

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1867.

TO SUBSCRIBERS MORE THAN THREE MONTHS IN ARREARS.

We will remit the entire penalty on the bills of subscribers in arrears for more than three months, or for one, two, three or more years, if they will make payment directly to us, without expense or risk, by post-office order, check, or express, on or before the 25th of this month.

After that date we shall put our bills in the hands of a collector, when the expense of collection will make it necessary for us to charge the full amount of indebtedness.

FIRST CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA.

At a meeting of the congregation, held Dec. 9th, a unanimous call for the pastoral services of HERRICK JOHNSON, D.D., was made out at a liberal salary. It is earnestly hoped that Dr. Johnson may see his way clear to accept the call, especially as the First Church are prepared to wait until he has fully tested the effects of the Lake Superior climate upon the health of his wife. A cordial welcome from all his brethren in this city awaits his coming.

THIRD PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA ON REUNION.

At an adjourned meeting of this Presbytery, held on the 16th inst, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Presbytery regards with satisfaction the movements looking toward a union of the various Presbyterian Churches of the United States.

Resolved, That this Presbytery is satisfied with the Terms of Reunion proposed for consideration by the Joint Committee of the two General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

MARKS OF PROGRESS.—The labors of the missionaries of the American Board in the Sandwich Islands, (including the more recent years in which the service has been self-sustaining,) have covered a period of nearly half a century. The result is before the world—a civilized instead of barbarous people; a Christian instead of a heathen nation. But says the New York Church Journal, the organ of the Rome-bound party in the Episcopal Church, "The Puritan Missionary work which began in the Sandwich Islands, about forty-five years ago, became long ago so rotten, as to disgust the ruling powers of the nation." This bit of defamation occurs in the course of an article laudatory of Bishop Staley's enterprise there. Our readers, we suppose, are by this time tolerably familiar with the last named movement. Some English residents of the Islands got the ear of a youthful, susceptible, and somewhat clever lady, who happened to occupy the position of queen, and charmed her fancy with the ornamental displays of an English Church service, of the Puseyistic stamp. This opened the door for a proselyting enterprise, which was meant to attain gigantic proportions. Under ritualistic influences, and in the face of the protest of the Evangelical clergy and laity, but "by invitation of the Queen," an English mission to the Islands was inaugurated; and Dr. Staley was consecrated as the head of the new hierarchy, to be known as the "Reformed Catholic" establishment, to be made up, as usual in such cases, of those who could be lured from the fold into which they were first gathered. This flagrant has been carried on a few years. The high expectations with which it started, have been but indifferently fulfilled: still it does parade marks of progress, a fair specimen of which is given in an account recently sent from Honolulu to the American Church Missionary Register, concerning a new school opened under the Bishop's auspices. "In the chapel of the new school of the Sisters of Mercy, there is an altar covered with cloth of gold, trimmed with costly lace. In the centre of the altar, is a revolving case or casket, with a crucifix. On each side of the altar are two altar lights, and on each side of these, a candelabra with seven branches. In front is a suspended lamp, usually burning. Incense vessels are hanging by the altar. There is also at hand a spoon for the incense."

In the meantime the original and Evangelical enterprise has, also, its marks of progress, a sample of which is contained in the following account: "The Protestant Hawaiian churches have contributed, during the past year, for various religious uses, \$27,238.38. During the past fifteen years, \$314,048 have been contributed. Though the population is decreasing, the total of contributions is increasing." These characteristics and fruits of the respective agencies lie side by side. If Bishop Staley's sympathizers, English or American, are satisfied with the contrast, we are

CHICAGO CORRESPONDENCE.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18th, 1867.

