

THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The San Francisco Pacific has taken up in series, "the best method of preaching," one of those subjects about which editors can write very rationally, but which is now so easy a nut when it comes to the craking.

This plan embraces the written sermon carefully committed and delivered memoriter. It is at least a laborious method—but one which avoids all that is objectionable in the use of the manuscript.

Thus far the Pacific—and further. Starting from this point of power for stage effect, (we do not use the term in its bad sense,) as an accessory to ministerial qualification, it passes on to some suggestions which may be valuable, provided always he who would follow them out has a strong judgment, and holds it as a bit with a strong hand.

It might on some other occasion, be interesting to enquire whether the average rhetoric of the pulpit does not fall quite below that of the stage. Whether the more stiff and stately manner of the schools has not been needlessly antagonistic to more dramatic style of speaking.

The Episcopal Recorder of last week straightens out some curious reports respecting the cozeness of the Northern and Southern Episcopacy, in a way decidedly damaging to the veracity of the common run of the correspondence of the daily press.

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes as follows: "I have it on perfectly reliable authority that letters have been received here from the Bishops of the Episcopal Church in nearly all the Southern Dioceses lately in rebellion against the Government, in favor of re-union at the next General Convention, at Philadelphia, without any formality whatsoever."

tioned the efforts of the Government to defeat and punish treason.

The Presbyterian Banner has a leader upon the relations of the Presbyterian Church in the North to the Southern portion of the country, viewing the matter, we suppose, particularly as affects its own, the Old School branch. The Banner feels little confidence in articles and letters sent up from the South, and published in Northern papers, which represent the bitter resolve of ministers and churches to hold their animosity, as so deep that Union is an impossibility.

That a part of the people of the South should feel and talk thus, is no evidence that they are unapproachable by Christians from the North. Four months ago the leaders expressed themselves as hopefully of the success of the rebellion as at any previous time. Even after the capture of Richmond, and the surrender of Lee, much was said among aristocratic secessionists about never being subject to the Government at Washington, and intimations were thrown out about a general hegrira to Mexico or some of the South American States.

The Banner proceeds to state that it has evidence to support these views, in letters from several Southern States, speaking of places where people are anxiously looking for ministerial supplies from the North, and tested practical openings for the Christian enterprises from this quarter.

A nice little arrangement, says the Banner, has just been prepared at Richmond, Va., in a select assemblage, where Rev. Drs. T. V. Moore, M. D. Hoge, A. Converse, Brown, Read, and others of the same school, were present. The subject of ecclesiastical reconstruction was taken up. In the discussion, Rev. T. V. Moore, D.D., a Pennsylvanian by birth, and who had just returned from a visit to Pennsylvania, took the ground that in the North union between the Old and New School branches was certain—nothing could prevent it—and that therefore the New School section of the South which had separated from the New School body at the North, and which was now united with the Old School party at the South, could not be expected to enter into ecclesiastical relations with the great Presbyterian body, to be formed of the Old and New School branches, at the North. This view prevailed. Then it was generally admitted that the Confederate General Assembly was extinct—would not meet again. The line of policy at length adopted by these gentlemen in that convocation, was that the Synods of our Church in the South should be revived, and that then one General Synod of the South, composed of delegates from the particular Synods, should be formed. This was the general plan. In accordance with this, Rev. B. M. Palmer, D. D., is about to return to New Orleans, to take possession of his former charge, and also to take ground in favor of a General Synod of the South, and in opposition to reunion with our General Assembly. Probably Rev. S. S. Wilson, D.D., and Company, in Kentucky, who have insisted so much upon the total apostasy of the General Assembly, will not be averse to this movement.

News of the Week.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LAST GOVERNMENT LOAN.—The issuing of the 7-30 bonds was suspended on the 26th ult., the entire amount authorized by the act of Congress having been taken. Applications for them continue to come in, but they are too late. The whole amount of the three series is \$830,000,000, and of this about \$700,000,000 has been negotiated by Jay Cooke, the Government agent.

RECONSTRUCTION.—Governor Parsons of Alabama, has issued a proclamation, ordering an election for delegates to a State Convention to be held on the 10th of September. He says that of the one hundred and twenty-two thousand Alabamians engaged in the war, seventy thousand of them were killed or disabled. He also says that they have every right which they ever possessed except slavery; and that the sooner they bow to the decree abolishing it that it will be the better for them.

