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GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

BROOKLYN, May 19, 1865.
The opening of the General Assembly in Lafayette Avenue Church, yesterday, was participated in by a very large number of Commissioners but by a very slim audience from the people. The people had no idea of what they missed in failing to hear the sermon of Dr. Brainerd. Although physically weak, so that he feared he should not be able to endure the fatigue of delivery, the Doctor held his audience for over an hour in delighted, aroused attention, stirring the highest moods of feeling and not unfrequently causing a buzz of assent and satisfaction as he pronounced his strong, terse conclusions, or provoking their smiles by his shrewd and telling illustrations and thrusts at error in church and State. We shall not attempt to analyze the sermon, as we give it in full in another place, but we must say its tone and temper were most wholesome, and the younger ministry in the Assembly could not but carry from it germs of thought, rules of action and principles of judgment of the highest importance to them in their future career. It was more relished, and diffused more real pleasure among the audience than any Moderator's sermon we have been privileged to hear.

In the afternoon, Rev. Dr. Shaw, of Rochester, was elected Moderator, *via* vote, the other candidates, Drs. Spear and Prentiss, having been allowed to withdraw their names on the earnest plea of ill health of themselves or families. Rev. J. Spaulding, of New York, and Rev. James Shaw, of Ohio, were elected Clerks.

Thus the Assembly was organized. We can see no reason for supposing that the sessions will be prolonged. There are two daily sessions for business, commencing at half past nine in the morning, and at three in the afternoon. This arrangement, if approved by the brethren, will suffice to carry us through at an early date. A body as harmonious and in as good working order as ours, presents a very narrow field for those parties who seek in deliberative assemblies, an opportunity for display. Its operations and history must resemble those of nations in a time of peace and prosperity which is generally considered much less entertaining to the observer than a time of controversy and confusion.

On Thursday evening, we had a voluntary meeting of the members, such as has been held at the opening of every Assembly, since the commencement of the war. Hitherto, the object of the meeting has been to pray for the support of the government and the success of our arms. At this meeting, the thankful and joyful, as well as indignant, feelings of the patriotic assembly broke forth, and the audience at times were carried away with enthusiasm. Rev. Mr. Cuyler, pastor of the church, presided. Telling addresses were delivered by Rev. R. Adair, of our city, whose ardent quite carried the Assembly away, by Rev. Samuel Sawyer, of East Tennessee, Rev. Justus Doolittle, of China, and by Rev. Mr. Cuyler. Mr. Cuyler's allusion to the light of Jeff. Davis, was in the most irresistible vein of ridicule.

BROOKLYN, SATURDAY, P. M.
The Assembly spent Friday mainly in receiving reports from Permanent Committees. These showed most encouraging progress, and gave the hearer a clear impression of a compactly organized, working church, doing its part nobly in the great work of subduing the world to Christ. We bear special comment at this time, as opportunity will be given when the Standing Committees of the Assembly bring in their reports. Home Missions, especially view of the great enlargement of the work in the South and among the freedmen, and church erection as viewed by feeble churches in the far West, seem likely to be the most discussion.

This morning, a scene of intense interest from the loyal Presbyteries of East Tennessee, and in adopting measures for the ecclesiastical reconstruction of that most interesting and important section. Delegates from two Presbyteries, Kingston and Union, were present, and the committee, with Dr. Fisher at its head, besides the commissions of these brethren, had other papers placed in their hands, expressing the wish of the two Presbyteries to be received into their former ecclesiastical relations; also the proceedings of an informal meeting of members of a third Presbytery, Holston, of the same tenor. At the recommendation of the committee, the Assembly promptly recognized the two delegates from Union and Kingston and their Presbyteries, and then proceeded to organize the Presbytery of Holston, anew, out of such loyal materials as were on the ground, and erected the three Presbyteries into the SYNOD OF TENNESSEE. Provision was made for the reception of any other Presbyteries or individuals who might desire to unite with this body, but it was expressly declared in a distinct resolution, that none but loyal men be admitted to membership in these newly organized bodies.

