

terday, (St. Peter's) where he had understood that a plan had been contrived to bring the people more effectually into participation in the exercises of the church; but the great burst of congregational singing for which he had looked seemed to be wanting. Dr. Cuyler related some interesting facts concerning his church (Lafayette-ave., Brooklyn, the largest church society in the denomination, and the one in which the Assembly of 1865 met, at which Dr. Shaw was Moderator,) where the religious interest has been very profound during the past year and more.

Rev. Mr. Carnahan of Indiana referred to the various churches and institutions in that State. Wabash College has been very greatly blessed in the conferral of grace which has been the means of the conversion of some five or six hundred persons, in that town (Crawfordsville,) of seven thousand souls. Other exercises of marked interest closely filled up the hour.

The Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D.D., of Brooklyn, was requested by the Moderator to preside at the devotional exercises from 8.30 to 9.30 to-morrow (Tuesday) morning, and consented.

BUSINESS SESSION.

Before the regular order of the day (the reception of the Irish delegation) was entered upon, Fisher Howe, Esq., presented the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That this General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, holding its sessions in the city of Rochester, sends its fraternal and Christian salutations to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, holding its session in the city of Cincinnati; desiring and praying for them, the presence and benediction of the alone Head of the Church, in all their deliberations and deliverances.

Resolved, That the Moderator be requested to convey this, our unanimous expression, to the Moderator of said Assembly in the city of Cincinnati, a telegraphic message of the same, to be by him communicated to that body.

ADDRESS BY REV. E. J. ADAMS.

The Rev. E. J. Adams, of Charleston, a colored pastor in that city, was introduced, and came upon the platform to present the cause of the Freedmen of the South.

After thanking the Assembly for his kind reception, Mr. Adams remarked: "The churches are now spending a great deal of money for various fields of missionary work all over the world, but last and least in Africa. Yet this is what should be done: 'Go ye into all the world;' this is the Divine command. Yet when we look upon the broad map of this our native land, we see among us the Turks, the Indians, the Germans, the Greeks, last of all the negro—what a work to be done by the Church! When I speak of this, I mean the great mass of uncivilized people scattered through and through our vast community; and the fact is, that while the negro has been living on this continent for rising two hundred years, still he has remained in ignorance, though surrounded by a civilized community; and though living in a country unparalleled for its progress in all departments of civilization, still he seems to be enveloped in darkness and superstition. In view of this, what is it the duty, the true duty of missions? Is it to lift up this most despised, most degraded people? Who is more so than the negro? And did not the Saviour of the world set you such an example? When He came into the world did He not select poor fishermen for His companions, did He not call amongst publicans and sinners, did He not call Mary Magdalene, and converse with the woman of Samaria? And were He upon the earth to-day, to whom do you suppose He would go if not among the most despised and degraded, and those whom men most hate and despise and regard as the most degraded, and the off-scourings of humanity? Now, my friends, I want to bring one fact to your minds. Ever since the history of the Church began, there have been some of the children of Ham who have always, in some way, been among the stones in the building of the Church. We may refer to Joseph, to whom was given the daughter of a priest of On, which was the highest privilege that could be conferred on him. Moses did not leave without taking one of the daughters of Egypt to wife; and Solomon contravened his father's law in order to take one of the daughters of Pharaoh. And this beautiful queen said, 'I am black but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem; my mother's children hated me, they made me the keeper of their vineyards, but my vineyard have I not kept.' The queen seemed to feel the fact that the children of Ham have at times shone forth gloriously, and they have a vineyard—the Church of the living God—more glorious by far than the vineyard of Solomon.

Again, prophecy has incorporated these people in the future Church: "Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch forth her hands unto God;" and when Babylon and Philitia were spoken of, it was added, "Tyre and Philistia shall also be mentioned." So there never was a time when they were solely and totally discovered from the Church of God; and when the Saviour himself would flee from Herod's cruelty, he found refuge in Egypt. Let me say again, that the politicians of this land, since the downfall of slavery, have gone to work to incorporate the race into the citizen population of the country. The colored race have come to be the great balance-wheel by which the machinery of this land is to be worked. (Sensation.)

We have a tradition that when the great temple of Solomon was nigh completion, there was wanted a stone for the key-stone of the arch. None of the skillful artisans could cut a stone of the required figure. A stone that had been overlooked and rejected by the master-builders, and trodden under foot,—one which nature itself had carved out,—was by accident found to be the exact stone fitted for the place. Hence came the saying, "The stone which builders rejected hath become the head of the corner." Now, then, the master-builders of political parties, after nearly completed the fabric of this country, found that the negro was the great stone which nature had fitted, and without which the building could not be completed.—(laughter)—and now "the stone which the builders refused, the same is become the head of the corner." (Great laughter and sensation.)

