## THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1863.

# The Kamily Circle.

### PANGE, LINGUA GLOBIOSA. BY THOS. AQUINAS.

Sing, O my tongue, devoutly sing The glorious laurels of our King : Sing the triumphant victory Gain'd on the cross erected high; Where man's Redeemer yields his breath, And, dying, conquers hell and death. O faithful cross! O noblest tree! In all our woods there's none like thee : No earthly groves, no shady powers, Produce such leaves, such fruit, such flowers.

With pity our Creator saw His noblest work transgress His law, When our first parents rashly ate The fatal tree's forbidden meat; He then resolv'd the cross's wood Should make that tree's sad damage good. Sweet are the nails, and sweet the wood, That bears a weight so sweet, so good.

By this wise method God design'd From sin and death to save mankind; Superior art with love combines, And arts of Satan countermines: And where the traitor gave the wound, There healing remedies are found. O faithful cross ! &c.

When the full time decreed above Was come to show this work of love, The Eternal Father sends His Son. The world's Creator from His throne ! Who on our earth, this vale of tears, Cloth'd with a virgin's flesh appears. Sweet are the 'nails, &c.

Thus God made man, an infant lies, And in the manger weeping cries; His sacred limbs by Mary bound, The poorest tattered rage surround ; . And God's incarnate feet and hands Are closely bound with swathing bands. O faithful cross! &c.

Full thirty years were fully spent In this our mortal banishment; And then the Son of Man decreed For the lost sons of men to bleed : And on the cross a victim laid. The solemn expiation made. Sweet are the nails, &c.

Gall was His drink ; His flesh they tear With thorns and nails; a cruel spear Pierces His side, from whence a flood Streams forth, of water mix'd with blood; With what a tide are washed again The sinful earth, the stars, the main. O faithful cross 1 &c.

Bend towering tree, the branches bend, Thy native stubborness suspend : Let not stiff nature use it's force, Fo weaker sops have now recourse; With soffest arms receive thy load, And gently bear our dying God. Sweet are the nails is a compared to the software of the so

On thee alone the Lamb was slain That reconcilld the world again ; And when on raging seas was tost The shipwreck'd world, and mankind lost, Besprinkled with Bis sacred gore, Thou safely brought them to the shore. O faithful cross & &c. ,

All gloty to the sacrel Three, j ( ) One undivided Deity; To Father, Holy Ghost, and Son, Be equal praise and homage done: Let the whole universe proclatm, OM OSA Of One and Three the glorious name. ANEN.

to the falling of a hair, or the dropping of a too, for he gave a soft little laugh, ending it in a seed, or the crawling of a worm to feed the small cough. sparrow with. His minister, not a very gifted could never make what the neighbors called "real deep theology" as plain as the General. Nay, they even said, "he couldn't hold a stick to him," the General: though what holding a stick had to do with it, is more than I know. About a mile to the west of the mill, lived a Mr. Lines, a plain, simple, honest farmer, who the hospitality of the occasion. had a large family of boys, whom he fed on the plainest food, and clothed with the coarsest garments, but trained the wild, high-spirited fellows | ral lead into the room, but Captain Hamiltonas well as he could. This Mr. Lines held a milder type of theology, and always took man as his starting-point, and so clothed him with theological power and free-will, and held that all was so poised on this self-same point of free will, that around him, and welcomed him! And how he there was but very little room or need of God to act at all, in the salvation of men. What are called "the Decrees," or "the Divine Purposes" he did battle against, always alleging that it was utterly impossible for God to plan and mark out everything without destroying the free-agency of the creature. "Nothing" he would say, " could be certain from eternity without destroying our power to do as we pleased." Many an earnest. sometimes almost too earnest, talk did the General and Mr. Lines have, but neither convinced the other. Mr. Lines would allow that God

might foreknow everything, but not decree it. "But," the General would say, "neighbor Lines, what's the difference? If God knew from eter nity that we should have this talk to-day, it was certain to take place, was it not ?" "O no! General. It is like God's power. He

may do everything, but he don't choose to. So he may know everything, but he don't choose to ! I've got you now, General, have I not ?"

