

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1868.

On our second page will be found Description of a Sabbath Service in Tientsin, by a missionary of our Church; a communication on Youngstown Convention, with a Report of its proceedings; a Western Valley; and Light from the Smaller Towns: with some postponed items on Religious World Abroad. On page 3d, Editor's Table. On page 6th, The Family Circle, a varied budget for all ages. On page 7th, popular Scientific and Agricultural articles.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America will meet in the First Presbyterian Church of the city of HARRISBURG, Pa., on Thursday, May 21st, 1868, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D.D., Moderator of the last General Assembly.

The Midnight Mission of New York last year rescued 77 fallen women, of whom 46 were permanently reformed.

Some of the U. P. Presbyteries are adopting resolutions on the Union question: All of these—like the Reformed Presbytery of Ohio, reject the Philadelphia basis.

We are informed that the writer of the article in the Presbyterian of a fortnight ago, from which we made extracts, revealing what took place in the meetings of the Joint Committee and whom we unwittingly called a gossiping correspondent, is none other than Dr. Charles Hodge of Princeton; We shall try to make room for the whole article next week.

The North Western Presbyterian says of Prof. H. B. Smith's very mild notice of Prof. Hodge's book on the "Atonement":

"This has proved more chilling than even Dr. Patterson's letters to our ardent anticipation of a happy reunion. If there are still misunderstandings, and objections to a high standard of orthodoxy, and contentions for an undefined latitude of doctrinal interpretation, what is to be the result?"

The question as to terms of Reunion between the two branches of the church is narrowed down to a very tangible point—Shall equal rights be guaranteed in the united church to those now enjoyed in either of the separate churches? All ambiguity on this matter must be expurgated from a basis of union which will be acceptable to the great body of our people. If we will not do to ask us to leave to the United Church what can be settled now. Those who do ask it, put themselves in a light difficult to be understood by plain thinking, straight-forward men. Men truly worthy of confidence, are always the readiest to give all proper guarantees. The last man in the world to refuse his bond, when properly required, is the man whose word is as good as his bond. And that very many in the other branch are ready to give the fullest and most honorable assurances was shown by the unanimous action of the late Union Convention in Buffalo. Meanwhile, quite a number of our Presbyteries are selecting such Representatives to the Assembly as are known for their devotion to the principle of liberty as the only practicable basis of reunion.

The Fourth Presbytery, with great propriety, elected Mr. Barnes, who we fear will not be able to attend; Dr. Spear goes from Brooklyn and Drs. Skinner and Prentiss from New York; Dr. Boardman of Binghamton from Tioga and Mr. Noble from Pittsburgh, all pronounced New School men. Dr. Paterson of Chicago comes from the region supposed most to need Reunion, delegated expressly to use his influence against the adoption of a basis which would imperil these liberties. Other able men, understood to be less solicitous upon these issues, are among the delegates-elect, but our opinion is that the drift of the Assembly will be inevitably towards a result conservative of all that our existence as an independent denomination has secured to us thus far.

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL.

WASHINGTON, May 4th, 1868

The time of the Senate during the past week has been principally occupied by Mr. Everts. His speech was seventeen hours long and thoroughly exhausted the patience of the Senate. On the fourth day he excused his excessive prolixity by citing the experience of another counsel before Lord Ellenborough, who, after a prolonged argument said at the hour of adjournment that he would continue his argument at the pleasure of the Court. To which the Judge replied: "We will hear you to-morrow, but the pleasure of hearing you has long since gone." The story was entirely applicable to his case, although his speech has been listened to with courtesy. The naïveté with which on the last day he cautioned the Senators against the protracted arguments of the managers was refreshing.

Mr. Everts is a master of satire and has used it with an unsparring hand in this discussion. Nearly all the managers, and many of the Senators and Representatives have been made targets for his wit. He had been considerably irritated by Gen Butler's manner in the receiving of testimony, and by a remark of Gov. Boutwell in his argument that the Presidents counsel were "attorneys whose practice of the law had sharpened

but not enlarged their intellects," and he was especially attentive to them in his sallies of wit and ridicule.

