# THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1868.

# News of Aur Churches.

#### [From our Correspondents.] PRESBYTERIES.

The Fourth Presbytery of New York, at their Stated Moeting, September 28th, unanimously approved of and gave their consent to the Ret wion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the Basis proposed by the Joint Committee, and approved by the two General Assemblies which met in Albany and Harrisburgh in May last.

This Presbytery has recently dismissed and recommended the Kev. James B. Dunn to the Presbytery of Londonderry, and the Rev. Erskine N. White to the Presbytery of Buffalo. The address of the former is Boston, Mass.; and that of the latter, Buffalo, N. Y.

The sessions of Presbytery were as usual, characterized by brotherly courtesy, Christian feeling, and an intelligent despatch of business. No long speeches ; nor short ones even, except for explanation and the due appreciation of the matters under consideration. The reports of the several Committees on Missions, &c., showed a careful attention to the subjects committed to tnem, and the action of Presbytery therein indicates its the action of Presbytery therein indicates its The church in Newton Falls are taking steps The church in Newton Falls are taking steps state of religion within the bounds of Presbytery is such as to encourage the most hopeful faith, Lisbon, as their pastor. and zealous labor.

The Presbytery of Montrose held their stated meeting at Wysox, Bradford Co., Pa., commenc-ing Sep. 15th. Thirteen ministers and eight elders were in attendance, a small number, but Wysox is at our extreme western limit, outside our general bounds by about thirty miles. The church, under the ministerial services of Rev. Henry J. Crane, reports a membership of over 100; having doubled within a couple of years. At a short distance from the house in which we met stands another belonging to the Old School Church, which is also furnished with the ministry of the Gospel. Neither church can boast of great strength. If united they would constitute a strong country church. As it is, they present a living illustration of some things which are inevitable while the Presbyterian Church continues its organization in "two branches."

A delegation from the Susquehanna Presbytery (O. S.,) were present, bringing the Chris-tian salutations of their Presbytery, with assurance of cordial fellowship, and their desire for an organic union. Two members of Luzerne Presbytery (O. S.,) were also present as corresponding members, and expressed similar fraternal regard and their desire for reunion.

On the subject of Re-union, it was "Resolved. That in view of the limited attendance at this meeting of the Presbytery, while we approve the plan of union sent down to the Presbyteries by the General Assemblies, final action on that question be deferred by this Presbytery till the next stated meeting."

Our churches report general prosperity. Revivals of much interest have occurred in Susquehanna, Honesdule and Scott. Susquehanna reports 90 conversions. In Honesdale the work extended to other churches, making an aggregate addition of 200 to them. In Honesdale a church has been completed, costing \$40,000,-free from debt. Uniondole, Nicholson and Gibson are also erecting churches. In others desirable repairs have been made. In Brooklyn the parsonage has been repaired at an expense of some hundred dollars.

