

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1868.

REV. JOHN W. MEARS, D. D., Editor. No. 1334 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

- 1. Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post-office... 2. If a person orders his paper discontinued... 3. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers...

We acknowledge many prompt responses from subscribers to whom we have lately sent bills. We ask all, supplied by mail, whether receiving bills or not, to examine the printed statement or date, pasted upon every paper...

LIBERAL PREMIUMS FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

In reply to inquiries on this subject we now offer the following very liberal premiums.

Grover & Baker Sewing Machine. For Sixteen New Subscribers and \$48 in advance we will send a Fifty-five Dollar G. & B. Sewing Machine.

Seven Volumes of Lange. For Fourteen New Subscribers and \$42 in advance we will send free of expense the entire set of Lange's Commentary so far as issued—seven volumes in all.

The Philadelphia Tract and Mission Society has distributed, in June, through 8 missionaries, 55 superintendents, and 819 visitors, 59,627 English, 9,221 German, 161 French—in all 69,009—tracts, through the city, among the seamen on the Delaware and Schuylkill, and in our criminal and humane institutions. It now has 40 mission stations, has established a number of out-door meetings on the Sabbath, has given 25 Bibles to the destitute, has held 67 religious meetings, has found 22 cases of religious interest, visited 15 sick, and made 230 missionary visits. Joseph H. Schreiner is its General Agent. Office at 1334 Chestnut street.

We are requested to call the attention of ministers and sessions concerned to the notice for the stated meeting of the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia next Tuesday. As the order for a stated meeting at that time is a new one, it is liable to be forgotten.

The North Western Presbyterian puts Rev. John Chambers' annual budget of statistics in regard to his "Independent Presbyterian church" in this city, under the head of "New-School." The Christian Herald—which may be presumed to have a copy of our Minutes—repeats the blunder. For our Church, and its branches in this city in particular, we are constrained to decline the honor.

The Reformed Presbyterian Church, by express and organic legislation, forbids any of her members to become members of the Masonic or Odd Fellows' orders. In the great procession on the 24th of June, some of the stiffest members of the party opposed to Dr. Wylie and Mr. Stuart were in the procession, and the contract for the great Masonic Hall at Broad and Filbert streets, was announced as having been given to "Bro. Windrim," as architect, who is one of the strict members of Dr. Wylie's congregation.

It has been stated, on good authority, that a principal reason for the nomination of Schuyler Colfax, as Vice-President, over certain prominent rival candidates by the late Republican Convention, was the fact that while abundance of intoxicating drink was dispensed at the headquarters of these rivals in Chicago, nothing of the kind could be procured at the headquarters of Mr. Colfax's friends. The absence of profane language about the latter, was also in marked and favorable contrast with the state of things at the former place. In short, it was felt that sound moral, as well as political, principles, had already been grossly enough violated in the person of the second officer of the Union, and that regard must be had to the sobriety and piety no less than the loyalty of the people in these important nominations.

The Musical Department of Tuscarora Female Seminary is under the exclusive care of Prof. Carl F. Kolbe, a German gentleman of rare musical talents, who has had upwards of sixteen years' experience in teaching music; he undoubtedly stands at the head of his profession. Prof. Kolbe also teaches German and French. Experienced and competent teachers are in all the departments of this Institution. See advertisement.

ELMIRA FEMALE COLLEGE.

ELMIRA, N. Y., June 27, 1868. MR. EDITOR: As I noticed the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN in the Reading-room of the Christian Association of the Female College, it occurred to me that a few lines about the Commencement exercises might be acceptable both to yourself and to your readers.

The Baccalaureate sermon of Rev. Dr. Cowles, President of the College; the Anniversary exercises of the two Literary Societies; the fresh and profitable address of Rev. M. R. Vincent, of Troy, and the essays of the graduating class, might all be mentioned in praiseworthy terms.

A number of former graduates of the Institution returned to visit their Alma Mater, and to take their sister Alumni by the hand, and with many other visitors and college friends, Commencement day was memorably enjoyed.