"Got me ! yes just as I once saw a man get an old negro slave into the same corner. When told that God could do everything but, chose not to do it and so could know everything but choose not to-the poor fellow scratched his woolly head good Lord makes a mistake, for 'pears to me He ought to know everything so that He might know what He wouldn't choose to know." As Mr. Lines often boasted that he rather

thought that he got a "leetle" the best of the argument in their last conversation, the General determined to put the argument for his side in a new form. As he kept the plan all to himself, nobody had any share in it. He called one after-So he talked with the boys, heard their account of their skating, and especially of their sliding down hill in father's big sleigh. The General looked at the old sleigh, as he passed along, and left word that he wanted to see Mr. Lines, and would call again the next afternoom? To Root A

Lines, wife has invited some company to-morrow night, and sent metover to invite, you and Mrs. Lines to come also. Now don't, refuse us-I shall esteem it a particular favor it you don't." Mrs. Lines had many things to say, about having noth-On c that, but her delight at the thought of going was please. so manifest, that the gun did not have fire long, and the bargain was made. 1247 BO (AB) CR 1

" Now we are to have tea at six, and we want you to be there princtually. Don't fail on any

But the company was all there, and all at first man, though consistent and true, and who taught acted a little constrainedly, as all company is apt all the sailor boys the science of navigation, to do the first half hour. But the host and hostess were so genial, and the supper table was so loaded and overloaded, and the tea and the coffee were so perfect, and turkeys and chickens were so tender and nicely cooked, and the cold, bracing day had created such appetites, that nobody was so unwise as not to do full justice to

> After supper, when a sort of glow sat upou the countenance of all, whom should the Genea general favorite, who commanded a schooner, and who had been gone so long that all feared he was dead. But there he was, and how they shouted over him. and shook hands, and crowded gave the history of his long absence, and how his wife was now first noticed as she had slipped into the room, crying over his sufferings and her

present joy.

So they spent the evening—happy and joyful. But to the Lines's, there was a double joy : for Captain Hamilton told Mrs. Lines that he had met somebody to carry you home.' the pond and not come directly home? Her brother in the Indies, and that he was well hurry to get home on account of her baby." And the apples which they gave us?", "Why, I heard them say they meant to give and would be at home the next year. He, too, was supposed to be dead, and when Captain Hamilton produced a package carefully done up, you some, and I begged them as a particular with a foreign look about it, the good woman trembled and dropped some nervous tears. But I felt quite certain that one way or another, you the ladies were all so curious to see what was in the package, that the seals were broken and the would go home by their house. It was planned you see, though they nor you knew anything parcel opened, when out came a large, warm, beautiful shawl, on which was written, 'for my beloved sister',' 110w the ladies *did* admire it! And I am not sure they did not envy it, and wish about it." know I should buy your sleigh the next day, and the very sum I should pay forit?" they had a brother who would go off, so, and send them such a shawl! sleigh, and that you were to come to my house

But the evening was spent, now, and the delighted owner of the shawl, and her husband were told by Mr. Hough that he had a two horse sleigh, with double seats, and it they would take a seat with him, he would just drop his own wife a moment and then replied, "den I tink the at her door, and then carry them home. This dropping her at her door, would take them round the pond about a mile further than the direct road home. But never mind. In due season they would get home.

In bidding them good bye, the General merely said :

or late, to drive fast or slow, to go carefully over the bridge, or carelessly. You were free to wel-" Neighbor Lines, you wont forget our meeting to-morrow. Bring that sealed paper. And by the by, your sleight is in runs. The have an old to be glad or sorry to hear from the brother, free noon on Mr. Lines, but found him not at home. one, I will lend you, or sell you, when you take your horse to-morrow."

