

A. M. S.
WASH.
of the
imbr
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1866.

Presbyterian.

FRESH REVIVAL ITEMS.

MARQUETTE, MICH.—Rev. F. H. Adams writes God is blessing us by the presence of his Spirit falling as gently as the rain on the mown grass. There have been no startling evidences of a work of grace among us; but for two months and more, sinners have been steadily turning to Christ. A number of young men have been converted, who are at work with a zeal, which is plainly according to knowledge. I can count sixteen now among the hopeful subjects of the work, and have reason to believe that a number of others are serious.

ELMIRA AND CORNING, N. Y.—The Y. M. C. A. of Elmira have taken the pains to learn the number of conversions there, since Mr. Hammond first visited that city, and by names handed in, they find it to be a few (about ten) over one thousand, and the work still goes on with power. On Friday, January 19, it is said that hundreds were unable to gain admittance to one of the churches.

A letter from Corning, N. Y., January 21st, says that nearly one hundred had found peace in the meetings recently begun there.

ENGLISH OPINION OF "JOHN BRAINERD."

The London "Record" of January 5th, the organ of the Evangelical portion of the Church of England gives a column and half to a notice of, and extracts from the life of "John Brainerd." It says, "the author, even after the lapse of a century, has done well to produce a record of this good man's life while at the same time he gives his readers some insight into the mode of life and tone of feeling which prevailed in our American colonies long before their independence. We may conclude our notice of this truly excellent man in the words of his biographer, 'the spirit of all he wrote, as well as the record of all his acts, confirm the tradition in his native village, that he was as holy a man as his brother David, and to have equalled in holiness his eminent brother implied an excellence seldom found on earth.'"

U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

THE FOURTH AND LAST NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING OF THE U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION will be held in the Hall of the House of Representatives in the City of Washington, on Sabbath evening, February 11th, at 7 o'clock.

The occasion will be one of profound national Christian interest; and addresses will be delivered by prominent officers of the Army and Navy, Ministers, Statesmen and others.

The friends of the Commission throughout the country are invited to be present.

Geo. H. Stuart, Chairman.

MONTREY, MEXICO.—The Secretary of the American and Foreign Christian Union writes: "You have perhaps read the account about Miss Rankin. There are three men in that Church, the moment they were converted, felt that they must work for the good of their countrymen. Being poor, they were unable to give their time. Miss Rankin has raised the money to sustain three of them, and word has been sent on for them to commence their labors.

"Miss Rankin will succeed in her work of raising \$15,000 for her seminary for young girls, and for the chapel for the use of the little Church at Monterey. We have already secured the printing of the first volume of the question book of the American Sunday School Union in Spanish. We are now preparing fifty hymns in Spanish for the use of Sabbath-schools, and also for Churches. Also we shall soon have out 16 numbers of a Sabbath-school paper in Spanish. So you see we are aiming to do something for the people of South America and Mexico.

"We shall also send out next month a converted Greek, who has been a number of years in this country, and who is a practical printer, to aid Dr. Kalopothakes in the printing of his paper, the Star of the East at Athens."

HENRY WILSON, of Massachusetts, said recently in the Senate:

"Certain newspapers had advocated the use of Government patronage to influence the action of Congress. He would say to everybody who had that thought in their brain, that the people of this country are not in any temper to be sold. They have decided that negroes shall not be bought and sold; and they are unanimous that the Senators and Representatives shall not sell themselves for Government patronage. If there is anybody in the country who wishes to buy or sell, he will find the American people will blast him with withering scorn and indignation."

There is no patriot who does not respond Amen to that.

Evangelical Churches advertising in Saturday's Press:—
St. Stephen's, 10th below Market.
15th Presbyterian, 15th and Lombard.
Church of the Intercessor, Spring Garden Street below Broad.
1st Ref. Dutch, 7th and Spring Garden.
Union African M. E. Church, Coates St. below Fifth.
3d Reformed Dutch, 10th and Filbert.
1st Congregational, Frankford Road.
Central Congregational, 11th and Wood.
St. Clement's, 20th and Cherry.

THE GOLDEN EGG THAT WAS LAID.