This Institution has now sent forth over one hundred and twenty graduates. There were ten this year who received diplomas. Most manifestly the time is coming when the Alumnae of our Female Colleges will have their grand literary gatherings, not to be surpassed in interest by those of the Alumni of Princeton, Yale, or Cambridge. May they have many such reunions.

This College is doing noble service. The President is admirably fitted, for his position. His hands should be held up by an approving public. The liberal should add to the endowment of the Institution. Its literary standard is excellent; its religious influence most wholesome; its usefulness demonstrated; its success assured.

Parents who would secure for their daughters a thorough Christian education would do well to send them here. The next session will commence September 2d.

Yours, very truly, SAMUEL SAWYER.

FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

THE PRESBYTERY OF NIAGARA held its semi-annual meeting on the 16th and 17th at Somerset; opening sermon by Rev. C. R. Burdick, of Youngstown. Rev. E. O. Fillmore, D.D., of Knowlsville, was elected Moderator. Rev. Joshua Cooke was dismissed to the Presbytery of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Rev. L. W. Billington to the Presbytery of Rochester. The latter is now preaching in North Bergen. Rev. L. B. Rogers, now supplying the Church of Somerset, was received from the Presbytery of Iowa city; Rev. E. W. Kellogg, who is preaching at Barre Centre, from the Presbytery of Genesee River; and Rev. Charles Merwin, acting pastor at Lewiston, from the Presbytery of Athens. Thus, the Presbytery dismissed two of its ministers, and received three; the latter without examination, as they all brought clean papers. One of the ministers came from the O. S. connection; and not content with this acquisition, the Presbytery also received a church, that of "Pendleton and Wheatland," from the same branch.

The Presbytery does not seem to think much of the differences between the "Schools"; they are quite ready to receive any number of ministers or churches from the other side, if they come with proper credentials. Indeed, one of the chief items of business was the discussion of re-union, if that may be called discussion when the talk is all on one side. There was entire unanimity of feeling in favor of Union.

Attention was also given to the causes of benevolence recommended by the General Assembly. These are to take precedence of all others, and quite a number of the ministers pledged themselves to try to take collections for each one of those causes, so as to fill each blank in the Assembly's Minutes. This is as it should be. We wish all Presbyteries would take similar action. A committee was appointed to arrange a schedule of times for the different objects, so that the collections may be simultaneous and uniform throughout the Presbytery, and the Stated Clerk was authorized to have it printed on cards to be distributed to the churches. Now if the Presbyterial Committees will do their duty, and see that every church give heed to its directions, some of their churches will do better in future than they have been doing in years past.

The church in Lewiston has been greatly blessed under the labors of Rev. Charles Merwin, who has recently come among them. Twenty-two were received to its fellowship in April, and as many more are expected to unite at its next communion season. The church in Somerset has also been quickened, and has received an accession of about twenty members; and the church at Lyndonville has raised \$2,000, and is expecting to increase the amount, for the purpose of thoroughly repairing, modernizing and re-furnishing their house of worship. The building was erected about thirty years ago; is substantial and well adapted to the contemplated changes; and when so improved it will make one of the neatest and most comfortable country churches anywhere to be seen. The people also contemplate repairing their parsonage, bought a year, and a half since, or else building a new one. It is thought that the projected Lake Shore Railway, from Oswego to Lewiston, will go through this place. If so, it will give a new start to this quiet village, and the Presbyterian church will do well to be prepared to be benefited by it.

IMPROVEMENTS.—PALMYRA.—Not to be left behind in the universal race of improvement, the Presbyterian church of Palmyra, so long and so well served in the ministry by Rev. Horace Eaton, are making their church edifice as good as new. Twenty or thirty feet are to be added to its length; a new lecture-room is to be built; new pews, new pulpit, new furnishing, and so on, until the glory of the former house shall be forgotten by reason of the greater glory of the latter. It is expected that at least three months will be necessary for these changes, the congregation being accommodated in the meantime, we believe, by the use of the Methodist house of worship a part of each Sabbath. In hickman great improvements are going on at POTSDAM. The foundations for the new Presbyterian church are laid; the building to cost \$30,000; the lecture-room to be finished by winter, the church next year. It is to be of the Potsdam stone, rough-cut.