DEAR AMERICAN:—It is with pain that I announce to you the decease of Rev. J. S. MORTON, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Waukegan. Brother M. has been for some time subject to sudden and dangerous attacks of inflammatory rheumatism. Seized with one of these some two or three weeks since, he seemed to have passed the critical point, and was feeling unusually well, when on Saturday evening last, the disease returned in great force upon him, and fastening itself upon the lungs, produced a congestion, of which he died on the evening of the next day. Thus has passed from among us, as it were in an instant, one of the youngest and most promising of our pastors, leaving to lament his loss a loving and appreciative people; a youthful widow and two little ones, and a numerous circle of attached and admiring friends.

Mr. Morton began his professional life as a lawyer in the city of New York, where he practiced for a brief period. But his tastes and inclinations, as well as a sense of duty, led him soon to abandon the legal profession for that of a preacher of Christ. For the last three or four years he has ministered to the people among whom he died with great acceptance, and with promise of enlarged usefulness in the future. But the Master had other work for him to do, and he has heard and obeyed the summons to "go up higher." And thus are we, his brethren and fellow laborers, warned once again to a greater diligence and fidelity in our daily shortening work. May it not be in vain.

It was announced in the secular journals of our city, some few weeks since, that a meeting had taken place the previous day, at the Tremont House, between Mr. Bowen, proprietor of "The Independent," and several prominent Congregationalist clergymen of the North-west, with the purpose on the part of the latter of "straightening out" that somewhat crooked and erratic sheet—a purpose which was understood to have been in a good measure accomplished. The affair has however given rise to various comments, and these again have called forth from the "party of the second part" the following STATEMENT.

"It is known by the religious public that the undersigned are engaged in an effort to bring about such changes in the editorial management of The Independent as shall secure its thorough fidelity to the cause of evangelical truth. We have reason to believe that the proprietor is sincerely and earnestly endeavoring to ascertain what arrangements are necessary to redeem the pledge he has given to the public, and the still more ample and minute pledges, which he has made in private to us, and we have, as yet, no reason to doubt that such arrangements will be adopted. Should we be disappointed in this respect, we shall not fail to give due information to the public. The result, whatever it may be, will be likely to determine the position of The Independent, in respect to its evangelical character, unequivocally and finally. We think we understand what we are doing, and if our brethren will be patient, and not allow themselves, as some have done, to ascribe, without a particle of truth, selfish and even sordid motives, to the various parties concerned, we shall endeavor, in due time, to bring out a result which shall at least be intelligible, and which, we hope, may be one in which we shall all rejoice.

EDWARD BECKER, T. M. POST, J. M. STURTEVANT, SAMUEL C. BARTLETT, JOHN P. GULLIVER, A. L. CHAPIN, GEORGE P. MAGOUN."

It would seem from these intimations that the independence of this very prominent journal is scarcely all that its name would seem to claim for it. The passage about the "editorial management" appears to hint plainly at the tilting of the chief editor from his tripod. Nor does it seem likely that these prominent and decided Congregationalists are aiming merely at securing the "evangelical" character of the paper. The public will be slow to believe that there is no purpose or desire to continue to make this widely read and influential sheet, what it once was, the organ of an aggressive denominationalism. It remains to be seen whether the stand recently assumed by it will be maintained under this pressure.

The signs of winter are upon us, and its benumbing effects are visible in business matters. The "hog crop," which has been a very large one, has been mainly gathered in. Over 140,000 of these animals were received and slaughtered by our packers in a single week.

The busy note of preparation for the holidays begins to be heard among us, and the young people are speculating anxiously on what Santa Claus is likely to do for his large constituency of little ones.

I note the following ITEMS. Wisconsin.—The Union Religious Convention, to be held in Milwaukee next week, the 16th and 18th inclusive, is designed for all ministers of all Evangelical churches, of all nations and denominations, and for one delegate from each church. Special short addresses will be delivered on various subjects, such as temperance, the Sabbath, marriage, reform, amusement, theatres, dancing, revivals, etc., etc., and each topic will be open for discussion by still shorter and extempore addresses. The meeting may be made of much influence and profit. A very neat and tasteful house of wor-

ship which is to be used under the direction of a Board of Trustees by different Christian denominations, was dedicated at Oakfield, Fond du Lac county, Dec. 4. Rev. Prof. Dunn, of Hillsboro, preached the sermon. A Conference of ministers and elders of Presbyterian churches in this State was held at Fond du Lac, Dec. 3-5, on the subject of revivals and Presbyterian Union.

