

American Presbyterian.

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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...

G. W. M.'s Last Letter from the Upper Mississippi, Graphic Account of Missionary Touring in India, A. M. Stewart's XVth Letter, Page 2d; Editor's Table, Literary Items, Use of Musquitoes, The Wasp, Musk, Education for Farming, Page 3d; Willie's Prayer, Dotty Dimple on Rich Men, Novel Sabbath School Lesson, Smoking Manners, Temperance Movement, Leakage, Inner Voice, Page 6th; The Earthquake in South America, Page 7th.

The venerable Dr. Cooke, of Belfast, is apparently very near the close of his eventful career. At the last meeting of the Presbytery of Belfast prayers were sought in his behalf that the peace which he still enjoys may continue till he enters into the rest and peace of God.

The churches of Homer and Lisle, N. Y., formerly connected with Cortland Presbytery, have united with five Congregationalist churches in forming a "Central Association of Congregational ministers and churches of New York."

We are requested to call the attention of the pastors and Sessions of the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia to the call for a report on the state of religion, contained in the notice of the Stated Clerk for the next meeting, which will be found in another column.

THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.—Dr. Charles J. Stille, well known as one of the ablest literary supporters of our national policy during the war, as an active member of the Sanitary Commission and its historian, will be inaugurated as Provost of this venerable institution on Wednesday next, the 30th inst., at the American Academy of Music.

The University has not received that share of the public patronage and favor which it may justly claim. Although founded and supported by such men as Benjamin Franklin it long rested under a suspicion of Toryism, which led to the withdrawal of the countenance and support of the Government. In more recent days, although it points to graduates illustrious in the ranks of every leading denomination, it has rested under an equally unjust suspicion of Socratic partiality and exclusiveness. The denominational connections of the gentlemen recently added to the corps of instruction, show that such a charge has no foundation in fact, and that the governing body are determined to execute the trust committed to them with the most Catholic ends in view.

Dr. Stille's provostship opens with bright auspices. The largest matriculation class ever admitted has entered upon its studies; the authorities are harmonious and hopeful; the course of study has been adapted to the most advanced and intelligent views of liberal education, and hopes of a large increase in the endowment are warmly entertained.

FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

SYNOD OF GENEVA.

The annual meeting of this body was held this week in Corning. The opening sermon was preached on Tuesday evening by Rev. W. K. Platt of Ludlowville. Rev. Horace Eaton, of Elmira, was elected Moderator; Revs. C. E. Stebbins of Ovid, and Daniel Magie of Penn Yan, Temporary clerks.

Rev. Dr. Cowles presented the Annual Report of Elmira College, showing the institution to be in a highly prosperous condition. He made appropriate and touching allusion to the recent decease of Simeon Benjamin, the founder and generous patron of the College.

The Secretaries and agents appeared and were kindly heard, for the various causes of benevolence. Dr. Goertner came also among them, and spoke for Hamilton College. The institution is every way prosperous; not yet eaten up by any new rival. The Freshmen class number about fifty, and more are expected. Dr. Goertner proposed that the Synod of Geneva should endorse a Professorship in Hamilton, and have the right of nominating the incumbent. That would be a very handsome thing; only we fear Dr. Goertner would have to do the work; and in that case the Synod could hardly claim the right of nomination, which would be quite as well for the college.

A full, clear, and in the main, admirably balanced paper, in the subject of grape culture and wine-making, was read by Rev. Dr. Gridley of Waterloo. He does not condemn the raising of the grape, nor pronounce all wine making, neither all wine-drinking, as sinful in themselves; but in view of the great danger of constant abuse of things in themselves good and innocent, he would have Christians use great care. Wine

making, for drinking purposes, is not the best kind of business for them. Rev. Dr. Bell of Lyons read a curious essay on the "mobility of the ministry." He advocates something not unlike the Methodist system of rotation. He spoke of evils which often embarrass a pastor in his relations to his people. Many of these were admitted to exist by those who spoke upon the subject, but no one saw any remedy in the plan proposed; no one seemed to want any more "mobility" of the ministry than that which we now have. Surely it cannot be doubted, in this day, that permanency in the pastoral office is one source of its greatest power and usefulness.