The great Normal School building, intended to accommodate a thousand pupils, in the Normal,

Academy and Common school departments, is also rising rapidly. The building is to be two hundred and thirty-two feet long, by one hundred and thirteen feet deep in some parts of it, situated on a public square, right in the centre of this pleasant village.

We met in Potsdam a man who belongs to that race who can't take care of themselves. And yet he has two Planing Mills, one Saw Mill, one Livery Stable, a number of houses to rent, and a half interest in a store with a white partner. He has accomplished all this by fifteen years of enterprise and industry, one of the richest men in the place, and one of those, as we were informed, most respected. We were surprised and sorry, however, to learn by conversation, that he was a Universalist. Not many of his race, we judge, would agree with him in that error.

AUBURN.—The new church edifice for the First Presbyterian congregation of Auburn, Dr. Hawley's, is to be one of the finest in the State, to be built of rough-cut limestone, buttressed, 74 by 112 feet, with lecture-room 64 by 96, the entire length being 175 feet, Gothic in style, with a massive tower on one corner, spire 185 feet high, to cost \$100,000. The chapel part embraces lecture-room, Sabbath-school rooms, study, and church parlor. A parish library and a dwelling house neatly fitted up for the sexton, are embraced in the general plan of improvements by this large and wealthy society.

ORDINATION.—On Monday evening, 22d inst. in Auburn, Mr. Albert F. Lyle, a member of the last graduating class in of Auburn Seminary, and now under appointment of our Committee as a Home Missionary to Black Hawk, Colorado, was ordained as an evangelist, by Cayuga Presbytery; sermon by Prof. Huntington, ordaining prayer by Dr. Hall, and charge to the evangelist by Rev. S. W. Boardman. All the exercises were interesting and well adapted to the occasion. Mr. Lyle is from San Francisco, a graduate of the College of California, an earnest man and well adapted to the work to which he is called. Educated in part upon the Pacific coast, and in part upon the Atlantic slope, he takes his field of labor midway between the two, high up on the mountains whose waters part and flow to both seas. Long may he stand there, a light indeed on his hill.

HOMER ACADEMY.—The forty-ninth Anniversary of this prosperous institution was celebrated last week. The opening services of the series was an address, before the Missionary Association of the academy, on Sunday evening, by Rev. Dr. Jessup, of Syria. It was one of his best, and as he prepared for College at this institution, and is here remembered with peculiar interest, the address was listened to with marked attention, and decided pleasure. It is to be hoped that it may make some of the most promising among the students that heard it, consecrated themselves to the work which Dr. Jessup illustrates and adorns so well.

On Wednesday the corner-stone of a new Academy building was laid, which is to be of brick, large, commodious and supplied with all modern conveniences, to cost \$30,000. The ceremony was performed by the venerable Jedediah Barber, who has for thirty years been the President of its Board of Trustees. Appropriate addresses were delivered by Mr. Woolworth and Prof. Clark, above named.

At the Commencement exercises on Thursday, an address before the Philologist Society, thoughtful, chaste, classical and suggestive, was delivered by President Brown, of Hamilton College; and another, on "Singularity and Similarity," characteristic, clever and comical, by Rev. T. K. Beecher, of Elmira. These are but parts of a truly gala and memorable week in the beautiful, cultivated and prosperous village of Homer. GENESSEE.

Rochester, June 27, 1868.

DEDICATION.

On Thursday, June 25th, Hermon Church, corner of Main and Harrison streets, Frankford, was dedicated. Addresses were made by Rev. Drs. Shepherd, Humphrey, and March; and a statement was made and dedicatory prayer offered by Rev. J. Ford Sutton, who has the matter in charge. The valuable services of North Broad Street Choir gave added interest to the occasion. This is the last of the series of church building enterprises which the late Mr. Baldwin undertook and liberally aided, to the great advantage of the cause of Christ in our city. The building and ground, which cost over \$20,000, was exclusively his gift. Mrs. Baldwin has since supplied the gas fixtures and furnaces, has furnished the pulpit, and is a liberal supporter of the ordinances.

The services were deeply interesting to the large audience which filled the building.

