

Miscellaneous.

EARTHQUAKES AND ELDERS.

"In many a Presbyterian church it has required but a slight breeze to unseat an installed pastor; but it takes a small earthquake to move an elder installed for life." So reads the article in the *Presbyterian* of January 5th, over the well-known initials "T. L. C." The Lafayette Avenue church, in common with many others in the New-school branch, has adopted a plan for introducing "new blood" into the session, to "prevent it from becoming exclusive and stereotyped." We ought to rejoice in every attempt that is made to relieve the Church of the great evil referred to. The testimony of the eminently successful pastor in Brooklyn, whose praise is in all the Churches, and who still adheres so closely to the theology of our beloved Princeton, "the mother of us all," is worthy of notice. If his plan is not "according to the Book," of course we will not adopt it. In reading chapter xiii. of the Form of Government we see, however, that the founders of our Church suspected trouble in this quarter, and wisely provided a remedy. The ruling elders of the Presbyterian church constitute a class of the best men in the world. The caution of the Church in selecting proper men for this office and the abundance of suitable material from which to select, have secured for us a body of laymen for church officers, equal in all respects to any in the world. But mistakes are sometimes made. The wrong men are placed in office, and we must not, while repudiating the doctrine of Papal infallibility, act upon the supposition that the Book makes no provision for the relief of an elder-oppressed church. Many a church in our bounds is in the condition of poor Sinbad the Sailor, when the old man of the sea was riding on his back. That wonderful traveler hit upon the happy expedient of making the old man drunk, and then shaking him off. But alas, what can the groaning church do if the elder will not do any thing that will call for his "deposition?" Our Book provides for this evil. If the blood of the elder don't flow freely, he may "cease to be an active elder." It requires that "the session shall take order on the subject." Ah, but if the session is composed of, as was that of a small church in the West that we wot of—an elder, besides the minister! What then? Twelve women and this one man composed the organization. Being, by all odds, the best man in the church, he was elected for life. This man is temperate enough in respect to drink, but not in respect to the "weed." He chews it like a mill, and each side of his chin, from the corners of his mouth downward, furnishes evidence thereof painful to behold. He is not chargeable with "heresy" or "immorality," but is pre-eminently, unmistakably, and excruciatingly "unacceptable in his official character to a majority of the congregation," and to every body else. Being a lawyer, however, he is sharp enough not to put on "the records" the fact that he is "incapable of serving the church to edification." No man ever yet hated his own flesh. The earnest, laborious, and faithful minister of that church had for several years endured the burden, and blushed for the disgrace brought upon his congregation by such an elder—but he is an elder for life!

It seems to me that a more excellent plan than that prescribed by "T. L. C.," is for a church to select, every three or five years, a sufficient number of live men, in all respects qualified for the office, who shall act, after they are ordained for life, in that particular church only for these three or five years, unless re-elected. At the end of the term the church can see whether their blood is warm enough to endure a second term. If any danger exists of stagnation or fossilification, the church may guard against it by means of that blessed contrivance, the ballot-box. If by this process the whole bench should be "unseated," the church ought then to pray that God will give these men grace to submit as meekly as do their brethren, the "preaching elders," when unseated by "a slight breeze."

What if, in the course of years, and after many elections, the whole male membership become ordained elders for life? This will not hinder the progress of the church, or conflict with its orthodoxy. A popular young minister of your city told us at St. Louis last summer that he had nearly a dozen ordained elders in his congregation, and that it was a veritable Saints' Rest. It might be so in a church with one hundred ruling, but not acting elders. Let us stick to the Book, but at the same time protect ourselves, in a constitutional way, against "the old man of the sea."
—E. B. R., in *O. S. Presbyterian*.

DR. JOHN LAWRENCE VON MOSHEIM.

