

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1868.

On our inside pages will be found— On page 2d—the conclusion of our very full Report of the Christian Convention; a short letter from Mr. Hammond, and one from C. P. B., on "Different Views of Things" On page 3d, Editor's Table, including notices of the monthlies. On page 6th, the usual budget of miscellaneous reading for the family. On page 7th, Dr. Humphrey's Farewell Sermon, which the Chicago "Christian Advocate" considers a plea for itineracy.

A new volume of Lange has appeared from the press of Scribner & Co. It embraces Thessalonians, The Pastoral Epistles, Philemon and the Hebrews. Price, \$5 00. We will send it, post-paid, for two new subscribers and \$7 50.

The Third Presbytery of Philadelphia meets on Tuesday next, at 3 o'clock, P. M., in the Walnut St. church, West Philadelphia. The church is in Walnut street above 39th, and is reached by the Walnut and Chestnut street cars. The sermon will be preached on Tuesday evening, (8 P. M.) by the Rev. Mr. De Veuve, of Pottsville.

During the past year there have been frequent meetings of Elders, in connection with meetings of Synods and Presbyteries.

The Committee appointed at the meeting of Elders, held at Rochester in May last, desire to have reports of those meetings—the subjects discussed and the results.

Communications may be addressed to W. A. Borth, Chairman, 95 Front St., N. Y.

PLAIN SAILING.—If all our O. S. brethren were like the author of the following which we clip from the Presbyterian, the question of reunion would be very simple. He hails from Rochester and signs himself "Doulos Christion." Does he "speak for any considerable body in the O. S. Church," or are he and those who hold with him, to be "wholmed in the United Church?" He says:

Schem in the Church is the sin which has brought barrenness into her soul, and has hampered, hindered, almost neutralized her labours for the evangelization of the world. "The spirit of the nineteenth century," of which "H. J. V." speaks so sneeringly, is the Spirit of God working like leaven—the leaven of the gospel of concord and unity—in the masses of society. And it is this effectual operation of the Holy Ghost that has produced this earnest longing for unity in the hearts of Christians. And "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Can we not work together, and think differently? Ask facts to testify. Do the adherents of Dr. Hodge, of Dr. Shedd, and Dr. R. J. Breckenridge, agree in their notions of our relation to Adam? Yet they are all in the "Old School," and no means are introduced to test their orthodoxy. I presume they are all orthodox enough for even "H. J. V.," who seems to regard Dr. Smith as still in the gall of bitterness and bonds of heresy.

VERY LIKE CALVINISM.—Dr. Porter of the M. E. Book Concern—a very small man—said in a recent speech in regard to the books published by the Concern:

"By their teachings Calvinists and skeptics had been arrested in their unbelief, and the true way to Heaven pointed out to them."

The Observer reads him a good tart lecture and is "reminded of a little story."

"A few short years ago, Dr. Hagarty, one of the best and ablest ministers of the Methodist Church in this city, was reading in his pulpit to his people the eighth chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Romans. As he read one strong declaration after another,—passages too familiar to need citation here,—he looked up from the Bible and, with a smile expressive of the great kindness of his noble spirit, he remarked, "Brethren; this sounds very much like Calvinism."

THE TYRANNY OF FASHION.—We notice, in late numbers of the Inquirer of this city, severe but just censures upon two of the female follies of the day. The one is tight-lacing, an old vice given over as we had hoped, but now said to be fully returned to dominion. About this there is but one thing to be said: it is unmitigated suicide. Those who practice it do not ignorantly rush upon death. They know that this binding down of the vital organs into the smallest possible working room, at the best brings on life-long infirmities, rendering the victim a burden to herself and her friends, and that the only shortening of these sufferings is the very frequent one of an early grave. The question why they will not submit to it, can only be answered by a reference to the tyranny of fashion.