PROPOSED COMBINATION AGAINST THE HIGH PRICES OF MEAT.—Some of the New Yorkers, out of all patience with the meat extortioners, propose a general combination of consumers to abstain from the use of the article, beginning with August 5, and continuing two weeks. If it could be pretty extensively adopted, and continue until such time as the producers should come down to some sensible terms, the plan would meet the case. But a two weeks' campaign would be nothing to the butchers. They could spare their business that length of time, and at the end of the fast meet a crowd of customers hungry enough to bear so much additional extortion as would pay up for lost time.

THE PIRATE SHENANDOAH.—We have again bad news from this last remnant of the rebel power. A San Francisco despatch of July 27, says that the whaling barque Milo arrived that day in eight days from the Arctic Sea, with the crews of several whalers destroyed by the pirate Shenandoah last month. The whalers Edward Casey, Hector, Alvia, Euphrates, William Thompson, St. Albans, Thorton, Swift, and the Susanna, were captured, many of them burned. The Milo was boarded for the purpose of taking off the crews. The Shenandoah was continuing the wholesale destruction of whalers, and would probably soon destroy another fleet numbering sixty vessels. Her commander was informed of Lee's surrender, and the collapse of the rebellion, but did not believe it. He believed in Lincoln's assassination, for he expected it. The Shenandoah sailed last at Melbourne. She was manned by English and Irish sailors. Some of the captured whalers joined her.

RICHMOND WHIG.—This recently suppressed paper was somehow again got under way last week—in what temper may be judged by the following editorial:—"If we fail to give free and independent utterance to the opinions we entertain and the convictions we cherish, we desire the good people of Virginia to understand that it is no fault of ours. Gibbel, cabined, and confined, as it is our unfortunate lot to be, we cannot expect to make up a paper satisfactory to ourselves or acceptable to the public; and the generous people of Virginia, we are sure, will not only sympathize with our situation, but extend to us and the Whig all the aid and comfort in their power during the continuance of the restrictions which the military authority have seen fit to impose upon us."

THE DIVORCE LAW IN CONNECTICUT.—The legislature of Connecticut is trying to amend its divorce law. The existing law authorizes divorce for "any such misconduct of the other party as permanently destroys the happiness of the petitioner, and defeats the purpose of the marriage relation." This covers all possible causes for which parties seek separation, and, in fact, it gives either party power to obtain divorces at will. It virtually annuls the sacredness and permanence of the marriage contract, so far as the law can do it. The new bill restricts divorces to these causes: adultery, bestiality, imprisonment for life, fraudulent contract, seven years absence not heard of, wilful desertion for three years with total neglect of duty, habitual intemperance of three years continuance without prospect of reform, intolerable cruelty, or any other infamous crime punishable by imprisonment in the State prison. The Senate rejected this bill, and it will have to be greatly amended in order to pass. Some change will be made or Connecticut will become an undesirable notable as Indiana for its free divorce system.

RICHMOND CITY ELECTION.—The two candidates for the Mayoralty each appeared in a card just previous to the election, defining his position with regard to the Union. Mr. Sturdevant indignantly denounced the report that he was a disunionist, said that the rebellion was hopelessly defeated, and the United States Government again paramount, and they must now accept and sustain it. But he did not, like a true loyalist, improve the opportunity to speak one word against rebellion, or of satisfaction with the restoration of lawful authority. It was just such a paper as spoke silliness under defeat, and set weakness enough to cringe for office. Mr. Taylor came out a flat-footed Unionist. The election took place on the morning of the 26th ult., and resulted in the choice of Mr. Sturdevant by upwards of 400 majority. That is Richmond.

FOREIGN.

European advices are to July 15. The main topic is the result of the elections so far as they have been held. They may be summed up in this: To the evening of the 14th, the number of contests completed was 421. Of these the Liberals had 263 seats and the Conservatives 158. Compared with the last Parliament, the Liberals, according to the calculations of the Times, have lost 26, and have gained 35 seats, so that the net gain to the Government, thus far has been 9. Liberal gains are anticipated in Ireland, and on the whole, the Times looks for a great reinforcement to the Liberal cause. There were 233 seats to be filled, mainly by the counties, and the contests for these would extend over another week. Lord Palmerston was of course, returned for Tiverton, but he has a Conservative for his colleague instead of a Liberal as formerly. The first two days voting for Oxford University left Mr. Gladstone, the rebel sympathiser, in a minority of 25. The polling would continue for three days more. In view of the possible failure of Mr. Gladstone at Oxford, it is probable that one of the candidates for the Southern Division of Lancashire. There was a close contest in Liverpool and the result was in favor of the two Conservative candidates, Messrs. Horsfall and Greaves. In London John Stuart Mill, and Mr. Hughes, both extreme Liberals, and friends of the American Union, were triumphantly elected.