Chicago.—CHRISTMAS FAIR.—The Chicago Mission Schools are preparing to unite in a grand fair, which will be held in Farwell Hall during the four weeks immediately preceding Christmas. Dinners will be provided, and evening entertainments given. Everything desirable and attractive for holiday presents will be on sale at the various tables, each selling for the school it represents. This will be one of the grandest union efforts ever undertaken in Chicago. All denominations represented in our Mission Schools are actively at work. The result will reach to some ten to twenty thousand of the children gathered in the Mission Schools.

Northwest.—The friends of Rev. L. E. Matson of this city, are rejoicing with him in an unexpectedly rapid recovery from the prostration occasioned by the late attack of hemorrhage. His people are hopeful that his withdrawal from labor will be of short duration.

OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

THESE PROPORTIONS.

We said to a minister one day, "your desk is rather too high from your pulpit floor; it brings your manuscript too near your eyes; it hides too much of your person, and is in the way of easy jestification."

"Yes," he said, "it is too high; it is in my way, and I feel awkward behind it. I wanted it cut down several inches; but my people objected to that, because it would injure the proportions!"

The desk was made of pine, painted and varnished. Sacred wood that. It would not answer to cut a few inches off from top or bottom, it would harm the "proportions!" So the minister must stand behind a breastwork almost up to his chin. He must lift his arms awkwardly, and swing them only horizontally and cautiously, or he will find out which is the hardest, the varnished pine or his knuckles. And yet, he must be graceful. He must forget himself, knuckles or no knuckles, and pour all his thoughts and heart into the theme, or "he does not meet the wants of our congregation."

Will some Church Committee tell us how a man is to forget himself, and give all his thought and heart to his theme, in such circumstances? O, gentlemen, we know a secret. Not a few ministers would feel much more comfortable in the sacred desk, and preach with just so much more ease and power, if they had the pulpit made to suit themselves. What are the "proportions" to your minister's comfort and usefulness?

We met, also, not long since, with some pulpit chairs, huge, square, straight-backed, uncomfortable in every way, and so high that the minister could get his feet to the floor, only by sitting, awkwardly half way upon the front edge. We said, "your chairs are too high; they are uncomfortable." "Yes," he said, "I suggested cutting off the legs, and making them lower; but it was said, that that would not answer, because it would spoil the 'proportions.' There it was again; 'proportions' versus comfort and usefulness!"

PRESBYTERY OF BUFFALO.

This body held its semi-annual meeting at the Westminister Church in Buffalo, on the 10th inst. Rev. Wm. Norton was made Moderator, and Rev. Wm. Waith clerk—opening sermon by Mr. Waith, the last Moderator.

Rev. J. F. BINGHAM, formerly of Westminister Church, was dismissed, to unite with an association in Maine, as he has accepted a call to Augusta in that State.

Rev. G. D. PIKE, a very efficient agent of the American Missionary Association, residing in Rochester, was heard in behalf of the work of that Society among the Freedmen; whereupon the following resolution was adopted by the Presbytery:

"Regarding the urgent need of education among the Freedmen of the South, and believing that religion and education should go hand in hand, we regard the American Missionary Association, for its age and well-established character, also from the fact that it sends only evangelical teachers, as the best channel at present, through which our churches can aid the Freedmen; and recommend them to place it upon their annual list of benevolent contributions."

ITEMS.

Church fairs and church suppers seem to be quite the rage at the present time. We know of something like half a dozen being held this week; a fair with the Lafayette St. Church in Buffalo; a grand Bazar by the ladies of the First Presbyterian Church, Auburn, to raise money toward the furnishing of the new church edifice, to be built next summer; a donation visit and oyster supper, for Rev. C. W. Hawley, of Waterville, held at the American Hotel in that village; an oyster supper by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church of Camden, with reference to the church edifice to be built by that Society next spring.