The congregation in Abington has given a call had left, and Presbytery postponed action on the. to Rev. Yates Hickey." His installation is expected to take place on the third Tuesday of October. Among the blessings conferred on us by the Head of the Church through many years past, it is our privilege to name that noble Christian man,-an elder in one of our churches, the Hon. William Jessup. He was among us,—in the Presbytery and in our churches,—exemplary in life;—a wise, warm-hearted and efficient laborer; honored and useful. His active life was closed several years since by bodily and mental infirmity. His recent decease we regard as a transfer into the fulness of light and joy, which await the faithful servants of our Divine Master. September 25, 1868. М. Milwaukee Presbytery since the last session of Synod has entirely changed its working membership with one exception. Rev. Messrs. Stoughtenburg, Mead Holmes, P. S. Van Nest, and E. Southworth have been dismissed, and Rev. Messis, Wm. Drummond, Alva Lilly, John Martin, C. B. Stevens, and Mr. Sextus E. Smith (licentiate, since ordained as Evangelist,) have been received. Rev. J. C. Holmes who, for many years, has supplied the church of Maple Grove, has retired from active labor by reason of age and infirmity. That church is at present vacant. An inviting rural Rev. D. H. E field. in-The church of Kossuth is also vacant. This is composed of a colony of Bohemians. They have been unable to obtain a reliable pastor conversant with their language. They are educating in one of our colleges two of their young men to meet this necessity. With these two exceptions all the churches are ably supplied, and are unusually prosperous. At the late meeting, August 25th, on taking up the "Basis of Union" the roll was called, when a large majority voted affirmatively, A small minority recorded a dissent to the tenth article for the following reasons: 1. It is unconstitu-tional. 27 It is divisive in its influence. It severs the bond that holds the Church together as one. 3. It opens the door for oppression, as it authorizes the annulling the office of the ministry, by each Presbytery, of the members of all sister Presbyteries. 4. It suggests the cherishing of the spirit of distrust among brethren. The church of Jefferson have completed their beautiful house and are free from deby except to the Presbyterial fund. The shurch of Stone Bank are repairing and enlarging their house at an expense of \$800, The church of Manitowoc are projecting a new house at an expense of \$10,000 When completed these will supply all pointed the Comittee Ton the churches with respectable houses of worship. The Central church, V the churches with respectable houses of worship. Fraternally yours, Gr.W. ELLIOTT. Trumbull Presbytemy firm a uller account, sent by the Stated Oldre, we give the following, action on Re-union. All we give the following, fidelity for six years. The undersigned was elec-ted in his place. Resolved, While Presbytery approved the action of its Commissioner in recording his dissent from the .

10th article of the Basis of Union adopted by the General Assembly, and would have preferred, that the united Church should have followed the common practice of other branches of the Presbyterian family; yet, believing that the spirit of the age in which we live, and the Providence of God, as well as the interests of religion, and the command of the risen Redeemer, call to Union; and, trusting that the plan will be carried out in the same forbear-ing, liberal, and Christian spirit in which it has been devised and approved by both the General Assemblies: we do cordially approve and adopt the

Basis of Union, overtured to us by our General As-sembly; and direct our Stated Clerk to notify the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the action of this Presbytery. I will not attempt to describe the discussion.

Suffice it to say, we were all speaking as in the presence of God's Spirit, and in respect to a movement of His Providence; and, though the Basis as a human production might not be perfect, it would be fearful to vote otherwise than in the affirmative, or to throw the least obstacle in the way of the movement. After the resolution was passed, the Presbytery united in prayer, led by Elder Wm. Rice, probably the oldest member present. While, from deep emotion, the good man could scarcely give utterance to his words, they evidently came from a full and overflowing

Lisbon, as their pastor. Presbytery has appointed Permanent Commit-tees on Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Education, Ministerial Relief Fund, Sabbath-schools. The next stated meeting is to be at Mineral Ridge, The meeting closed with a communion season Wednesday afternoon. "X! BETTS, S'C." The Presbytery of Marshall, Mich., Held, its semi-annual meeting in Tekonsha, on "Tuesday. Sept. 22d, and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. S. Chandler, on the prayer of Christ, asking for unity in his church. The churches in the bounds of this Presbytery were found to be supplied with ministers excepting that of Eckford. And all have good houses of worship. By changes made during the year several new ministers were found in attendance. The chief subject of discussion or speeches rather, was that of Reunion. "

The roll was called, and every member gave his convictions with a warmth and eloquence worthy of the object. With entire unanimity the vote was given to consent to the union on the proposed basis; even the 10th Article was commended as a wise provision.

The Presbytery of Indianapolis held its late meeting with the church in Zionsville, commeneing on the evening of Sept. 15th Presbytery convened in the new house of worship, which the church in Zionsville, had been permitted to dedicate to the Triune God, on the Sabbath previous: Sermon by Rev H. A. Edson; of Indianapolis; Form of dedication and prayer by Rev. P. S. Cleland of Greenwood, who has been supplying the church for a few months. It was a day of gladness to the little church. With great liberality and energy, with assistance from a generous public and \$400 from the Church Erection Committee, they had erected a very neat and pleasant house of worship. Rev. John B. Logan was dismissed to the

Presbytery of Salem.