The Senate enjoyed, although it was hardly a fair method of attack, his allusion to Gen. Butler's attempt to take Fort Fisher by concussion after the Chinese manner of warfare, using two hundred and fifty tons of gunpowder instead of gongs. "This experiment not having satisfied the manager at Fort Fisher he had tried it again in the vicinity of the Capitol. The air was filled with epithets and the Dome shook with epithets; wretchedness and misery and suffering and blood not included within the record, were made the means of this explosive mixture, and here we are, surviving the concussion." The hit was so good, and the term "argument of concussion" so fittingly characterizes certain styles of discussion that it will be likely to pass into our vocabulary. Gov. Boutwell's rhetorical flourish at the close of his argument by which he condescended through some convulsion of nature the convicted President to the untenanted space in the sky near the Southern Cross, afforded a fine mark for Mr. Evert's wit, so good that he hung around it long and lovingly, and seemed reluctant to give it up.

Mr. Everts having spoken until Mr. Stanberry could recover, the latter was enabled to make the concluding argument. He is looking very feeble and was unfit to make the attempt, but as it was his only chance he was determined (so he told a friend) to improve it, if it killed him. His peroration was quite pathetic. After declaring that the votes of the Senate had been canvassed, the doom of the President sealed, he besought that "the judgment be not pronounced in this Senate chamber where our Camillus stood faithful among the faithless; not in this chamber whose walls echo with that clarion voice that in the days of our greatest danger carried hope and comfort to many a despairing heart. No; not here. Seek out the darkest and gloomiest chamber in the subterranean recesses of this Capitol where the cheerful light of day never cheers. There erect the altar and immolate the victim." It is probable that the Senate will remember that clarion voice that woke echoes all over the land as it quavered from that chamber on Inauguration day, 1865.

Manager Logan has filed his argument. Messrs. Stevens and Williams have delivered theirs. All these have been confined closely to the legal points involved in the case, and have not been answered by the President's counsel who have followed them. Mr. Bingham begins the final argument to-day and will probably conclude to-morrow. He has a fine opportunity, and it is felt here that he is fully equal to the occasion. In debate he is very excitable, and a cool and self-possessed antagonist like Mr. Everts, would have a decided advantage; but in the presentation of a written argument as now, in the summing up of testimony and review of the whole case, he can by his sharp discrimination, subtle analysis, mastery of detail, rapid generalization and fiery eloquence, make the strong points of the prosecution stand forth in such clear light, that the wit and learning, sophistry and pathos of the defense shall not obscure them. He will be able to contrast Mr. Everts' opinions of Mr. Johnson's course as given elsewhere, with the opinions Mr. Everts, the paid advocate, now advances.

There is no reason to believe that Messrs. Grossbeck, Everts, and Stanberry have convinced a single Senator. Senator Grimes, Van Winkle and Fowler are ranked as doubtful; but the Republicans are confident that conviction follows the trial.

We shall doubtless know before I write again. FENWICK.

FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

BUFFALO PRESBYTERY.

At a special meeting of this body held in Buffalo on Wednesday last, Rev. Henry Ward, from the Presbytery of Minnesota, and Rev. Ephraim Taylor, from the Consociation of Western New York, were received as members. This makes their number forty-nine, and entitles them to three clerical and three lay commissioners in the General Assembly. They had previously elected two such, whose names we gave in a former letter. They have now elected two more Commissioners, Rev. T. Stillman, (D.D.), and Elder Thomas Farham.

