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# American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1865.

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wider circulation to the paper and the Committee's Publications. Hence pastors and others may the more freely engage in the work.

# MATTERS IN KENTUCKY AND MIS-

Our Old School brethren are not the noble action of their Assembly, will under the disadvantage of a reaction from the excitements of actual war, and that ambition for numerical strength which, from time immemorial, has imperilled the spirituality of all Christian denominations. The attitude of all that part of the American Church which was infected with the virus of slavery, either | ber is not stated. by personal connection with it, or by the affiliation of sympathy, toward the more elaborate expression of the bearing prehensions of disruption and ecclesiasrebellion has been a mortifying one. They were first to nourish it, and with For EIGHTEEN new subscribers, paying them it lives in all its bitterness after it tially as follows:—1st. The acts of the preceding those Synodical acts directly and resolution No. 4 on the reports of the Assembly, to be followed up until to be noticed, there were uttered expressions of hatred toward the Government and resolves of hostility, to which no constitutional, and unscriptural, and it is disloyal factions in the States named, politician of the South would now dare hoped the Assembly will review and correction as for apprehension would be to give public expression.

Our readers may perhaps remember, that, among the acts of the O.S. Assembly at Pittsburg, bearing upon the subject of rebellion, was the adoption of here with unbroken purpose to the Pres- in the State, he case will be much more proper course in relation to the admission of ministers suspected of disloyalty. The reply directs all the Presbyteries in connection with the Assembly to exam- joins upon that Presbytery to forbear Presbytery & California. The Synod ine every minister coming from any Presbytery or other ecclesiastical body under the Synod's care are urged to in the Southern States, and applying for study the things which make for peace. the nature of constitutional rules, prescribadmission, whether he has been con- This action was secured by a vote of 52 ing new terms of communion, we are of the cerned in aiding or countenancing rebellion, or whether he holds the system of measure, little or nothing is to be hoped negro slavery in the South to be a Di- from this result. While, on the one vine institution; and if any such appli- | hand it rebukes the defiant Presbytery, cant is found in the affirmative on either on the other, it applies to the acts of the of these points, he is not to be received Assembly the terms unconstitutional and except on condition of renouncing and forsaking his wrong. This action was secured by a strong, though by no means an vote also invites persistency of opposiunanimous vote. It was, however, so | tion. apparently decisive, that the majority re- In the mean time, in the O. S. bodies turned from this meeting with a satisfy- of Missouri, the old venom of the rebeling confidence that their Church had lion is even more bitter. The Presbyplanted itself upon a basis of loyalty and tery of Missouri, covering a region of fidelity to freedom, too firm for faction to which Jefferson City is the heart, at its disturb.

But disloyalty only bided its time. The close of the war once more opened | Assembly on Overtures Nos. six and | up the South as a church field, and that seven, (the action stated at the beginyearning for numerical importance before | ning of this article,) a series of resolumentioned, suggested the wholesale ab- tions condemnatory and disdainful was followed in this Princeton track-indeed there, taking them without repentance as follows:-or concession, "unanointed, unannealed."

The first formal declaration of war only those of the last meeting, but going as far back as the celebrated "Spring" Presbytery of Louisville, a body whose proclivities are sufficiently defined by saving that such men as Stuart Robinson and S. R. Wilson are in the ascendancy there. That Presbytery, on the 2d of September adopted a "Declarawith its spirit.

The Synod of Kentucky assembled at The Kentucky "Declaration and Tes-Louisville, October 11. For months timony" was then put upon the course, this meeting had been anticipated with and, through a long and excited debate, much anxiety. In Kentucky the party urged on with a hostility to freedom not action of the Assembly in defiance, was known to be very strong, and the question was likely then to be determined content of the Assembly in defiance and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong and the question was likely then to be determined concerning the strong through the strong thro of O. S. Presbyterians, who held the paralleled in any speech before the ecwill be accepted in making up lists for tion was likely then to be determined opposed by Mr. Nicholls, late of Cham-

