

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1867.

Our special European Correspondent takes us down the Rhine and across Belgium to Paris; Dr. Ellinwood writes of Church Extension; and a Presbyterian in Massachusetts contributes an article on Muscular Christianity...

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Story of a Chinese Boy. American S. S. Union. 12mo., pp. 383. Illust. NUTTING, Fillman Loring; or Minister or Merchant. By Rev. J. K. Nutting. Philadelphia. J. C. Garrigue & Co. 18mo., pp. 291. WRITTER, The Poetical Works of John Greenleaf Whittier. Complete Edition. Boston Ticknor & Fields. Sm. quarto. (Diamond Edition.) pp. 410.

Wanted, ten copies of the American Presbyterian for Aug. 8, and twenty-five copies of last week's issue—Sept. 12. Six cents each will be paid for them at this office, or subscribers sending them from a distance will be credited on their accounts.

OUR cotemporary the Methodist Home Journal was last week, betrayed into the endorsement of a publishing house of this city whose issues are almost exclusively sensation novels of the third class. Speaking of a forthcoming work, it says: The well-known excellence of the publications of this firm will be an assurance to the public that no feature will be omitted in the effort to make the volume all that could be desired.

The progress which is being made by our Methodist brethren in matters of literature and education has been such, we hoped, would place them beyond the possibility of such an act of carelessness or ignorance. The Home Journal has certainly committed a grave error, nor do we see how it can readily amend it.

SING WITH THE UNDERSTANDING.—A correspondent of the Episcopalian, criticising rather severely a choir performance of the High Church type, utters some truths which all choir singers, and solo performers especially, in churches, should heed. It says:

If the enunciation of the performers in the grand anthem mentioned was no better than in the case of some superior singing we heard in this city, where it was supposed the best amateur performance was furnished, we do not believe that the people knew whether Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, or Job was sung. It was what St. Paul calls "Barbarian," and of no more use to touch the heart than if foreign airs had been played on trumpets.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING.—The Boston Christian Witness (Episcopalian), says: "Ninety years ago, we had one clergyman to every ten thousand of the people; now we have only one to every fifteen thousand, and this discrepancy is increasing. The past two years, the additions have not filled the places made vacant by death and disability. In some dioceses, there is not a single candidate for orders to-day. The East has not a single clergyman to spare for the West; there is not a diocese where there are not a number of vacant parishes, and in some of them, these can be almost counted by scores."

And yet this very sect is trying to bolster up its "imbecile pulpit" by showing a great increase in some one locality and in some one short period, and "boasting" as if these partial statistics proved their case. Let us take not "the State of New York from 1855 to 1865" but the nation from 1800-50-60. In 1800 the Episcopalians had one communicant to every 432 7-12 inhabitants; in 1850 one to 313 5-7; in 1860 one to 528. In 1800 the Presbyterians of the Assemblies had one to every 131; in 1850 one to 67 15-17; in 1860 one to 71, and in 1860 all bodies of Presbyterians one to 39.

AN ANCIENT THEOLOGICAL DISPUTE TO BE SETTLED AT LAST.—A CHALLENGE.—The Rev. Robert W. Landis, in his letter to the Rev. George Junkin, D. D., touching the requirements of the ninth commandment, respecting the "Infralapsarian" view of the doctrine of imputation, as held by the Synods of Dort and Westminster, and himself, and the "Supralapsarian" view of the doctrine, as expounded by Dr. Hodge, of Princeton, holds the following language: "I would here, without having consulted with any one on the subject, offer a suggestion: Instead of raising the hue and cry of heresy on either side, (and it can be raised as easily on one side as on the other,) which would not be for edification, let a day be appointed by the General Assembly, on which to have this matter formally brought before it, (frequent precedents of the kind may be found in the National Synod of France from 1569 to 1659,) and it can easily be done, with conciseness and clearness. Let Dr. Hodge take

an hour or two either as affirmative or respondent, and present the views which he entertains and inculcates, and explaining the points to which his attention may be called by the members, and I will most cheerfully hold myself in readiness, if some more competent person should not be appointed, to present the view sustained and taught at Danville. Three or four hours, or at most a day, would suffice for this presentation, and then let the Assembly give a judgment concerning this matter."

Cowper concludes the diverting history of John Gilpin, with these words:

"Now let us sing, long live the king, And Gilpin, long live he; And when he next doth ride abroad, May I be there to see."

So say we of this dispute.

FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

SYNOD OF GENESÉE.