Let me tell you, master-builders, you have got to incorporate the negro. We are coming. We have been into your pulpits, have moderated your Presbyteries and Synods. Mr. Moderator, guard well your chair, or fifty years hence some black divine may moderate your General Assembly. See how near I am to the Moderator's chair. We are here among you, and likely to stay, this being the "white man's country," notwithstanding. At the time of the confusion of tongues, and when several continents were divided among the children, it was said Shem, you take Asia; Japheth, your take Europe; Ham, you take Africa. Destiny looked across the broad ocean, and saw a vast continent stretching from pole to pole, and said, Now this vast country is to be divided between you three children; I know you will put on airs in regard to it. I tell you that Ham must have a share.

"First the children of Shem came. By virtue of their long possession they wanted all. Then came Japheth's children; because they had arisen to power and become rich, they wanted all, and brought with them some of the children of Ham to till the soil, raise cotton and enrich the country. By-and-by the children of Japheth got to fighting among themselves, and called upon the children of Ham to help to settle the dispute. But after that they wanted to drive out Ham, too, and give him no rights. Now, I say, this is not Shem's country any more than it was Japheth's country; but it is an asylum for the oppressed of all nations. We are not Africans, we

are Americans, and we are going to compose part of the body politic.

(Mr. Adams was here interrupted by the Moderator, as the fifteen minutes allotted him by the Assembly had expired; but on motion he was given five minutes to complete his remarks.)

I have seen it asserted recently that nearly \$20,000 had been given for the work among the Freedmen. Now a church of our people can be established any where along the sea-board. I went down to my present church in 1854, and now have over 300 communicants; my Sunday-school ran up to a membership of 220. Our church had its corner-stone laid March 25th and the walls are now nearly half up; it will be worth \$18,000 or \$20,000. We want more means. We are building a large basement and intend to use it for day-schools as well as for other ordinary purposes. We hope this Church will support us in our day schools.

We have in Charleston three thousand children at school, and are busy putting up buildings for the schools. The prospect is thus very fine for a colored church at Charleston, and so it might be anywhere on the sea-board. We trust that you will take this matter under serious consideration. Here there is a field; here men, women and children ready and eager to learn. Do not send your money to the territories, where it must wait many years before the population comes up to us; and do not let it go through other channels to the South; but come and help us, and God will bless your Church. The subject was referred to a special Committee of seven.

It was voted that reports of the Delegates appointed by the Assembly of 1866, to visit corresponding bodies, be heard directly after the Delegates from those bodies to-morrow, as the second order of the day.

The report of Standing Committees (who have in charge the reports of Permanent Committees) were next in order.

The Judicial Committee, the Rev. S. B. Canfield, D.D., Chairman, reported concerning an appeal of Elder Silas Miller from the decision of the Synod of Illinois. The case will come up at 3 P. M. to-day, to be heard in full.

BILLS AND OVERTURES.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, the Rev. Wm. Adams, D.D., Chairman, reported:

An overture to appoint the 15th day of April a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, permanently, and to recommend the same to other Churches, looking to its ultimate adoption by Congress in a national law.

The Committee recommended that no action be taken upon this, and the Assembly concurred in their recommendation.

A communication from New York City Young Men's Christian Association desiring the co-operation of this Assembly in their labors for young men in the metropolis, especially asking that clergymen be recommended to give letters of introduction to the Association to young men going from their parishes to reside in that city.

Dr. Adams thought that the end of the overture would be accomplished by its simple reading.

Dr. W. C. Wisner opposed the adoption of the paper as a recommendation from the Young Men's Association to the Assembly.

Dr. Adams stated his own familiarity with this very useful and worthy institution. They are prospering very greatly. At present their rooms are at 161 Fifth avenue, corner of Twenty-third street, and have \$220,000 subscribed, part of which was paid for the ground; and the balance, with more to be added, will be used upon the edifice.

An overture from the two Presbyteries of Philadelphia, and another from the Secretaries of various Committees, call attention to the fact that much of the charity in the Church is diverted to other channels than our own Permanent Committees. Committee recommended the following resolutions:

Resolved, That all pastors and laymen be requested to arrange for systematic contributions in their several churches, once in a year, in aid of the several objects represented by this Assembly's Boards and Committees, to the end that, so far as practicable, there may be uniformity of action throughout the entire body.