The other rage is that of skating. Whatever may be said for or against it as a wholesome exercise for ladies within reasonable limits, no physiologist would pronounce it less than fearfully pernicious, when it is carried on as a passion. It is impossible that ladies can come out uninjured from the violent strain demanded by frequent and long continued skating, especially when the muscles and ligaments are taxed to the utmost for the more artistic feats of the park. A physician once said in our hearing, "It is sheer wickedness, but perhaps we doctors ought not to complain, for it puts many a once healthy bouncing girl into our hands for life." Not the least of its perils is the injury to the feet. The cording of the straps, by impeding circulation, serves the double end of promoting coldness and yet making it unfelt. Chills and rheumatism are the lightest of the evils resulting from it.

REVIVALS.

Since our last report the Observer sums up one hundred and twenty churches in which the Spirit's influences have been experienced to the conversion of 4,550 souls, and the ingathering of 4,354 church members. This makes 820 revivals, 18,500 conversions and 10,800 accessions since Jan. 1. Of these the Presbyterian Churches have had since the new year, 195 revivals and 4,469 accessions, more than half being in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Pennsylvania. These returns are of course very incomplete.

To proceed to particulars: the Observer reports in the Presbyterian Churches during the previous fortnight forty revivals, and 1,044 accessions. The Presbyterian Banner reports in the churches of the Other Branch revivals in Bethel Church, (Presbytery of Ohio,) where forty-one are inquiring; in Waynesburg, O., where forty have been received, thirty-four on profession, in the services following the dedication of a new house of worship; in Oak Grove Church, near Rimersburg, Pa., where thirteen have been added, mostly heads of families; in Mahoning, Pa., where forty-eight have been received, forty-five on profession and nineteen by baptism; in Carmichael, Pa., where twenty-four have been converted and eighteen added to the church; in Carrollton, O., where twenty-seven persons were added on profession and thirteen were baptized, and there is increased liberality to the different Boards of the Church; in Enon Valley, Pa., where a two weeks' meeting resulted in the conversion of twenty-five persons, embracing all classes, from the child of eleven years to the grey-haired father; in Rehoboth, Pa., one of the oldest West of the Alleghenies, where twenty-six have been received on profession; in Concord, O., where a two weeks' meeting resulted in adding sixty-six to profession. The N. W. Presbyterian reports revivals in Shelbyville, Ind., where thirty two have been received; in Carr Place Church, St. Louis, where there are still thirty inquirers, while between fifty and sixty have been received in the last six months.—The Presbyterian reports again the work of grace in Milville, N. J., where there are fifty enquirers and many conversions; also that in Deerfield, N. J., where forty-two were lately added on profession; in Muncy, Pa., where sixteen of the students in a young ladies' academy have joined the church; in Spring Garden, (Phila.) Church where twenty-seven have been received, eleven on profession; in the Second Church of Germantown, Phila., where thirty two have been received, fifteen on profession; in Jamaica, L. I., where thirty-two have been added on profession; in Philipsburg, N. J., where twenty-four have been added. The Presbyterian reports religious interest in Atlanta, Ill., where thirty have been enquiring and seventeen have been added to the church; in Waveland, Ind., where twenty have been added to the church, many more are anxious, and several young men have begun to prepare for the ministry; in Lebanon, Ind., where nineteen have been added.

The Congregationalist and Recorder reports revivals in the churches of that order in Ware Village, Mass., where the community has been deeply moved, and it is hoped that more than 100 persons have commenced a new life; in Poulteney, Vt., where thirteen have been added; in Stonington borough, Ct., where a large number have been awakened and where the Baptists co-operate; in Olivet, Mich., where over one hundred have professed faith. The same paper says:—"Since Jan. 1, we have reported revivals in about 100 different localities, and the number of conversions we find to be nearly 2,000, while from many places we have received only a general account of the work, with no attempt to count the converts. During the same period we have reported about 1,000 persons as added to the churches of our denomination alone." The Examiner and Chronicle reports revivals among the churches of the Baptist denomination: in New York, where it is believed that more than one hundred have been converted in the Tabernacle Church, and about half as many baptized; in Sand Hill, N. Y., where more than fifty have been awakened, twenty-nine baptized, and thirty six added to the church; in Ghittenaug, N. Y., where a church, organized, Jan. 16, has had twenty-two baptized and twenty more are candidates for the ordinance; in North Brookfield, N. Y., where twenty three adults have been gathered in and many family altars set up; in Palmyra, N. Y., where forty-two have been added; in Manchester, N. Y., where twenty young people have been immersed; in Flemington, N. J., where about sixty have been gathered in through meetings held in a new church edifice; in Pana, Ill., where the church has grown from 46 to 177 in a year and where one hundred have been received in two recent revivals; in Highland, Ill., where some seventy have been added and the work is going on in all the churches; in Bunker Hill, Ill., where over fifty have been baptized.