The company dispersed, but when Mr. and with Mr. Hough or to walk home, free to receive or refuse the apples, and finally, free to buy my Mrs. Lines reached Mr. Hough's, out came their sleigh or not. Don't you know and feel that in all hired man with a huge basket of apples. this you were free, to do as you pleased?" "Yes, yes; but you could not compel me to do "We understand you have no apples, and we

thought your boys would like some." Accordingly Mr. Lines expected him and pre-pared himself for a real theological battle. But ples in company with the precious shawl, and in on arriving the General simply said, "Neighbor due time the Lines's arrived at home; safe and

ound. The next day, only balf an hour after the time, Mr. Lines came to the General's house on the business of the Jones estate.

On coming up to the door, the General met ing to wear, and about appearing like a fright, and about scaring all the company, and about Mrs. Williard's being ashaffed of her, and all of, I will lend it to you or sell it...just as you it all, over, with my wife, for she has a real head of her own. I should like to know what she

"What do you think it worth ?"

"I think it worth ten dollars ; but you may have for five." Wery well, I will take it and the bargain is

The decrees of God are His eternal purpose, cording to the counsel of His will, v

by the Jewish historian Josephus. Bethany means "the house of dates." At the present time palms are not nearly so abundant in the Holy Land as they formerly were.

Reference is made to the palm in the journeyings of the children of Israel from Egypt to the Land of Promise. They were passing through what is described as a " waste, how ing wilderness;" but one day they came in view of a picture of verdure and beauty, which must have been all the more welcome in contrast with the surrounding desolation and barrenness.

"They came," says the sacred historian, to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and three-score and ten palm-trees." (Exod. xv. 27.) And here, for a while, around these wells of refreshing water, and under the pleasant shade of these seventy palmtreds, with their rich green foliage, the weary desert-travellers halted, and pitched their tents.

In the book of Psalms we meet with these words: "The righteous shall flourish like the palm-tree." (Psalm xcii. 12.)

Now, when we consider that all around, almost everywhere where the eye rested, the noble and graceful palm was seen giving beauty to the landscape, and reminding every passer-by of one of the most fruitful sources of national plenty and wealth, we can easily see how much meaning the Psalmist would include in his words, "The righteous shall flourish like the palm-tree."

Let it always be kept in mind that the life of all those who are good and holy is a beau-tiful thing. God commands it., We read, "The righteous Lord loveth righteousness; His countenance doth behold the upright." (Psalm xi. 7.) Good men esteem it; and even bad men, though it condemns them, admire it, and confees that there is nothing so truly beautiful, and lovely as goodness. And here, too, is the secret, of happiness. O, i our young readers wish to be truly happy, and to gotthrough life with the approval of God, and to have the inward quict of a peaceful conscience, they must, above all things, aim to be good.

Another allusion to the palm occurs in one of the closing scenes of our Lord's life upon earth. In fulfilment of an old prophecy, Christ was entering the city of Jerusalem riding apon an ass. Hearing of this, a large number of people went out to meet Him; and, carrying in their hands "branches of palm-trees," they "cried, Hosanna: blessed is the King of Israel, that cometh in the name of the Lord." (John xii 13.) They did this with the intention of show-

ing the honor and esteem in which they held Jesus, and in token of the gladness with which they welcomed Him to the city. Only a few days after, however, instead of the glad "Hosanna !" another cry went up, "Crucify Him; crucify Him."

In ancient times the palm was the emblem of victory and joy; and St. John thus speaks of the glorious company of heaven: "I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." (Rev. vii. 9.)

How glorious the triumph over sin and death which these ransomed ones thus celebrate! How glorious the deliverance from all jain, and sorrow, and evil; from all tears and temptations, of which they sing, as they cry, "Sulvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb !" Who: loes not say, "This prayer shall be mine?" But how many are carnestly and successfully seeking to have it answered? Let seach of our young sfriends seriously, earnestly ask, "Am I?" Early Days.

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Sweet are the nails, &c. 【清清月日】月 . 11 + <u>A A A A A A A</u>

## [From The Congregationalist and Recorder]. FOREORDINATION OF FREEDOM. BY REV. JOHN TODD, D. D.

## "What are the decrees of God ??

"The decrees of God are his eternal purpose ac-cording to the counsel of his will; whereby, for his own glory, he hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.'