Resolved, That the General Assembly, fully apprised of their incompetence to legislate authoritatively in any way in regard to that benevolence which is free-born, and emphatically disclaiming any policy which is rigidly narrow and sectarian, would respectfully advise all Presbyteries and churches to give the priority, so far as any distinction shall, in any case, be necessary, to the channels and agencies of Christian charity which the Church itself has organized, it being understood that the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions is included among them as the organization for Foreign Evangelism which the General Assembly has adopted and sanctioned.

Rev. A. D. Barber, of Champlain Presbytery, expressed deep interest in the whole subject, and hoped the Committee would make more specific recommendations, so that a decided advance might be made.

Rev. E. B. Sherwood, of Lexington, Mo., also said this was a subject of great importance. He asked, what was the secret of the success of the Brick Church? It arose from their adoption, in the days of their weakness, of the policy of giving. They have especially identified themselves with the interests of our Church and the interests of the world. He would infuse this spirit into the mind of every brother. The true policy is to give that we may increase. Churches are poor and will stay poor because they will not give. Remark that in Dr. Adams' church only one-sixth of the great sum of \$120,000 reported as given by Madison Square Church, N. Y., was to our own causes.

Dr. Adams courteously and good-humoredly replied that he believed his church had given to denominational purposes more than any other in the body; that his church had swung into line in our denominational work, and in the matter, he thought, had been conducted with some care. He said that his church gave largely to local causes, especially mentioning \$35,000 given to City Missions, "to save the city itself from being swamped."

Mr. Sherwood continued arguing for the cultivation of a denominational spirit generally, and the need to educate our children for this end.

Rev. H. Aug. Smith said all have realized the importance of some concerted, well-defined action on the part of our denomination. Systematic giving to these causes can be made a successful thing in all our churches. He thought the contributions might be doubled and trebled.

Rev. J. H. Trowbridge, Chicago, said it is required of every minister in the Home Missionary field to take up a contribution for Home Missions. It would be right to require also that they should take up a collection for every object. There would be no hardship or impropriety in such a requisition on even the weakest of the churches.

Dr. Wisner, of Ithaca, alluded to a practice adopted by him in which a systematic giving was practiced. Different men were appointed to look after the interests of different objects. These individuals visited every body in the society, asking them how much they were willing to give for the object which he represented, each week, putting it down as a subscription. The list was handed to the pastor, and the individuals requested to put the amount agreed upon, with their names, into a box at the church-door, the first Sabbath in each month.

These papers were carefully compared with the list kept by the pastor, and the delinquents called upon to know whether they wished to withdraw their subscriptions. With this arrangement they raised three times as much money as they did before it was adopted. He alluded to the Brick Church when he was its pastor, attributing its unparalleled prosperity

to the fact that its members contributed liberally when the church was young and weak, he believing that a poor church was not able to do without giving, for it was only he that scattereth that receiveth. I told my people they could not live if they did not act on the promise, "He that watereth others shall himself be watered." If this were carried down to all our feeble churches we should have no feeble churches.

FOURTH DAY—MONDAY P. M.

Opened with prayer by Dr. Darling. Dr. Darling moved a reconsideration of the order for the reception of foreign delegates that the report of the Standing Committee on Home Missions may take its place. Carried.

Dr. Goodrich moved that the first order for Tuesday morning be the report of the Standing Committee on Church Election, and the reports of delegates to corresponding bodies, be the second order. Carried.

Rev. Wm. Aikman read the following

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Missions have given a careful consideration to the Report of the Permanent Committee, and such other papers as have been given by the General Assembly to their charge, and present the following results of their deliberations.

Your Committee regret that the review of the year should again show that a very large proportion of our membership (nearly one-fourth) make no contribution to the work of Foreign Missions, and that the amounts given are so small, being on an average of but about ninety-eight cents per member throughout our whole church.

Your Committee are aware that in the number of non-contributing churches are found exclusively our feeble churches, many of them missionary churches and themselves struggling for bare existence. Yet we believe that no church or individual can be so poor that he is exempt from the duty, or so weak that it ought to be deprived of this great means of grace—giving to send the Gospel to a heathen world.

Your Committee are of the opinion that a lack of information in respect to the necessities of the world abroad, is practically the main and efficient cause of the want of interest, and the inadequacy of the contributions. Unless there be an acquaintance with the work being done, interest is impossible. They feel most who know best.

