmed children, children that will not hear the law | with defeat, and descending to such measu of the Lord, which say unto the seers, See reless depths of villainy and crime ts, Prophesy not not: and unto the pro unto us right things, speak unto us smooth remember, was the work of "the chivalry" things, prophesy deceits; get you out of of the South, of men who claimed to be the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the nobility of America, who despised and inclination will not allow me to take the Holy One of Israel to cease from among honest toil, and who aped the aristocracy my place as a delegate to the General As-

s."

To these calls of interest, of pride, and of wanton lust, the ministry of all denominations, alas, have been too ready to yield acquiescence. Destitute of any martyr spirit, vainly hoping for a change to be wrought without their personal, positive interference, they have at last fallen themselves into the awful moral abyss of American slavery, and their apologetic treatises, in which the sacred names of Ged, Christianity and the Bible have been unhesitatingly linked with this abomination, are among the most melancholy indications of human weakness to be found in all literature.

The persistency of Southern Christians in cleaving to this de usion, and in hugging its almost putrifying carcass in their arms, is seen in the narrative of the last Southern Assembly which met in Charlotte, N. C., petuity of slavery was constantly gaining Skinner, D.D. Among us Mr. Reeve has a year ago. In this document they say:-

"The long continued agitations of our adversaries wrought within us a deeper conviction of the divine appointment of domesticisespitude, and have led to a clearer nition of the independence of the Confed comprehension of the duties we owe to the African race. We hesitate not to affirm that it is the peculiar mission of the Southern Church to conserve the institution of their flag on Fancuil Hall, and call the roll | Philadelphia, to become their pastor. He slavery, and to make it a blessing both to master and slave."

Will the Southern churches disband, when the institution which it is their "peculiar mission to conserve," is annihilated by the should embrace all the slave States, and He has not a superior in the class as to the authority of the Union? We do not know but it would be better for the cause of true the whole Mississippi Valley, which ere above him in academical and theological

re'igion that they should. A still lower deep of apostasy has been discovered among Southern Christians, in America, and should at length adorn its will, I am sure, appear at our anniversal the justification of the inhuman measures adopted by the rebel government for the perpetuation of slavery and the support of their cause. Will it be believed that a raise the slave power to unparalleled magni Christian man and minister can be found ficence among the nations. Richmond in the South, to defend the starvation of our prisoners by the rebel authorities? That a Christian minister, living in Richmond, within a few minutes' walk of Belle Isle and Libby Prison, doubtless a witness of some of the awful barbarities perpetra- fited and disappointed North was to dwindle themanly and dignified course in his reted in those places, more hideous than the to a handful of fanatical States, continually tions with his white brethren in the semi Black Hole of Calcutta or the Well of crumbling from want of internal strength nary, is a sufficient presage of what he wi Cawnpore, could coolly argue for the just and coherency, and finally ceasing to wield be in general society. Apart from his and

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## PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1865.

of enemies? We would, not have been such, not many months ago, was the churches of our best class, as the best of and lesser murderers? The young man of willing to believe it, nor would we have sober expectation of the friends of the his diasomates. I regard Mr. Reeve as whom we speak lived, we believe, to get tasked the faith of our readers with the statement, had we not the most undoubted purg, or pernaps undoubted authority for saying that a Presbyterian election, was the fear of its foes. The election, was the fear of its foes. The pit. Taye never known a man of color at all contrable to him. I rejoice that statement, had we not the most undoubted burg, or perhaps until the last Presidential white break of the war, took refuge in Richmond, feat before many months. But who en he is call and continued to exercise his editorial functions in that city, has been heard to affirm alry, of military prowess, of empire, of it to be right to starve our captured soldiers, on the ground that they were outlaws, while the kind treatment shown to rebel prisoners by our Government was no more so ignominious and so shocking to ambition than what they merited at our hands, as so lordly and so vast? Jefferson Davis a soldiers in a righteous cause.

a Southern Assembly, Synod, Conference had failed to conquer or to burn! or Convention to meet again, except, as in the case of restored civil government, their fall. It has some few tears for the undoubtedly loyal and anti-slavery men are beheaded Charles of England and Louis of at the helm. We shall be compelled to France, for the expatriaged James, for the leave them to the fate so graphically de- banished architects of the Alhambra. It scribed by the prophet, in the connection would even be somewhat loth to see Turkey from which we quoted a few lines above:

Israel, Because ye despise this word, and for the crushed Confederacy, begun is trust in oppression and perverseness, and perjury and theft, aiming to give perpetuity stay thereon, therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh vessel that is broken in pieces; he shall not spare; so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a shred to take fire from the hearth, or to take water with alout of the pit."—Isarah xxx. 12-14.