Rev. Dr. Clarke of the 1st Presbyterian church, Buffalo, has been preaching a series of sermons, on successive Sunday evenings, on the Christian life, its course and consummation. He has given seven in all, carefully prepared, but extemporaneously delivered. His themes were substantially as follows.—The justification of the saint.—His sanctification.—His relations to the world.—His relations to the church.—His death, or release from the body.—The resurrection, or life in heaven with his body. We happen to know that the course has excited much interest; and the subjects were regarded as well and ably treated. The last was delivered, however, under circumstances somewhat trying. Just as the speaker was ready to begin his discourse, a telegram was handed into the pulpit, informing him of the death of his aged father, at Simsburg, Conn. Next day the Doctor started East to attend the funeral.

Rev. Phineas Blakeman, a member of Buffalo Presbytery, and of course a good Presbyterian, has become one of the Editors of the Buffalo Advocate, a Methodist paper. How much sound Calvinism he may be able to put into its articles, we cannot tell. We notice, however, that he takes hold of scholarly themes, and writes well. He brings real strength to his columns. We have also been interested in the articles of "A Liberal Unionist" in the columns of the same paper, reviewing the action of the Buffalo Convention. It is easy to guess who wrote them. They go for union, if we are ready for it. They contend stoutly, manfully, for the liberty which we now enjoy in the New School body. If the Old School are ready to adopt the Buffalo platform, allowing in the reunited church the same latitude in the interpretation of our standards which we now enjoy, all very well. But if the views of the N. W. Presbyterian are to prevail in the Old School body, and such men as Mr. Barnes and Dr. Duffield are to be regarded as heretics in the reunited church, this writer does not want re-

union. And in this we believe he well represents the sentiment of the great majority of New School men in Central and Western New York. Union and peace would doubtless be a very good thing; but reunion and strife are not to be desired.

NORMAL INSTITUTE.—A meeting under the above designation, for Sabbath School Teachers, was held last week for three days at Addison, under the auspices of the Presbytery of Steuben. This is in accordance with the recommendation of the last General Assembly; and we fear, is the only Institute to which such recommendation has given rise within the year. We do not need to guess that Rev. W. A. Niles of Corning, had much to do with arranging for the meeting, and with making its exercises a grand success. We have not a more earnest or efficient Sunday school worker than he. Rev. Dr. Cowles, President of Elmira Female College, was also present and did good service. His exercise in Biblical Geography and Black Board Drawing, was admirably done. He sketches like a master. He carries the hand of a true artist. The following Presbyterian ministers were also present and took part in the services; F. Harrington of Campbelltown; M. B. Gelston of Naples; O. H. Seymour of Hammondsport; L. F. Laine of Canisteo; and Charles Milne of the same region. In this connection, we may also say that a Normal class for the training of Sabbath school teachers has been instituted in connection with Elmira Female College.

IMPROVEMENTS.—We were much interested in a recent visit to a village about fifty miles south of this city. It is true the name is a little fishy, (Pike,) and yet the village is nestled in a beautiful valley far enough from the sea. It is mainly built on two streets, running at right angles, lined with beautiful shade trees and neat cottages. The place has an air of thrift and comfort, even though it is seven miles from any railway. But we were more particularly interested in the Presbyterian church there planted. It is not large, but enjoys a reasonable degree of prosperity. The house of worship is neat and tasteful, only a little old-fashioned, with pulpit between the doors. It has no side galleries. A raised orchestra and a fair organ occupy the back end of the house, and a very worthy and acceptable minister fills the desk. Rev. T. S. Dewing. He has been with them but five months, and is giving admirable satisfaction. The people, as a token of their interest in him, and their determination to aid him to be more useful and comfortable among them, have recently purchased a good dwelling, and are fitting it up in fine order for a parsonage.

The Congregational church edifice at Perry Centre has been very neatly made over and much improved in the past year. It is now one of the most pleasant and attractive sanctuaries in all the region; and the renovation has given new life and power to the church organization. It is easy enough to say, "if the heart is right we can worship God anywhere;" but the stern fact still remains, that an old, dilapidated, neglected church edifice does not attract a crowd of worshippers; does not promote church thrift or growth in any place. Let those who have such meeting houses go to work and improve them, at whatever cost of sacrifice and effort, and they will find their advantage in it. It is the way in which many churches have been saved, in the last few years, from utter extinction.

