

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1866.

TERMS FOR 1866.

By leave of Providence, we shall neither reduce the size, nor alter the regular subscription price of our paper; but we call the attention of subscribers to the following financial arrangements.

1. Subscribers who desire to avail themselves of our lowest terms, must not wait for the call of collecting agents. Paid agents will collect no bills, until three months after date of said bills, when the fifty cents additional will invariably be charged.

2. It is difficult, in the present state of the paper market, to procure the material necessary in making a distinction in the wrappers, by which we proposed to mark the paid and the unpaid subscribers, receiving their papers by mail.

OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

Readers will observe that we have come back to the old designation of our Correspondent in Rochester. This is not because of any material change in our relations, uniformly so pleasant and profitable, but because, under the designation of Corresponding Editor, he has been more or less annoyed with purely business communications which should have found their way directly to this office.

INTERESTING CHURCH DEDICATION.

We find in the Christian Herald the account of the dedication of a new church edifice, erected for the German Presbyterian Church in that city, of which Rev. G. W. Winner is pastor. The dedicatory services, sermon included, were in German, several clergymen participating.

In connection with this, it may be stated that our own city presents, at this moment, a fine German field for our Church. There is here a considerable company of German-speaking Christians, who express a desire for religious institutions in our connection.

THE GREAT CONGREGATIONAL EFFORT.

The returns from simultaneous collection on Sabbath, the 17th ult., are coming in. It will be recollected that the National Council adopted this mode for raising a fund for Congregational church extension, marking \$200,000 as the lowest limit which must be reached.

REVIVALS.

We find accounts of revivals, of more or less power, going forward in a number of churches in our own and other States, few of them belonging strictly to any denomination, but shared in by churches of different names.

Several churches in and around Amsterdam, N. Y., have arranged to hold a series of union conventions, for the express purpose of cultivating the revival spirit. Two of these meetings have been held. They were, from beginning to end, increasingly solemn, and the members returned to their respective churches, with the feeling paramount that they must, and they believed they would, see the salvation of the Lord.

The arrangement, published in our last week's paper, for daily joint meetings of the churches of our connection in this city, during the present week, as a preparation for the week of prayer, is being carried out. We look for good; "we beseech thee, O Lord! send prosperity."

A CALL TO WISCONSIN.—The Presbyterian Church in Racine, Wisconsin, has given to Rev. Walter S. Alexander, of Pomfret, Connecticut, a call to its pastorate.

OUR CITY CHURCHES AND THE SEASON.

OUR CHURCHES are this week observing the season of united prayer which seems to have settled into a kind of solemn evangelical festival, and which is probably the best method that could be devised by man for inaugurating the new year.

THE SABBATH SCHOOLS OF CLINTON STREET CHURCH kept their "Christmas" on Tuesday night of last week, in the Church. The pulpit was tastefully dressed in evergreen. Many pieces were delightfully sung by the children, Mr. Mitchell skilfully presiding at the organ.

THE SOUTHWESTERN CHURCH, Rev. John McLeod, pastor, held their annual festival on Thursday night last. The large lecture-room was crowded. The brethren in the ministry were present in goodly numbers, and were in the best story-telling vein.

THE PEOPLE OF PINE STREET CHURCH have spent \$300 in newly carpeting the parlors of their pastor. KENSINGTON CHURCH has enjoyed a healthy growth during the pastorate of Mr. Eya. New elements have been brought in of a valuable character, and the commodious and beautiful church has long been crowded.

THE BUTTWOOD STREET JUVENILE MISSIONARY SOCIETY celebrated its twentieth anniversary, Dec. 31. The total collections since its organization are \$2024. Last year the amount collected was \$564.41. Rev. Dr. Goodell, the venerable missionary from Turkey, made an interesting address.

ASHAMED OF THEIR NAME.—The Boston Pilot, a paper of the Roman Catholic Church, is in bad humor because people will apply the term Romish to that Church. It claims for it the exclusive use of the term Catholic, a word less adapted to that church than to any other religious organization in existence.

AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Board of Trustees of the College of New Jersey, held at Princeton on the 20th inst., the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon the Rev. Alexander Reed, the pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of this city.

MISSOURI: CHURCH ERECTION—HOME MISSIONS.