Prof. Henry Sander, of Karlsruhe, in his splendid work on the Providence of God, says of Mosheim that he had to endure many painful things even in his youth. Whilst a student at Kiel, when he was like a weak and drooping flower, he had a strong desire to master the sciences. Even then he had already commenced his splendid career of glory and renown, but his path was beset with thorns and briars. He had but a slender income, nor could he see much promise for the future. He studied with the greatest diligence, not indeed so much to become renowned, as to make his living. His own native town, Lubeck, did not appreciate his merits for a long time, not until he was called away to labor in other places. He was taken sick at Helmstadt, and was obliged to give up a projected journey that might have been of great advantage to him in after life. But, this sickness was the means of bringing him into a position of extensive usefulness. Very soon his life was a complete web of labors, difficulties and sufferings. This great man had to learn, by a sad and bitter experience, that an extensive acquaintance, a celebrated name, and a wide-spread popularity, were sometimes a heavy burden. He admired the unknown virtues of retirement more than anything else. His clear head soon saw the vanity of all mere worldly greatness and honors. He said, on one occasion, "I am afraid I shall die before I have fully learnt to know myself." In the height of his popularity he lost his wife and his mother, and suffered more than any one could see. His many labors compelled him to conceal his sorrows in his own bosom. The im-

mense labors of this great man are well known. Every moment of his time was devoted to study and devotion. Everything he said or wrote was received with delight by the people. He had only to speak or write, and every body would hear and read with pleasure. Eloquence flowed like a delightful stream from his lips. His amiable disposition won all hearts. Nature had made him an orator. In his small and feeble body there dwelt a great soul. His extensive reading, his quick understanding, his correct judgment, his genius, his sharpness, his retentive memory, his knowledge of all the sciences, his extraordinary, and, at that time, his incomprehensible capacity, not only in the learned languages, but in his own tongue, (that language which he first purified and built up)—and the ease with which he did say any thing—the simplicity and the popularity in which he commended himself, and the beautiful and ornate manner in which he clothed all his thoughts, procured for him hosts of admirers. Everybody wanted to see Mosheim; and hear him speak, and read what he had written. Many a young man considered it the highest honor of his life that he had been permitted to sit at the feet of this great teacher.

But amid all this immense popularity, which he enjoyed as Chancellor of the University of Göttingen, he remained the same humble unassuming man. He remembered that he was a poor, weak man. Nor was he ashamed to confess that he had to fight against the ambition that rose within his own heart. He wrote to his friend, Dr. Gessner, "Why do you praise me so much? You will spoil me, and make me proud. Remember, when you write to me again, that I am nothing but a poor sinner, and that it is only through the Providence of God that I occupy this elevated position." He always thought of his latter end, and seemed to live with death and eternity in constant view. God laid upon him many severe afflictions and sufferings. His weak body had to endure many painful sufferings—and at last he had to die a most painful death. The last winter of his life was especially very painful. Every position into which his body could be placed gave him great pain. He could no longer walk, even with a cane, and when he laid himself down, contrary to nature, he had to rest on his chest. Under the most severe sufferings, he lived till spring. Death would have been to him a great relief, but God willed that he should linger the whole summer on a bed of suffering. In June his sufferings reached such a pitch that he lost his mind; but this did not last long. His reason returned, and his mind became as vigorous as ever. The great desire he had to be usefully employed, it was hoped, would be gratified again. A machine was built by which he could move himself about, but he had become so wasted by disease that he could not use it. His body soon after broke out in frightful ulcers, and his sufferings were immensely great. But no murmur ever escaped his lips. Thus he continued to suffer until the 9th of September, 1755, when he died in the Lord.

Thus is the evening sky sometimes over-spread with dark clouds; the lightnings play upon the summits of the lofty trees; the forests roar with the fierce winds, and the bright sun goes down in the gloomy forest! Great God! we mortals cannot pretend to understand the economy of Thy grace! But we tremble when we think of the storms He holds over our heads, and know not upon what dear friend they may fall. How often are we compelled to say, "Lord, he whom Thou lovest is sick."—*Rev. R. Weiser.*

REWARDS IN HEAVEN.