DR. NELSON'S FAREWELL.

In parting with their revered and excellent pastor, the congregation of the First church of St. Louis passed a series of resolutions, a large part of which we here subjoin:

Resolved, That the pastoral relation of Dr. Nelson to this church has been one of unusual satisfaction and service to it; that we do now and ever shall recur with grateful recollection to not only his public but to his private ministrations; to the delightful intercourse we have had with him in all phases of the relation he has sustained to us; to the modesty and humility with which he has borne his "great commission;" to the unaffected kindness and sincerity with which he has tempered a discharge of the solemn duties of that commission; to his thoughtful solicitude for all classes, conditions and ages among the people of his care, and the simplicity and impartiality with which he has divided unto all his hearers the word of life; to the endearing tenderness with which he has won the hearts of so many of our children not only to himself, but to Christ; to his ready, genuine sympathy with us in all that has concerned our temporal as well as spiritual interests; to his unwearied, though often unrequited efforts, to raise us to the high standard of his own religious experience and consistency; to his persistent but too fruitless endeavors to cultivate in us the Christian graces; and to inspire us

with a cheerful and disinterested benevolence and a holy ambition to do the work of Christ; to his incessant labor for the peace, purity and prosperity of the church; and, in fine, to all those personal qualities and characteristics by which he has more than fulfilled unto us our best ideas of a good Christian pastor.

Resolved, That as a society we are largely indebted to Dr. Nelson for the exercise of a wise discretion and a peculiar tact in the treatment of our secular affairs, which has resulted in the cancellation of a large debt and a relief from all pecuniary embarrassment.

Resolved, That the accession of Dr. Nelson to one of the chairs of instruction in the Lane Seminary is regarded by us as a just cause of congratulation to the trustees, professors, students and friends of that institution—an earnest of better days for it, a career of increased importance, usefulness and prosperity.

Resolved, That we here record an assurance to the retiring pastor of our unqualified esteem and love for him; our most earnest desire for the future health and happiness of himself and family; for the most abundant success and enjoyment in the new sphere of labor before him; and for the long continuance of a life which, thus far, has been so unselfishly devoted to the good of others and the glory of God.

Something more tangible than resolutions appears in the following action, reported in the Democrat of March 31:

Last night a full meeting of the congregation was held at the church, for the purpose of taking leave of the pastor. Mr. Edward Wynan presided at the meeting and stated its objects. Mr. Russell Scarritt delivered a touching farewell address to the retiring pastor. Mr. J. M. Brauner, of the Pratte avenue mission schools, made a brief speech, and presented to Dr. Nelson the photographs of the teachers and scholars. Dr. J. B. Johnson next presented to the pastor a package containing \$1600 in legal tender notes, with an appropriate speech. Mr. Edward Wynan next presented a large framed photograph of Dr. Nelson, and a large photograph album containing pictures of the former pastors, trustees and many of the members of the church. Dr. Nelson was much affected by these manifestations of kindness on the part of his congregation, and spoke at considerable length. The proceedings continued until half past eleven o'clock.

A correspondent informs us that the total of gifts in money has reached \$2500.

UNION CONVENTION AT MORRISTOWN, N. J.

Mr. Editor:—Permit me to give through your paper, a report of a Union Meeting which has just been held at Morristown, N. J. Tuesday, March 31st.

The call was issued, as I understand, by a committee appointed by a union meeting held not long since at Trenton, N. J. It was for a convention of ministers and laymen, of all branches of the Presbyterian family in northern New Jersey; both those who favored and those who were opposed to union: the object being to further that which should appear to be the best cause. The attendance was large; nearly a hundred members being enrolled, and the First Presbyterian church in which the meeting was held, being well filled during all the sessions.