The deep interest of the Assembly in these important proceedings, was heightened by the addresses of Rev. Messrs. Samuel Sawyer and T. J. Lamar, who represented the East Tennessee Churches on the floor. Their statements of the experiences they had undergone, and the temper of the people, who have maintained their loyalty in spite of the apostasy of many of their pastors, and in the face of bitter and murderous persecutions, were of a most thrilling character. The Moderator, who, without parade, has a keen sense of the proprieties of an occasion, called for a rising vote upon the resolutions, when the whole body rose *en masse*, and the Assembly being full the spectacle was most impressive. It was fitting that this GREAT ACT OF RECONSTRUCTION, should be thus solemnly performed, and the call of the Moderator upon Rev. Dr. Adams, of New York, for prayer, followed by the doxology to the tune of Old Hundred, was felt by all to be an appropriate ratification of the deed.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

INSTALLATION AT ROCHESTER.

Rev. Dwight K. Bartlett, was on Tuesday the 9th instant, installed as pastor of the Plymouth Church in this city. The sermon was preached by Rev. H. G. Ludlow, of Oswego; installing prayer by Rev. L. S. Hobart, of Syracuse; charge to the new pastor by Rev. S. R. Dimmock, of Syracuse; right hand of fellowship by Rev. J. Butler, of Fairport; and charge to the people by Rev. Dr. Daggett, of Canandaigua; who was also moderator of the council. The services were deeply interesting throughout. Mr. Ludlow was the former pastor of Mr. Bartlett, as a young man in Poughkeepsie, and spoke of his "son in the Lord" with great interest and affection. The charge to the pastor, by Mr. Dimmock, was very original and racy; the address to the people by Dr. Daggett was very happy, and thoughtful, and able, as his performances on such occasions usually are. Mr. Bartlett is settled under favorable auspices, and is already giving great satisfaction by his labors.

DELEGATES TO BOSTON.

In connection with this council a Conference of Churches, for Western New York, was also held, to appoint delegates to the great national convention to be held in Boston next June. The following individuals received such appointments.—Rev. Dr. Daggett, of Canandaigua, Rev. Jeremiah Butler, of Fairport, Rev. S. T. Richards, of Spencerport, and Dr. A. G. Bristol, of Rochester. Two others were conditionally appointed, to go if the Conference is entitled to send so many, viz: Rev. M. H. Wilder, of Gaines, and W. H. Childs, Esq., of Suspension Bridge. Our Congregational friends are manifestly preparing for a great meeting in Boston; and we sincerely hope it may prove of great interest and value in promoting the advancement of the one kingdom of our Redeemer, and the spirit of love and unity which should prevail among brethren.

DEDICATION AT JORDAN.

We have before mentioned that the Presbyterian church edifice of Jordan was undergoing repairs. These are now complete; the church being almost made over new, and very neat, we are told, in every particular. Some four thousand dollars have been laid out in these improvements. On Thursday, the 4th instant, services of dedication were held. A very appropriate and interesting sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Condit, of Auburn; prayer of

dedication by Rev. Dr. Hawley, and other parts of the service by Rev. Henry Fowler, also of Auburn, Rev. John Tompkins, of Marselles, and Rev. J. O. Fillmore, of Syracuse. It was an interesting and pleasant occasion; and the church of Jordan thus indicates a very laudable determination to grow and thrive; it puts itself in a good condition to receive and appreciate the services of a faithful and excellent pastor, for which it is looking.

NIAGARA CO. S. S. TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

A gathering of this designation was held on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, in Rev. Dr. Wisner's church, in Lockport. A goodly number of superintendents and teachers from different parts of the county, and some from the adjoining regions, were in attendance to compare notes, to ask questions, and hear instruction from the lips of that accomplished Sabbath-school man, Mr. R. G. Pardee, of New York.