News of Our Churches.

CITY CHURCHES.—Dr. H. Johnson is in Marquette. The late fire in that place lost him his entire stock of sermons, and half his library. The First Church is closed for the present.—Rev. Dr. Stryker officiated on Sabbath, June 21, for the members of his former charge in New York, who are yet without a pastor. He administered the communion on that day, having sent them a letter to be read from the pulpit, the Sabbath previous, urging those who had not come forward while he was with them, to take that opportunity to dedicate themselves to God; as it might be the last they would have under his ministry. The letter was not without effect, as Dr. Stryker had the satisfaction of receiving, under peculiarly interesting circumstances, nine persons to the fold. One of them was a physician within two months of eighty years old; another a girl of fourteen—both old parishioners.—Rev. Dr. Humphrey preaches in Calvary the last time for the summer next Sabbath, when the Church will be closed.—Clinton St. church will remain open during July, and will be closed in August.

GILBERT CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY.—On Sunday afternoon, June 21st, Gilbert Chapel Sunday School, connected with the Central Presbyterian

church of Wilmington, celebrated its tenth anniversary. The walls of the school room were elegantly decorated with a profusion of flowers, amid which appeared the mottoes, "Hitherto hath God helped us," "Gilbert," "July, 1858."

The building was crowded with the children and their friends, who listened with pleasure to interesting and appropriate addresses from Rev. C. W. Adams of Connecticut, and Rev. C. D. Shaw, pastor of Central church. The emblems accompanying the missionary offerings of the various classes were strikingly beautiful. The Wiswell class, bearing the name of the former pastor, now of Green Hill church, Philadelphia, presented a model of Central church, with the motto, "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed forward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister." Heb. vi. 10.

Another class contributed a handsome floral cross and wreath; and another an open Bible surrounded with flowers. The Shaw class, named for the present pastor, offered a very graceful shepherd's crook, with the inscription, "Rev. C. D. Shaw our Pastor and Shepherd." A number of other tasteful designs, mostly in flowers, and including a handful of natural wheat from the Little Gleaners, were presented, making the whole vicinity of the Superintendent's desk like a fragrant garden. The Superintendent's report showed gratifying progress during the year. The school was started in the upper story of an engine-house, and under many difficulties and discouragements was continued for nine years. It then entered its present beautiful Sabbath home, erected for the purpose, at a cost of some \$4000. This is the third structure of the kind built and occupied as a mission school by the members of Central church, the other two being in different portions of the city, and all faithfully and successfully carried on at the present time.

THE GERMANS IN NEW YORK.—Mr. Bernhard Pick, a recent graduate of Union Seminary, was ordained as an evangelist by the Third Presbytery of New York, April 8th; Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff preached the sermon. Mr. Pick has been laboring for some months—pursuing his studies in the Seminary at the same time—as a missionary among the Germans in the eastern part of the city, preaching on the Sabbath in a hall at 473 Grand street. So great was his success that those who attended his services were quite anxious to be organized into a church. In accordance with this request, a Committee, appointed by the Third Presbytery, met in the lecture-room of the Seventh church, and organized the "German Presbyterian church of Christ." Fifty-three persons were received on profession. Three elders and three deacons were ordained. These people seem quite enthusiastic, energetic, and determined to make their enterprise a success.

MINISTERIAL.—Dr. R. W. Patterson of Chicago, received presents from his people to the amount of \$4,000, including \$2,000 in silver coin, on the occasion of his silver wedding on the 11th of June. He has been settled twenty-five years.—Rev. Hen. Cooper has removed from Rochester, Ind., and his present address is New Castle, Pa.—A Welsh paper announces the arrival of Rev. J. R. Boyd at Langollen.—Secretary Kendall was in Venice, June 1, and his health was improved. He is looking into the work of the American and Foreign Christian Union.—A committee of evangelical Brooklyn pastors, appointed at the Council which constituted the church of the Covenant, ask \$6,000 to buy a home for the venerable Rev. Anson Gleason who labored for more than fifty years among our American Indians, and has spent the last four years in Home Mission work in Brooklyn.—The Central church, New York city, is about to lose their hard-working pastor, Rev. J. B. Dunn, who, although only six years in the ministry, is suffering from complete nervous prostration. His malady has been brought on by excessive mental labor, as besides his pastoral duties he has been acting as Secretary of the National Temperance Society, and Editor of its publications. He is to spend the summer in Europe, and will then probably take charge of the Beach street church in Boston. During those six years, 354 persons have united with the church, which, like so many others, moved up town. The congregation who give up their pastor with reluctance, will continue his salary till September.