No money is made in such a | whole, was to be ecclesiastically loyal or | led down to this "most lame and impotransaction; the simple object is to give | rebellious. At an early stage of the | potent conclusion:" session, Dr. R. J. Breckinridge sought to obtain an unequivocal demonstration and Testimony is voluminous and contains of loyalty, by offering a motion that Presbytery of Louisville who "endorsed and adopted said 'Declaration and Tespersons belonging to the majority of the timony,' and all such office-bearers under the care and jurisdiction of this Synod as, having executed and published it, or shall hereafter do so, did and do each shall hereafter do so do each shall hereafter do so do each shall hereafter do so do each sha through with their troubles from the and every one, by said acts, assume vile pro-slavery and secession spirit. | such a state of open rebellion against the Indeed, things now look as if the loval church, and open contempt and defiance majority who last spring carried through of our Scriptural authority, and such contempt of our faith and order and acts, have the whole battle to fight over again | as to render each and every one of them unqualified, unfit, and incompetent to sit | ings of the meeting is significant: and act as a member of this or any other court of the Presbyterian Church."

A vote upon this motion was reached after a stormy debate of two days. It was lost, the Western Presbyterian says, "by a decisive vote," but the exact num-

On the ninth day of its session, a of the Synod toward the Assembly was made. A paper was adopted, substanthe Committee of the Board of Domestic it may be diven from its position. If Missions, are condemned as unwise, un- there were nothing to fear beyond these Assembly during the years 1861 to aid an eccletiastical copperheadism in 1865, inclusive, justify a withdrawal in the Nort, playing the same game from that body; and the Synod will ad- which its political namesake carried on and will oppose every effort to produce of the great synod of New Jersey, in its schism. 3d. The Synod disapproves of the Declaration and Testimony adopted technical hitch on the action of the Asby the Presbytery of Louisville, and en-sembly, already noticed, in reply to the what tends to disturbance. 4th. All This action was secured by a vote of 52 yeas to 48 nays. As a tranquilizing measure, little or nothing is to be hoped unscriptural, and virtually inaugurates a repeal agitation. The closeness of the

late meeting, proclaimed open defiance. In relation to the deliverances of the

"Resolved, That it is the firm conviction of this Presbytery that the action of the Genagainst the Assembly's loval acts, not eral Assembly touching Overtures Nos. 6 and 7, is without binding force, and that in re-ceiving members into this body we cannot and will not comply with the order referred resolutions of 1861," came from the to, in making the views of ministers in regard to loyalty and freedom a test of their being qualified for membership."

The Synod of Missouri embraces the entire O. S. interest in the State. Previously to its last year's meetings, the influence of the disloyal clergy of Mistion and Testimony" against certain souri had become so absolutely perilous and we cannot but hope that a calm and heretical and erroneous doctrines and to the Union, that the military aupractices" alleged to have grown up in thority felt compelled to require an the Presbyterian church within the last oath of fidelity as a qualification for takfew years. In this manifesto the Pres- ing a seat in the Synod. Prominent bytery condemned the action of the As- among those who were thus unseated sembly in its deliverances on the State was Rev. R. P. Farris, a secessionist of of the Country as deciding questions of the deepest dye. At the opening of the State Policy-confessing allegiance to meeting of the Synod this fall, Rev. S. J. Human Rulers—on the subject of Sla- P. Anderson, "than whom," says the very and Emancipation-forming an al- St. Louis Democrat, "there has not liance with the State, so that the State been a more distinctly avowed secessionuses the Church as a political instrument ist throughout the length and breath of -and persecuting those who dissent the State," moved the election of Mr. from its action. These and similar of | Farris as Moderator, "as a protest against fences were charged upon the Presbyte- the act of his exclusion from his seat by rian Assembly, and the signers of this the last meeting in 1864." Mr. Farris declaration proposed to take no part in was elected, and, on taking the chair, the measures adopted by the Assembly, congratulated himself and the body on to withhold their contributions from all the "success and significancy of his the Boards of the Church (except that of election," and exhorted them to "go on Foreign Missions), and to hold a con and conclude as they had begun." The vention to take the necessary steps to next step of Mr. Anderson, who throughvindicate religion "from the reproach out the session stood by the engineer's which has been brought upon it through crank, was to propose a resolution, dethe faithlessness and apostasy of its claring all the acts of the last year's ministers and professors." This "De- meeting null and void, on account of its claration and Testimony" was issued in | not having been a "free court of Christ." a pamphlet, and sent broadcast over the This resolution would sweep out importcountry, and signatures were solicited ant records made by the loyal party then from all in the church who sympathized in the majority. It was carried by the overwhelming majority of 61 to 19.