Regrets should lead to a prompt and efficient remedy. This remedy, your Committee supposes, is easily within reach of every pastor. Very many pastors are lamentably ignorant of the foreign missionary field, and are unwilling to give the time necessary to acquire information. It is not wonderful that they do not impart what they do not possess.

If each pastor should interest himself by a systematic acquaintance with what God is doing in the heathen world through our missionaries, should become familiar with the men through their work, he could scarcely fail to communicate his awakened zeal to his people. Who can doubt that any church made acquainted with the location of only a few mission stations, made familiar with the names, character, and labors of even a few missionaries, would inevitably be found giving of its means to sustain them?

Your Committee in behalf of the General Assembly would most earnestly urge upon all pastors and stated supplies the duty of personal familiarity with the work of God in foreign lands, and a diligent and careful impartation of more or less detailed knowledge of this subject to their people, believing, as we do, that this would, without doubt, secure a response from even the feeblest Church.

Closely allied to this topic is the use of our missionary publications. The circulation of the *Missionary Herald* should be promoted. Under its new and efficient management it is more than ever valuable. Yet the *Missionary Herald* reaches comparatively but a select few. The facts to be laid before the people must be put in a smaller compass if they shall be generally read. For this purpose the *Presbyterian Monthly Magazine* presents a ready medium.

Your Committee would suggest that the Permanent Committee be directed to make a more systematic use of this *Magazine*, publishing extracts from the letters of our missionaries as early a date as possible after their receipt, and giving such other facts as shall be calculated to awaken in the reader a personal concern in the brethren gone out from our churches.

Your Committee have been informed that the Permanent Committee, not having funds at their disposal, have not, with the other permanent Committees contributed towards the support of the *Magazine*. We would therefore recommend that the Permanent Committee be directed to secure, in such way as they may deem best, a sum sufficient to defray the proportion of the expense properly belonging to them in their use of this means of communication with the churches.

Your Committee regard with deep interest the correspondence which the Permanent Committee have had with our missionary brethren during the past year. The letters from these brethren are at once noble and touching, and draw them more closely than ever to our hearts. It is to be hoped that this correspondence, so happily begun, will be continued and extended.

Your Committee have been deeply affected by the earnest pleadings of our overworked missionaries for help. We cannot but regard with great solicitude the fact that the accumulated labors of our brethren abroad have laid one and another aside and threaten to send others to premature graves. Will not our young men listen to these almost despairing cries for help?

With these sorrowful feelings, your Committee mingle rejoicings over the fact, that during the year past a numerous number have offered themselves to the foreign missionary work, and that God has been graciously pleased to revive our seminaries with the missionary spirit, which, in other days sent many brethren, very able and very dear, to the heathen world.

An overture has been placed in the hands of your Committee from the Presbytery of Monroe, asking "That the General Assembly will take into consideration the propriety of receiving the mission now under the care of the Rev. R. G. Wilder, at Kolapoer, India, into its care."

While your Committee cannot but admire the most energetic efforts of Mr. Wilder to sustain this mission, nor cease to rejoice in its successes, yet to accede to this overture, and receive this mission under the care of the General Assembly, would be to inaugurate an entirely new and different system of carrying forward our foreign missionary work. This we feel assured the General Assembly is not at present prepared to do. We, therefore, recommend that the overture be answered in the negative.

Your Committee find embodied in the Permanent Committee's report an earnest letter from one of our missionaries among the Indians, petitioning the General Assembly to memorialize our National Congress, and to "ask that Indians, like all other persons, be declared subject to the criminal laws of the United States, and that provision may be made for the appointment and support of officers to enforce our laws among them." The Permanent Committee also express the hope that this General Assembly will give heed to this earnest request, &c.

On a very careful consideration of the subject, your Committee are of the opinion that the facts, upon which these requests are based, are too broadly at least, if not incorrectly stated, and that however through the inefficiency and corruption of officials, they are often badly administered, yet our laws

intend to protect the life and property of the Indian, and that when in reach he is under their provisions both for protection and for punishment. (Continued on First Page.)

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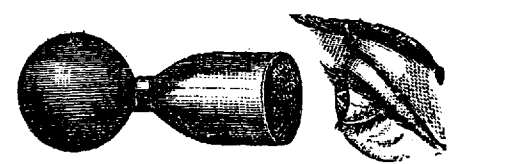
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