MR. EDITOR:—In your issues of January 4 and 11, you speak of the important movements now being made by the most influential Protestant denominations of our land, in the direction of Church building,—the raising of large sums to be given away for this purpose. "This money," you go on to say, (\$200,000 now being raised by the Congregationalists.) "is not to be locked up and guarded by stringent conditions, but to be absolutely, freely, and forever given away to encourage needy and deserving Church enterprises; to give the pioneer home missionary an unencumbered church over his head to start with; and last, but not least, to give the denomination a pair of 'seven league boots,' by which it may stride over the land, and plant its institutions in places hitherto utterly unacquainted with them, where the people are not prepared to co-operate in laying their foundations, but who may afterwards be pleased with their working."

Again you say, "Our own body will surely not now neglect the enlargement of our Church Erection Fund. Under modifications which will better adapt it to instant and large usefulness, there will come the Golden year of the Church, when its wealth shall no more rest in moulded heaps, but melt in many streams to fatten lower lands."

Many things in your paper may have attracted more attention than these words, but none have involved more important considerations as to the prosperity of our Church, among the other denominations of this land. Though nothing in the "Minutes" of the last General Assembly would indicate it, yet that there was then protracted discussion and widely different opinions, is not only manifest to those who were present, but by the reports we received through the papers. The final end resulted in a resolution: "That the Trustees of the Church Erection Fund be directed to issue a circular to the churches, inviting them to make contributions to a Supplemental Fund to be given away in aiding to build churches." The contributions thus far, in answer to the circulars, have not exceeded the expense of sending them. Do you wonder at this?

If you will turn to the eleventh report of the Trustees of the Fund (Assembly's Minutes, p. 73, 1865), you will see one reason.

They there affirm (what has been essentially affirmed of them for, "lo these many years,") "That after practical experience with this fund for eleven years, they again record their hearty approval of the principles of the plan; nothing has occurred to shake in the least their confidence in its wisdom. In their judgment its main and distinguishing feature, as a loaning fund, cannot be altered." Again, in the same paragraph: "The cardinal feature of the plan, as a loaning fund, cannot be changed." Luke xvi. 31.

If, therefore, the Trustees think this is so perfect, and have so much money on hand, \$125,000; if they yearly reiterate this sentiment, and have committed their reputation for financial wisdom and for the devising means of Christian benevolence upon this, why need they expect that the churches will give for a fund which is far inferior in character, and which is less adapted to meet the wants of our churches, viz.: a fund for giving away?

Again, the Standing Committee of the last Assembly affirms (pp. 51, Minutes) "that this fund was designed as a permanent fund, (though this word 'permanent' does not appear anywhere in the plan or in the charter) to be used, together with all additions that may be made to it from whatever source, for one specific object; and that no portion of this fund can be given away as an absolute gift, whether principal or interest."

Well may those brethren who constituted "one-third" of that Assembly, and who were absent when this report was adopted, ask themselves why the Assembly should commit itself to a decision of this character, when at the very same time the Trustees of the fund were directed to procure the written opinion of eminent legal counsel whether the Assembly has the power to make an absolute gift from the fund. 1 Cor. vi. 5, 6.

What "modifications" will "better adapt the fund to usefulness," when no modifications of the fund can be made which shall affect the nature of its distributions; when "no part of it can ever be given away?" Have we not now a plan different from all others of every Protestant denomination in this land, and the best one conceivable, and can this "be too often reiterated?"

And when, at the last Assembly, the report of the Standing Committee on this subject was opposed and referred to a Special Committee, (though that report is not in the Minutes, see pp. 49, 50,) and this Special Committee requested to be continued till next year, to seek for legal counsel as to the right of some change, did not the President of the Trustees of the fund rise and move a substitute to the effect, that this matter should be left to the Trustees, to confer with lawyers and report to the next Assembly?

And was not this "substitute" before-mentioned carefully worded, so that no question could arise on the original fund, but only on the interest? Read it on page 50 of the Minutes.

Now, suppose (as no doubt they will) these lawyers whom they choose for consultation, shall bring in a verdict corresponding to the already previous utterances of the Trustees, that not one jot or tittle of this fund, or the interest, shall ever be given away,—what then have

we gained? We shall then either thankfully go back to the fund as it is, (which is simply absurd,) or we shall be obliged to make further investigations, or lay aside this Golden Egg as useless,—for none will resort to this when there shall be a system according to nature, of free and continued gifts; or else we shall do—something else.