This large Synod held its annual meeting this year at Genesee, in connection with our church in that place, Rev. G. P. Folsom, Pastor. For various causes the attendance was not so large as usual. Some of the brethren in Buffalo were detained, preparing for the coming meeting of the American Board. The Synod was organized by the choice of Rev. A. L. Benton, of Lima, Moderator, and Rev. G. L. Marsh, of Nunda, Temporary Clerk.

The sermon of the retiring Moderator, Rev. Milton Waldo, of Hornellsville, was preached on Tuesday evening, in the presence of an intelligent and appreciative audience. The text was Ecc. 1:7, "All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again,"—a curious passage, we silently said, to select for such an occasion; and yet out of it the fertile mind of the preacher wrought a beautiful argument upon the law of action and reaction in the Christian life. The soul feels its need; it goes to Christ for help; at that fountain it finds relief, and then feels an irresistible impulse to give the same blessing it finds in Christ to others. And with every increase of spiritual life, there is increase of this benevolent impulse.

The sermon was admirable in matter and manner, and was listened to with marked interest from beginning to end.

On Wednesday morning, after the usual devotional exercises, several representatives of the benevolent causes were heard. Home Missions had a good place, and a good speech from Rev. Mr. Stowe. Rev. Dr. Ellinwood appeared for Church Extension and made a grand plea for his cause. He urged our duty to care for our own. He showed how much every church enterprise needs a proper church edifice at an early day in its existence, and how much is lost if such an edifice is long delayed. This is the need of the Church Extension Fund. The Secretary urged most strenuously, that every pastor of the Synod should preach on the subject of church erection. He was sure that if they would, they would see more clearly the need of this fund, and be more sure to secure for it an annual collection. Dr. Ellinwood stated that, so far, less had been done for this cause by the Synod of Genesée than by any other portion of our church in proportion to its means. He hoped it would not be so any longer.

We are glad to see that the Secretary seemed to be in better health than he was six months ago. He is steadily gaining, and his friends hope that ere long he may be able to do his work with the vigor and strength of former years.

DELEGATE.

On Wednesday afternoon Rev. Charles Ray, of Wyoming, was heard, presenting the fraternal and cordial salutations of the (O. S.) Synod of Buffalo. Personally, he was anxious for reunion. Whether the time had really come for such a consummation, he could not say. If it had, he hoped it soon might come. The Moderator made cordial and courteous reply.

DR. CAMPBELL'S SERMON.

By appointment of the Synod of last year, Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Rochester, preached on Reason and Faith. His text was John 4:29, from which his aim was to show the right use of reason, and the proper terms of faith, in the evangelical system of truth. There is room for both. We cannot dispense with reason. It has its sphere, first, in determining whether or not we have a revelation from God; secondly, what the book teaches, and thirdly, in arranging its truths in a system convenient for use. He would do with the Bible as we do with the book of nature, he would make a science of it. The outcry against systems of theology is no more reasonable than it would be to denounce systems of botany, or systems of astronomy.

On the other hand, there is equal need of faith. Some things in the Christian system are beyond the reach of reason; some too high, some too deep, for our comprehension. This was to be expected, and is to be accepted with humble trust in such a system. The sermon was grand in conception, admirably simple in arrangement, truly eloquent in delivery, and evidently gave the highest satisfaction to the audience.

WORKING MISSIONS.

This subject followed the sermon, the Synod plainly recognizing its importance, and giving

ample time for its consideration. After brief introductory remarks by the District Secretary, Rev. Crosby H. Wheeler, returned Missionary from Kharpoor, Turkey, held the attention of the Synod for nearly an hour, in an admirable, graphic and stirring description of his distant field, and of the glorious work which a little band of devoted missionaries have already accomplished there.

The Synod were greatly pleased and profoundly moved by his statements and appeals. Many spoke of it as one of the best missionary addresses that they had ever heard. Some seemed ready themselves to go at once and join in his mission, he made it appear so great a privilege to labor as he had labored, and meet with such success, and such a reward. He appealed directly for recruits. He wanted some pastors to go back with him. He left a pleasant pastorate himself ten years ago to go on his mission, and had a right to make such an appeal.

We hope this missionary will be heard extensively in the churches. He comes from one of the most interesting of all the missionary fields; has a tale of marvellous interest to tell, and he knows how to tell it.

Of the remaining services of the Synod we cannot speak particularly. On Wednesday evening Rev. E. J. Adams was heard in behalf of his church in Charleston, S. C. The Synod evinced their deep interest in his address by taking a collection on the spot, amounting to ninety dollars, to aid in the good work in which he is engaged. The rest of the evening was devoted to a Temperance meeting, with addresses of great interest, by Rev. Drs. Heacock and Wright, and Elder Jermain.