Soon after 10 A. M., the Convention was called to order. After prayer and singing, a Committee was appointed to nominate permanent officers. During their absence the time was occupied by reading, as customary at such times, that precious chapter John 17th, and in prayer and singing. The report of the Committee was adopted, making Rev. Joel Parker; D. D., of Newark, Chairman, and Rev. J. M. Johnson of Hanover, and Rev. Chas. E. Knox of Bloomfield, Secretaries. The Roll was made out and showed the presence of members of the Presbyteries of Hudson, Newark, Elizabeth, New Brunswick, Newton, Passaic and Rockaway, two from the Reformed and one from the U. P. Churches, while persons connected with the Congregational and Episcopal Churches being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

A Committee on resolutions was appointed, consisting of Drs. Stearns, Fairchild and Hand, Rev. Mr. McConnell, and elders Little and Potts. Power was given to this Committee to add to its number one person from each body represented. The remainder of the morning session was occupied by addresses and devotional exercises. Very stirring and enthusiastic reports were given of the Union Convention held recently in Philadelphia, (called by the Christian Commission,) moving the hearts of those present to long for the time when such practical Christian union might be the rule and not the exception in the work of the Church.

Rev. Mr. Gallagher, pastor of an Episcopal church in Brooklyn, and undeterred by the fear of Stubbs and Boggs, though on the inviolable soil of New Jersey, being called to the floor made a very graceful and effective speech. He said that he would not insult his brethren by even saying that he considered them ministers of Christ truly and fully. He referred to the interesting fact that in the First Presbyterian church of Morristown, which stood where we were now in session, Washington, an Episcopalian, once joined with those who worshipped there in the communion service. He read some striking words written by Washington on the subject of Christian unity, and recalled the noble speech [article] of Dean Alford, in which he recently took such open and hearty stand for reciprocal recognition among all Evangelical ministers.

Prof. McIlvaine of Princeton, drew attention to that admirable tract by Dr. Arnold of Rugby, (published in his miscellanies) entitled "Principles of Church Reform." And so with other addresses, with pertinent references to various points of the history of the very church in which we met, with telling illustrations to show the beauty and desirableness of union, with earnest appeals, warm prayers and hearty singing, the morning hour was passed.

As dinner-time came, it was found that one of the so-called laws of political economy was falsified, for the supply of guests was by no means equal to the demand which the hospitality of the good people of Morristown had made. The Convention gathered again at 2 1/2 P. M.

After devotional exercises the Committee on resolutions made their report, as follows:

Resolved, 1. That as a basis of organic union among the various branches of the Presbyterian family in all parts of our country, the plan adopted by the Convention held at Philadelphia in November last, has the cordial approbation of this Convention, which plan is as follows, [as this plan is doubtless familiar to your readers we omit.]

2. That this convention regard with great interest and hopefulness the movement now in progress for an organic re-union of the two branches of the Church known as "The Presbyterian Church of the United States," and approving in general of the plan presented to the General Assemblies of 1867, with such modifications as may hereafter be suggested in accordance with the main design, are of opinion that there is no good reason why these two bodies should continue to act separately, and that the time has now fully come when the re-union should be brought to completion.

The time for the bringing in of this report until the adjournment late in the evening was occupied in discussion and devotion. One member had an exposition of doctrine. One question concerning the ex animo. One spoke concerning the views of the papers, or the reports of rumor. One gave a history of the division. One an apt illustration from personal experience. Some gave metaphysics; some philosophy; some rousing appeals for hearty and confiding union. Some spoke of the work of the Lord, which languished while the Church was divided. Some confessed recent conversion to the cause of union. Others told of grief from the very beginning over so hurtful a division on such unreasonable grounds. Young men confessed that they had been barely able to learn and never able to feel the reasons for separation. Old men in attempting to explain the reasons, showed how shadowy they were, and how far behind all the questions of the day such subjects of controversy had drifted. And yet, everyone, old and young, whatever may have been the form of his speech spoke for union. At last the discussion with all its wisdom and weight and entertainment, its brotherly kindness and godly zeal, came to a climax in the speech of Hon. Jos. C. Potts of Madison, in which by narrating his experience in both branches of the Church; confessing his inability after all his study to see any dividing force in any difference of doctrinal views; affecting to rebuke the ministers for great neglect in not teaching the laity what the differences were if they were so vital; telling them plainly how the laity felt in view of the work crowding on the Church, with China and Mexico, and indeed the ends of the earth brought so near us; so much work to be done in our own land; so much need of union in Church that there might be true union in State, he stirred up all hearts, and even stirred uncontrollable applause through all the house. After this, and at a late hour, the resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote; and evidently with the desire that the spirit of unity might pervade all the branches of the Presbyterian Church throughout the world, that they might all become one in the closest possible bonds. I. R.

FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT. A WORKING CHURCH.

The Central church of this city is now more thoroughly organized than ever before for work. It employs a city missionary, the widow of one of our deceased clergymen, Rev. L. M. Shepherd, late of Huron, a lady admirably adapted to such a work. She is constantly busy, going from house to house among the lowly, ministering to their wants, both temporal and spiritual; finding out neglecters of the sanctuary, and kindly inviting them to the house of God; meeting inquirers and directing them to the Saviour; gathering and attending little neighborhood prayer meetings among the women. Her labors have been greatly blessed.

Beside this, the elders have each his own district, in which he is expected to visit, to attend neighborhood prayer meetings, to look after the spiritual wants of the families. Other members of the church are in like manner laboring from house to house. Volunteers are springing up all the time for such services. Ten or a dozen different prayer meetings are thus sustained each week, in different parts of the parish, and new ones are coming forward at each communion to unite with the people of God. It is a working church. The entire responsibility and toil do not devolve upon the pastor alone. He has a church and a session that love to work with him, and stay up his hands.

This has now resulted in the formation of a new church in the Western part of our city. It was organized last evening, with very interesting services, in the Central church, a colony of about seventy members going out with the blessing of the parent church upon it, and its means to sustain it. It is called the Westminster church. Rev. Henry M. Morey, who has labored for two years most successfully with the church in Pittsford, has accepted an invitation to take charge of this new enterprise, and is to enter at once upon the pastorate. His Pittsford flock is very unwilling to part with him; and yet the Central church thought him just the man for this important place, and so urged their claims successfully. His support is assumed by the Young People's Missionary Society of the church. This association raised over \$1,000 last year. It gave \$500 to Home Missions; it employed the city missionary, as above, and did something also for Foreign Missions. This year they hope to raise \$2,000. The new church starts off fully equipped. It has a good substantial house of worship. By the generosity of a few individuals a Bible was secured for the desk, a communion table and silver service. These were presented to the church and were quite a surprise. Dr. Ellinwood, the former pastor of the Central church, under whose ministry this enterprise was started, was present and aided in the formation of the church. All passed off pleasantly, and gives promise of reasonable prosperity. GENEESE.

Rochester, April 6, 1868.

RE-UNION.—The Zanesville, O., Convention which met in the last week of March, was composed of about fifty ministers and elders, mainly O. and N. S., only two ministers and three elders of the U. P. Church being present. Its reso-

lutions make no allusion to the Philadelphia basis, but the following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we believe that the O. S. and N. S. Branches of the Presbyterian Church, being already one in doctrine and usage, are prepared for an organic union as soon as the necessary steps to accomplish it can be taken.

News of Our Churches.

CITY CHURCHES.—A powerful work of grace is at present going forward in the First church, Kensington, Rev. J. H. Beale, pastor. Some seventy inquirers were reported last week, nearly all being hopeful cases.—At Clinton street church, twenty-four were received last Sunday, fourteen by profession,—a larger number than this church has received for several years past, and the work is still going forward.—In Pine St. church about fifty have been received within the last five or six weeks.—Rev. Dr. Stryker is expected to fill North Broad St. pulpit, and possibly Rev. Dr. Humphrey that of Calvary, next Sabbath.