# LION.

The pro-slavery rebellion has died a most disgraceful death. Loyal men and friends of humanity, who a few months ago looked of the world, what might for ages have exwith misgivings upon its great proportions, hope and of defiance, its connections and supports abroad, and its abettors in politicalof the old world, in their contempt of the sembly, I may be allowed to say a word for working population of the country. They my alternate, the Rev. John B. Reeve. prided themselves upon being exempt, through the enforced labor of an inferior ever elected to any General Assembly. As race, from the degrading associations of toil, and claimed for their position as slavemasters, such leisure and such opportunities of culture as must make their class a superior order of humanity, the very flower our country, there seems to be a propriety in and climax of the population of the Western vorld.

They dreamed the dream of an independent state, of which slavery should be the corner-stone. They would cast off connecion with the hated North, where the doctrines of the Bible, and the Declaration of Independence upon the equality of human discredit to the Assembly, may be inferred rights were still believed and practised, and from the following letter, which I received where an influence unfriendly to the per- from my distinguished friend, Rev. T. H. ground. They would compel the mercenary and cowardly North to cringe before their prowess; they would extort an acknowledgment of the right of secession and a recogeracy at the point of the bayonet and at the cannon's mouth. They would raise of their slaves on Bunker Hill. Or, if is himself a colored man, and I presume he that were the extravagance of an enthul has no prospect of exercising his ministry siast, they soberly expected to found a except among his fellow Africans. But i great central American empire, which should draw to it, by commercial attraction, preaching gift, and I doubt if there is of long should swell to vast proportions by culture. He stands among the first in a the annexation of Mexico and Central the departments in our Seminary. I crown of empire with the "Gem of the among the five or six who will rece Antilles." The wealth of the world should pour into the coffers of this new State, and casion. should be the scene of a splendid court, where titled peers of the new world should and its political bearings, and on all rival, in haughty state, in wealth, in social pretensions, and in style of living the and State in these times. His piety co magnates of Europe; while the discom-

pected to see such a lofty scheme of chivsocial pride and splendor, blotted out in TRIM OUR such a cloud of black infamy, of diabolical plots and crimes? Who expected an end fugitive with a reward upon his head, not We do not know that we have got to the as an arch-traitor but as an arch-assassin! bottom of the Southern church apostasy. The fallen Confederacy not merely a frus-So far as we have gone, we find reason to trated uscheme of rebellion, not merely a doubt whether true Christians and loyal discommed military power, but a fouted men at the North can innocently or pro- neet of foul murderers, and incendiaries, perly have anything to do with the recon- and pirates, whose last discovered plot was struction or recognition of these bodies, or to introduce yellow fever into the peaceful. whether the Government should ever allow crowded cities of the North, which they

The world pities Cæsar and Napoleon in plotted out of the list of nations. But "Wherefore thus saith the Holy One of what other feeling be disgust can it have to the institution of slavery, and dying in a spasm of malignity in which it throws diary's torch, and the virus of pestilence as its last weapons [11 0]

It is well. God has suffered it so to be for a clearly wise purpose, that all the world may be advised of the real spirit of this rebellion, that sympathizers may have no excuse, and that the leaders may have no chance to escape. What was designed to excite the admiration, envy, and homage torted its pity, and so have always continued to be dangerous as an example to the ambitious and the restless, is now sunk almost too low for contempt or indignation. It has assumed the disgusting phase of villainy, which few but ready-made villains will ever be found disposed to glorify.

### DELEGATE FROM THE FOURTH PRESBYTERY

HILADELPHIA, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT BROOKLYN.