whether, in that State the Church as a bersburg in this State, and finally whitt-

"In view of the fact that the Declaration many important statements which there is not sufficient time to examine with due considerport on the Milutes of the Assembly, there-

Thus, like its Kentucky sister, the Synod of Missouri dispersed after a bootless effort to do something and be something of the questions in hand, and paving the vay for future wrangles. The following item from the closing proceed-

"The committee on the Narrative represented they had nothing to report in regard to the state of the cause. "Rev. Mr. Finley moved to discharge the

committe, considering that as far as this Synod was concerned, there was not enough re-ligion to make a narrative of. "The motion was agreed to."

We observe in some papers grave aptical secession as the result of all this. We think the purpose is worse. It looks like the inauguration of a sytem of persevering agration and brow-beating of

rect them. 2d. Yet none of the acts of slight. But if there shall come to their late meeting in Princeton, trying the adopted the bllowing minute:-

"As these conditions seem to us to be of injuctions should have been transmitted to the Presbyteries and have been approved by a majority of them. [Form of Government, Chapter 12 Article 6.] And we fear that the various requirements in this series of injunctions, touching the ministers and members of churches in the Southern States, un-less modified, will necessarily aggravate and perpetuate instead of healing the breaches between us and them, arising out of our recent conflict. Your Committee, therefore, suggests for the consideration of Synod, the

following action on this subject—to wit:
"That this Synod overture the next Gene ral Assembly to take such action in regard to our relations to the Southern Christians as may, without any sacrifice of truth and righteousness, tend to heal existing breaches, and, if possible, to prevent schism and the formation of a new sect among American Presbyterians.

met at Lewisburg, on the 19th ultimo,

The Synod of Baltimore, in session in Baltimore week before last, said:—

"With all due respect for the highest judicatory of our Church, the Synod would express its regret that the General Assembly should have felt it necessary, at the time and under the circumstances, to give this subject so large a share of its attention, and more especially to take action which we fear will be used still further to alienate rather than to reunite our so long distracted and divided Church. The action referred to, however, was taken during a time of great excitement kind review of the subject in the light of peace and returning good-will, will tend to more conciliatory measures in the next As

sembly. There is but one meaning to all this. The geographical and numerical magnitude of the church is the glittering prize. Southern Presbyterians will not repent. and, therefore, like the Episcopalians, must be brought back without repentance. And so the Northern Synods strike hands with Kentucky to upset the glorious platform of 1864. The loyal ministry and men of that Church have work and trial yet before them, but we have faith in both their grace and their grit. We hope they have heart for the emergency and will stand by, and in, their Church, until this power for disturbance is finally laid.

THE AMERICAN MISSIONARIES AND humanity of our missionaries at Contwo thousand victims a day, is from the Christendom:

The American missionaries have labored unceasingly among the poorer classes, and have attended personally between four and five hundred cases of cholera and cholerine, besides administering medicine to many lighter cases. They have published a state-ment of their method of treatment, which five per cent., although many of the cases have been in the most filthy rooms of the

### WAITING FOR THE REVIVAL.

We knew a case in point. It occurred some thirty years since, in one of the towns of central New York. A gentleman a little below the so-called middle age of life, had neglected ces of the church, and practical sympathy to Christianity. But, according to his own confession—a confession which unhappily there was no good reason for doubting-he had never yielded his heart to Christ, and had no personal interest in saving grace. In the heart-sense of the term, he was not a Christian; but he was always expecting to become

So he told a friend who, at a certain time, world to come. His friend pressed him with hindrance exists to-day, that will not be is now sufficient to overpower your acknowvour procrastination? He was sobered by these appeals, but he closed a long conversation by saying that people are generally concome every now and then; there will be come, you will see me one of the first to become a Christian." He said this, not in trifling mood, but with such a course seemingly marked out and resolved upon.