Think on these things; they are important. Meanwhile, we will present some facts.

January 20, 1866.

OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

PRESBYTERY OF WATERTOWN.
A special meeting of this Presbytery was held in Adams, on the 16th of December, to install Rev. Edward Lord as pastor of the Presbyterian Church of that village. The sermon was preached by Rev. J. J. Porter, of Watertown; charge to pastor, Rev. S. L. Merrill, of Theresa, and charge to the people by Rev. William Campbell, of Chaumont. We learn very directly also that Mr. Lord is giving excellent satisfaction in his new field of labor.

At the same meeting, Mr. David A. Holbrook, a licentiate, under care of that Presbytery, and an associate Principal of the Hungerford Collegiate Institute, was ordained as an Evangelist. Mr. Holbrook is well known as a popular and successful teacher, formerly of Brooklyn, and more recently of Clinton. He went to Adams only last year, and was regarded as a great acquisition to the new and prosperous school there established.

And now we learn that the good people of this place are about to lose him. He has warm friends and admirers in and near Sing Sing, who are pulling hard to get him there, to take charge of a flourishing school for boys. He has received, indeed, a magnificent offer, and has engaged soon to remove to that locality. We do not wonder he is wanted there. He will make friends wherever he goes.

The Presbytery of Watertown held another special meeting, on the 4th instant, at Lowellville, and installed Rev. G. L. Roof, pastor of the Presbyterian Church there—sermon, as before, by Rev. J. J. Porter; charge to pastor, by Rev. Calvin Yale, of Martinsburg; charge to the people, by Rev. G. P. Fisher, of Lyons Falls. Rev. O. M. Legate, of Carthage, presided, and put the constitutional questions.

In this connection there was also an informal re-dedication of the house of worship of the Presbyterian Church, which has been remodelled and repaired at an expense of some thousands of dollars. Indeed, the inside has been made over; the seats turned around, the walls frescoed; the orchestra made anew, and all rendered more commodious and attractive. Everything now promises well with this congregation.

And once more, the regular annual meeting of this same Presbytery was held on the 9th instant, at Dexter—opening sermon by Rev. O. M. Legate. Rev. S. L. Merrill, of Theresa, was elected Moderator; and Rev. Edward Lord preached the communion sermon.

A very interesting report in respect to the feeble churches within the bounds of the Presbytery, was made by Rev. E. W. Brown, Synodical Missionary. Most of the feeble churches are now supplied with pastors, indicating the thoroughness with which our brethren in this region are trying to build up the waste places.

Rev. J. J. Porter, of Watertown, and Hon. James A. Bell, of Dexter, were appointed Commissioners to the General Assembly; and Rev. Calvin Yale, and Rev. William Campbell, were appointed Commissioners to Auburn Seminary.

In this connection, we are happy to report also that the First Church of Watertown are moving to get a good parsonage for their esteemed pastor, Rev. J. J. Porter. They have taken hold in earnest, and can hardly fail of complete success.

PRESBYTERY OF NIAGARA.
The annual meeting of this Presbytery was held on the 16th instant, at Medina—opening sermon by Rev. L. W. Billington, of Barre. Rev. J. Cooke, of Lewiston, was elected Moderator, and Rev. F. A. Chase, of Lyndonville, Temporary Clerk.

Rev. C. R. Wilkins, acting pastor at Medina, was received by letter from the Presbytery of Rochester. More than usual religious interest was reported in respect to several places within the bounds of this Presbytery, including Lockport, Carleton and Porter.

After attending to the usual routine of business Presbytery adjourned to meet on Wednesday evening, (17th,) at Albion, and there attended to the ordination and installation of Mr. Lyell T. Adams, as pastor of the Presbyterian Church. Sermon by Rev. W. C. Wisner, D.D., of Lockport, ordaining prayer by Rev. C. R. Wilkins, of Medina; and an address to the people by Rev. P. Griffin, of Carleton. The audience in attendance on this important occasion was large and deeply interested. The singing was very fine also, and, of course, the sermon was very good.

OTHER CHANGES.