DEAR BROTHER MEARS :- As my health

He is, I believe, the first colored man our grand national conflict has settled the question that color is no longer to be an apology for oppression, and as colored men have shed their blood freely for our flag and giving some merited token of respect and regard to their representatives in the church. And it is eminently proper that our brach of the church, which first enunciated the principles of human freedom, should be the first to rise above the prejudices of caste.

That my alternate will personally do no sustained the character which he brought.

THOMAS BRAINERD.

o<del>nich die</del> begang besteht s New York, Jan. 24, 1861. REV. AND DEAR BROTHER:-John B Reeve, of our senior class, informs me that he has a call from a Church of Africans in is only his color that limits his sphere special distinction, as speaker, on the

And he is in other respects a first man: There is not one of our studen a sounder mind on the subject of sla points which are so much agitated in Chu mands every one's confidence; and his ge ness of such treatment of fellow men, even any power among the nations of the earth, plexion, he would be in as much dereve

o Philadelphia.

Yours in rist, Thos. H. Skinner.

RRESPONDING EDITOR

PERANCE CONVENTION nich interest, under the nation, was held a few days since yterian Charch at Lyons. The convention was to arouse and iends of temperance through-, to try to prevent the granteue interests of the community with oted by refusing altogether to license ferent sea voyage so exercise the power vested in them e laws of the State.

convention was organized by apth in Palmyra, as Chairman, and Rev. Lilly, of East Palmyra, as Clerk; hich, Rev. Horace Eaton, of Palmyprevious appointment, gave an eard practical opening address. Mr. as now been pastor of the large and nd most excellent influence in Wayne than he had dared to anticipate! If was plain to see that his care-epared and able address on this was listened to with profound re-

ittendance at the convention was , but embraced persons of decided from various parts of the county. resolutions were passed, expressing ction that it is time for the friends ity to be "up and doing," to stay e perils to which our young men people. d in "the lurking places of the the temptations of the grogis more subtle foe. nsiderable deliberation, an asso-

mperance Society, with apprors, and with the intent of apigilance Committees in every nest effort and real work. After vention adjourned to meet again the 3d Wednesday of May. t-2 o'clock P. M., to be opened ess by Rev. William Lusk, of

this rate or what was the war is over, and slavery is oth has gone, like Judas, " to e," many of the best friends of beginning to think it time for s for the suppression of the perance; and this is the way to work. It is to be hoped y not labor in vain in the

STARVED SOLDIERS.

asion recently to pass a short ra, we heard something more rs of rebel prisons which have ed and agonized our hearts ogress of this terrible war. thas its tales of woe; almost tas furnished its quota of vic-Coarbarity and hate.

ed that as many as twelve or lmyra and its immediate vien starved to death in rebel From the best families; some minly sons, the stay and hope holds. Oh, what anguish and again, on such homes, the slow, lingering, awful ch their loved ones were the gates of death.

man was three months at daily rations were a small l cake about two and a half 9 o'clock in the morning, k in the afternoon-two th an occasional tea cup with a few uncooked could not eat. Wasn't to kill? And did not pbert E. Lee in particular, kill? And is not this: thy they should be held the road.

Confederacy. Such too, until after Gettys: entitled to no common interest from his home and tell his tale of horrors, and then, as was manifestly intended, to sink away and die. In exchange for his wasted, death-struck frame, Robert E. Lee received a strong, well fed soldier just ready to enter the rebel ranks and fight again for the destruction of our country. And John C. Breckinridge, rebel Secretary of War, writes, "Our plan is working well," as he sent off thousands of such skeletons, in exchange for able bodied men. Is there no punishment for such crimes?

> Rev. Mr. Ellinwood, pastor of the Central Church of this city, with his travelling com panion, Mr. W. S. Alling, arrived home from flicensed It is intended to be ready with his foreign tour on Wednesday of this week.
>
> He has been gone about six months; visited coners," to be held in some | Spain, Egypt, and Syria, and returned show them that through Italy, France, and England; a trip volved no less than eleve die has been accomplished with favoring winds and gales, without serious detention at any point, and without accident or harm by the ing Rev. Mr. Tousey, of the Methodist | way. God has manifestly heard the frequent and fervent prayers of his loving people.