Rev. Timothy Hill, of Kansas City, Mo., for twenty years a missionary in that State, addressed the congregation of North Broad Street Church last Friday night, on the great field for missionary effort presented by Missouri, and made a profound impression upon those who heard him.

NO BETTER agent of the cause could appear before our churches, than a man fresh from great points of interest, and so thoroughly alive to the importance of his work as is Mr. Hill. And the financial importance of his volunteer agency is seen in this, that if he succeeds in his Church-building enterprise in Kansas City, he will immediately release the Committee of the entire burden of his support.

RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS IN CINCINNATI.

—The Christian Herald of Dec. 14th. says:—"Most of the churches are holding daily meetings this week. Some have prayer-meeting during the day and preaching at night; others preaching at night; others preaching alternating with prayer-meetings, and others prayer-meetings only. Rev. Joseph Chester and Rev. A. L. Aldrich are preaching from evening to evening to good congregations.

THE REPEAL AGITATION IN THE O. S. CHURCH.—On the subject of the coming effort to obtain from the next Assembly a repeal or modification of the whole-some action of last spring, relating to ministers and ecclesiastical bodies under the taint of rebellion or pro-slaveryism, the Presbyterian Banner says that the Assembly "will not abandon any position it has taken, or forsake any principle it has adopted."

ANOTHER "NEW TRANSLATION."—We judge, from the latest spawn of improvements on our standard English Bible, that the new translation business, let alone, will soon run itself into the ground. For example upon the "Diaglot," a volume issued by Fowler & Wells, which, for a title, emulates the labels of the perfumers and nostrum vendors.

BISHOP WHITEHOUSE AND THE GALESBURG CHURCH.—The Episcopal imbroglia at Galesburg, Illinois, continues. It may be recollected by some of our readers that Grace Church of that city, some months since, called Rev. Dr. Cracraft, formerly of the Epiphany, of this city, to the rectorship. Dr. C. before his institution, or the transfer of his canonical relations from the diocese of Ohio, to that of Illinois, while officiating at Galesburg, fraternized pretty freely with the non-Episcopal clergy, after the manner of the Tyne, and Drs Muehlenberg and Canfield, of New York.

POLITICIANS MAKING PUBLIC RELIGIOUS PROFESSION.—We mentioned recently the reception by profession, of ex-Senator John Bell into the First Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tenn. We see it stated that ex-President Pierce has quite recently become a communicant in the Episcopal church, in Concord, N. H.; also that ex-President Buchanan has just been received to membership in the First Presbyterian church in Lancaster, in this State.

THE THEATRE.—Vice has the gift of making itself very ridiculous. In Chicago, Rev. R. M. Hatfield, of the M. E. Church, has of late been dealing heavy blows upon the theatre, which have taken effect. In retaliation, a mock sermon, ironically warning young men against frequenting the play-house, was gotten up by some sinner, and delivered on the stage.

THE PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY. The Pastoral Association of the ministers of the New School branch of the Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, at a recent meeting, adopted the following resolutions in regard to the effort this society is now making to secure a fire-proof building, viz:—

Resolved, That we cordially recommend this matter to those of our members who are able to contribute thereto, as well worthy an enlightened and generous liberality. PRESBYTERIAL ARCHIVES.—A very good idea has been matured into action by the Presbytery of Argyle, a New York State Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church.

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Resolved, As the sense of the Association, that the effort to secure a fire-proof building, and a permanent fund, to be appropriated to the increase of the historical collection, is one worthy of all praise, and is most heartily commended to the sympathies and support of our churches, especially of such wealthy and liberal members as would esteem it a privilege to aid an important enterprise.

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CHRISTMAS FESTIVALS.

Since we last wrote, Christmas festivals have been the order of the day. At various churches in this city, special efforts were made to entertain and please the little folks. The Sabbath-school room of the Central Church was beautifully festooned with evergreens. The whole school, and something more, were in attendance. Every class was full; every seat occupied. Singing and speeches ruled the first hour, and eating the next.

At the Brick Church, instead of distributing refreshments in the room, the scholars received their portion in passing out, in the shape of nice paper bags filled with cakes and candies, to be carried to their homes. It could not have been so much trouble to clear up after this gathering, as at the Central, where cakes and candies must have been trodden plentifully into the floor.