DEATH OF "FATHER PORTER."

We have tried before to notice the death of this good man, but could not earlier get the facts we needed. He was born in Waterbury, Ct., (that part now called Naugatuck,) in 1781. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1808; studied Theology with Dr. Woodhull, in Long Island; was licensed in 1810; ordained by the Presbytery of Albany, in 1812; settled in Ovid in 1816; and afterward preached in Elbridge, Castleton, Palmyra, Moscow and Warsaw. He formed the Castleton church, and his ministry was greatly blessed among that people. But for the last ten or twelve years he has been laid aside from active service, and has lived in great quiet, universally respected and beloved, in the beautiful village of Geneva. He was a man of simple, sincere, fervent piety, great benevolence, a genial, cheerful presence, always shedding joy and peace around him. He was particularly gifted in love and prayer. Even with all the infirmities of his great age upon him, his voice was always peculiarly welcome in the social meeting. He loved the sanctuary, and all the ordinances of God's house; was beloved by all who knew him; and waited peacefully all his appointed time until his change came.

DEATH OF REV. N. P. CAMPFIELD.

We have been pained beyond measure to hear this week of the sudden death of this young brother. He was but thirty years of age; was settled but three years ago, with every prospect of great and continued usefulness, in the beautiful village of Cazenovia. He had one of the best of wives, the daughter of Henry Iveson, Esq., the distinguished publisher of New York. Their home was like a little paradise, all so charming and lovely; and now so utterly dark and desolate.

It seems he was not well; had gone to Saratoga for his health; and so on up to Bellows Falls, Vt., where his precious, useful life was suddenly brought to a close by drowning. The remains were taken to Newark, N. J., the house of his afflicted father, Rev. R. B. Campfield, for burial. He was a lovely Christian man, a devoted minister, growing in usefulness, beloved by all. He was just such an one as we did not know how to spare. But he is gone and we can but bow to this very mysterious allotment of Providence.

CALLS.

Rev. C. C. Kimball, formerly of Le Roy, has received a unanimous and hearty call to settle as colleague pastor with Rev. Dr. Lyon, over the first Presbyterian Church of Erie, Pa. Dr. Lyon has now served this church most faithfully and acceptably for nearly forty years. His health has suffered considerably of late, and last Spring his people kindly voted him leave of absence for six months, they to supply the pulpit and continue his salary. He has been at Clinton Springs, at Saratoga, and at Plymouth, Mass., trying to regain his health, which has been somewhat improved by the rest and change. Both he and his people have feared, however, that he might not soon, if ever, be able to resume the entire duties of his large and responsible pastorate.

Mr. Kimball had, in the meantime, been engaged supplying his pulpit for the six months. The result is as above stated; an arrangement to which, we understand, Dr. Lyon also gives his very cheerful and cordial assent.

Rev. C. F. Mussey of Batavia, has a loud and earnest call to the Presbyterian church of Irving, Kansas. This is a comparatively new, but very important field, where foundations are to be laid for many generations. The interests of education, of society generally, are to be looked after, as well as the pulpit of that church. Mr. Mussey is well qualified, by fine education, culture and taste, for such a position. We shall greatly miss his genial face and form if he leaves Western New York, and yet we cannot help congratulating him on the prospect of such great usefulness, if he sees fit to go. We understand his church in Batavia are trying to veto his going.

Rev. N. S. Lowrie, of the other branch, has received and accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church in Gorham, and is soon to be installed by the Presbytery of Geneva.

We hear also, that Rev. William A. Niles, D. D., of Corning, has a call to the 1st Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, to be the worthy successor of Rev. Dr. Nelson. The good people of Corning, we know, will protest against this, but finally acquiesce in that which shall seem best. Mr. Niles is a wide-awake, live-man, bound to succeed wherever he goes, but well off where he is. GENESEE. Rochester, Sept. 19, 1868.

"THERE ARE TWO HEADLEYS."

ED. AM. PRESBYTERIAN.—As an act of simple justice, allow us to correct the unintentional mistakes of "Genesee" in his notes following the above correct announcement.