The Central Church, of Rochester, after long and painful deliberation, have felt compelled to accept the resignation of their dear pastor, Rev. Dr. Ellinwood, which was tendered two months ago, but was not acted upon until this week. They began

to feel that it was no kindness to hold on to him longer; that he must have entire rest and freedom from care for a time, if he would regain his health, and be useful in years to come.

Seldom have the relations between pastor and people been so perfectly harmonious and delightful, as between this good man and his church; and it was painful for him to leave them, and still more painful, if possible, for them to part with him; but the formal tie was sundered at a large meeting of the Church and society on Wednesday evening of this week, with expressions of deepest regret, and with resolutions as highly complimentary as most mortals can well bear.

But this is not all—though he is to be no longer their pastor, they intend still to take care of him. Besides letting his salary run on until March, a strong Committee was appointed to raise a special fund to provide for his wants for a whole year longer.

And having done all this, the next thing in order was to call another minister. Without a dissenting voice they agreed upon Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Utica; made out a call for his services, and have sent a committee down to put it into his hands and urge their suit. They have hope that he is to be their next beloved and cherished pastor. We shall see, and be likely to say something more, ere long, upon the subject.

ANOTHER CALL.

The Presbyterian Church at Lyons has extended a call to Rev. J. B. Beaumont, of Olean, and have hope that he will give heed to their wishes.

DONATIONS.

Rev. Samuel Jessup, of Dansville, has been visited by his people with gifts and favors, to the amount of \$400. There is also some religious interest in this place. It began in the "Home," or Water Cure, and has resulted there in the formation of an independent Church, of which Dr. Jackson, the physician of the Home, is to be the pastor. As he has never been licensed or ordained, we hardly know how that is going to work, when they seek the fellowship of the churches.

Rev. E. B. Furbish, of New Hartford, has recently received some two hundred dollars from his people, as an expression of their good will and care.

A REVIVAL.

of delightful interest and power is also in progress at Corning. The esteemed and able pastor, Rev. W. A. Niles, has been working on alone with most blessed results; but Rev. E. P. Hammond was to join him and help him for a week or two, to commence on Saturday last.

It is estimated that a thousand conversions have recently occurred in Elmira, and the work is still progressing.

We learn also that a revival is in progress in Waterville and another in Lenox.

DEATH.

On the 17th instant, O. V. Brainerd, Esq., long time an honored and esteemed citizen of Watertown, a brother-in-law of General Hooker, died in that place. He had been for many years cashier of one of the leading banks, a man well known and much esteemed. He will be much missed, and sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends.

ANOTHER.

On the 20th instant, Mrs. Annie E. Allen, wife of Rev. Edwin Allen, of Parma Centre, departed this life, in the triumphs of Christian faith, aged twenty-nine years. She leaves a husband and one child to mourn the early separation.

GENESEE.

ROCHESTER, Jan. 27, 1866.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27, 1866.

Pennsylvania, though a great State, as regards wealth, resources and intelligence, has had the misfortune for years to be miserably represented in the National Councils here at the Capitol. This is especially true with regard to the Senators from that State, the very men who of all others ought to give her a national reputation and a leading position. While other States have pointed with just pride to their representatives in the Senate, Pennsylvania has been compelled to look to the lower house of Congress for her representative men. I am glad to say that there she is not behind any of her sister States. Thaddeus Stevens, from Pennsylvania, with all his idiosyncrasies is the acknowledged leader of the House of Representatives, ably seconded by Hon. W. D. Kelley, from your city, who has, perhaps, no superior as an orator and ready debater. Both of these gentlemen far excel the present Senators from Pennsylvania, Edgar Cowan and Charles R. Buckalew, in mental capacity as well as in advanced ideas of national policy. If your Pennsylvania readers had been with me in the Senate on Monday last, I am sure they would have hung their heads from very shame at the speech of Senator Cowan on Senator Trumbull's bill to enlarge the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau. Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, one of the old anti-slavery heroes who have served through the great war for Liberty, which began before your correspondent was born, and only terminated recently, addressed the Senate on Monday, immediately after the expiration of the morning hour, on the bill to which I