REV. ALLEN TRAYER has ceased to act as Stated Supply of the church in Corfu. Rev. H. P. Dague, of Buffalo, is for the present serving in that capacity. GENESEE. Rochester, May 2d, 1868.

DELEGATES TO THE ASSEMBLY OF 1868.

- WESTERN RESERVE. XI. SYNOD OF WESTERN RESERVE. 3. Pres. of Trumbull.—Rev. Hen. B. Eldred; Elder Thomas Kinsman. 5. Pres. of Maumee.—Rev. E. J. Alden; Elder David Smith. XII. SYNOD OF OHIO. 2. Pres. of Palaskala.—Rev. D. E. Beach; Elder M. Newkirk. 4. Pres. of Scioto.—Rev. A. A. Jimison; Elder J. H. McCallough. XIII. SYNOD OF CINCINNATI. 1. Pres. of Cincinnati.—Revs. John Rankin and L. A. Aldrich; Elders A. H. Hinkle and S. J. Broadwell. 3. Pres. of Dayton.—Rev. D. M. Moore; Elder Geo. L. Kendrick. 4. Pres. of Hamilton.—Rev. E. L. Davies; Elder C. Yates. XIV. SYNOD OF INDIANA. 1. Pres. of Salem.—Rev. H. C. Hovey; Elder Prof. Richard Owen. 3. Pres. of Indianapolis.—Rev. C. H. Marshall; Elder J. L. Ketchum. 4. Pres. of Green Castle.—Rev. H. S. Little; Elder Enos Miles. XV. SYNOD OF WABASH. 1. Pres. of Crawfordsville.—Rev. J. F. Tuttle, D.D.; Elder Prof. C. Mills. 3. Pres. of Logansport.—Rev. A. S. Dudley; Elder S. T. McConnell. XVI. SYNOD OF ILLINOIS. 4. Pres. of Alton.—Rev. A. T. Norton and W. P. Gibson; Elders W. T. Teisworth and C. H. Foote. XVII. SYNOD OF IOWA. 3. Pres. of Galena and Belvidere.—Revs. Geo. M. Jenks and Eugene H. Avery; Elder Sidney Avery. 4. Pres. of Chicago.—Revs. R. W. Patterson, D. D., and Arthur Swazey; Elders E. S. Wells and S. B. Williams. XVIII. SYNOD OF WISCONSIN. XIX. SYNOD OF IOWA. 3. Pres. of Iowa City.—Rev. Alexander Porter; Elder Robert McKee. XX. SYNOD OF MINNESOTA. XXI. SYNOD OF MISSOURI. 3. Pres. of Lexington.—Rev. T. Hill; Elder Elsie Taylor. XXII. SYNOD OF TENNESSEE. XXIII. SYNOD OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