On Thursday morning, Rev. W. E. Moore, of Philadelphia, one of our Publication Committee, was heard in behalf of that cause. We heard a number of the members of the Synod express great gratification with his speech. It presented the subject in a very sensible and practical manner. It was easy to see what a grand, benevolent work the committee are aiming to do. He did not ask for money to do the publishing, but for money to give away good books where they are needed, and cannot be bought. We think the Publication cause will have more collections in the bounds of this Synod in the coming year, than it would have had without that speech.

On Wednesday afternoon we had the administration of the Lord's Supper—sermon by Rev. Dr. Heacock, administration of the bread by Rev. P. S. Van Nest, and the cup by Rev. Dr. Barnard. And so ended one of the most pleasant and interesting meetings of the Synod which it has been our good fortune to attend. The meeting next year is to be in Hornellsville.

PREPARING FOR THE FEAST.

Being in Buffalo a few days since, we found our brethren there all astir with regard to the coming meeting of the American Board, to be held on the 24th instant. The Committee of Arrangements are evidently intent on giving the friends of Missions a cordial welcome to their hospitable city. Buffalo is centrally located between the east and the west; is accessible from all directions, and may expect a very large gathering.

We wish our Buffalo friends no harm, but we hope that their hospitality will be taxed to the utmost. There is power and blessedness in these great meetings. Many are inspired by them to work with greatly increased vigor and earnestness for missions at least for a whole year. It is indeed a burden for the time to provide for such a multitude, but many have found in such cases that it is more blessed to give than to receive. We hope it may be so this fall with all those who open their hearts and their houses to entertain the friends of the Board.

DEDICATION AT OAK CORNERS.

The Presbyterian church edifice at Oak Corners was re-dedicated on Thursday the 12th instant. This is said to be the oldest church building but one now standing in Western New York. It was erected in 1804. Of course it was old fashioned, and susceptible of being modernized, as it has been most thoroughly both outside and in. The broad windows are made narrower and longer, beside being arched at the top. The stump of a steeple is elevated into a graceful spire, and all much improved by two or three coats of paint.

Inside the change is no less. With side galleries demolished, orchestra at one end, new pulpit at the other, new cushions, and handsome frescoing of walls and ceiling, it is a far more attractive place than it was a few months ago. The change has cost about \$5,300.

The dedication sermon, good and appropriate, was preached by Rev. Horace Eaton, of Palmyra; historical sketch by the pastor, Rev. A. T. Young; prayer of dedication by Rev. A. A. Wood, D. D., of Geneva; and so the congregation are prepared to enjoy their Sabbath services with new zest, we are sure, in their well renovated and truly beautiful house of worship.

PRESBYTERY OF LYONS.

This Presbytery held its autumn meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday in Marion. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Bell, of Lyons, communion sermon by Rev. W. L. Page, of Wolcott. Rev. A. H. Lilly, of East Palmyra, was chosen Moderator. Rev. William Lusk, of Huron, read, by appointment, an admirable essay on Revivals; and to close with, a capital Sunday School meeting was held on Wednesday evening.

Among other good things done, the church of Marion, which has been Congregational in form, but connected with no ecclesiastical body, put itself under the care of the Presbytery.

PERSONAL.

Rev. I. G. Ogden, of Portville, has received a call to the Presbyterian church in Almond, which it is probable he will accept. The Church have raised the salary three hundred dollars above what they formerly paid, and have appropriated \$400 to repairing the parsonage.

Rev. Alvin Baker, of Otisco, has received an invitation to the Presbyterian church in Lakeville, and is about to begin his labors in the latter place.

E. M. Gilbert, Esq., of Utica, who built the beautiful chapel of the Westminster church, (Dr. Fisher's), has perfected the generous act by making it over in fee simple to the Trustees of the Church. It is now a part of their property; and a gem of a building for such purposes.

GENESEE.

ROCHESTER, Sept. 14, 1867.

News of Our Churches.