PRESBYTERIES.—Ottawa met at Somonauk, June 17th, and installed Rev. T. P. Crawford, pastor of the church in that town, of which he has been S. S. for several years. The church was organized in 1843, and has a neat house of worship and a parsonage. The venerable Moderator of Presbytery, Rev. Moses Thatcher, is now, in his seventy-third year, laboring at Munson, where he recently laid the foundation of the first church in the place, and has been preaching without money or price.—Utica met at Verona, N. Y. Two young men, Messrs. Dodge and Fisher—the latter a son of Dr. Fisher—were received as candidates for the ministry. The new church in West Utica reported favorable prospects. Rev. J. B. Hubbard, who leaves the church in Whitesboro' after a pastorate of sixteen years, was dismissed to the Presbytery of Coldwater, having accepted a call to the church of White Pigeon, Mich. The Commissioners to the Assembly—Dr. Fisher and Rev. C. W. Hawley—reported the action taken on union, and after some discussion it was voted to postpone any formal action till the documents in overture were received. Presbytery met June 17th at Verona, and ordained Mr. David Biggar, and installed him pastor of the church in that town, Dr. Fisher preaching the sermon.

We publish in this No. a notice of the Young Ladies' Institute, Auburn, N. Y., to which we call the special attention of such of our readers as desire the best education of their daughters. The plan of this School, as presented in the circular before us, is very different from that of Female Seminaries generally, and seems to obviate the more serious objections to educating daughters away from home. Its list of "References" shows a select and intelligent patronage. We advise Parents to procure a circular for careful perusal.

RE-UNION MEETING AT THE CENTRAL CHURCH.

In accordance with the announcement which appeared in our columns last week, the Central church was thrown open Monday night last for a meeting of those who favor the Re-union of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church on the basis of the Joint Committee. The call was sufficiently definite to prevent any such misunderstanding as was complained of in the case of the recent meeting in New York. (a) The meeting was not in general for prayer and conference in regard to re-union, but was a meeting of those who favored it. (b) The basis was distinctly defined as that which had passed the two Assemblies, thereby throwing aside both "the Eagleson Modification" and "the Hall-Humphrey rider." At the hour fixed for the opening of the meeting, the somewhat spacious edifice was pretty well filled as far as the ground-floor was concerned. Judge Allison having taken the Chair, the services were opened by singing that grand old Reformation version of the Hundredth Psalm which has rung in our Presbyterian churches since old Kethe wrote it, in the days of "Bloody Mary": "All people that on earth do dwell."

After the reading of the cxxxiii Psalm and Christ's Great Intercessory Prayer, for the unity of His Church, the presence and aid of the Almighty was invoked by Rev. Addison Henry of West Philadelphia.

Judge Allison then briefly defined the object of the meeting, and as designed to help on the union sentiment. He described the present position of affairs, and spoke of the two branches as having waited thirty years for the moving of the waters, and said that God had put it into the hearts of many to hope that the time had come to labor and pray for union, and to work for a united and indivisible Church. He spoke of the Churches as practically one in doctrine, in polity, in honest adherence to the standards. There was no reason for remaining in two parts, which did not also exist for dividing up into as many parts as there are congregations, in other words becoming Congregationalist. There was no evidence that a united Church would be unwieldy, and disunion was against the very genius of our people and time. He urged them to close ranks as it was hopeless to gain in power and influence for the great contest for Christ while in a separate state. They were laboring to restore that unity which had existed for sixty years prior to division, in spite of differences of opinion and various modes of stating, explaining and interpreting the standards, which all held to with equal honesty. He vindicated variety as based on human nature, and therefore in the sight of God, no just obstacle to union. He referred to conscientious opponents, and claimed that the friends of union were equally honest, and if they were the majority they had the right to carry out their views. He said that an opportunity would be given to express their convictions by a vote on resolutions which would be offered, but urged them to do all to secure the great end in view—the Presbyterian Church of America—one and indivisible.

