

Religious Intelligence.

PRESBYTERIAN.

O. S. Synod of New York.—This body has shown its true allegiance to the policy of the General Assembly in the treatment of political and religious disloyalty. The Synod met at Newburgh, Oct. 16. Dr. Vandye appeared, with Prof. Eaton, of Brooklyn, for his attendant elder. But Prof. Eaton had unfortunately signed the famous "Declaration and Testimony" against the patriotic action of the General Assembly, and therefore, in pursuance of the explicit order of the Assembly, the Synod refused to enroll his name, notwithstanding a long speech which he made. The year and days being called by Dr. Vandye, the majority to exclude was carried—111 to 7. Vandye presented protest, and the Synod, on motion of Dr. West, resolved that, as it was an old story, no answer was needed. A similar effort made in the Presbytery of Nassau was attended with the same result, and both pastor and elder withdrew, to the general satisfaction.

The Wisconsin Presbyterian and Congregational Convention, which last year celebrated its quarter-century anniversary, held its annual meeting at Fort Atkinson, Oct. 3d-6th, Rev. S. A. Dwinell, of Reedsburg, moderator. The opening sermon was by the last moderator, Rev. D. Clark, of Beloit, agent of the Home Missionary Society. Rev. G. J. Wood represented the N. S. General Assembly; Rev. C. D. Pillsbury the Wis. M. E. Conference; Rev. A. Bartlett the General Association of Ohio; and Rev. E. B. Turner, by letter, the new General Conference (Cong.) of Missouri, which was placed on the list of corresponding bodies. A committee—Messrs. Love, Collier, Allison, Judson, and Williams—was appointed, to consider the relation of secret societies to church fellowship. Ripon was fixed as the place of next meeting, and Ripon College was commended. The subjects of temperance, and Sabbath sanctification, and Christian benevolence were taken up in earnest. Rev. G. S. F. Savage represented the American Tract Society, Rev. J. R. Shipherd the American Missionary Association, and Rev. Samuel Ruggles, a missionary of the American Board at Sandwich Islands, made an interesting address. A committee was appointed to superintend the matter of securing evangelists and promoting revivals. Saturday evening was spent in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the church in that place.—Independent.

Action of Dr. Vandye's Church.—In view of the refusal of the Synod of New York and the Presbytery of Nassau to allow the Elder from this church who is a signer of the Declaration and Testimony to sit in those bodies, the Session of the church passed a paper, of which the following resolutions form the main part:—

Resolved, 1. That this session, while professing our firm and ardent attachment to the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, and our sincere purpose to obey all the requirements of the higher courts of the Church, which do not conflict with our allegiance to Christ, our supreme Head, do, at the same time, solemnly declare that the acts and deliverance of the General Assembly recited in the foregoing preamble, being unconstitutional, and without warrant from the revealed will of God, are null and void, and of no binding force upon us.

Resolved, 2. That we will continue as heretofore, to receive members into this Church from Churches in the Southern States, upon the same conditions that we require from persons coming from any other part of the world, viz.: satisfactory evidence of repentance toward God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and will ask them no questions whatever in regard to their political conduct.

News of the Week.

THE EXECUTIVE.

The Claims against England.—The Washington correspondent of the New York Times telegraphs thus:—"In regard to our affairs with England, growing out of the deprivations, during the late war, of the privateers Alabama and Shenandoah, Mr. Adams, our Minister to the Court of St. James, was some time since instructed to make a peremptory demand for indemnity for the losses sustained by our commercial interests. To this demand Mr. Adams received an evasive reply. He was immediately instructed to repeat the demand. He did so, but no definite response has yet been received, but the tone of the English newspapers recently received indicates that these renewed and persistent demands have not been without effect. The British Government is now putting off feelers in their various organs, showing their disposition in the matter. From these it appears that they are willing to submit the claims to arbitration or to a Board of National Commissioners. Our Government will insist on a prompt and full settlement of claims. This is our ultimatum as contained in instructions under which Mr. Adams is acting."

Mr. Seward has written to our Consul in Canada, and to the British minister in Washington, with a mixture of intercession and diplomatic menace in behalf of the Fenians, Lynch and McMahon, sentenced to be hung at Toronto.

Pardons Extraordinary.—The President has pardoned George A. Trenholm, ex-rebel Secretary of the Treasury, on the special recommendations of Major-General Howard, Sickles, Dix and others. Lafayette McLowry, Major-General in the rebel army in Georgia, has been pardoned by the President.