UNDERGOING REPAIRS.—The First Church on Washington square is receiving an entire new coat of paint within and without, besides other improvements. It will be some weeks before the venerable and substantial edifice is ready for occupancy.—The people of Old Pine Street got as far as their lecture room last Sabbath. This large room was crowded to overflowing. The extensive improvements of the audience chamber will not be complete for a fortnight. The pastor Rev. R. H. Allen, we are happy to say, has entirely recovered his health.—The Mantua Church, Rev. H. A. Smith pastor, are also dispossessed of their house by the occupancy of workmen. This enterprising people, having added \$1000, at a stroke to the pastor's salary, are resolved to give him the additional aid of a comfortable and attractive house of worship, so far as the interior is concerned. A first-class organ is also on contemplation by the liberal people.—A new organ has been introduced into the Walnut street Church, West Philadelphia. In the temporary absence of the pastor, Rev. Dr. Butler, Rev. S. W. Crittenden supplies the pulpit. Rev. Mr. Barnes by invitation preached last Sabbath.

NORTH BROAD STREET CHURCH has been supplied regularly during the summer by different preachers, not having been closed a single Sabbath. The sad calamity which befel one of the elders, Thomas Potter, Esq., in the loss of his youngest child and a faithful nurse by drowning, cast a gloom over the whole church and community, and called forth expressions of deep and universal sympathy. Alexander Whilldin, Esq., another elder, has been in Europe since June of last year, and will return in November next. The choir performers in this church are usually of the most attractive character. Miss Alexander as soprano has a clear, strong and flexible voice, with many sweet tones; the pathos and simplicity which Mr. Bishop so well unites with artistic skill in his tenor, are well supported by Mrs. Craven's constantly improving alto, and Mr. Dutcher's rich, mellow bass. Mr. Crawford's playing is so fine, that every time we hear him we regret that he has not a larger and better instrument.

REV. DR. HELFFENSTEIN of Market Square Church, Germantown, has been holding open air meetings during the summer months in Wistar's woods in the edge of Germantown. They have been well attended by a class of persons not usually reached by in-door services, many being drawn aside from pleasure-seeking to hear the proclamation of the Gospel. Much solemnity has prevailed and good results are hoped for.

LOMBARD ST., (CENTRAL CHURCH).—At the communion season, September 8th, thirteen persons were received; nine on profession of their faith. A good degree of interest still prevails.

OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT says: Rev. Nelson Millard, after serving the Olivet church for six months; on September 9th, unanimously chosen pastor with a salary of \$4000.

RIPLEY PRESBYTERY, OHIO, met August 27th. The Committee on Reunion made the following report, which was unanimously adopted: "We most heartily endorse, and cheerfully recommend, the adoption of the plan of reunion proposed by the Joint Committee of the two General Assemblies of 1866."

A. M. Moffat was received as a candidate for the ministry. The Chillicothe Presbytery being in session at the same time and place with this Presbytery, several meetings were held, in which there were strong and delightful manifestations of cordial fellowship, and anxiety to co-operate together for the advancement of the common cause of Christ, and a desire, not only for the spiritual union, but also for the organic union of the two branches of the Presbyterian church.

THE THIRD CHURCH, PITTSBURG AND ITS PASTOR.—A letter was read on Sabbath, 1st instant, to this church from its honored pastor, the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., requesting the church to unite with him in asking a dissolution of the pastoral relation. The reason assigned is the delicate state of Mrs. Johnson's health, which the physicians say will render it necessary for her to reside at Marquette on the shores of Lake Superior for a time.

ONTONAGON.—About the first of October the Presbyterian church of Ontonagon, Lake Superior, will be without a supply, and some one who can sustain on and labor for, a salary of about

\$1000, is desired to supply the pulpit for the Winter, a year, or longer. The church is in connection with the Presbytery of Lake Superior (N. S.), and in a locality almost, if not wholly unparalleled for its healthfulness. A minister conferring with a view to coming, must aim to come as early as Nov. 20th, at the latest, in order to get here. Letters of inquiry addressed to H. B. Smith, Ontonagon, Mich., will be received.

STRAWBERRY PLAINS, TENN.—A new house of worship, 40 by 60 feet, seating comfortably 400 persons, was dedicated on the 3d inst.

REV. REUBEN F. PATTERSON, (O. S.) of Seipio, Ind., has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the New School Presbyterian church of Seymour, Ind.

THE CONGREGATIONALIST AND RECORDER introduces a correspondent as complaining bitterly of Episcopal interference in his charge, who mentions as a good book for use in this connection, "The Episcopal Invitation," one of our committee's issues.

REV. E. P. HAMMOND, who had previously been so useful at Surrey Chapel and elsewhere, by his addresses to children, has on the unanimous invitation of Presbyterian, Congregational, Baptist, and Mission churches, been laboring with much success at Greenwich. After the addresses, ministers and private Christians are wont to converse with children and others who have been solemnly impressed. Mr. Hammond is likely to remain in England over the Winter, and there is reason to expect a large blessing throughout the kingdom.—English Correspondent of the Pittsburgh Banner.