Why, the wild, beautiful lake, which lay snuggled up in the further corner of the town, was called " Cedar Lake," I never knew; certainly not because it was overshadowed by cedars, for the memory of man could not recall a cedar within five miles of it. But there it was-full of fish in the summer, and the very paradise for the boys to skate on, during the winter. Many a little fish had lost his life by the pin fish-hook, and many a hard fall, as well as many a graceful curve had marked the ice.

At the south end of the pond was the outlet, over which was a wooden bridge, without any rails at either end to protect the traveller in crossing it. The outlet was a large, clear brook, that went singing off through the lots-nobody seemed to know where, till at length about a mile off it was again found tumbling down a steep hill. Here a dam was built, and the water had now to go to work, as if its time of play was over. At the bottom of this very steep hill was a grist-mill, with a huge over shot wheel, a very house of bread to all the region! How the boys used to come with the bags of grain thrown across the horse's back, and dreading to go down this hill more than all the rest of their journey ! How amazing to them, the power of water brought in a small trough, that could dash down upon the old wheel, and set in motion, and make every wheel in the building to creak, and move, and help to change the grain into flour

This mill was owned and managed by General Williard, a large moble-looking, good-natured man, full of kindness, common sense, shrewdpess and theology. On the latter attainment he pro-bably prided himself, somewhat, for there was no man far or near, who liked to have the General tharge downupon him with his texts, mis catechism, and his hymn book. He was what we call a Calvinist-albeit I doubt whether he had ever heard of Calvin, or knew the difference between Calvin and Calcutta. He studied his Bible much. and went to his catechism for definitions. He had great jealousy towards anything that made God small. He wanted to exalt him, and felt that everything, even the smallest events, must be under the Divine presence and guidance. He not only believed that God foreknew everything, but that if he did foreknow whatsoever comes to pass. then it must be certain? Lind what could make it dertain? Nothing surely that the Divine will. He believed then in "the decrees" as they are called, and that everything great or small, must be a part of the Divine plan, even

account Mrs. Lines "Well, we will be as punctual as the clock."

"By the by, neighbor Lines, don't we meet day after to-morrow about that reference business of Ansel Jones?" "Yes, we meet at your house at three o'clock in

the afternoon." "Very well, won't you please keep this paper till then and bring it with you. You see it is it contains. For particular, reasons, I thought you had better keep it. Good day. Don't for get six ofclock to morrow. "A MART

Mr. Lines thrned over the paper again and again as if he could-find some crevice out of that I left with you?" which its contents might ooze. Mrs. Lines held it up to the candle as if it might be translucent: but no, it was sealed and mysterious, and not a conjecture could be made to stick to it.

The morrow evening came, and the sun went down in clouds and darkness, as winter suns are very apt to set. The night seemed to come on rapidly, and before Mr. Lines had shaved his face, and Mrs. L. had donned her very best, and had lifted and pulled her cap every way, and had General's. How they did hurry now !! But the be to pay, if he lost a moment.

It was dark now, but on rushed old Kate. making the snow creak, and the old sleigh tremble in every joint. Then they came to the bridge, over the outlet of Cedar Lake, and in rushing, pop went the sleigh, off one side, spilling them out on the snow covered ice: They they will go up round the lake, and at Mrs. were not hurt, but the old sleigh was demolished. Hough's door they will receive another present, Just as they were saying, "what shall we now do ?" a sleigh, with two men drove up, and stopped.

"I say, Mr. Lines, is it you ?" "Yes, but who are you ?"

"O, we are General Williard's hired men. You were going there I expect." "Y cs, we were "?! I Hand Y MAH

"Yery well, jump into my sleigh, and I'll carry you there in a giffin, while. Joe leads, your horse after us. He will put it in the barn safe. Your sleigh is about done for Lorent?" leigh is about done for, Lexpect."