Dealings in American securities are not brisk. U. S. 5-20 are quoted at 71 1/2 @ 71 1/4. News from the continent unimportant.

LATER.—A later arrival brings Liverpool dates to the 19th. The net gain of the Liberals in the election of members of Parliament, as far as then known, was 18. The Great Eastern arrived off Valencia on the morning of the 19th, and the work of laying the cable for the oceanic telegraph was immediately going forward. The Prince Imperial of France had been dangerously ill, but was improving. The cholera in Egypt was rapidly decreasing. U. S. 5-20's, 72 @ 72 1/4.

ENGLAND AND THE CONFEDERATE SHIPS.—The temper of the English courts is about to be tried in relation to the right of the floating property of the late Confederacy to hospitality. Washington accounts say that our Liverpool Consul, Dudley, has filed a bill claiming the ship Alme, which arrived at Liverpool with 14,000 bales of cotton belonging to the rebel government. He has also instituted legal proceedings to recover the pirate Kappahannock, now there.

STILL LATER.—The Hibernian from Liverpool, reached Father Point on the 31st ult. with dates to the 22d. Returns from the elections are all in, and the net gain of the Liberals, (the Administration,) foots up to 20. Mr. Gladstone was defeated in Oxford, but by that peculiar facility which the English system affords to aspirants, holding elections in different constituencies at different times, and not requiring representatives to be residents, he offered himself to the electors of South Lancashire, by whom he was returned.

MEXICO.—Mexican news, from New Orleans, July 17th, says that by the Liberal General Negretes countermarching his forces he completely frustrated the combinations of the French to occupy the city. The city of Tula and the town of Matulahuac have been captured from the French. In the latter place no quarter was asked or given. President Juarez is in undisputed possession of Chihuahua.

LATER dates, or rather later accounts to which we find no date, say that we have important news from Mexico, which, while it reveals the sad condition of the country, also looks stormy. Our concentration of troops on the Texan frontier has alarmed Maximilian, and, as an offset to our movements, he has concentrated a large number of thirty-five thousand men, at Matamoros. While these important events are transpiring on the frontier of the empire, it seems, from accounts we publish, to be racked within with the saddest of social convulsions. Guerrillas and robbers are employed in the interest of the French, and their handiwork is visible in too many localities. Americans are the chief objects of the wrath of these men, who are well assisted by the French troops. Americans are to be murdered or robbed wherever found. Such are the accounts. There are, however, many bad men among newspaper correspondents, to whom war is a

harvest, and who are ready to promote the worst feeling between us and Maximilian, that we fall back upon the probability that there is much exaggeration in the above. Whatever may be the feeling, we believe he regards the cultivation of peace and good will as his highest wisdom in the case.

LATER.—A Brownsville letter of July 13th says:—"Major Texier, of Cortinas' staff, has just arrived from above, bringing intelligence of the capture of General Kirby Smith and his entire party. He was intercepted by the Governor of Saltillo, S. Viega, on the 4th of July, at Piedras Negras, Mexico, about fifty miles below Eagle Pass, and compelled to surrender. The victors got five pieces of artillery, nine hundred new rifles, and a train of seventy-five wagons loaded with ammunition and provisions. The officers and men were paroled."

General Shelby had reached Eagle Pass, but the authorities at Piedras Negras informed him that he would not be allowed to take his men into Mexico with arms in their hands. He would, however, be allowed to come into the country with his men as emigrants. He finally agreed to this, and sold his arms and canons to the Liberals at Piedras Negras, for which he received \$6,000 in specie and \$5,000 in bonds issued by the Liberals. The arms were immediately shipped to Chihuahua. President Juarez is at Chihuahua, which is strongly fortified, with no Imperial troops to threaten it."