have alluded. His speech which occupied about an hour in delivery, was the best that has been made upon that subject. Senator Wilson is a very agreeable speaker. He eschews that dull habit of reading his speeches from manuscript, a habit so distasteful to the American people, that those who indulge in it in the Senate or House are always sure to clear the galleries, and set the members to reading newspapers and writing letters. He always commands attention, especially when speaking upon any measure relative to universal freedom. With a clear, musical voice, distinct and deliberate enunciation, graceful gestures, and a good commanding presence, Senator Wilson possesses that boldness of utterance in debate which is characteristic of all the "radicals," and which never fails to exert attention and commendation even from their most bitter opponents. When he arose to speak on Monday, I could see by the manner in which his friends crowded around him, and the general attention elicited, that he was about to make one of his best efforts. Immediately behind him was his colleague, Senator Sumner; on his right, Senators Howe of Wisconsin, Howard and Chandler of Michigan, Conness of California, Grimes of Iowa; and on his left were Senators Fessenden of Maine, Foote of Vermont, Clark of New Hampshire, and Dixon of Connecticut. Yates of Illinois, Harris of New York, and other Unionists had gone over to the Democratic side of the Senate, in order to obtain a good view of the speaker, and hear all he said. The galleries were filled, and among the auditors were a large number of colored men and women, who, of course, felt a deep interest in the subject under discussion. Wilson traced with mastery power the history of the great measures which have resulted in the destruction of slavery, and then advocated the necessity for a completion of the work which had been begun in weakness and ended in mighty power and victory. As he spoke, I could not but revert to other days and other scenes in that same chamber. He had fought the haughty slave masters there for years, always the advocate of liberty and the champion of free labor, and the rights of the toiling millions. His great reply to Senator Hammond of South Carolina, when that lord of the lash characterized the Northern laborers and mechanics as "mudsills," came back as though it had only been delivered yesterday. It was the same contest yet, only under a different form.

When Senator Wilson sat down, Senator Cowan of Pennsylvania, obtained the floor to reply. The interest on the part of the Senators and spectators who had listened so attentively to Wilson, was gone, and the galleries were perceptibly thinned, while the Senators resumed their reading and writing. Cowan is a most disagreeable speaker, and is especially out of place in the Senate. He has neither dignity nor culture. Vaulting from the sphere of a criminal lawyer in a country town in the western part of Pennsylvania into the Senate of the United States, he suddenly found himself dwarfed in the presence of such men as Sumner, Wade, Wilson and Fessenden. Unfortunately for him, he came to the Senate just before the leading traitors left it, and fell an easy prey to the cunning wiles and flattery of John C. Breckinridge, Jesse D. Bright, and men of their school, who made a practice of winning over to their side all Northern men who had vanity to be flattered, or ambition to be gratified. Cowan had both, and dazzled by the graceful manners, and engaging society of these artful and brilliant traitors, he forsook his own opinions and embraced theirs. From that day to this, though nominally ranked with the Republicans, he has acted almost invariably with the Democrats. I remember in 1856, during the animated campaign between Buchanan and Fremont for the Presidency, hearing Cowan deliver a speech which for radical anti-slavery sentiments, equalled the most ultra efforts of Wendell Phillips. He entertained the same views in 1860, and, indeed, up to the time when he entered the Senate of the United States. Upon this particular occasion, he opposed the bill of Senator Trumbull, as he has done all measures calculated to strengthen the Government and to weaken its enemies. His constant but inappropriate references to the "Constitution," and his disgraceful flings at New England, gave sad evidence of his training in the school of Southern pro-slavery politicians. March, in his descriptions of memorable scenes in Congress mentions the fact, that when Daniel Webster was delivering his great speech in the Senate in 1830, in reply to Hayne, of South Carolina, he had occasion to refer to his own State of Massachusetts, and in doing so, turned his expressive eyes full upon a number of Massachusetts men, who were sitting together in the gallery of the Senate. The noble defence he had made of the whole North, had already aroused their tenderest feelings of love and gratitude, but at this touching episode, in the language of March, "they shed tears like girls." When Cowan, on Monday, boasted that he believed in State rights, and then referred to Pennsylvania's position relative to the Freedmen, I noticed that he turned to the galleries where were a number of prominent Pennsylvanians, whose indignation had reached the highest pitch. They merely shook their heads negatively at the recusant Senator, as much as to say "you misrepre-