Under weigh again, they were soon at the General's,—only three-quarters of an hour, after at six?" time. But they, were, belated, and they broke down, though they acknowledged that that did meeting

On entering the house, it was soon announced that the Jones case was not ready, and conse-

quently they could do nothing about it that day. But it so, happened that before they were aware of it, the friends, were again in the very thickest of the old theological battle. Divine purposes, and human freedom. The one asserting that God could plan everything, and foresealed up, but we will open it then and see what know how and when everything would come to it contains. For particular reasons, I thought pass, and yet leave us free, and the other as stoutly denying this to be possible; at length the General says: "Neighbor Lines, have you that scaled paper

"Yes, here it is." "De you know what is written in it?" "No, not a word of it."

"You are satisfied it was written, and sealed up, before you came here on a visit yesterday ?" 'Yes-but what then ?"

"Will you please break the seal and read it?" Carefully and with a puzzled look, Mr. Lines proke the seal and read as follows:

"To-morrow I am going to invite company to taken out her old, faded shawl, the only one she my house. Among those invited will be Mr had had since her marriage, and before the old and Mrs. Lines. They will leave their home, horse was harnessed in the old sleigh, it was full somewhat after six in the evening : they will horse was harnessed in the old sleigh, it was full somewhat after six in the evening; they will a quarter past six—the time set to be at the drive fast, and in crossing the bridge at Cedar Lake, they, will run off the bridge and tumble in the show on the ice. But my two hired men boys had put in the reins wrong, and that must in the snow on the ice. But my two hired men be corrected, and then the whip had to be looked will he there to help them, one to bring them in up, and then Mrs. L. had forgotten her, gloves, my sleigh, and the other to lead their horse,and couldn't tell exactly where they were, But for the fall off the bridge will break their sleigh at last, hurried and flurried they were ready to all to a wreck. At my house they will meet a move. The old horse caught the spirit of hurry, goodly company, and Mrs. Lines will meet with and scampered off, as if he knew mischief would three things that will surprise her. First, she will meet with an fold friend, whom she will be very glad to see. Second, she will hear from a relative what will make her very happy, and thirdly, she will receive a present, that will make her very glad, and a little proud After this the Houghs will carry them home safely, but

> and then will go home and talk it all over. The next day Mr. Lines will come to my house, and will buy a sleigh of me for five dollars, to replace the one he had broken! "All this is foreseen and "planned, and deter mined by me, and yet my friend Lines will know that he was free in doing every one of those

> my house till after six, when your tea was to be "Because I never knew you to be punctual at meeting on the Sabbath. That aint your way

for His own glory, he hath ordained whatsoever comes to pass. "You see the purposes or plans of God are

"Now about the bridge, how did you know I

"Because the snow is drifted on it, on the

"When I called at your house, I saw the old

sleigh, and knew that the boys had been sliding

"I felt so sure that you would drive off that

[ told my men to go there, and if you were in

trouble, to help you on, one leading your horse."

"And about the three surprises for my wife."

"O I had seen Capt. Hamilton, and he pro

mised he would come in during the visit, and he

told me about your wife's brother, and also about

"How did you know I should ride home with

"I asked him to be kind enough to come with

"How did you know we should go up round

"OI knew that Mrs. Hough would be in a

avor to me, to have them ready that night, for

"Well, well, but one thing more, how did you

"As to that, I felt sure you would break your

the next day or the Jones business, and I knew

I could put the sleigh so low that you would

"Well, General, you are a cute one, but after

. "It proves that our actions may all be marked

out, and written down,-all planned ever so

minutely, and yet the creature is left free. My

plans, my drawing out all these plans on paper

did not touch your free agency. You know you

were free to come or not-free to start in season,

come Capt. Hamilton or to be cold towards him,

to rejoice over the shawl or not, free to ride

"True ; nor does God compel you." He leaves

you just as free as if He had no plans All I

have wanted to show, you is, that we are none

the less, free because God can foresee and plan

that we shall freely act under His government.

You see, too, that in all that I have done I have

""That's trne again, General, and the thing

looks curious. I don't exactly know what to say

will say to it all. What is your definition of

-you have rather out-witted me. I must talk

done nothing but what was for your good."

his double sleigh-forseeing you would want

down hill with it, and saw that a small wrench

" How came your two hired men there."

north side, and as I have passed over it, I saw a

man must drive very carefully not to run off-

which I felt sure you would not do

"Well, the breaking the sleigh ?"

should drive off?"

would destroy it."

the present of the shawl."

jump at the chance."

any of these things.'

purposes and plans?

all, what does all this prove?"