Mr. Spurgeon, in a sermon on the "Two Talents," has some admirable remarks on the reward given in heaven to the humblest Christian who has done what she could. He says:

"Here comes Whitefield, the man who stood before twenty thousand at a time to preach the Gospel; who in England, Scotland, Ireland and America, has testified the truth of God, and who could count his converts by thousands, even under one sermon. Here he comes, the man that endured persecution and scorn, and yet who was not moved; the man of whom the world was not worthy; who lived for his fellow-men and died at last for their cause; stand by, angels, and admire, while the Master takes him by the hand and says, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.' See how free grace honors the man whom it enabled to do valiantly.

"Hark! Who is this that comes there? a poor, thin-looking creature, that on earth was a consumptive; there was a hectic flush now and then upon her cheek, and she lay three long years upon her bed of sickness. Was she a prince's daughter? for it seems heaven is making much stir about her. No she was a poor girl that earned her living by her needle, and she worked herself to death; stitch, stitch, stitch, from morning to night; and here she comes. She went prematurely to her grave, but she is coming, like a shock of corn fully ripe, into heaven; and her Master says, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful in a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.' She takes her place by the side of Whitefield.

"Ask what she ever did, you find out that she used to live in some dark garret down some dark alley in London; and there used to be another poor girl come to work with her, and that poor girl, when she came to work with her was a gay and volatile creature, and this consumptive girl told her about Christ; and they used, when she was well enough, to creep out of an evening to go to chapel or to church together. It was hard at first to get the other one to go, but she used to press her lovingly; and when the girl went wild a little, she never gave her up. She used to say, 'O, Jane, I wish you loved the Saviour,' and when Jane was not there she used to pray for her, and when she was there she prayed with her, and now

and then, when she was stitching away, read a page out of the Bible to her, for poor Jane could not read. And with many tears she tried to tell her about the Saviour who loved her and gave Himself for her.

"At last, after many a day of hard persuasion, and many a hour of sad disappointment and many a night of sleepless, tearful prayer, at last she lived to see the girl profess her love to Christ; and she left her and took sick, and there she lay till she was taken to the hospital where she died. When she was in the hospital she used to have a few tracts, and she used to give them to those who came to see her; she would try, if she could, to get the women to come round, and she would give them a tract. When she first went into the hospital, if she could creep out of her bed she used to get by the side of one who was dying, and the nurse used to let her do it, till at last she got too ill, and then she used to ask a poor woman who was on the other side of the ward, who was getting better, and was going out, if she would come and read a chapter to her, not that she wanted to read to her on her own account, but for her sake, for she thought it might strike her heart while she was reading it.

"At last this poor girl died, and fell asleep in Jesus; and the poor, consumptive needle woman had said to her, 'Well done'—and what more could an archangel have said to him?—'She hath done what she could.'"

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS SENT BY A SABBATH-SCHOOL TO GETTYSBURG.

The Presbyterian Church in Nyack, N. Y., was the scene on last Sabbath afternoon of a deeply interesting service. Some of your readers may be aware of the fact that a seminary for the instruction of the orphans of such of our brave soldiers as fell in the rebellion, has been opened at Gettysburg. The Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal Sabbath-schools have each contributed a sufficient sum to entitle them to send a scholar, each making the selection from its own school. On the part of the former, William, and on the part of the latter, David Morris were chosen; sons of Robert Morris, who was captured at the Battle of Gettysburg, and subsequently died in the prison-pen at Andersonville. On Sabbath afternoon the schools assembled "at the Presbyterian Church, to commemorate, by a farewell service, the departure of the lads to the seminary. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Cory, opened the meeting, and after a brief statement of the nature of the call which had brought the large congregation together, interesting addresses were successively made by David J. Blauvelt, David D. Smith, and H. C. Brown, Esq. The last named gentleman also presented to each of the boys a Bible, the gift of their fellow pupils in the Sabbath-school. The exercises throughout were marked with the deepest interest, and the lads themselves seemed visibly affected. At the close a collection was taken up for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the journey, and some trifling necessities yet wanting in their outfit, and the remainder was placed in the hands of their widowed mother. The Sabbath-school of the Reformed Dutch Church, which was also present on this occasion, some time since contributed to the Gettysburg scheme a sufficient sum to entitle them to a scholar, and we presume their choice will not be long delayed. This is indeed a pleasant way to commemorate our battle-fields, and at the same time pay something towards the inextinguishable debt we owe to our fallen heroes, by the care and education of their orphan children. We trust the noble work thus instituted will grow into public favor, until, upon every consecrated battle-field of the Union will stand one of these memorial institutions.