The order of exercises embraced three sessions each day, of about three hours each, morning, afternoon, and evening, which implies attention to business, hard work, and real instruction. The questions discussed embraced the modes of Sabbath-school teaching, difficulties, encouragements, object teaching, graded schools, Bible classes, and the like. We think that we venture nothing in saying that the hints and suggestions thrown out by Mr. Pardee were worth years of experience or study to those who gave heed to them. This good man certainly has not in vain made Sabbath-schools his specialty. His head is full of wisdom. His reading is vast and varied. He draws freely, for suggestions and illustrations, from the best of English and American authors. We are particularly struck with the value of his suggestions to superintendents in regard to the manner of opening schools, arranging classes, and selecting teachers. We wish every superintendent in the land could have heard them. We wish these Teachers' Institutes could be held in every county. We are sure they are accomplishing a world of good as far as their influence is felt.

INCENDIARISM IN UTICA.

It is but a short time since we recorded the burning of the Female Seminary at Utica, by the hand of the incendiary; and now the Free Academy, or High School, has gone in the same way. House burning seems to have become a passion with outlaws and villains in that city. This building had stood for almost fifty years. Great numbers of the citizens of Utica had here received their early education, and had reason to remember the old building with many pleasant associations. It is difficult also to see what any human hand "is to gain by burning it down. It offers but little for plunder; and yet in the night it is fired; in the morning it is a smouldering ruin. We only hope that the rogues who lifted the sacrilegious torch may be caught and treated to the utmost severity of the "law in such cases made and provided." It is time Utica did something to strike terror into such scoundrels, and effectually check such wanton and fiendish mischief.

NEW ELDERS.

On the first Sabbath of this month four new elders were ordained, in connection with the Presbyterian church at Le Roy. This gives the church nine in all, elected on the rotary plan, three going out and three being appointed each year. Speaking of Le Roy, we may add, that the venerable Dr. Cox has sold his residence in this place, and it is to be enlarged and fitted up for a boys' Academy.

A SHORT MINISTRY.

In the necrology of Auburn Seminary read last week at the anniversary, by Prof. Hopkins, a very handsome tribute of respect was paid to Rev. F. A. Parmenter, recently deceased, to which we barely alluded last week. He graduated only one short year ago, and entered upon the work for which he had been ten years in preparing, with high hopes and great promise of usefulness. He was settled over the new Congregational church at Elizabeth, N. J., and there but a few weeks, since, as he was about to take the cars while they were in motion, he fell under the wheels, and was so crushed and mangled, that hardly enough of the human form remained to identify the pieces. His death was mentioned with great respect and mourned with real sorrow.

REVIVAL.

A revival of much interest has been in progress for some time in Malone. We learn that about fifty are indulging hope, in the congregation of the Presbyterian church, under the care of Rev. J. R. Herriek.

PERSONAL.

Old Dr. Wisner, of Ithaca, now in the 84th year of his age, passed the last Sabbath in this city, and attended the Brick Church, of which he was pastor

more than thirty years ago. In the morning he assisted Dr. Shaw in the devotional services, and in the evening he preached a sermon of marked vigor and acceptableness for one of his extreme age. It was noticed that he prayed with great simplicity and fervor for our country, and especially for our rulers, that they might be merciful where it was safe to exercise mercy, but that they might also inflict the just penalties of the law where the public good required it. The old Doctor has a legal and logical mind; he knows that mercy is not the only attribute of good government, whether human or divine. Justice also must be regarded, or law is frustrated, and the rogues' millennium reigns.

CALL DECLINED.

We understand that Rev. H. C. Riggs, of Potsdam, declines the call extended to him by the Presbyterian church in Brockport. We are sorry the good people of Brockport can not have the man of their choice; and they offer a place for a devoted pastor to do much good; but we confess we did not quite want Mr. Riggs to leave his present post, where his labors have seemed also to be highly appreciated, not only in his own parish, but in the surrounding region.

CHURCH DEBT PAID.