Mr. Hough ?"

eternal, because He, His thoughts and plans, must be eternal; and they are according to the councils of His own will, because in eternity, when the plans were formed, there was no created being to consult, and, as they are all for his own glory, they cannot be unjust, for that would not be for His glory, nor unwise, nor wrong, nor hard,-but such as will make Him more glorious. And they embrace everything, or else something might happen that would not be for His glory. "Well, General, I see things in somewhat a

new light; but I must talk it over with my wife. She can see through a ladder as quick as any one, and so I'll just take my new bought sleigh, and go to my home, and ask her all about it. She'll know."

### THE PALM TREE.

A stately and beautiful tree is the palm. vigor and perfection when about thirty years old; and from that time will frequenty yield, year by year, more than three liundred pounds of dates, and continue this wonyears. The trupk, unlike other trees of so large a growth, is not formed of solid, close thread, and rigging for small vessels, and the trunk affords firewood. From the sap a kind of honey is prepared; which is consid-ered to be almost equal to that produced by been and institution is indeed a blessing. ered to beastmost equality that provide solution of the recognition of the bees: a kind of wine is also obtained from it. Why, how did you know I should not leave bees: a kind of wine is also obtained from it. In former times the palm was found in In former times the palm was found in In former times the pain was found in the second and ing for women in all civilized countries. great abundance in Palestine. Jericho was ing for women in all civilized countries. so celebrated for the abundance and rich-

The NEW YORK OBSERVER calls attention to the Woman's Hospital of that city. This noble and merciful institution was originated by Dr. Sims, whose suggestions have been carried out by a band of beneficent and selfdenying women; who have provided for their sex one of the most benevolent charities in the whole world. At the recent anniversary, Dr. Sims in his address made the following allusion to this Hospital-this Bethesda in New York :

"Look at its records and you will find that it has given shelter, health, and life, as it were, to the wives and daughters of clergymen, of lawyers, of doctors, of merand perhaps it is, of all trees in the East, clergymen, of lawyers, of doctors, of mer-the most useful. It comes to its greatest chants' clerks, of merchants who have been unfortunate" in business, of college professors, of teachers, of druggists, of artists, of farmers, of mechanics, and many others of respectability and culture. A young man derful fruitfulness for sixty or seventy on a salary has a poor, sick wife. His family physician says to him ; "Your wife's large a grown, and grown, and grown a soft pith. It rises to a great height from the ground, and grows so straight that the prophet Jeremiah uses an expression which is a soft of proverb, "Up-Every part of this highly valued tree is of suffering wife to the city; and to place her some use. A large part of the population in a boarding house or hotel, and then emof Egypt, Arabia, and Persia subsist almost ploy a great city doctor." "But," replies entirely on the fruit, which grows in clusters his physician, "send her to the Woman's just below the leaves. The date stones, hospital and she will have the services of its when ground, furnish food for camels. The medical officers.without a cent's cost, paywhen ground, jurnish tood for campies. The ing only for board, according to circum-leaves, which grow from six to eight feet in ing only for board, according to circum-length, and are very broad, are used for stances." The honest physician not accus-covering the tops of houses. They are also made into various useful articles, such as done here almost daily, is too glad to know baskets, mats, and bags. From the branches that there is such an institution as the are made cages for poultry and fonces for Woman's Hospital, where he can send his gardense Sine tough fibres which are found respectable patient of modest means, with in the boughs are manufactured into ropes, the hope, nay, almost with the certainty, of seeing her return soon to the bosom of her

ness of its palm-groves, that it was called and they, are all in demand constantly. "the city of palm-trees." (Deut. xxxiv. 3.) These complaints hitherto considered incunot hinder them long. And how queer, that the General's man Larkin, should happen to be there at the very moment, and take them in bissleigh. The General seemed to enjoy the strangeness being late when you set out I felt sure you would drive fast to make up lost time." (Deut. xxxiv. 3.)