ITEMS.—Alfred Tennyson, the poet laureate of England, is failing very fast. He was just recovering from a severe attack of throat disease, when, walking late one evening in his Isle of Wight garden, he took cold, and now, it is stated, symptoms of consumption are evident.—A gentleman in New York has offered to give \$500 in prizes of \$200, \$150, \$100, and \$50, to those soldiers who have either lost their right arm or have had it disabled, who will show the best specimen of left-hand penmanship—the design being to induce the men to become scribes in order to fit themselves for lucrative and honorable positions.—Charles Waterston, the distinguished naturalist, the man who rode an alligator some forty or fifty years ago, died recently at his residence, Walton Hill, near Wakefield, England, at the advanced age of eighty-three. He has long been known as an eccentric man.—Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer, the celebrated novelist and poet, has become entirely deaf.—John M. Mason, ex-Governor of the ex-Republic of C. S. A. Government to Great Britain, has returned to this side of the Atlantic. Doubtful of the prudence of coming within reach of Uncle Sam's catchers, he stopped in Canada, making St. Catharines his temporary abode.—The Pittsburg Post says there is a well-known resident of that city, who is seventy-two years of age, and has a physician's certificate that he has not been sober for forty years.—W. W. Whittlesey has been arrested in New York for the larceny of one hundred \$1000 bonds from the Treasury Department at Washington, where he was an employee, and taken to the latter city for trial. He has confessed the crime, but could make no other restitution than to tell where some of the coupons were secreted.—North Carolina is shipping to the North a large amount of copper, iron, lead, etc., mined in that State. The negroes are, it is said, accumulating small fortunes working the gold and silver mines.—The Raleigh Progress says that in North Carolina the native element, including the aristocracy, is growing more defiant, and threatens along the Union men as soon as the troops are withdrawn.—Secretary Stanton has, on behalf of the Government, leased Ford's Theatre for fifteen hundred dollars a month, with the privilege of buying it for one hundred thousand dollars, if Congress so provides.—The civil courts of Alexandria, Va., have recently refused to receive the testimony of negroes, either in their own behalf, or that of parties to suits. The Freedmen's Bureau has taken up the matter, and threatened military force to prevent the testimony of negroes in any case where the testimony of a colored witness has been refused upon trial. An arrangement has finally been effected, by which all cases in which colored persons are concerned, as parties or witnesses, shall be tried by the Provost courts.—Under escort of a strong guard, Jeff. Davis has been allowed to walk in the grounds of Fortress Monroe. This privilege will be accorded to him hereafter, although it is said he looks well, and apparently enjoys good health.—The Deseret News announces the death of James Duane Doty, Governor of Utah, who expired at Great Salt Lake City on the 13th of June. The deceased was a little over sixty-five years old.—The power to negotiate further loans for the support of the Government is now exhausted; but the Secretary of the Treasury believes that the income from the usual sources will be sufficient to keep the machinery in motion until the meeting of Congress.—Secretary Seward and family, accompanied by several distinguished personages, arrived at Cape Island, on the 27th ultimo in the gunboat Northerner. They were received with every testimonial of respect.—Ohio and Illinois have been visited by a heavy rain-storm, which in the former, has greatly injured the oat crop. The storm was severe also in Illinois, and over the North-west, but no damage is believed to have been done to the crops.—The mail routes in Virginia, and in others of the Southern States, are rapidly being restored. The old route to Richmond has again been opened.—Speaker Colfax is in Oregon Territory, and has been warmly welcomed by the inhabitants of the chief cities.—The gold and silver coinage of the San Francisco Mint during the fiscal year just ended, equals \$19,000,000.

WATT, THE INVENTOR OF THE STEAM ENGINE.—A young man, wanting to sell spectacles in London, petitions the corporation to allow him to open a little shop without paying the fees of freedom, and he is refused. He goes to Glasgow and the corporation refuse him there. He makes the acquaintance of some members of the University who find him intelligent, and who permit him to open his shop within their walls. He does not sell spectacles and magic lanterns enough to occupy all his time; he occupies himself at intervals in taking asunder and remodeling all the machines he can come at. He finds there are books on mechanics written in foreign languages. He borrows a dictionary, and learns those languages to read these books. The University people wonder at him, and they are fond of dropping into his little room in the evenings, to tell him what they are doing, and to look at the queer instruments he constructs. A machine in the University collection wants repairing, and he is employed. He makes it a new machine. The steam engine is constructed, and the giant mind of James Watt stands out before the world the herald of a new force of civilization. Was Watt educated? Where was he educated? At his own workshop, and in the best manner. Watt learned Latin when he wanted it for his business. He learned French and German; but these

things were tools, not ends. He used them to promote his engineering plans, as he used lathes and levers.—Fincher's Trades Review.

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