The Congregational church, of Oswego, of which Rev. H. C. Ludlow is pastor, is now to be added to the list of honor. An indebtedness of \$12,000 debt has lain for years on the society, a real burden, doubtless, in more respects than one; but now, "we trust, a burden no longer." An effort was recently started to wipe it out. When we saw the pastor ten days ago, the subscription was nearly sufficient to accomplish this most desirable end, and put the church in a better position for its own comfort, and for all Christian effort and influence and usefulness. "Cautious, that the war should be remembered as the time of payment of church debts; endowments of colleges, and enlarged benevolence—but so it is; and it is one of the glories of our times."

C. P. B.
ROCHESTER, May 20, 1865.

COLORED PEOPLE IN PASSENGER CARS.

Yesterday morning, as car No. 2 of the Tenth and Eleventh Street line was passing down Tenth Street, and when below Walnut, a colored man got in. The conductor desired him to leave, stating that it was against the rules of the company. The man refused to leave, claiming that he had a right to be in the car. The conductor then ordered the car to be taken off the track and placed by the curbstone near Lombard Street. This was done, the white passengers being transferred to the next car. The colored man remained inside for nearly two hours, when, becoming tired, he left, and the car was again placed on the road. A scene similar to the above occurred on the Union line, at Ninth and Pine Streets, on Tuesday evening. The colored man in that case was not removed from the track until the colored passenger had left.

We copy the above from last Thursday's *Ledger*, accompanying it with only this remark, that such a dodge of the law may do for once or twice; but if the colored people should take the notion to "fight it out on that line," the railroad companies would sooner tire of laying up cars by the curbstone than the former of taking a siesta on the cushions. This is not the first instance in which the desperation of resistance of law seeks out some supremely ridiculous mode of manifestation.

TWO DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIANS OF THIS CITY HAVE, WITHIN THE LAST FEW DAYS, BEEN REMOVED BY DEATH.

They are Dr. William Darrach and Dr. Thomas D. Mitchell. The former was in a long time, a professor in one of our medical colleges, and the latter was, at the time of his death, such in Jefferson College. Both were consistent and active Christians in communion with the Presbyterian Church, and also in the enjoyment of a large amount of esteem for their social and general virtues. Dr. Mitchell died in the seventy-fourth year of his age. Of Dr. Darrach's age we are not informed, but judge it to have been nearly the same.

THE U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION, as will be seen by an official notice in another column, has resolved not to prolong its existence after its special mission shall have been fulfilled. We have no room this week, to speak of how illustriously that mission now approaching its end, has been fulfilled, nor of the great love with which it will be remembered. Its retiring is as graceful as its course has been noble. No one living will hear the last of those familiar benedictions, "God bless the Christian Commission!"

A GRAND JUBILEE IN PROSPECT.—The 75th anniversary of the Sabbath-school of the First Presbyterian Church of Northern Liberties, (Rev. T. J. Shepherd's), is appointed for next Sabbath afternoon, (28th inst.) at the church on Buttonwood street below Sixth, at 3 1/2 o'clock. Rev. Dr. Newton, a scholar of the Bible Class, forty years ago, will be present, and with others, address the audience.

NEW CHURCH ENTERPRISES IN WEST PHILADELPHIA.

Our brethren of the United Presbyterians are pushing forward a new enterprise in West Philadelphia, using for the present the hall of Saunders' Institute as a place of worship. A church has been organized, and on the 1st inst. the Presbytery of Philadelphia, U. P., ordained Mr. J. M. Hutchinson, and installed him as its pastor. The sermon was preached by Rev. James Price; Rev. Dr. Cooper delivered the charge to the pastor, and Rev. Dr. Dale to the congregation. In connection with the exercises Rev. Prof. Saunders made a congratulatory address.

The contemplated effort of the Lutherans on that side of the Schuylkill is also under way. It has been delayed by the difficulty of procuring a suitable place of worship. At length, however, one of sufficient size, in a convenient location, was procured, and through the energy and enterprise of one of the church officers, was very neatly and tastefully fitted up. The congregation met, for the first time, on Easter-day, and services are now held every Sunday morning. A Sunday-school will shortly be organized, and steps are being taken for the collection of funds towards the erection of a chapel. A lot was secured some time since, and it is estimated that a chapel can be put up for three thousand dollars.