- News of Our Churches. CITY CHURCHES. The Walnut St. church, West Philadelphia, has extended a unanimous to Rev. Stephen W. Dana, of Belvidere, N. J.—The Greenwich St. church, at its third communion, last Sabbath evening, received five persons to membership, three on examination. Two additional elders were ordained and installed. This church was organized last December with a membership of 26 and has now 67. The Sabbath-school contains 400 children, and the services and prayer-meetings are well attended. Next Sabbath evening a public meeting in behalf of the Philadelphia Tract Society will be held in the chapel.—The First church of Northern Liberties (Dr. Shepherd's) had an accession of ten last Sabbath, one by letter from the Second Congregational church, and nine on examination, five of whom were baptized.—On Monday night Tabor church recalled their old pastor, Rev. George Van Deurs by a very large vote. PRESBYTERIES. PRESBYTERIES.—The Presbytery of Pittsburgh held its spring meeting in the church of Hopewell at New Bedford, Lawrence Co., Pa.; April 17th. This church came under the care of the Presbytery last fall, from the Free Presbyterian Connection. The moderator, Rev. W. T. Wylie, of Newcastle, was in the chair. Rev. S. M. Sparks tendered his resignation as stated clerk, which, in view of his impaired health, was accepted, and Rev. P. S. Davies was elected to that office. The state of religion in the different churches was reported—encouraging. Three churches in bounds are without pastors. According to custom, the Presbytery remained over Sabbath, and united with the congregation in the commemoration of our Lord's "ying love. Next meeting at Minersville.—The Presbytery of Trumbull, O. held its stated meeting at Youngstown, in the lecture room of the new church—the assembly-room is not yet finished and furnished. When completed, according to design, it will stand among the first houses of worship on the Western Reserve, for convenience, elegance and expense. Two members were received from the Presbytery of Cleveland and Portage, viz: Rev. Benjamin Fenn and Rev. Hiram Bingham.—The annual meeting of Maumee was held in the church of Defiance. Rev. R. G. McCarthy was received from Monroe Presbytery. Resolved: That this Presbytery send a delegate to the next meeting of Maumee Presbytery (O. S.) to be held at Delta, April 24th, to confer with them on the subject of a union convention, representing the churches within the bounds of both bodies. Every church with two exceptions shows an increase of numbers during the year; a good proportion being upon examination. The decrease of membership in Bowling Green, has been occasioned by the organization of a Congregational Church upon the same ground. Even this church reports encouraging prospects, they having in prospect at their next communion a large increase upon profession. Tontogony has increased its membership twenty-five per cent. Fostoria reports a revival, the fruits of which are being gathered in. Weston has enjoyed a refreshing, and is gathering in the fruits. Its congregation is largely increased, so that its house of worship, finished within the year, designed to be ample in size, will not accommodate the people when the weather is pleasant.—Pataskala, Ind., closed its spring sessions April 9th, at Roseville. Rev. George A. Little was dismissed to unite with Fox River Presbytery, and Robert Wiley was licensed. During the last year an excellent work has been done among the various vacant churches by students from Lane Seminary, who have spent their vacation in preaching the gospel. In several churches—viz: Cross Roads, Kirkersville, Etna, Pataskala, Putnam, Dresden, Homer and Granville, protracted meetings were held, ranging in continuation from eight days to four weeks; conversions occurring in most of them, and in some a powerful religious influence pervading the entire

community. At Newark, twenty-five have been added.—Salem held its one hundred and thirty-fourth meeting at Seymour, April 9th. Prof. E. Ballantine, was received from the Cincinnati Presbytery. Ransom E. Hawley, a student of Lane Seminary, was licensed, and H. P. Cor was taken under its care as a candidate. The pastoral relation which for eighteen years has existed between Rev. W. H. McCraker and the church at Evansville was, at his request, dissolved. This is the longest pastorate ever enjoyed by any minister in Southern Indiana. Revivals of great power and interest were reported from different churches, over three hundred and sixty persons having during the year been received on profession.—Logansport at its meeting at Delhi, Ind., April 16th, received Rev. E. J. Thompson from the Crawfordsville Presbytery and Rev. Henry Cooper from the Mankato Presbytery. A call from the Delhi church was put into the hands of Rev. C. W. Wallace, and commission was appointed to install him. W. T. Barnes, was received as a candidate. Churches have been organized at Kent and Moorfield. The statistical report shows an accession to the membership of the churches of about 230.—Alton held its spring meeting at Lebanon, east of St. Louis. Two members were dismissed and three received. This Presbytery now consists of thirty-three ministers and forty-one churches: Two German Presbyterian churches were received at this meeting—that of Trenton with seventy-five members, and that of Lebanon with eighty. Two other new churches, viz: East St. Louis and Edwardsville, have been received within the year. Many revivals have been enjoyed—some of them of great extent and power. Six congregations have erected church edifices and three others are now building, or preparing to build. The spring meeting of Hamilton Presbytery was held at Lockland, April 7th.—Mr. James Stiebel, a student in Lane Seminary, Lexington, met at Breckinridge, Mo., April 9th. Rev. Seth G. Clark was dismissed to the Presbytery of Osage. Two new churches have been added since the last meeting, one of which, Easton, now outnumbers any other church. This Presbytery heartily concurs in the Plan of Union as far as now known, and looks forward with confidence that a union on such basis as the Joint Committee may devise will much advance the cause of Presbyterianism throughout the country.—The Narrative of the State of Religion shows but one extensive revival in which there has been great activity, yet other churches have been encouraged. Two new houses of worship have been completed and paid for with the assistance of our Church Erection Fund, and others are just laying the foundations.—The Presbytery of Wellsboro. This Presbytery held its stated meeting at Tioga, Pa. April 15th. A gloom of sadness was apparent in all the exercises of the Presbytery; the occasion of which will be explained by the following extract from the minister, which I am directed by the Presbytery to forward to the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN on the Death of Rev. Samuel J. McCullough, of Tioga.