At the Plymouth Church they anticipated Christmas by three days, and called it by another name. Or, in other words, with similar festivities and great success, they commemorated the Landing of the Pilgrims. At five o'clock the children were assembled in the church. Among the exercises here was a pleasant speech by Dr. Daggett, of Canandaigua, and the presentation of Christmas offerings, with emblems, by the class, and remarks by Rev. Mr. Bartlett, the pastor.

After these public exercises in the church, tableaux were served with good effect in the lecture-room, and refreshments to good appetites in the Sabbath-school room. Between the tableaux, our friend, Rev. B. Bosworth, late of Henrietta, made an excellent speech upon the character of the Pilgrims. Altogether this was a very agreeable entertainment, with which all seemed well pleased.

OUR GREAT THOROUGHFARE.

We have become so accustomed to our improved modes of travel, that we almost forget how great the change has been within a few years. Some who are not yet old men, can tell us when it took them a good long week, of hard weary riding, by night and by day, to go from this place to New York.

But all that has passed away. We ride after another sort now. If the Editor-in-Chief were in our goodly city, passing a pleasant afternoon with his happy Correspondent, and wanted to be in New York to an early breakfast next morning, all he has to do is to walk down to the magnificent station house of the New York Central Railway, walk into an elegant sleeping palace at 4 30, take tea in Syracuse a little after seven, go to bed when you please, and wake up at six o'clock next morning in busy Gotham.

It will be understood that the New York Central now runs its cars through Buffalo to New York City without change, crossing at Troy, and going down the Hudson River Railway. They have recently put on some splendid new coaches, marked "New York, Buffalo and Suspension Bridge." They may be seen at Chambers Street in the evening, and in Buffalo the next day at noon; or in Buffalo in the afternoon, and in New York early the next morning; distance, four hundred and fifty miles. It is almost a miracle.

A GREAT BLESSING AT RIGA.

This country church, about twelve miles west of this city, was in a depressed condition, and for several months had even been without the preaching of the Gospel. Last spring, however, they obtained the services of Rev. Charles Ruddock, a young man who had preached for a time at Apulia, and God's blessing came with him.

The church at once began to feel the heavenly impulse, and as a result, the Sabbath-school, which numbered only forty members, now has one hundred and sixty—increased four fold; and the church, which had only forty communicants, was strengthened last Sabbath by the addition of thirty-seven—almost doubled at once. To show their good feeling toward such a pastor, the congregation made their donation visit on Thursday of last week, amounting to about one hundred and eighty dollars. Well done, for a little flock.

DEBT PAID.

The Presbyterian Church in Batavia has recently been doing the handsome thing,

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FOREFATHER'S DAY.

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Among the emblems brought forward, we noticed a bust of Lincoln. The class is called the Lincoln Class; their motto is, "Dare to do right; dare to be true." Another emblem, a full grown musket, brought forward by a colored boy; class name, "Protection;" motto, "Thou art my hiding place and shield." The "Excelsior" sent up stuffed eagle. They set their mark high. The "Missionary Helpers" had for their motto, "Shout the tidings of Salvation," and presented a beautiful model of a three-masted brig. We are sure they have an interest in the "Morning Star." We shall expect this class to furnish, at least, one missionary.

The amount of class collections for the year was \$146; appropriated to various objects of benevolence. The remarks of the pastor, as the emblems and contributions were brought forward to the platform, were peculiarly appropriate and happy; some of them quite striking, appropriate and beautiful.

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The Presbyterian Church in Batavia has recently been doing the handsome thing,

paying the debt which has hung over its house of worship since it was built. We congratulate the beloved pastor, Rev. C. E. Mussey, on this pleasing evidence that his ministry is not in vain in the Lord.

PERSONAL.

The First Presbyterian Church of this city, have given an unanimous and enthusiastic call to Rev. Caspar Maurice Wines, a licentiate of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, N. J. Mr. Wines is a young man, some three years out of the Seminary at Princeton, and a son of Rev. Dr. Wines, of New York City. He preached to this church for two Sabbaths, and has excited very great interest. He has also a call to settle in Newburgh, but the people here hope that he will kindly regard their call as the loudest.