sent Pennsylvania." I cannot give you an idea of Cowan's course better than by quoting the words of Senator Wilson, who made a scathing reply to the Senator from Pennsylvania, in which he said: "There has hardly been a proposition before the Senate of the United States for the last five years looking to the emancipation of the negro and the protection of his rights, that the Senator from Pennsylvania has not sturdily opposed. He has hardly ever uttered a word upon this floor the tendency of which was not to degrade and belittle a weak and struggling race. He comes here to-day and thanks God that they are free, when his vote and his voice for five years, with hardly an exception, have been against making them free. He thanks God, sir, that your work and mine—our work which has saved a country and emancipated a race is secured; while from the word 'go' until this time, he has made himself the champion of 'how not to do it.' If there be a man upon the floor of the American Senate who has tortured the Constitution of the country to find powers to arrest the voice of this nation which was endeavoring to make a race free, the Senator from Pennsylvania is the man; and now he comes here and thanks God that a work which he has done his best to arrest, and which we have carried, is accomplished. I tell him to-day, that we shall carry these other measures, whether he approves them or not." There was a burst of applause from the galleries, following this, which must have added to the uneasiness of Cowan as he witnessed under the powerful denunciation of the Senator from Massachusetts. The bill to enlarge the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau was passed, as Senator Wilson prophesied, without the aid of Senator Cowan. It is a very important measure, and will be followed by the speedy passage of the other bill introduced by Senator Trumbull, to secure all men in their civil rights, and to furnish the means of their vindication, the first section of which commences as follows:

That there shall be no discrimination in civil rights or immunities among the inhabitants of any State or Territory of the United States on account of race, color, or previous condition of slavery, &c.

The above is the main point in this important bill, the other eight sections being only provisions for making it operative. You will observe that this law when passed, having the full force of an act of Congress, will strike at the root of the pro-slavery legislation of the Southern States, and abolish the infamous vagrant laws, such as have just been set aside by Gen. Terry in Virginia. With these two measures on the statute book, the Freedman will be tolerably well secured in his rights. All he needs to complete the work is the ballot.

The House has been engaged nearly all the week in discussing the new amendment to the Constitution, regulating the basis of representation in Congress. There is great variety of opinion on this subject, and the debate has taken an unexpectedly wide range. The object of the Unionists is to have such an amendment as will destroy the mythical representations of the South, and if possible, compel the Northern States to enfranchise the colored man, or lose some of their representatives in Congress. In other words, they do not want any male citizen of twenty-one years of age to be represented in Congress, except he has the right to vote for his representative. One of the ablest speeches delivered on this subject, was that of Hon. Samuel McKee, from Kentucky. Although from a border State, he fully endorses the policy of Congress in steadily excluding the Southern representatives until a different state of feeling is manifested at the South. J. M.

UNION MEETINGS IN THE SOUTHEAST OF THE CITY.

Five Churches, the Sixth Presbyterian, Scotch Church, South German Street, and Wharton Street Presbyterian, are holding a series of Union Meetings, to promote the spiritual condition of the members, and to stir them up to a greater activity in the cause of Christ. The first meeting was held in German Street Church, last Sabbath evening, and was largely attended. Rev. G. Van Aken, pastor of the church presided, and Messrs. Harbaugh, Cunningham, Moore, and Hamner took part in the services, which were of the most interesting and encouraging character. The next meeting will be held on Sabbath evening, to be followed by another on Tuesday evening, at the church corner of Wharton and Ninth Streets.

MR. BARNES' Thanksgiving Sermon has been republished in pamphlet form in London, and copies have already been received in this country.

A New Free Church is projected in Glasgow. A leading shipper of that city offers \$3000, and an iron merchant £1000—\$20,000 in all—to start with. A very fair beginning.—The congregation of Stirling, of which the Rev. Dr. Beech is the pastor, have just purchased a house for him, at a cost of £1200.—A new church at Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, was opened on Dec. 21st. Dr. Cairns conducted the services. The building accommodates 600 persons, and cost £3600, £500 of which were collected on the above occasion. The congregation is new, and includes several of the most influential merchants and others of Dundee, residing at the Ferry.—The new church at the Grange, Edinburgh, have called Dr. Bonar, of Kelso. The Union Committee, consisting of the Free Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian, the Reformed Presbyterian, and the English Presbyterian Committees, met in Edinburgh on Dec. 27, and had a harmonious and effective meeting. The negotiations are reported to be proceeding hopefully.