> And we are happy to add, that he returns apparently in most robust and excellent health. Indeed, he has added some twenty or more pounds to his weight, and nt Presbyterian Church in Palmyra looks strong for work. He feels himself nt fifteen years, and is a man of deal that the trip has been even more beneficial

His coming was a week or ten days in advance of the time at which he was expected, and gave his people a joyous and delightful surprise. He arrived on Wednesday about noon; but it was soon noised. through the parish, and a large number were gathered at the Wednesday evening prayer meeting to give him a happy greeting. His voice was full and strong, and some brief account of his trip was received asing evils of intemperance. Re- with much interest. We trust his health d carnest and determined action is decidedly and permanently improved; both by the resolutions and in and that many years of great usefulness are in view of the increasing evil, in yet alloted to him among his beloved

Rev. E. R. Beadle, pastor elect of the and with special reference to the First Presbyterian Church of this city, our patriot soldiers from the field, who has been absent some six weeks on people of Wayne county would account of ill health, has returned this week, to preach next Sabbath, and supply of the way of their soldier boys, the pulpit for a time; but he is not excome back to their peace pecting to settle here. He is afraid of the lest after having escaped death dimate, and proposes to locate further bullets many of them may be South before another winter shall set in. It is a great disappointment to the First Church, as they had already become much also formed, called the Wayne interested in Mr. Beadle, and had great

hope of his usefulness among them. Rev. Frederic Starr, Jr., preached his farewell sermon at Penn Yan a week ago last Sunday, and is expecting, as we are now informed, to go to St. Louis, to take charge of the church of which Rev. Henry E. Niles was pastor on the breaking out of the rebellion.

Rev. E. B. Van Auken has closed his labors with the church of Honeoye Falls, and has received a cordial invitation to the Presbyterian Church of Mendon, of which Rev. Mr. Hind was recently pastor. Rev. Ira O. DeLong is now supplying the church in Honeoye Falls.

Other changes are in progress. It is around us. We are sure we wish well, Little and Ruling Elder B. P. Holmes. both to churches and pasters, when we wish there were not so many; and we think we should speak almost as the wise Solomon would, if we should counsel greater forbearance, contentment, and permanence both to pastors and people.

ROCHESTER, May 6, 1865.

NOTICE TO COMMISSIONERS.

NEW YORK, May 1, 1865. The following Railroads have agreed o return free, Commissioners to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States which convenes in Brooklyn on the 18th of May, who pay full fare in coming:-

New Jersey Central. St. Louis, Alton, and Terre Haute. Lafayette and Indianapolis. Indianapolis and Madison. Terre Haute and Richmond. Pittsburg, Columbus and Cincinnati. Marietta and Cincinnati. Rensselear and Saratoga. Saratoga and Whitehall. Saratoga and Schenectady.

corresponded with all the leading railroads, but have up to this date, received favorable answers from the above only. Many of the railroads pass clergymen T. L. CUYLER.

The Committee of Arrangements have

Resolved. That this Presbytery desires to give humble and grateful thanks to God that He has crowned the arms of the Union with victories, constant and decisive, on land and on sea; that He has given the strongholds

upon us, with the promise of a new, purified and strengthened life to the nation;—for these things we give praise and glory to God. ON THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT. WHEREAS, The Presbytery of Wilmington is convened in the Providence of God; amid PERSONAL. the lamentations of a bereaved and astonished people, mourning the death of its honored and beloved Chief Magistrate, at the hands of a rebel assassin an event unparalleled in atrocity in the history of the Republic; therefore, Resolved, That we desire in humble submission to bow to this overwhelming dispen-

sation of Providence, and to take such a posi-tion before God as may render even this grievous chartenance. thops, and that a large proportion of ships, beside his boat exometry up the cially in saving this nation from an excess of Nile, and various land journeys; and an excess of ships, and various land journeys; and an excess of ships, beside his boat exometry up the cially in saving this nation from an excess of ships, beside his boat exometry up the cially in saving this nation from an excess of ships, beside his boat exometry up the cially in saving this nation from an excess of ships, beside his boat exometry. able and vain glory in the recent remarkable and decisive suggested of the netter of t arms.