Two verses of "Coronation" were here sung. The resolutions referred to, in favor of the Presbyterian Union, were read by Rev. S. W. Crittenden.

Resolved, That in our view the organic re-union of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church, known as Old and New School, is both desirable and practicable; and that its accomplishment would do much to concentrate Christian effort, to economize outlay in men and money, to facilitate the progress of the Gospel in our land, especially among our frontier settlements, and to take away the reproach which has fallen upon us in consequence of our unhappy division.

Resolved, That it is the occasion of devout thankfulness to God that He endowed the Joint Re-union Committee with wisdom to prepare so satisfactory a basis for organic re-union, and that while we do not claim for this basis that it is perfect, or that it entirely meets all our individual preferences, yet, considering the end which it has in view, and the diversity of opinion which it aims to reconcile, we deem it eminently wise and judicious.

Resolved, That we are gratified to find in this basis a recognition of the paramount and binding authority of the Sacred Scriptures, a guarantee of the fundamentals of our Calvinistic system as contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, and a security for all reasonable allowance of construction in interpretation of our Standards.

Resolved, That we cordially invite our brethren in both branches of the Church to join us in prayer to the Great Head of the Church, for such a gracious outpouring of His blessed Spirit upon all our congregations as shall prepare the way for wisely considering this great subject of re-union, and for the taking of such action upon it in all our Presbyteries as shall be for His highest glory, and for the best interests of His Church.

These being offered and seconded, Rev. Willroy D. Reed, D.D., of Camden, a member of the Joint Committee, was introduced. He said that one thousand ministers are engaged in keeping up the two organizations, with 700 or 800 vacancies, with wide Home and Foreign fields, unoccupied. Time, energy and talent of laity were employed in like measure in the same way and extent. Was this separation needed? To say nothing of reasons for division, was this waste of force needed? Here were 1000 men ordained to work for Christ, and largely occupied in keeping up this division. But why this meeting to present this to the people? Some good people say why this haste? Why this meeting? There was no purpose to forestall opinion, but to enable every one to decide upon the matter before God and their conscience. He gave a history of the Re-union negotiations, for two years, and read the XIIIth Article as to how the matter was to be carried out. Action must be taken within a year, and probably by most Presbyteries in six months. Speed then was needed to bring this matter before all indirectly or directly concerned. Three-fourths majority of the Presbyteries is needed on this subject, to avoid either unnecessary haste or the over-riding a large minority. Some wanted that, as on all other points, a bare majority should be enough, but the basis gives one Presbytery against, as much power as three for the Basis.

The Joint Committee have done their work as before the living God—well or ill; the Assembly have approved it, and now it goes down to the Presbyteries and churches. Next to the salvation of the soul no more important question could be laid before the officers and members of the Church.

The basis is not perfect nor all that could be desired, but it is all that is before the Church. Nor would its defeat put off union forever, for it was God's work, but it would greatly jeopardize the interests of the Church. The Basis is a safe basis, conserving all the interests of Calvinistic orthodoxy. He read the doctrinal basis and asked if any would say that it was not safe? It is a liberal basis, giving that liberty to explain according to the ability of the Spirit, but hemming us in by the grand system of the Calvinistic faith as held by the fathers in this and other lands. It is a Basis arrived at by prayer. The Joint Committee do not claim honor. They met seemingly insurmountable difficulties, but the Holy Spirit took away prejudice, ignorance and distrust, and enabled them to reach the result. The same Spirit had been in the Assemblies, and must be in the Presbyteries if this is to succeed.

We are shut up to the Basis for the present. Efforts had been made to secure change and modification, but at present only this is before the churches. He referred to the action of the Assembly at Albany, saying that the Eagleson amendment was purely conditional on the adoption by the N. S. Assembly, and as it had not passed at Harrisburg it had failed.