In about a month, the revival did come; and never before in that community, had the power of converting grace been so distinctly marked, or its sweep so wide. As a good time for coming, (we use the phrase of the man of whom we speak,) it probably more did it affect him?

How it might have affected him, had he been within its influence, we need not inquire. It is sufficient to say that the revival for which he had waited was there, but he was not. It came even sooner than he had expected, but not soon enough for him. The clods of the valley were over him; throngs passed by his grave to the inquiry meeting, but there was no revival for him. But even without this fearful hazard of the

continuance of life until the next revival, ner's personal identity in the lump around him. The work lies between him heart all the faith and consecration and every the part of attorney to Gen. Lee. other exercise connected with true conver-The Synod of Philadelphia, which if he alone were seeking salvation. The the following: "The laws and intents of the in one case, than it would be in the other. Church, Hall's Law of Baptism, Hall's sorption of the Presbyterian element adopted. The fourth of the series reads took up this very minute, and after an If he to-day were one of a hundred coming WHITE people of the South." earnest debate, adopted it by a vote of out for Christ, his state of feeling would have to be just as intensely personal, as though

there was not one sympathizing soul around. Why wait for the revival? Is it because it will then be easier to come? What is to make it easier? Less of singularity of ap- black. It says: pearance, of resistance of social influences, and of the reproach of Christ? Is a revival looked for by the sinner as the "good time for coming," because the taxing of his moral courage will then be less severe; because it will be so much easier to stand forth for forced oaths of allegiance, and the like. So Christ, when sustained by the example and much for the past. Now, as for the future, countenance of others?

In most cases this is probably the reason why the sinner, who really has solemn thoughts of his need of religion, fixes his mind upon some coming revival as to the best time for carrying out his purpose sometime to the BLACK people of the case. Are we not right? Solemnly before God we hold up these two statements, and time to become a Christian. He may not exactly mean to give such a shape to his feelings; but those feelings, well analyzed, amount to a dread of the cross, and a hone to escape a part of it while coming into the kingdom. The willingness to bear and suffer for Jesus is wanting. Men, and often the most unworthy class of men, are more feared than We believe it is better for us all, that our

religious exercises should be studied out, and translated into the plainest kind of English. Thus we shall quicker come to know ourwrongs which must be righted within us before even a revival can bear any blessing to ourselves. If the sinner's waiting for a revi- action in his apparent triumph over British THE CHOLERA.—The following testi- val is really the result of moral cowardice, mony to the fearless and self-sacrificing let him be convicted of it as such, and seek for grace to throw it off. It is not only a bestantinople in the midst of a plague littling of his manliness, but is one of the which, when at its height, carried off most hostile attitudes which he can assume toward the cross of Christ. The common well-known British journal, Evangelical phrase in which this state of feeling is spoken, is the most expressive which our language affords-expressive alike of its character and guilt. Ashamed of Jesus! He cannot come to Christ alone; he must wait until a revival gives him the company and countenance of others, because he is ashamed of the cross of Christ.

Thus, without bringing into the account the peril which, with the man mentioned above, proved the fatal one, there are views enough to characterize the wickedness of the sinner, who suspends the most solemn duties | tional Thanksgiving.

of the moment, and his highest immortal interest, upon some future revival. If more is wanted, let it be this: It is reasonable to suppose, that in the case of many sinners in the nast: it is reasonable to fear that with many securing a personal interest in religion. It sinners in this day, who are soothing themwould not be entirely just to say that, in all selves in present neglect of religion, because respects, he had lived in the neglect of re- they have staked their hopes for eternity ligion, because from his childhood, he had upon some coming general effusion of convertgiven outward attention to the various servi- ing grace, God may leave them to live out the revival unblest, and farther from hope and the external movements of religious enter- heaven than before its coming. Awful, but prise. He had been educated in Christian exemplary was the sentence upon the unbeprinciples, and was firm in the theory of lieving lord, in view of the plenty which another day was to bring to starving Samaria-"Thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.'