For, we "happen to know" that, while "Josephine," "Women of the Bible," etc., are not "small books," there is in none of these, nor in the subscription volumes, including the "Court and Camp of David," the shadow of "imitation," either in design, plan, or execution, of the more "famous writer." The idea of copying the story of the homicide and despot Napoleon, in writing the history of the royal penitent and Psalmist, is simply absurd.

And while P. C. does not wish to be confounded with J. T., we are sure an author may be too sensitive in regard to his identity in the public recognition. BERKSHIRE.

News of Our Churches.

CHURCHES.—Washington, D. C.—Dr. John C. Smith writes to The Evangelist: "The year just closed furnishes the following results: Sixty communicants added to our roll; thirty-four baptisms, of these twenty-five the infants of believing parents in communion with us, and nine adults on profession; dismissed to other churches, twenty-nine. Of our number sixteen have died. I have married thirty-one couples, nine of whom were in August, a larger number than in any other single month in my ministry. I have been at work the whole year. All our meetings, seven of which are for prayer, were beautifully sustained, eminently social, and marked by the presence of Jesus."

Detroit.—There is no certainty, as yet, who the successor of the late Dr. Duffield will be. It is rumored that Rev. W. A. McCorkle (Dr. Duffield's colleague) has received an invitation to become the successor of Dr. Nelson at St. Louis.—Corr. of The Herald.

Metropolis, Ill.—The church in this place, Rev. J. H. Scott, pastor, numbering thirty-one members, dedicated a new church edifice September 6, Dr. Taylor, of Cincinnati, preaching the sermon. Of the four thousand dollars which the house cost, only \$240 remained due on the day of dedication, and was promptly contributed then. This is the only church we have between Cairo and Evansville, and is growing although many regarded it as a discouraging field.

Garnett, Kas.—A church of twelve members was organized at this place Sept. 4th. Rev. C. P. Blanchard, of the last class at Union, has taken charge of it. Garnett is a fine opening, a county seat and a Rail Road town of 800 inhabitants. Others are expected soon to join the church.

The Sixth church, Newark, N. J., Rev. James Dickson, pastor, which has been closed nearly two months for cleaning and repairs, was opened for divine service last Sunday. The walls and ceiling have been handsomely frescoed and the interior of the church wholly renovated and beautified. The church has never before presented so attractive an appearance.

The Second church, New Castle, Pa., Rev. W. T. Wylie, pastor, reoccupied their house last Sabbath. The audience room has been frescoed and painted, and the entire building is now in better condition than it has ever been before. The Synod of Western Pennsylvania is to meet in this church on the 3d. Friday, (25th) of this month.

PERFECTING THEIR ORGANIZATION.—The church at Candor, N. Y., ten miles north of Owego, dedicated a new and fine house, costing some \$15,000. Aug. 25, Rev. E. Taylor, of Binghamton, preaching the sermon. The church have voted down a proposition "to perfect their relations" to Presbytery.—The Susquehanna Association met at Centre Lisle, Sept. 1, Rev. E. Taylor, moderator. Several new ministers were present, and several churches, heretofore connected with Presbytery, will soon unite with it.—One of Newman Hall's subordinate co-operators in his mission work in London, has just commenced labor as the minister of the Congregational church at Richmond, which will soon probably withdraw from Presbytery.—The Advance.

MINISTRIES.—Mr. James S. Dennis, a graduate of Princeton, New Jersey, who has for some time been supplying the pulpit of the Rev. Dr. Poor of Newark, has just been appointed a missionary of the American Board, and will go out to Syria with Dr. Jessup in October.

Rev. Harlan P. Walton, formerly of Chester, O., and a member of the last graduating class at Lane, is laboring at Parma, Mich.

Rev. Geo. W. Barlow, formerly of St. Anthony, Minn., and a member of the same class, is preaching at Mason, Mich.

Rev. Job Pierson having accepted a call to Ionia, Mich., the church at Kalamazoo is vacant.

Rev. Nathan P. Campfield, of Cazenovia, N. Y., was accidentally drowned at Bellows Falls, Vt., where he was spending a part of his vacation, previous to a trip to Europe for his health.

He was in his 30th year, and leaves a wife to mourn his loss. He was the son of Rev. R. B. Campfield, of Newark, N. J., where the funeral took place. He graduated at Princeton, and was actively engaged in the meetings held by Mr. Hammond.