THE NATIONAL BAPTIST.—It is not long—twenty weeks, says a notice in the last number—since we announced the advent of this new member of the religious press of this city. It was started a little in advance of that rather important part of the arrangements for such an enterprise, the engagement of a permanent editor, and has hitherto been conducted by gentlemen who have given to it such editorial service as other demands upon their time have allowed. Notwithstanding the infelicity of the arrangement, the publishers have given us a paper of high order, one which is truly creditable to the denomination. The last number announces that Rev. Kendall Brooks, of Massachusetts, will henceforth be connected with it as the permanent editor. Mr. Brooks comes to his work with a high character for ability, and we look for a pleasant professional intercourse with him.

PROMPTLY AT WORK.—The American Tract Society has arranged for an immediate occupation of the Southern field, and is now fully at work in Richmond and Petersburg, under the supervision of Rev. George L. Shearer, District Secretary. Mr. Shearer is well known by the efficient service which he has rendered in the Philadelphia agency, and is well adapted to the responsibility now committed to him. The services of the veteran army colonel, Mr. John E. Vassar, are also retained in the same capacity, with Richmond for his field. Steps are also being taken for systematizing the work in Charleston and Savannah.

GOING BEHIND THE PAPERS.—We find in the report of the proceedings of the Bloomington, Ill., Presbytery, (O. S.), the following significant action:—Rev. C. R. Fish presented a letter of dismission from Chicago Presbytery, but owing to his peculiar views on secession, the state of the country, etc., Presbytery unanimously granted him leave to withdraw his letter. It will probably be a long time before clergymen who have carried the taint of secessionism through all these late years of our country's fearful conflict will find the way into new ecclesiastical relations as facile as that out of the old ones.

PASTORAL RELATION DISSOLVED.—A dismission from his charge as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Adrian, Michigan, was asked by Rev. George Duffield, Jr., and granted by the Presbytery of Monroe, on the 2d inst. This intelligence, which comes by way of the *Christian Herald*, takes us by surprise—not so much the part of the request for a dismission, unexpected as it was, but the reason which prompted it. The *Herald* says:—"It is understood that the main reason for this action of Mr. Duffield, who had for some years filled that position with very general acceptance and usefulness, consisted of the strong objections entertained by a portion of the officers and members of the church to a sermon preached by him on the Sabbath preceding the last Presidential election. What portion of the church dissented therefrom, we are not advised, but fifty-one members united in a remonstrance against the acceptance of the resignation by the Presbytery." The obnoxious part of the sermon in question has been published in the *Advertiser* of Detroit, and is such as has been often heard, with entire approbation, from Philadelphia pulpits. That it should have been unbearable in one of our Michigan churches, surpasses our comprehension.

TERMS.

By Mail, \$5	Per annum, in advance	By Carrier, \$3 50
25% cents additional, after three months		
Clubs—Ten or more papers, sent to one address, payable strictly in advance and in one remittance		
By Mail, \$2 50 per annum	By Carriers, \$3 per annum	Ministers and Ministers' Widows, \$2 in advance
Home Missions, \$1 50 in advance		
Fifty cents additional after three months		
Remittances by mail are at our risk		
Postage—Five cents quarterly, in advance, paid by subscribers at the office of delivery		
Advertisements—12 1/2 cents per line for the first, and 10 cents for the second insertion		
One square (one month)	\$3 00	
" two months	5 00	
" three	7 00	
" six	12 00	
" one year	18 00	

The following discount on long advertisements, inserted for three months and upwards, is allowed:—Over 20 lines, 10 per cent off; over 50 lines, 20 per cent; over 100 lines, 30 per cent off.

News of our Churches.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE BOROUGH OF DARBY.—FIVE PERSONS were received to the communion of this church by profession of their faith, on the first Lord's day of the present month.