Whereas it hath pleased the Great Head of the church to call to Himself, on the 19th of December last, Reverend Samuel J. McCullough, our brother in the ministry, in the 59th year of his age and the 31st of his ministry.

Resolved 1. That we record, with profound sorrow, yet with humble submission to God, the death of our brother by which this Presbytery has lost its most experienced member and wise counsellor, and the Church of Christ a faithful and patient minister.

Resolved 2. We recognize the goodness of God to us as a Presbytery; and to all the churches in our bounds; in permitting our brother to minister to the church in Tioga for more than a quarter of a century, during which time he contributed so largely to the prosperity, peace and good order of all our meetings and of all the churches of the Presbytery.

Resolved 3. We sympathize with the bereaved church and family of our deceased brother, earnestly praying that the good Shepherd above will comfort his flock, speedily send them a Pastor after his own heart, and sustain the widow and the fatherless in their affliction. J. P. CAZARES, Stated Clerk. MINISTERIAL.—Rev. J. A. Priest has accepted the call of the first church of Quincy, Ill., to become the successor of Dr. King, and expects to commence his labors there the first Sabbath of May. The church at Gloversville, N. Y., which he organized about four years ago, is now in an excellent condition, numbering 160 members, with one of the finest rural church edifices in the country.—The ordination and installation of Mr. Joseph M. Greene as pastor of the Third church in Brooklyn, will be held in the church on Tuesday evening, May 12th.—Rev. J. K. Mitchell, having accepted a call from the church in Lawrenceburg, Ind., will be installed May 20th. He is in the graduating class at Yale.—Rev. Thomas J. Aiken, of the last class of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, has taken charge of the churches of East Whitland and Stewart, Pa., during the absence of Rev. A. M. Reese at the Pacific Coast.—Rev. J. W. Hancock has removed from Red Wing to Lake City, Minn.—Rev. Wm. Aikman has resigned the charge of the Central church, Wilmington, Del.—Rev. Mr. Martin, late of Nevada—"the man with the big map"—presented the Home Mission cause at a union meeting of the Hanover and Central churches of Wilmington, Sabbath, April 26th. BROOKLYN.—Dr. Cuyler preached his Anniversary Sermon April 5. He said, "For twenty-two years I have been permitted to preach this faithful saying: it is the only gospel I dare proclaim of you should wish to hear. During all these years I have never lost but one Sabbath through sickness, and delivered 3,130 discourses. My eight years among this beloved flock have been sweetened by the most delightful kindnesses. During these eventful years this scattered, outlying region has become the city's centre, and the largest of Presbyterian churches is flanked by two smaller chapels built by your own hands. Eight years ago our membership was a little over 100; it is now 1132 communicants. We have received 185 this year, of whom 41 were by profession of faith in the 'faithful saying.' Some very striking conversions have occurred this year, and some melancholy backslidings too. Let the question run through this assembly—Lord, is it I? is it I?" DR. SPEAR'S CHURCH.—Brooklyn observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of his settlement over them, April 26th. The pulpit and platform were beautifully decorated with an abundance of