PRESBYTERIES.—Monroe.—Met at Petersburg, Mich. Only one minister was absent, and the churches were very fully represented. Rev. H. W. Shaw was dismissed to join the Presbytery of Kansas. Rev. W. W. Wetmore of Clinton, presented a letter of dismission from the Presbytery of Knox, and was received. The church of Raisin, formerly connected with the Presbytery on the Plan of Union, had elected elders, and become unanimously Presbyterian. Mr. A. Barker Allen, after examination, was licensed to preach the Gospel. Mr. Hanna of Palmyra was received under the care of Presbytery, as a candidate for the ministry. The Basis of Reunion overtured by the Assembly was unanimously approved. Dr. Mattoon of Monroe, delivered an excellent discourse on "The Connection between Calvinistic Doctrine and Christian Practice." Every church on the roll is now supplied regularly with the preaching of the Word. Sabbath-schools are well sustained. Prayer meetings and Bible classes are prosperous. At Manchester the congregation is enlarging its house to obtain more room for the increasing congregation. The house at Tecumseh is nearly completed. At Monroe and Ida, houses of worship are badly needed.

Scioto met at Rome, O., September 2d. The Basis of Union overtured by the Assembly was unanimously approved. The churches were assessed at the rate of eight cents per member for the Assembly's Fund.

Grand River met at Ashtabula, O. By preconcerted arrangement, the services of ministerial members were secured during the sittings in preaching the Word. The Basis of Union overtured by the Assembly was unanimously approved. The Family Treasure was unanimously recommended as a good family magazine.

Mavnee met at Montogony, O., some twenty miles from Toledo. Though a feeble Presbytery, with a large missionary field, there is every indication of growth and vigor in the churches. The church at Maumee City has called Robert F. McClaren, a licentiate of the U. P. Church, and he will be installed this autumn. The church at Weston (Rev. R. G. McCarthy, pastor), which three years ago, had thirteen members, and has since then received sixty-seven, mostly on profes-

sion, after having dismissed some seven or eight to form another church at a neighboring station, still reports fifty-seven members. And this in a small place of not more than five or six hundred inhabitants. Rev. P. C. Baldwin, Presbyterial missionary, reports one church organized and another about to be, besides a new church edifice in course of erection, and another to be begun. Street and lay preaching in Toledo has met with marked success.

The Presbytery of Huron, at its last Stated Meeting at Greene Spring, consisted of 6 ministers and 12 delegates. The opening sermon by Rev. Mr. Walter of Milan, on prayer, was a timely and impressive discourse. Nothing of special interest was reported on the state of religion in the churches. Rev. M. Kieffer, D. D., was received into the Presbytery by letter from the Classis of Tiffin, and is to be installed over the church in Sandusky, on the 24th inst. Rev. D. E. Wells was dismissed to the Presbytery of Winona, and Rev. H. Lawrence to the Presbytery of Cleveland. The churches of Monroeville, Peru, Oleno, and Margareta are vacant. The congregation in Norwalk, have commenced building a church edifice—to replace the old one built thirty years ago. It is of brick, and will cost at least \$20,000. The subject of Reunion was taken up, discussed and committed to a Committee to embody the sentiments of Presbytery and report at the next stated meeting. The points in the report of the Joint Committee which caused any debate were those contained in the 2d and 10th Articles, particularly the 2d in relation to the mixed churches. We on the Western Reserve, where many of these churches exist, and which have stood firm with us with all the changes of the past—contending for the very things that we have—cannot think it expedient to give advice to them in quite so strong terms as that 2d Article contained. Nor do we quite like the idea that a minister going from one Presbytery to another with clean papers should be subjected to an examination. But it is not proper to anticipate the report of the Committee—and so I will close this communication.

STATED CLERK.