MINISTERIAL.—Mr. Samuel M. Morton, of the last class in the Western Theological Seminary, was ordained by the Presbytery of St. Louis, and installed pastor of the North Presbyterian church, of that city, on Sabbath, March 22d. Rev. J. A. Whitaker presided, and made the ordaining prayer, Rev. Dr. Nicolls preached the sermon, Rev. R. Kessler delivered the charge to the pastor, and Rev. Dr. Nelson, the charge to the people. The pastor enters upon his field of labor under most encouraging circumstances. Twenty-nine persons have been added to the church since the first of January; in the same time, the Sabbath-school has increased in numbers from two hundred to three hundred and thirty.—The Westminster church, St. Joseph's, Mo., late pastoral charge of Dr. Parsons, have called Rev. Henry Bullard, son of the late Rev. Dr. A. Bullard.—Rev. Dr. George I. King, lately of the First church, Quincy, Ill., has been called to the Church in Dorseyville. He has been laboring with that people through the winter, and takes up his permanent abode with them next month.—At a called meeting of the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, Wabash, March 26th, Mr. Geo. W. Barlow was ordained as an evangelist. Sermon by Rev. W. C. Smith, of Huntington; ordaining prayer was by Rev. W. J. Essick, of Wabash, charge by Rev. F. A. Wilber, of the Wabash Female Seminary.—Rev. J. S. Pattengill, of Walton, who has accepted the position of assistant Corresponding Secretary of the New York State Temperance Society, after April 20 will be addressed at Homer, N. Y. Mr. Pattengill leaves a large and flourishing church after a pastorate of twenty years. At the commencement of his ministry the church numbered 200 members. Its present membership is 356, and in the meantime 208 have either died or been dismissed to other Churches.

REVIVALS.—The Churches of Winchester and Mt. Leigh, O., have been enjoying the reviving presence of the Holy Spirit during the past winter months. Eighty-four have been before the sessions as inquirers on the subject of religion; seventy-seven of that number have been received into the Presbyterian church, and seven transferred to other Churches.—In the revival in Portsmouth, O., already mentioned in our columns, as the result of a protracted meeting of over eleven weeks there, have been at least eighty hopeful conversions. Forty-seven united with the church at its last communion the first of March. Twenty-nine more have applied to the session for admission, who will probably be received at the next communion; and quite a number more are expected to apply. Of these, twenty-three are heads of families, sixteen of them men, and thirteen past middle life, and several over fifty. There are twelve young men. These have gone into the young men's prayer-meeting and become a part of our working force.—The work has been remarkable for the large number of adults and of men past middle life who have been the subjects of it.—The pastor of the church in Pana, Ill., writes about the revival there: "About fifty men, women, and children have been made the happy subjects of renewing or reclaiming grace in connection with our own congregation. Of these, twenty have been received to our own as the first fruits. Our April communion will doubtless witness a larger number of accessions than ever before at one time."—The Week of Prayer was duly observed by the church of Cold Water, Mich., and was followed by meetings through several weeks. At the communion season, March 22d, twelve persons united on profession, and six by letter. They are preparing to resume work upon their new church edifice as soon as the season will warrant it.—There is a precious work of grace in the church at Cambridge, N. Y. On the first Sabbath of March thirty-six were received—thirty-four on examination, two by letter. Others are expected.

CHURCHES.—A Presbyterian church was organized Sabbath, March 8th, at Beaver Falls, Minn., seventy miles beyond any of our churches or ministers preaching in the English language.—Corr. Evangelist.—The Seventh church, N. Y., celebrated the fiftieth year of its existence on Sunday March 29. Rev. T. M. Dawson, preached a very interesting historical discourse. The afternoon services were devoted to Sabbath school exercises of schools Nos. 20 and 69, connected with the Church, numbering in all about eight hundred children. No. 69, is a mission school, and a very successful one. In the evening the exercises were conducted by the Rev. Dr. E. F. Hatfield, who gave some account of his remarkable pastoral connection with the church.—In Carrollton, Ill., a new church edifice was dedicated on the 15th of March.—The Roseville Presbyterian church was dedicated Sunday morning, the Rev. Charles T. Haley, pastor of the church, and the Rev. Mr. Pingy of Elizabeth formerly a pastor of the congregation, officiating. The edifice has been recently erected, at a cost of \$32,000. The walls are of white brick, and the inside of the roof is of polished oak inlaid with black walnut. The windows are of stained glass. Neither paint nor plaster has been used in the construction of the building.