RESIGNATION.—Rev. S. W. Crittenden, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of the borough of Darby, has resigned his charge; the resignation to take effect on the 1st of July next.

MINISTRIAL CHANGE.—Rev. E. W. Taylor has removed from Pana to Shipman, Illinois, and assumes the charge of the churches of Shipman and Plainview. This field is in Macopin county.

SAN JOSE, CAL.—We learn with regret, through *The Pacific*, that the expected installation of Rev. W. M. Martin, at San Jose, has been put off in consequence of his serious illness.

DEDICATION.—The church in Rockstream, Yates Co., N. Y., now under the ministry of Rev. T. M. Hopkins, has successfully accomplished the enterprise of erecting a neat and tasteful house of worship answering to its wants. Its public dedication took place, with appropriate services, on the 27th ult. The sermon was preached by Mr. Hopkins. Rev. Messrs. C. Chapman, F. S. Howe, C. C. Carr, and B. Russell participated in the exercises.

A CALL ACCEPTED.—We notice with pleasure that the Third Presbytery of New York has made arrangements for the ordination of Mr. John De Witt, a licentiate, and for his installation as pastor of the church of Irvington, on the Hudson; above New York, on the 6th of July. Mr. De Witt is the son of our venerable friend, Rev. W. R. De Witt, D. D., of Harrisburg. Providence has kindly opened to him a pleasant and desirable pastorate, and he enters upon it with good hope of usefulness.

ORDINATION.—Mr. William White Williams was, on Sabbath the 14th inst., ordained by the Third Presbytery of New York, as an Evangelist, with reference to his prosecuting the temperance reformation as a religious enterprise, in the army, navy, and community generally. We see it stated that, during his late labors, Mr. Williams has obtained 7800 pledges of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, from officers and soldiers of the army. At the same time Messrs. David L. Kiehle and Austin P. Stockwell were ordained to the gospel ministry. Mr. Kiehle goes to Minnesota under the auspices of the Home Mission Committee.

SAN FRANCISCO.—We learn with great satisfaction that the Howard Street Church, in this city, a very important California church in our connection, has at length been successful in its search for a suitable pastor. A call recently extended to Rev. Henry M. Scudder, D. D., now of Jersey City, has been accepted, and he is expected to enter upon the field in July. Dr. Scudder is a son of the veteran missionary Scudder, of India, and has himself spent a considerable part of his ministerial life in the same service and country. Since his residence in America, he has produced a deep impression of his power for usefulness, and there is little doubt that he will make his mark for our church and for Christ, where he now goes.

CAZENOVIA, N. Y.—The pastorate in this church, recently vacated, on account of ill health, by Dr. G. S. Boardman, was filled on the 2d instant by the ordination of Mr. Nathan P. Campfield. President Fisher preached the sermon; Rev. J. F. Kendall gave the charge to the pastor, and Rev. E. R. Davis to the congregation. The services were performed under the direction of the Presbytery of Onondaga. Mr. Campfield has been laboring in that church during the past winter, and a gracious refreshing has been enjoyed. It was an unusually auspicious commencement of a pastorate, that on the Sabbath immediately following his settlement, there was an addition by profession of thirty to the number of communicants.

LANE SEMINARY ANNIVERSARY.—This occurred on the 11th, and notwithstanding that the draft made by the war upon the seminary and the colleges which are its feeders, had reduced the graduating class to a small number, the exercises were of a high order, and the occasion was one of great interest. Four speakers of the graduating class delivered public addresses, viz: W. T. Hart, Subject, *The Recent Lives of Jesus*; A. E. Hastings, *Truth the Source of Eloquence*; J. H. Jenkins, *Christian Ecclesicism*; W. M. Newton, *The Relation of Atonement to Redemption*. The meeting of the Alumni took place on the previous day, on which occasion a sermon on the well-chosen, and no less well-treated subject of the successful minister as an example for emulation and imitation, was preached by Rev. Daniel Tenny, of Boston.