We learn, also, that the Church in Big Flats, of which Rev. Wm. Atwood is pastor, has been engaged in repairing and refitting their house of worship. It was to be ready for occupation, and to be dedicated, to-morrow, 15th inst.

The steeple of the Presbyterian Church edifice at Weedsport, was blown down on the night of the 6th inst. It fell into the street, but we believe no one was injured by the fall. Fortunately, also, the bell escaped all harm.

Rev. A. H. CORLISS, of Holland Patent, has received a call to the Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, of which Rev. W. J. Erdman was recently the pastor. He is much beloved by the people of Holland Patent, whom he has faithfully served for thirteen years, and we doubt if they will suffer him to leave them at present. He is an admirable preacher, a faithful pastor, and well qualified for almost any pulpit.

Rev. Dr. FISHER is preaching a course of sermons on the Life of Christ, which are largely attended, and excite a good degree of interest. The congregation of Westminister Church is

much increased since he took charge of it, and everything seems to indicate a high degree of prosperity. Why should it not, with one of our most gifted and able preachers in its desk?

Mr. PARDEE has given a course of lectures, excellent and suggestive, to the students of Auburn Seminary, on the subject of Sabbath Schools. We learn from good authority, that the lectures were highly appreciated, and evidently did much good.

And next month, Rev. Dr. Anderson, of Boston, is to give his lectures on Missions, in the same institution. And those, also, will, doubtless, embody a great amount of wisdom on that subject, and will be well worth hearing, not only by the students, but by pastors and friends of missions from all the region. We trust he will have a large congregation to hear him, and make many missionaries by his lectures.

We hear that Dr. HAWLEY, of Auburn, is again on his native soil. He was at Fortess Monroe on the 12th, on his way to Washington, and is expected home in a few days; when we shall probably know on what "secret service" he has been for the Government. One thing, however, we know already, that his affectionate people will be glad to see him home again, even though he has not been gone so long as was at first anticipated.

Rochester, Dec. 14th, 1867.

News of Our Churches.

OLD PINE ST. CHURCH.—This old church dismissed some two weeks since, fifteen of its members to form a new church on Greenwich St. But the places made vacant by those dismissed have already been filled. On last Sabbath twenty-eight persons were received in the church—twelve of them on profession of their faith. The pastor, Rev. R. H. Allen, has been preaching every evening during the past week to full congregations; with considerable religious interest among the people. Last Sabbath evening the Home was again crowded to hear the pastor's fourth lecture to young men.

FAIRS. That of Mantua Church netted about Two thousand Dollars. That at Oxford Chapel was very successful. One table took in \$1200.

REV. HENRY DARLING, D. D. of Albany, was chosen Secretary of Education by the Committee week before last. His acceptance has not transpired.

CHURCH COURTS.—Synod of Missouri.—This body covering both of the great States of Missouri and Kansas, and comprising the five Presbyteries of St. Louis, Northern Missouri, Lexington, Osage and Kansas—in all, forty-seven ministers and fifty-two churches—met in the First Church, St. Louis, on the evening of Thursday, Nov. 14th. Present 25 ministers and 5 elders. There was a goodly representation from abroad; 7 from the Synod of Illinois; 2 from Synod of Cincinnati; 3 from Synod of Missouri, (O. S.); 3 from Congregational Association of Missouri. Reformed Presbyterian and United Presbyterian—one each. Rev. James A. Darrah was unanimously elected Moderator.