Resolved. That we thankfully recognize the goodness of God in giving to us for the past most critical four years of our nation's history, a Chief Magistrate of such honesty, integrity, purity, unselfishness of character, and sincere purity, unselfishness of character, and sincere devotion to the country and the principles of civil liberty involved in our struggle, as to command the entire confidence of the people; who, in all his public acts and declarations, in all the trials and burdens of his station, habitually recognized his development. habitually recognized his dependence upon habitually recognized his dependence upon the Divine strength, and who threw himself upon the prayers of God's people, thus setting an example of piety in high places, the salutary effect of which has been felt throughout the whole land.

Resolved, That in this last infamous and treacherous deed by which a Chief Marin.

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ACTION OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WIL-

MINGTON.

ON THE VICTORIES.

and the armies of the insurgents into our hands; that the rebellion lies crushed and

destroyed; that slavery is swept away; that

the power of the Government is established;

that a Peace in righteousness already dawns

treacherons deed, by which a Chief Magistrate, second to Washington only in the affrate, second to Washington only in the affection and rever the of the people, has been smitten down and made a martyr to the great principles of National Unity, Justice and Emancipation, the Presbytery beholds fresh proof of the implacable rage and heavendefying violence of this pro-slavery rebellion, and calls upon all its members and congregations to join in pledging themselves anew to tions to join in pledging themselves anew to unsparing, unreserved opposition to its principles, and to hearty support of the new executive in all measures needful for uprecting every remnant and fibre of treason from the

COMMISSIONERS TO THE GENERAL AS-SEMBLY.—In addition to those elsewhere named, we notice the following appoint-

From the Presbytery of Detroit Principals, Rev. A. Eldridge, D.D., and Ruling Elder George S. Frost; nates, Rev. William S. Hogarth, D.D., and Ruling Elder — Gulley.

Presbytery of Washtenaw-Ministerial Commissioner, J. Ford Sutton.

Presbytery of Cortland-Principals. Rev. I. L. Beman and Ruling Elder J. M. Roe; Alternates, Rev. G. M. Smith and Ruling Elder W. B. Edwards. Presbytery of Grand River Valley,

Michigan—Principals, Rev. E. D. Newberry and Ruling Elder W. H. Woodworth; Alternates, Rev. George Ransome and Ruling Elder Louis Lovell. Presbytery of Greencastle-Ministe-

rial Commissioner, Rev. R. Hawley. Presbytery of Trumbull-Principals, Rev. Augustus Cone and Ruling Elder Walter Smith; Alternates, Rev. Henry R. Hoisington and Ruling Elder William Laird.

Presbytery of Sciota-Principals, Rev. E. P. Pratt, D.D., and Ruling Elder Addison McCullough; Alternates, Rev. J. H. Young and Ruling Elder Wm. F. Wilson.

Presbytery of Dayton-Principals, Rev. Wm. Cheever and Ruling. Elder painful to see how many are transpiring W. S. Phelps; Alternates, Rev. J. B. Presbytery of Alton-Principals, Rev. Messrs. C. Beach and C. Pitkin, and Ruling Elders Isaac Scarritt and D. W. Munn; Alternates, Rev. Messrs. E. W. Taylor and David Dumont and Ruling Elders Samuel Wade and J. N. McCord.

> Presbytery of Hamilton-Principals. Rev. E. S. Weaver and Ruling Elder William Cornell; Alternates, Rev. John Noble and Ruling Elder G. Waire.

TRYING IT AGAIN.—Our city railway. companies manifest no disposition to vield to the decision of the courts on the rights of respectable colored people to a seat in the cars. On Friday, an attempt at the forcible ejection of a colored solder from one of the cars of the Fourth and Eighth Streets Line, was made by the conductor and driver, uniting their force to put him out. A similar outrage was afterwards committed upon the same person by the conductor of another car of the same line. All the offenders have since been arrested and held to answer for assault and battery. If these railroad gentry really mean to measure strength with the Commonwealth, they at half fare when living on the line of are likely to have a busy time of it. The course they are now taking will eir crimes, like other Chairman Committee of Arrangements, make these occasions none the fewer.