Reports were made on all the benevolent causes of the church, and the Presbytiry is work-ing in full sympathy with the General Assembly. The subject of re-union came up at the closing essions of Presbytery, and after several members

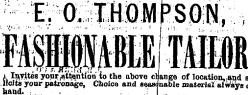
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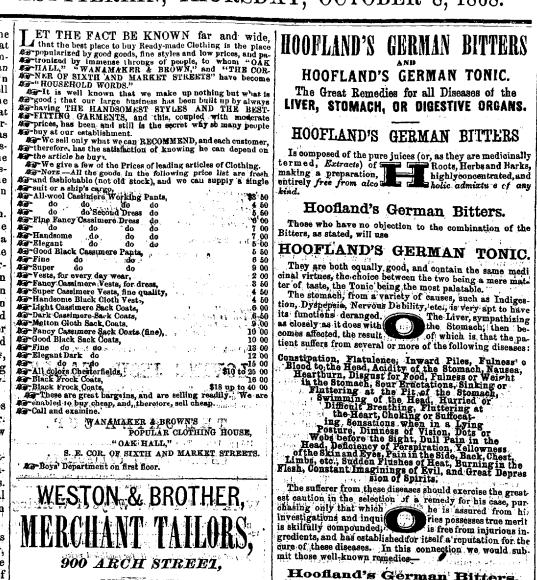


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The Presbytery of Kalamazoo met September 8th and 9th, in Allegan, Mich. Nearly every church was represented. The pastoral relation existing between Rev. Job Pierson and the church of Kalamazoo was dissolved, and Rev. T. Dwight Hunt was elected to succeed him as Stated Clerk. The subject of manses was presented in a forcible report, which was recommended to our Pub. lication Committee as suitable for a tract. ....The Assembly's overture on Reupion was freely discussed, and the Basis overtured was unanimously adopted. The different causes of the Church were presented by ministerial brethren appointed

for the purpose.

The Presbytery of Wilmington held its Stated Meeting in the Pencader church, Glasgow, on Tuesday evening, Sept. 22d.

Rev. R. A. Mallery was received from the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia, and a call for his pastoral services from the church at Milford' was placed in his hands and accepted by him. Messrs. Crowell, Shaw, Scofield and Gaylord were appointed to perform the various parts of service at his installation, on Thursday evening, the 8th

Rev. D. H. Emerson resigned his position as the Standing Committee on Education Land Rev. Dr. Patton was appointed in his place. Rev. Wm. Aikman resigned as the Committee on Home Missions, and Mr. Shaw was appointed in his place; Rev. S. R. Scofield was appointed on Ministerial Relief.

The overture from the General Assembly on the Reunion of the Church was laid before the Presbytery by the Stated Clerk. After a full and harmonious discussion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted : "Resolved, That while. this Presbytery expresses its preference for a reunion on the basis of our common standards of faith and practice, it does yet hereby 'approve of and give its consent to the Reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America on the basis proposed by the Jeint Committee of thirty and approved by the two General Assemblies meeting, in May, 1868, respectively, at Albany, N. Y., and Harris-burg, Pa."

Application was made by certain elders and members of the Central and Hanover St. churches, Wilmington, for the appointment of a Committee to organize a new church in that city. Their request was granted, and Messrs. Shaw Aikman, Scofield, Patton and Ferris were ap

The Central church, Wilmington, was chosen

as the place for the next Stated Meeting. Rev. Wm. Aikman resigned the office of Stated

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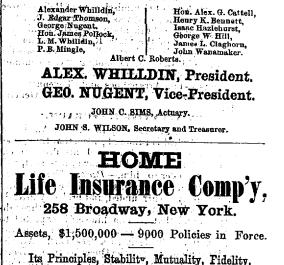
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