The correspondent of the Herald says:—The peculiarity of the occasion was the fact that it was the semi-centennial anniversary of the First Church, St. Louis, and special exercises were had with reference to that event. The First Church was organized Nov. 14th, 1817, and that event was practically the beginning of Presbyterianism West of the great river. The first church ever organized West of the river was formed Aug. 2d, 1816, in Washington Co., about eighty miles from St. Louis. The First Church, St. Louis, was the fourth in numerical order, but by far the first in importance. It was for some time the only Protestant Church in that city, and has always held a prominent position, not only in that city, but in the State. Discourses were delivered on the Life and Times of Samuel Giddings, who founded the church, by Rev. D. Dimond and on Dr. Bullard by Rev. T. Hill. On Saturday evening there was held in the First Church a prayer and conversational union meeting of a very interesting character, during which Rev. S. J. Nicolls of the Second Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Dr. Post of the First Congregational Church, and Dr. Nelson made some exceedingly felicitous allusions to Dr. Potts the second pastor of the church, and gave some sketches of his character and work in St. Louis. At the very pleasant sacramental meeting, held Sabbath afternoon, seven hundred communicants were present, the Moderator of Synod, Rev. James A. Darrah, was assisted by Dr. Post, and brother Nicolls, of the O. S. Church.

Another correspondent says:—Never, in the history of the Synod, has the door been so wide open for missionary work as the present, never were the calls so urgent for men as now. Thirteen ministers are now needed to supply places where great loss will soon be sustained if men do not soon come. A wide field for church extension was shown to be open in South-west Missouri, North-west Arkansas, and Southern Kansas—which are rapidly filling up with people, are very destitute of suitable pastors of any kind, and urgently ask for aid. One man, has, within two years, organized four churches, and could have gathered as many more if he could have been in different sections of the country round about him. There is now a church in Kansas waiting for a pastor that has built a house for worship costing \$3,500, yet never has had the care of a minister. Prof. Bailey made the cause of Blackburn Seminary favorably known by his account of its present condition.

PRESBYTERY OF ST. LOUIS.—This body which in 1861 had only three churches, and only seven ministers, of whom two were "without charges," and one of those on his death-bed, has now fifteen ministers, all actively engaged, and thirteen churches. At its recent meeting, the most important business was the question of consenting to the transfer of Dr. Nelson from his present pastoral charge to a chair in Lane Theological Seminary. The subject came before the Presbytery with the distinct avowal of his conviction that such a transfer would enable him to serve the Church and the Master more effectively, and an equally distinct assurance that no other reason or motive for desiring a removal existed. He deliberately professed his entire readiness to accept the decision of the Presbytery, whatever it might be, with entire content. The congregation, on the other hand, through able commissioners, avowed their almost unanimous dissent from their

pastor's opinion, while giving most beautiful evidence of perfect harmony with him in feeling, and in readiness to leave the decision to the Presbytery, according to the Constitution of our Church. The vote, taken after full deliberation and solemn and fervent prayer, resulted in a decision in favor of the proposed transfer.—Herald.

LExINGTON PRESBYTERY, Mo., met recently at Holden, "a new town on the Pacific Railroad, where but a few months ago all was unbroken prairie. Now there is quite a 'lively' town, as is proved by the existence of a comfortable and neat meeting-house for the New School Presbyterian Church so recently organized." A correspondent of the Herald says of the Presbytery: "Though we have but recently determined whether we had enough left after the war to claim existence on the Minutes, we are now beginning to develop into more respectable proportions. One brother, Duncan McNaughten, was licensed to preach the Gospel, and one church at Easton added to the roll of churches."

MINISTERS.—The Rev. F. A. Noble, of St. Paul, Minn., has accepted the call to the Third church of Pittsburg, and expects to enter upon his labors the first Sabbath of next month.

Rev. E. B. Parsons of the New York Fourth Presbytery, has accepted an invitation to the Union Presbyterian church at Saquoit, N. Y., where the gifted and devoted McGiffert labored so successfully many years.

MINISTERS.—Nov. 13th, the Rev. Ebenezer Harvey Squier, lately of the North-western Congregational Association of Vermont, was installed by the Presbytery of Cayuga as pastor of the Second Church of Seipio. This church had been without a settled pastor for fourteen years.—Rev. John Reid has received and accepted a call from the Church of Angelica, N. Y.—Euclid Avenue Church, Cleveland, O., have secured the services of Rev. O. A. Lyman, late of Walnut Hills, as a supply for six months.