Consequences of Pardon.—Robert M. Lee, of this city, who was twice convicted before the United States District Court of fraud and forgery, and each time pardoned by President Johnson, was arrested in Chicago in the act of passing a \$300 forged check, tried, convicted and sentenced to thirteen years' imprisonment.

THE STATES.

Pennsylvania.—Hon. C. V. Culver, now confined in jail at Franklin, desires to avail himself of his Congressional privilege, and will meet his trial in November. Besides civil processes innumerable, several indictments charging him with false pretences and embezzlement are pending, and to be called up next month at Harrisburg. Last week the house and furniture of the gentleman were sold at the instance of his creditors.

bribery, and recommended to mercy.—Daniel Holsman is now on trial for offering \$1000 to George W. Thompson, member of Assembly from Bordentown, to defeat the Morris and Essex Contract, and \$2000 to vote in favor of the "Wet Basin" bill. Bradley, Kingman and G. M. Robeson for defence. These trials and their result, as above stated, are a credit to our sister State, which is no worse off in the matter of legislative corruption than others, but which, it seems, is resolved to expose and punish it somewhat as it deserves. Other States should go and do likewise.

Massachusetts.—The work of boring the Hoosac Mountain is going forward at three principal places—on the easterly side, near the Deerfield river, at the top, and on the west side. The shaft on the top is 317 feet deep, from the bottom of which the bore is extended east and west. The distance already drilled is about 1000 feet. Nitro-glycerine is used in blasting, and found more effective than gunpowder. The progress made in the cut is from sixteen to twenty-four feet per week. The total distance gained is more than a mile. Three miles of solid rock yet remain to be tunneled.

Vermont.—The Legislature has elected L. P. Poland and George T. Edmunds United States Senators, to fill the unexpired terms of Messrs. Collamer and Foote, deceased. Hon. Justin S. Morrill was chosen Senator for the full term of six years, from the 4th of the March.

Ohio.—The official Republican majority is 42,699.

Maryland.—Mr. George Peabody has given an additional \$500,000 to the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, making, with the \$500,000 before given, an endowment of \$1,000,000.

W. Virginia.—At the election, Oct. 25, the vote polled was larger than at any election since the Presidential campaign of 1861. The returns, as compared with the vote on the constitutional amendment, which was carried by 7000 majority, show Republican gains. Governor Boreman is re-elected by an equal majority. Hubbard, Republican, for Congress from the first district, is returned by about 1600 majority. In the second district, Kitchin, Republican, is elected by a majority of —. Wheeling city and Ohio county were warmly contested.

North Carolina.—The Raleigh Standard says that about forty members of the newly elected Legislature of North Carolina will favor the adoption of the Constitutional amendment. It defines the position of the remaining one hundred and thirty members to be friendly "to the President as against the Radicals. They accept and approve all that he does which is favorable to the South, and reject all that does not favor the South, or that savors of strict loyalty or staunch nationality."

South Carolina.—Governor Orr is utterly and unreservedly opposed to the Constitutional Amendment, and will not recommend its adoption by the Legislature.

Alabama.—The Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association had completed a school-house at Stephenson, Alabama, Oct. 21, and would have commenced a colored school next day, but on that morning some incendiaries burned the building to the ground.

Texas.—A proclamation has been issued by Governor Throckmorton, dated October 8, declaring the proposed amendments to the Constitution to be ratified by the people of Texas and made part of the Constitution of the United States. He reports the vote of the State to be 23,119 in favor of, and 23,400 against the amendment, which the Legislature, however, have refused to adopt, by a vote of 67 yeas to 5 nays.

THE BALTIMORE COMMISSIONERS.

ANNAPOLIS, Oct. 26.—The investigation of the charges against the Police Commissioners commenced at eleven o'clock. A large number of witnesses were present. The counsel of the Commissioners appeared and announced that they came to participate in the cross-examination, but did not withdraw their plea against the jurisdiction of the Governor to pass final judgment.

The Governor decided to permit the counsel to examine the witnesses, and he said he claimed jurisdiction to try the case and pass judgment, and that he was responsible to no tribunal but the Legislature, and that he would proceed with the case without technicalities, and intended to reach a decision not later than Wednesday. He also announced that if in the course of the investigation the innocence or guilt of the Commissioners should appear he would act instantly, even if in the midst of proceedings.