Rev. A. L. Benton, of Lima, has declined the call recently extended to him by the new Church in Vineland, N. J. We are glad for the sake of the Church in Lima, and for many other precious interests, that Mr. Benton has consented to remain where he is. We need him in this region. C. P. B. ROCHESTER, Dec. 30, 1865.

News of our Churches.

A SAD RECORD.—We yield to the imperative claims of an honest journalism, in publishing the following action of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, in the case of a hitherto distinguished minister of our Church. At this distance, we have no definite information of how extreme the public rumor makes the crime to have been, or of what measure of guilt was confessed.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, held Dec. 23, in the Second Presbyterian Church, the following minute was unanimously adopted, viz:

"In consequence of reports unfavorable to the ministerial and Christian character of M. L. P. Thompson, a member of this body, the Presbytery immediately proceeded to investigate the case; and after having prayerfully and deliberately in several sessions considered the charges made against the accused, and for which he was summoned to answer, have come to the following result, to wit:

"1st. That no evidence of his own confession of the extreme crime with which he was charged by rumor appears, but that, on the contrary, the witnesses to whom said confession was reported to have been made, unanimously testify that so far from confessing, he always and unqualifiedly denied it.

"2d. That although no evidence presented to the Presbytery, or which they are able to procure, sustains the charge above alluded to, yet the Presbytery, by his own confession, find the accused guilty of the sin of impurity.

"3d. That, they also find him guilty of falsehood and deception in the statement made to the Presbytery at the time he asked for a dissolution of his pastoral relation.

"4th. That, notwithstanding the professed and apparently unfeigned penitence of the accused, the Presbytery, in view of conduct so highly culpable in its own nature, and so palpably inconsistent with his ordination vows, and with the purity required by the Christian profession, do solemnly suspend the said M. L. P. Thompson from the Gospel ministry, earnestly exhorting him to true and deep repentance, and to fruits meet for the same.

A true extract from the records of Presbytery.

Attest: G. W. MAXWELL, Moderator. J. CHESTER, Stated Clerk.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23."

The Christian Herald closes some well-expressed thoughts on the subject of this afflictive event, with the following very just reflections:—

"The outcry of the world when a minister of the Gospel falls does not show that ministers, as a class, are corrupt, but the contrary. Who ever heard of an uproar when an actor, an infidel, or a bar-room politician was guilty of licentious conduct? The gusts with which wicked men roll a bit of scandal about a clergyman like a sweet morsel under their tongues, shows that it is a rare luxury. If they could get such morsels oftener, they would not prize them so highly.

"Finally, all such cases, instead of leading Christians to discouragement, should stir them up to greater watchfulness, prudence and charity. 'Let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall.' 'If any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness.' 'Forgive and ye shall be forgiven.'"

THE PRESBYTERY OF STEUBEN.—The winter session of this Presbytery was held in Addison on the second Tuesday of December.

Addison is a very thriving village of some two thousand inhabitants, on the Erie Railroad, twelve miles west of Corning. The principal dwellings are on a beautiful rise of ground east of the railroad. On the main street are two public squares, around one of which are the Presbyterian, Episcopal, and Baptist churches, and the Academy.

The Presbyterian church is not very strong, and is now without a pastor; but is enjoying in some degree the special influences of the Spirit—a faithful elder, Mr. Gillette, endeavoring to lead on the church to seek God's face and favor.

In the absence of the last Moderator, Rev. L. F. Laine, of Canisteo, preached the opening sermon from the text, "I am the Good Shepherd." There were present eight ministers and ten laymen. Mr. A. L. Green, a licentiate of this body, and formerly a member of a Congregational Association, after a satisfactory examination, was ordained as an evangelist. Rev. Dr. Gregory, of Prattsburg, preached the ordination sermon, and Rev. W. A. Niles, of Corning, gave the charge. Mr. Niles also preached a sermon on Wednesday evening.

The subject of home evangelization was discussed, and considerable interest was awakened on the subject. Incipient measures were adopted for employing a Presbyterian missionary.

Reports from the churches indicated a healthy, prosperous, and harmonious state of the churches. There is evident growth; but in only two of our churches have there been revivals within the year—Canisteo and Pulney. As a result, twelve individuals united with each of these churches. Our Sabbath-schools