The Presbytery of Wellsborough held its semi-annual meeting at Osceola, Pa.; The church in that place is a branch of the church at Elkland, one mile from Osceola; this church is in connection with the Old School Assembly, but its pulpits are supplied by a member of our body, the Rev. E. B. Benedict. The Presbytery met here by invitation of the people who with a generous hospitality entertained us at their homes, and in large numbers joined with us in the public services held in their recently enlarged and beautified house of worship. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. S. A. Ransom; a sermon on "Christian Union" was preached by Rev. J. F. Calkins, and the closing sermon by the Rev. E. D. Wells. The business which absorbed most of the time of the Presbytery was the consideration of the overture of the General Assembly on Reunion; the following extract from the Minutes will exhibit the result: "The third order of the day—the consideration of the overture of the General Assembly on Reunion—was taken up; the roll was called and every member of Presbytery was heard upon the subject, when it was moved and seconded that the overture of the General Assembly on Reunion of the two branches of the Church be answered in the affirmative which motion was carried; there being but one vote in the negative." The discussion showed, that the Presbytery, almost if not quite unanimously, preferred a different basis; but they were not authorized to tinker at the work of the Joint Committee, and were not willing to seem to go against reunion by rejecting the proposed basis. Hence, with but one dissenting voice, the overture was agreed to. The following extract from the Narrative prepared for the Synod, exhibits something of the gracious visitations of the Holy Spirit to some few of our churches and of the increasing power and usefulness of nearly all of them that are supplied with ministers; it goes on to say, "We are sorry that our churches are so poor, ministers' salaries are so small, and our collections for benevolent objects so little; but what affects us most is that so many of our churches are without the stated means of grace. Coudersport, the county seat of Potter, has been for several years without a Presbyterian minister, though we have had a church there. The churches of Blossberg and Richmond are well nigh extinct by reason of a like destitution. Covington and Smethport, (the latter the county seat of McKean) are suffering with the same lingering illness. Tioga, as yet, has found no successor to our good brother McCullough deceased. Our cry must continue to be 'the harvest is great but the laborers are few; O Lord send forth laborers into the harvest.'"

J. F. CALKINS, Stated Clerk.

Greencastle Presbytery.—This Presbytery of Indiana met at Clinton, Vermillion Co., on the 10th instant. Of the ten ministers on the roll, only four were present, but each absent had a good excuse. It was an unusual occurrence. Seven elders nobly represented that number of the sixteen churches on our roll. A small body of this sort, from no less than seven large counties—rich enough in land and all material wealth to supply the population of an European State—and soon to team with immortal souls—looks a large amount of work in the face. And the question is not how to avoid it, but how to do it. Of course your readers are not interested in, nor could they understand, the details of our labor and reward. There are, however, live discussions and earnest workers in this Presbytery, and the bond of union founded on Christian confidence is very strong. I find here what I know exists among other Presbyteries in this Synod, and I may say, throughout our denomination, a type of Christianity which is well named American Presbyterianism. And some of us are in no hurry to exchange its peculiarities for any other—especially not for an impractical and suspicious bigotry which would rather see a man "board or broken piece of the ship." On the question of Reunion, this Presbytery voted for the Plan submitted by the General Assemblies with only one dissenting voice. There is no doubt, that an overwhelming majority of our Church is for Reunion—consistently too as we opposed division in 1837. But many of the blessings which are anticipated may not attend the consummation.—The only other item of general interest, was the ordination of Mr. William J.

Lec, of the last class from Lane Seminary, to the full work of the Gospel ministry. This young brother was received by us at this meeting, on a letter from the Presbytery of Athens. He has been supplying for a few months the church of Danville in our bounds. His examination was very thorough and satisfactory, and he was ordained in a very solemn and impressive manner, according to the simplicity of our Scriptural form of Government, viz: The Moderator of Presbytery Rev. Henry L. Dickerson preached the sermon founded on Rev. 2: 13—Antipas my faithful martyr. The charge was given to the Evangelist by Rev. Samuel Ward. And our prayers were expressed by Rev. Henry S. Little, as we placed our hands on the head of the young brother. The report of Bro. Lec's labors as a licentiate lead us to hope much from him in his important charge. With only a few revivals during the past year, our churches are in a very promising condition. J. M. B.