The evidence was mainly against the judges of the election, charging them with rejecting qualified voters, and with acting from partisan motives. Also, charging certain members of the police force with being influenced by political prejudices.

THE CITY.

Testimonial to W. Hepworth Dixon, Esq.—Mr. Dixon, of London, editor of the Athenaeum, author of "The Life of John Howard," "Prison Life," "The Vendicatore Lord Bacon," and other works, is at present on a tour through the United States. He reached Philadelphia early last week, and has been the recipient of many compliments at the hands of literary gentlemen in this city, who recognize in him the successful champion of William Penn against the attacks of Lord Macaulay in his History.

On Tuesday evening a splendid banquet was given at the Continental Hotel, where Mr. Dixon met about forty distinguished citizens of Philadelphia. The arrangements were very complete, and the entertainment was one of the finest ever given in this city. Mayor McMichael presided, and among the guests present were J. Gillingham Fell, General Meade, George H. Boker, Bayard Taylor, J. B. Lippincott, and others. After the dinner had been disposed of, Mr. McMichael, in a graceful speech, introduced Mr. Dixon, with a reference to his numerous literary works, and his manly stand in behalf of the Federal cause during the progress of the rebellion.

Mr. Dixon, in response, expressed his deep gratification at the reception he had met in the United States, and especially in Philadelphia. He referred to his journey westward nearly to the Pacific, and the kind greeting he had everywhere received. He paid a hearty tribute to the memory of Penn; to the immense power and to the growing renown of the nation; spoke in eloquent terms of the attractions of our city, so well governed by its present mayor, and to the merits and widely-spread reputation of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. In conclusion, he gave an invitation to his friends to visit him in London and in Yorkshire.

Messrs. Wallace and Jones, on behalf of the Historical Society, spoke and referred particularly to Mr. Dixon's vindication of William Penn, changing him "from a myth into a man." Mr. Jones also referred to Mr. Dixon's life of Bacon, and noted as a curious fact, that the first book ever printed in Philadelphia was Bacon's Essays, issued by Bradford, the friend of Penn, in 1688.

There are but two living representatives—J. Granville Penn, who visited this country a few years ago, and a brother, who is insane. Both have become reduced and are in need of assistance. It is probable that at the coming session of the Legislature a bill will be introduced to grant an annuity to the two

members of the family, who are now advanced in years, unmarried.

There are now Twenty Ocean Steamships regularly running to and from this port. They range from 800 to 2700 tons, according to the trade in which they are employed. They ply along our whole coast from Boston to New Orleans, and run from Philadelphia to Liverpool regularly.

A number of whisky stills and their appurtenances, and a large quantity of whisky seized, were condemned, Oct. 26th, in the United States District Court.—Deaths last week 206; by Cholera 43; a large decline in both figures.

FOREIGN.

To Denmark, under the rule of Frederick VI., must be awarded the honor of being the first Power to prohibit the slave-trade in 1792, and to abolish slavery in 1803.

A Speck of War in Holland.—From the information contained in the subjoined paragraph, taken from the Berlin correspondence of the London Times, it would seem as though Prussia is carrying her territorial designs into a quarter where no trouble had been anticipated.

"The Dutch government objects to the continuance of a Prussian garrison in the fortress of Luxembourg. But their argument, that the German confederacy having ceased to be, Prussia has no right to keep her troops in what no longer is a Federal fortress, is met by the government retorting that the city and citadel of Luxembourg have been surrendered to it under the Vienna treaties of peace previous to and independent of the completion of the German Federal act. Holland has now applied to France for support, but failed to elicit any assistance, the question being too serious to be made the subject of a simple remonstrance, or, indeed, to be treated at all without a menace of war. Taking advantage of the very danger involved in the matter, and the unwillingness of France to face it just yet, Prussia on her part actually demands that the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, whose name has been entirely omitted in her former projects, shall enter the north German confederacy."

The Death Penalty for Armed Rebels.—Col. Lynch, one of the Fenians on trial at Toronto, has been sentenced to be hanged on the 13th of December.

The Empress Carlotta's Health.—La France, published in Paris, confirms the intelligence as to the alarming mental condition of the Empress of Mexico, and states that her life is in the utmost danger, she having "broken down from over-worked nerves, after the immense bodily fatigue of her journey."