MONROE STREET CHAPEL, WILMINGTON.—The Monroe Street Chapel is undergoing a complete renovation, and will in a few weeks present a most attractive appearance, both interior and exterior. Workmen are engaged in painting the outside of the building, and the walls are to be frescoed, and pulpit, book-case, &c., grained in Walnut.—Journal.

REV. A. F. BEARD of Central Church, Bath, has been called to the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church at Montclair, N. J., with a salary of twenty five hundred dollars and parsonage, and has the call under consideration.

Religious Intelligence.

REFORMED CHURCHES.

The Other Branch.—The Greenfield church, in the Presbytery of Chillicothe, Ohio, having suspended a member for having joined the Masonic order, an appeal was taken to the Presbytery. This body, by a vote of fifteen to ten, sustained the appeal, and restored the party appealing to the communion of the church. A resolution was also adopted, that the Presbytery, in so doing, did not wish to express approbation of the Order of Masons, or any other secret society. [Right, every way.]

The Vote on Reunion.—The Presbytery of Chillicothe, at a late meeting, by a vote, expressed approval of the Plan of Union, between the Old and New-school Churches. The Presbyteries of Potomac and Winnebago have expressed dissatisfaction with the terms proposed. [The younger members of Potomac Presbytery, which is nearly evenly divided on the question, are said to be mainly Princetonians and vote against reunion.]

A Loyal Church in Texas.—The church at Austin, Texas, remains firm in its allegiance to our General Assembly, although persistent efforts are made to seduce its members into the Southern Assembly. A correspondent of the Western Presbyterian writes from that place as follows:

"Within the last two months, during my absence, two preachers of the Southern persuasion visited Austin and organized a church among the disaffected. They talked with several of our members, but accomplished nothing by it. Our Session was firm, and gave them neither advantage nor offence. They professed to be pained at any division, and yet came here to promote the very division they deplored."

Church Extension.—A new Presbyterian church at Pacific City, Franklin co., Mo., was dedicated on the 25th ult.—A lot of sufficient size for a church edifice has been presented to the Woodland church, West Philadelphia, by a gentleman not of the communion. It is in Spruce street, and in one of the most beautiful sections of that beautiful quarter of our city.

Reception of Rev. W. C. McCune.—The following is the unanimous action of the Presbytery of Cincinnati (Old-school) on receiving the Rev. W. C. McCune, Sept. 4th:

"On account of the peculiar circumstances under which the Rev. W. C. McCune comes to seek a connection with this body, this Presbytery deems it proper to adopt the following minute upon the subject of the controversy in which he has been involved, to wit:

"The Presbyterian Church holds (as it has ever done) that every person who gives scriptural evidence that he has been savingly renewed by the Holy Ghost, and makes a credible profession of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, is entitled to membership in the Church; and to a seat at the Lord's table. This being the doctrine of 'Close Communion,' in the book published by Mr. McCune, and condemned by the late United Presbyterian General Assembly as unsound and destructive of the Church, we are constrained, in no spirit of controversy, to express our conviction that it is a doctrine according to godliness, and that the holding of it is no barrier to the full and cordial reception of Mr. McCune as a member of this Presbytery."

Change of Relations.—At a late meeting of the Chillicothe Presbytery the North Fork Presbyterian church, recently in connection with the Ripley Presbytery of the Free Presbyterian Church, was received under the care of the Presbytery of Chillicothe.

The Rev. John McKinney, brother of Rev. David McKinney, D. D., died at Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, on Sabbath morning, the 25th ult., in the 70th year of his age.

Rev. Alfred Hamilton, D. D.—The North Western Presbyterian of September 12th, says—It is our painful duty to announce the sudden death of our beloved associate and esteemed brother, the Rev. Alfred Hamilton, D. D. He returned from Ottawa, Illinois, where he had spent the last Sabbath in the prosecution of his work as District Missionary, on Monday afternoon, in his usual health. He spent the evening at home with his family, and before retiring complained a little of headache, but was otherwise comparatively well. About two o'clock in the morning he suddenly rose up in bed, and fell back insensible. In this state he remained until about ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, when he gently expired. It is supposed that he was again attacked with paralysis.

Presbyterian.—Foreign.

Temperance among the U. P. Theological Students of Scotland.—The students attending the Theological classes of the United Presbyterian Church's Divinity Hall at Edinburgh, have a total abstinence society; and they have signified its opening this year, by getting the Rev. Dr. Cairns, of