Madison Presbytery met at Pisgah church, the attendance of ministers and elders being unusually small. Four candidates for the ministry were recommended to the Education Committee. A scheme for the supply of preaching to vacant churches was adopted. Rev. Drennan was appointed to prepare a pastoral letter on manes and libraries. The subject of Reunion was postponed till the Spring meeting. Pisgah church has four preaching places, and was once the largest Presbyterian church in the State. It has declined, since the elders learned that the pastor ought to do all the pastoral work.

The Presbytery of Erie met at Waterford, Sept. 1st and 2d. Sabbath observance and the utilization of the issues of our Publication Committee were under discussion. To bring the Gospel home to the one-fourth or fifth of the population, who are not now reached by it, several measures were recommended—watchfulness and thoroughness in pastors and sessions, preaching on week-day evenings and pastoral visitation, by the sessions, weekly prayer-meetings conducted by elders, and Mission Sabbath-schools and the distribution by sale and gift of the issues of the religious press. The congregations were recommended to furnish themselves with the issues of our Committee and to go from house to house distributing books and tracts. This Basis of Reunion, overtured by the General Assembly was unanimously approved.

Grand River Presbytery met at Ashtabula, September 1st and 2d. By previous arrangement public meetings were held, in which the objects of Church Benevolence were presented; among others, a Sabbath-school meeting was held with interest and profit. The Presbytery has gained five ministers and two churches within a year, but is scattered over three counties. The ministers are to go out two by two to visit the churches this year. The Basis of Union, overtured by the Assembly, was unanimously adopted, although the Presbytery belongs to the excommunicated Western Reserve. The churches with one exception, have grown in strength, some quite largely, and Young Men's Christian Associations are being organized, as are county and township Sabbath-school associations.

The Presbytery of Rockaway held its Fall sessions in the church at Newfoundland, N. J., Sept. 1. The usual business was transacted, and a unanimous expression was given in favor of Reunion between the two Presbyterian Churches, Old and New School.

Presbytery of Cleveland and Portage.—The Fall meeting of this body was held in Chatham, Medina county, September 1st, 1868. The meeting was one of more than usual religious interest. This was attributable to the presence of the Spirit still among that people, and to the fact that the time of Presbytery, not being engrossed with business, was devoted largely to the spiritual welfare of the people, among whom we met. Two sermons were preached and the Lord's Supper administered. There was also an hour and a half spent in the discussion of the question, "How can a proper religious interest be maintained through life?"

The question of Reunion was taken up with some sense of the importance of the subject. The roll was called, and each one had opportunity to express freely his views. One brother said he could vote for the platform, but he would do it protesting against the 10th Article. The vote was unanimous. After the vote Presbytery united in thanksgiving and prayer.

The Euclid St. church, Cleveland, seem to have new life infused into them since the advent of their new minister, Rev. O. A. Lyman. They are finishing their church building outside, and making considerable repairs on the inside. They are also prosecuting a mission work in the Eastern part of the city, with great energy. They are building a chapel for this enterprise, and are hoping that their efforts may soon mature into a new church.

Rev. D. W. Sharts has left Solon, where he has labored usefully for several years, and has taken charge of the Wassonville Mission enterprise of the First Church, Cleveland.

Dr. Goodrich has not yet returned from his European journey.

The Second church, Cleveland, are still without a pastor.

Trumbull Presbytery.—This body met in Newton Falls, O., this week. They unanimously adopted the "basis" for reunion, recommended by the Assembly.

The church at Newton Falls, has been connected with Presbytery on the "Plan of Union;" but they have recently changed their policy, and during the meeting of Presbytery fifty elders were ordained.

The Annual Meeting of the Presbytery of Onondaga was held in Lysander, the 12th inst. During its sessions, Rev. S. L. Merrell was installed pastor of the church in that place.

The only marked feature of the installation service was, "the charge to the pastor," by Rev. F. A. Spencer, of Syracuse. It was one of the most sensible, solid, pointed, and practical charges; that was ever aimed at a pastor's heart.

Final action on the question of Reunion was deferred until our annual meeting in April, though the action of our Assembly at Harrisburg was cordially approved. B. Presbytery of Ontario met at Hornellsville, Sept. 9th. The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a paper from the Second church in Genesee, in which it appeared that Rev. G. P. Folsom had tendered to them his resignation as pastor; and that they had united with him in asking Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral rela-