A Royal Decree has recently been issued in Spain which repeals an enactment equivalent to our old fugitive-slave law. Hereafter slavery is to be treated as a local institution peculiar to Porto Rico or Cuba, and the moment a person held as a slave in those islands reaches, from any cause, any other portion of the Spanish dominions, or the territory of any State where slavery does not exist, he regains his freedom. This is another evidence of the power of enlightened public opinion.

Mexico.—Late Mexican despatches state that the Imperialists are moving to retake the places they have recently abandoned, and that the French troops about to leave for Europe have been ordered to remain.

A private letter received in Brownsville announces a severe battle near Saltillo, routing and defeating the Liberals under Narayán and Martínez. This victory literally placed Saltillo in the hands of the Imperialists who were daily expoted in Monterey. A long despatch is said to have been recently received from Napoleon, which had the effect of halting some French troops about embarking, and others were ordered to prepare for active service.—Later reports from Mexico are condensed in the following summary:—"The situation of the Empire is daily growing worse. It has lately lost Guaymas, Hermosillo, Ures, Llanor, Zongolica and other places of less importance. On the 6th, an important conference took place at the palace at Chihuahua, upon the most efficacious means to obtain funds for the Treasury, and a committee was appointed to draw up a report, which was all that was accomplished. Maximilian and his court were preparing to go to Vera Cruz, to meet Carlotta, who was expected there by November 1st."

Gen. Sheridan has sent a despatch to Gen. Sedgwick, commanding on the Rio Grande, instructing him to warn all adherents of any, or pretended government in Mexico, or the State of Tamaulipas, that they will not be permitted to violate the neutrality laws between the Liberal Government of Mexico and the United States. The Mexican Minister has received despatches from the city of Puebla, Mexico, containing the official report of the battle of Ixmiquilpan, where the Belgian Legion was entirely out to pieces. Colonel Vandersmissen, with the Belgian command, attacked Ixmiquilpan, a place thirty leagues from the city of Mexico, and was defeated by the Mexicans. The legion lost twenty officers killed on the spot. The legion retired to Tula, leaving their artillery and trains in the hands of the Mexicans. Their officers who survived that battle have since embarked at Vera Cruz for Belgium.

On Wednesday Princess Murat arrived in Boston, en route for Florida. The lady is a descendant of Joachim Murat, King of Naples, and has long resided in Florida. A number of nearly \$4,000 has been settled upon her by the Emperor Napoleon.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

BERLIN, Oct. 24.—The castle of Konigstein, on the Elbe, was ceded to Prussia today. The electoral law recently passed by the Parliament, and the treaty of alliance with the German States, were promulgated today.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 25.—The Sultan of Turkey has formally recognized the Hospodar, and given him a reception at his palace.

BERLIN, Oct. 25.—The treaty between Prussia and Saxony has been fully ratified. Pursuant to its provisions, Saxony is to pay ten million of florins.

The army of Saxony has already been dissolved.

BADEN, Oct. 25.—The House of Deputies has rejected the proposed alliance with Prussia.

PARIS, Oct. 26.—The condition of the Empress Carlotta is described as being hopeless. The Emperor Maximilian will probably return in an Austrian frigate which was recently dispatched from Trieste by the Emperor Francis Joseph. It is said that twenty steamers will leave for Mexico in November, bringing home the entire French force now in that country.

FLORENCE, October 27.—An arrival from Candia states that another great battle took place on the 17th inst. The Greeks report that the Turkish army was repulsed.

The Western Corn Crop.—The Cincinnati Price Current states that, notwithstanding the contradictory reports about frost and floods, the corn crop will undoubtedly be a large one, although a small portion of it will be unsound. The general estimate of the aggregate corn crop of the United States for 1866 is over 1,050,000,000 bushels.

The Meteoric Display.—The meteoric shower promised by the astronomers about the middle of November, is, it appears, preceded by preliminary exhibitions. For several nights past, notwithstanding the moonlight, brilliant meteors have been noticed in the heavens, and the grand display anticipated next month will probably not fail us. Everything indicates that the earth is entering a region of the universe thickly charged with these particles of matter.

The Production of the Precious Metals.—For the current year, 1866, the aggregate gold and silver product of the United States is estimated from \$82,000,000 to 106,000,000. The details of the largest estimates are, that California will produce \$25,000,000, Montana \$18,000,000, Nevada \$16,000,000, Idaho \$17,000,000, Oregon \$8,000,000, Colorado \$17,000,000, and various other sources \$5,000,000—total \$106,000,000.

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