Nyack, N. Y. March 3, 1867.

Scientific.

PROF. AGASSIZ AND THE ANIMALS OF THE NEW WORLD.

WARREN LELAND, writes to the *N. Y. Tribune*, as follows:—

I regret to perceive that Prof. Agassiz, in his recent lecture on the animals of the Amazon, reiterates the assertion of Buffon and some other foreign naturalists, that animate nature is dwarfed and inferior in the New World.

This assertion is the more remarkable as it is not true even according to their own showing. According to these authorities, the beasts and birds of prey stand at the head of their respective classes of animals, and America produces the largest beast and bird of prey now extant. I refer to the grizzly bear of the Sierra Nevada and to the condor of the Andes. I have met with the grizzly in his native wilds, and can testify to his vast dimensions, his great strength and courage. He there roams as much the lord of the waste, as do the lion and tiger over portions of Asia and Africa, and, in my opinion, would do so if they were his neighbors instead of his antipodes.

Buffon was not aware of the existence of this formidable animal, or evidently regarded the accounts of it as fabulous; but the grizzly must be well known to Agassiz, and he describes, in the lecture referred to, the Condor, which is the largest living bird of prey, as also the highest flyer. The Condor is not only the king of birds, but the master of some of the larger quadrupeds, and is terrible even to man himself. In regard to the superiority of species, it may be claimed that the New World produces the largest bear, the largest wolf (the great gray wolf), the largest buffalo, (the bison, weighing often 3,000 pounds), the largest deer (the moose), and, finally, the largest pachyderm, for we too have our elephant, which looks down with sublime indifference upon the pigmies of the Old World. I refer to the Mastodon.

This terrestrial giant, it is true, is a scarce animal, and, but for its remains, which we find so near the surface of our marshes and alluvial soils as to indicate their recent deposition, we might not be aware of its present existence on this continent.

But if we accept the testimony of eminent geologists and of the aborigines, it yet exists in some undiscovered valley of the Rocky Mountains, where it will no doubt be found in due time, and from whence it will be transferred to Barnum's Museum in this city, which will have to be enlarged for its reception. Concede to the Old World its lions and tigers, its dromedaries, its camelpards, and its rhinoceros among quadrupeds, and its ostriches among birds, and the superiority still remains with the New, which boasts the largest predaceous, as well as non-predaceous quadrupeds, the largest bird of prey, and last but not least the largest and best of game-birds, the Wild Turkey.

WARREN LELAND.

Metropolitan Hotel, New York, March 11, 1867.

Advertisements.

This is a personal invitation to the reader to examine our new styles of FINE CLOTHING, Cassimere Suits for \$16, and Black Suits for \$22. Finer Suits, all prices up to \$75.

WANAMAKER & BROWN, OAK HALL, Southeast corner of SIXTH & MARKET STS.

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC, Philadelphia, April 1st, 1867.

ASSETS.	
Loans and Discounts	\$384,562 14
Commercial paper	77,200 00
Demand Loans	461,762 16
Banking-house and Fictitious	77,874 85
Current Expenses and Taxes	23,481 58
Fringements	26,877 58
Revenue Stamps	1,010 32
Due from National Banks	242,318 26
Due from other Banks	10,968 99
U. S. Bonds deposited with Treasurer of U. S. to secure circulation	500,000 00
U. S. Bonds on hand	800 00
National Bank Notes	24,876 00
Fractional Currency	3,915 13
Legal Tender Notes	\$17,123 00
Compound Interest Notes	120,000 00
	291,828 00
Total	\$1,664,602 80
LIABILITIES.	
Capital Stock paid in	\$500,000 00
Circulating Notes Outstanding	417,500 00
Individual Deposits	\$12,840 94
Due to National Banks	186,166 70
Due to other Banks and Bankers	1,197 73
Profits	\$701,925 37
	45,177 43
Total	\$1,664,602 80

I, Joseph P. Mumford, Cashier of the National Bank of the Republic, Philadelphia, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JOSEPH P. MUMFORD, Cashier.