CHURCHES.—A new Mission Sunday-school has been opened by the Euclid Avenue Church, Cleveland, O., in a region which needs Christian labor. If the growth of the city continues at its present rate another Presbyterian Church will ere long be needed.

Banner of the Covenant.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1867.

For the Banner of the Covenant.

DEBRA DOON, N. INDIA, } OCTOBER 5, 1867.

To the Editor of the Banner of the Covenant: DEAR BROTHER: In the BANNER of August 1st I see a letter from Detroit signed Matthew Mowatt, asking for information about "India orphans."

The writer states that an appeal had been made to the members of the Church to support certain orphans for the period of seven years, and he is at a loss to know what becomes of the orphans after the age at which such support ceases.

With regard to the period of "seven years" mentioned by Mr. Mowatt, I suppose this appeal must have had reference to boys of a certain age, who should after seven years be put to labor for their own support. Boys are received into the orphanage at all ages from infancy up to ten or twelve years of age. After twelve years of age they are seldom procurable. No boy is allowed to leave the institution till he is fit to earn his own living. When a boy is fit for service in the mission he is sent to the station that seems most to require his services. Should he prove unfit for missionary work he takes up labor of a secular kind.

Those who are likely to prove useful as catechists and assistant missionaries, are carefully educated with a view to these offices after they have left the orphanage. In no case is any youth left uncared for or neglected. The boys and girls educated in our orphanages are looked upon by all the missionaries as in a special manner the children of the mission, and no one of them has ever had occasion even to seek for employment, when worthy of a place in the mission or in any situation the missionary could procure for them.

It will be encouraging to such brethren as Mr. Mowatt to know that some of our most trustworthy and efficient native assistants have been educated in the Saharanpur orphanage. I need mention only the honored names of the Rev. T. W. J. Wylie, assistant pastor at Saharanpur; the Rev. Gilbert McMaster, assistant pastor at Dehra; the Rev. John N. McLeod, evangelist at Roorkee; Mr. Hugh McMillan, teacher at Saharanpur; Mr. G. H. Stuart, at Surpata; Mr. Joseph R. Kerr, at Rajpore; Mr. R. Sterling, apothecary, at Lahathu, and many others, all of whom are respectable and honored representatives of Christ among the heathen.

No department of our labors seems to have been more blessed than the orphanages. I think the friends of the cause cannot give their contributions to any more worthy object than the support of these outcast little ones—outcast from the families of the heathen that they may be ingrafted into Christ. Let no one suppose that his work is done when "seven years" have gone by. Let all who have supported boys seven years begin with others for a new term. While there is an orphan to be saved let none weary in this holy effort.

Believe me, yours in Christian bonds, J. S. WOODSIDE.

Special Notices.

City Evangelization.—Philadelphia Tract and Mission Society, Office 1334 Chestnut Street, The One Hundred and Ninety-first Anniversary will be held in the Penn. Presbyterian Church, 10th below Girard avenue, on Sabbath evening 22nd, at 7 1/2 o'clock. Several addresses will be made. JOSEPH H. SCHREINER, Agent.

An Adjourned Meeting of the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia, will be held in the Presbyterian House, Decem. 22nd, at 12 1/2 P. M. B. B. HOTCHKIN, S. C.

All Ladies and Gentlemen, young and old, desirous of having their hair look beautiful during the Holidays, should get a bottle of CHEVALIER'S LIFE FOR THE HAIR at once. It cures the nervous action of the over-taxed brain, restores gray hair to its original color, stops its falling out at once, and keeps the head clean. Sold by all Druggists, Hair Dressers and Fancy Goods Dealers. SARAH A. CHEVALIER, M. P., New York. Dec. 19, 1867.—21.