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ance. **Home Missionaries,** \$1 50 inadvance

#### Position of Mr. H. W. Beecher. Our readers will perhaps remember the ex-

traordinary promptness of the pastor of Ply-

mouth Church, Brooklyn, in proposing, as soon as the war was fairly over, the exercise spoke to him respecting his prospect for the of executive elemency toward the chief of the rebellion. It might have been regarded the questions, When? Why not now? What as the mere overflowing of good humor and a generally comfortable state towards manstronger to-morrow? What influence which | kind at large, in the first full consciousness of national deliverance. A recent discourse of ledged sense of duty, is not doubly armed by Mr. Beecher shows that it was the expression of a sentiment which has become habitual with him, and which he feels it his duty to incorporate in his public teaching. verted in revivals, and he thought such would | In a word, Mr. Beecher, now that the enemy be the time for him. "Revivals," said he, is conquered, may be said to have gone over to the enemy. Without waiting for any indione here after awhile; and, when it does cation of repentance, without caring to provide for the vindication of justice, shutting his eyes to the serious, unsettled question of responsibility for the awful cruelties perpetrated upon our prisoners, abandoning all attempts at securing guarantees for future loyalty on the part of late rebels, as well as for the present safety and future elevation of the freedmen, Mr. Beecher plants himself upon the policy of conciliation, pure and simple, as ample for all the great necessities than met his highest expectation. But how of the time. Perhaps some of our readers will be satisfied with his declaration that Mr. Johnson's every act has been "apt, fitting and most wise;" we do not believe there is one but that repudiates with indignation, as a base and scandalous, specimen of that very northern "doughfacedness," which Mr. Beecher himself was wont to denounce, the sportion of his discourse, where he speaks of Gen. Lee as a conscientious gentleman, and expresses himself highly gratified at his elevation to the presidency of the college, from which a loyal president was driven, at the why should a sinner wait for it? Individu- commencement of the rebellion. Gen. Lee's ality of exercises is an indispensable feature life is forfeited before any military tribunal; in all true conversions. In seasons of revival, he was a ringleader of the rebellion, which he people may come in throngs to Christ, but himself declared to be unnecessary and unthere is no mass regeneration—no merging of wise; and no small share of the guilt of the cruel treatment of our prisoners must rest upon his head. Mr. Beecher grossly insults and the Holy Spirit alone. From his own the moral sentiment of the country by playing

One of the most extraordinary sentences in sion is required, all the same that it would be the whole sermon, as coming from his lips, is work for him and in him is no more nor less Government and ourselves will prove of no avail if they are hostile and unpleasant to the

We quote the comments of the Independent on this sentence, premising that Mr. Beecher no longer controls its editorial department, which is unswerving in its adherence to a firm and just policy to white and to

How little we expected such a statement from Mr. Beecher! Certainly the only things which, as yet, have been of any "avail" with the South have been things "hostile and unpleasant"-for instance: muskets, proclamations of emancipation, confiscation acts, enour Christian duty compels us to alter Mr. Beecher's statement into the following:
"The laws and intents of the Government

will prove of no avail if they are hostile and confidently appeal to know which is the more in consonance with His divine will! It is to this tribunal, and to this alone, that we care to carry the controversy.

What a strange position of things! The outbreak of the rebellion witnessed some sudden and extraordinary revolutions of sentiment. Its close is attended with others at least as remarkable. Here is Henry Ward Beecher lauded by the worst rebel sheet in the North, the New York Daily News, while the Independent is compelled to clear itself of suspicion of sharing in his sentiments, by selves, and perhaps sooner be humbled for spending nearly a column in refuting them! Did Mr. Beecher's visit to England turn

his head? Was there a sort of action and reprejudice, so that, all unconsciously, he glided down towards their level, as he seemed to bring them partly up to his?

INSTALLATION IN PHILADELPHIA.-The installation of Rev. J. Ford Sutton, as pastor of the Western Presbyterian Church, corner of Seventeenth and Filbert Streets, in this city, is appointed for next Sabbath afternoon, at half-past three o'clock. Rev. Mr. Calkins is to preach the sermon, and Rev. Drs. Adams and March to deliver the

NATIONAL THANKSGIVING. - President Johnson has appointed the first Thursday in December as a day of Na-