SEEDS! SEEDS!—We have now on hand, Fresh and Genuine, a full assortment of the most approved varieties of Garden, Field, and Flower Seeds.

New descriptive catalogues furnished gratis, also Wholesale and Retail price lists, on application.

COLLINS, ALDRISON & CO., Seedsmen and Florists, 1111 & 1113 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa. Mar. 7—3m.

LOUIS DREKA, Stationer, Card Engraver and Plate Printer, 1033 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

THOMPSON BLACK & SON, BROAD AND CHESTNUT STREETS, DEALERS IN FINE TEAS, AND EVERY VARIETY OF CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES. Goods delivered in any part of the City, or packed securely for the Country.

PLAIN AND FANCY JOB PRINTER, SANSOM STREET HALL. Fine Work—Original Styles. The only Steam Printing Office in Philadelphia on the First Floor.

GROVER & BAKER'S HIGHEST PREMIUM ELASTIC STITCH AND LOCK STITCH SEWING MACHINES WITH LATEST IMPROVEMENTS. The Grover & Baker S. M. Co. manufacture, in addition to their celebrated GROVER & BAKER STITCH Machines, the most perfect SHUTTLE or "LOCK STITCH" Machine in the market, and afford purchasers the opportunity of selecting, after trial and examination of both, the one best suited to their wants. (Their companies manufacture but one kind of machine each, and cannot offer this opportunity of selection to their customers. A pamphlet, containing samples of both the Grover & Baker Stitch and Shuttle Stitch in various fabrics, with full explanations, diagrams, and illustrations, to enable purchasers to examine, test, and compare their relative merits, will be furnished, on request, from our office throughout the country. Those who desire machines which do the best work, should not fail to send for a pamphlet, and test and compare these stitches for themselves.) OFFICE, 730 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia.

NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC, 809 and 811 Chestnut Street, PHILADELPHIA. Capital, \$500,000. Fully Paid. DIRECTORS: JOSEPH T. BAILEY, EDWARD B. ORNE, NATHAN HILLES, WILLIAM ERVIN, OSGOOD WELSH, BENJAMIN ROWLAND, JR., SAMUEL A. BISPHAM, WILLIAM A. BIRNBY, FREDERICK A. HOYT, PRESIDENT, WILLIAM H. BRAWN, CASHIER, JOSEPH P. MUMFORD.

SOMETHING NEW! Send fifty cents for a Specimen Copy of the beautiful PHOTOGRAPH MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE. Regular retail price, \$1.00. Address KEAPHART & CRIDER, Publishers, York, Pa. Feb. 21—3y.

JAMES MOORE, COAL DEALER. Eagle Vein, Shamokin and other Coals, From the most approved Mines, constantly kept on hand. YARD, 747 SOUTH BROAD STREET. Orders left at 915 PINE STREET, or N. W. CORNER OF TENTH and WHARTON STREETS, promptly attended to.

AMERICAN LEAD PENCIL COMPANY, NEW YORK. Factory, Hudson City, N. J.

This Company is now fully prepared to furnish LEAD PENCILS, Equal in Quality to the Best Brands. The Company has taken great pains and invested a large capital in fitting up their factory, and now ask the American Public to give their pencils a fair trial. ALL STYLES AND GRADES ARE MANUFACTURED. Great care has been bestowed on the manufacturing of Superior HEXAGON DRAWING PENCILS, specially prepared for the use of Engineers, Architects, Artists, &c. A complete assortment, constantly on hand, is offered at fair terms to the trade at their Wholesale Sales-room, 34 JOHN STREET, New York. The Pencils are to be had at all principal Stationers and Notion Dealers. Ask for the American Lead Pencil.

HATS AND CAPS. R. S. WALTON'S FASHIONABLE HAT AND CAP STORE No. 1024 MARKET STREET. LATEST STYLES, LOWEST PRICES. A Full Assortment of Umbrellas always on Hand.