# American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1869.

REV. JOHN W. MEARS, D. D., Editor. No. 1834 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

Rev. Z. M. Humphrey, D.D., Pastor of Calvary Church. Rev. Herrick Johnson, D.D., Pastor of the First

Rev. Dani. March. D.D., Paster of Clinton St. Rev. Peter Stryker, D.D., Pastor of N. Broad St. Church.

Rev. George F. Wiswell, D.D., Pastor of Green Hill Church Rev. E. E. Adams, D. D., Prof. in Lincoln Uni

versity. Rev. Samuel W. Duffield, Special Cor

respondent. Mr. Robert E. Thompson will continue to

act as Editor of the News Department. Correspondents in every Presbytery and Sy-

nod will promptly furnish us with fresh items onews from their respective fields. Christmas Memories, by Rev. Chas. A. port of the Saharanpur Mission, De Avaritia,

Smith, D.D., Dr. McIlvaine in Rochester, Reby S. W. Duffield, page 2d; Possible Bases of Union in the Lutheran Church, Bryant Poet and Editor, Great Star Shower in Georgia. Japanese Paper, Scientific Items, page 3d; He Giveth His Beloved Sleep, (original Poetry), Dunie and the Ice, Child and the Eagle, Mrs. Vice-President Colfax, Voyage in the Arm Chair, (Poetry), Over the Line, by T. L. Cuyler, Power of a Smile, page 6th; Religious World Abroad, England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, page 7th.

### SUMMARY.

The Extreme Ritualists of England are terribly disconcerted by the final decision against the St. Alban's

In four years the Romish priesthood has increased 151, the chapels 281, and the convents 37, in England and Wales. In Scotland, the increase in the four years to the close of 1867, was but 18 priests and 10 churches at which figures they have remained stationary during the past year.

The Established Church of Scotland has called forth a great burst of indignation by turning out a Free Church congregation, and seizing its building, taking advantage of informality to subvert the clear justice of the case. There will soon come a plan for its desestablishment, like that of the Church of Ireland.

The members and families of the Irish Presbyterian Church use enough tobaceo to supply four times the amount of the Regium Donum now in peril by the proposed act of disestablishment.

It is proposed to build an Irish Assembly Hall, and

to raise a statue to the late Dr. Cooke. In Portugal the Bible is freely circulated; and dissenters are protected and idemnified by law for assaults which are sometimes made upon them.

In England there is one murder to 198,000 people in Rome and the Papal States one in every 700; in London 4 per cent of the births are illegitimate, in Rome 248.

Three New York Presbyteries, Watertown, Champlain and Delaware, have voted for Reunion, hist on the Joint Committee's Basis and then on the "Standards pure and simple," with a view to its immediate consummation. Another New York Presbytery, (Cortland,) which has lost three churches to the Congregationalists during the year, approves of Reunion on the Committee's Basis, and declines to answer the proposal for action on the other platform.

week in New York City, and recommended such action to the General Assembly as is calculated to conserve the liberal orthodox type of Presbyterianism in the

Rev. A. M. Stewart is appointed District Secretary of Home Missions for the Pacific Coast and Commissioner to General Assembly from the Presbytery of Sierra Nevada.

North Broad St. church has very recently established a Doreas Industrial Class, which speets every Saturday afternoon in the Lecture Room.

One church organized by our enterprising brethren of Minnesota, one received from the other branch, by the Presbytery of Cincinnati; one church edifice dedicated in Michigan, costing \$3,000, and one in Downsville, N. Y., costing \$6,800; one church dedicated after repairs worth \$1,800, in Franklinville, N. Y.: two calls, (one accepted.) one installation, (Rev. E. B. Parsons at Baldwinsville, N. Y.,) one ordination, (Mr. R. C. Morse, of the New York Observer,) are the principal church and ministerial items of the week.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

To send copies to Home Missionaries: From S. C. PERKINS, Esq., From a lady of the First church.

KOLAPGOR MISSION. - Mr. G. W. Mears wishes to report, that he has recently remitted \$240 to Mr. Wilder, including \$125 lately acknowledged by us, and that he is prepared to make any further remittances from Sabbathschools and others annually contributing about this time.

## PAY OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS. OFFICE BOARD OF CONTROL

Philadelphia, January 25, 1869. cle in this week's American Presbyterian, reflecting upon the management of the Board of Controllers of the Public Schools in reference to the payment of teachers in irredeemable currenov or warrants. You were probably not aware that the City Councils alone have entire control of these payments, and, consequently, whatever irregularity exists must be charged to their account. Hoping you will make the proper correc-I remain your friend,

DANIEL STEINMETZ, President of Board of Controllers of Public

Our esteemed correspondent will observe, by recurring to the article last week, that the Board W MB LAND Charte & Spino

THE SABBATH SCHOOL INSTITUTE.

An Institute under the charge of the Pennsylvania Sabbath School Association was held last week in the Reformed church in Seventh street near Brown (Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage. pastor). It was our privilege to attend many of the meetings of this Institute, and we now propose to lay before the readers of the American Presbyterian a report of the proceedings, with some friendly criticisms upon them.

The exercises opened with a sermon by Rev. Mr. Talmage on Sabbath evening, January 17th. This was founded upon the following text: "And Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad." 1 Sam. xx. 40. From a full report of this discourse in the Morning Post, we learn it was sharp. eloquent, and seasonable, showing Sabbath School Teachers the line of advance in their work. On the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday following, the Institute held two sessions each day, one beginning at 21 o'clock, P. M., the other at 71 o'clock, P. M.

The preparations for these meetings were admirable. Too much praise cannot be given to the President, Rev. George A. Peltz, the Secretary, Rev. Alfred Toylor, and to the conductor of the music, Mr. J. E. Gould. The last named gentleman, at his own expense, provided a full supply of elaborate programmes, containing not only the order of the Exercises, and a list of the Speakers, but also a collection of hymns, and tunes selected from a new book which he is preparing for the press. These hymns sung by a large choir of "Little Wanderers," and other children, under the leadership of Prof. Gould, added greatly to the interest of the meetings, and effectually prevented all weariness, which usually FROM OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT. attenda such protracted services.

It would take up too much time and space to state particularly the exercises of these days of profit and delight. We can but allude to them in passing. The President and Socretary gave some capital hints from their large experience and study. Mr. John Wanamaker, of our city, Mr. W. A. Wisong, of Baltimore, Mr. W. H. Sutton, of Jersey city, and Rev. Dr. Freeman, of it has been for some years past. The place is Newark, explained and illustrated the practical workings of a well conducted Sabbath School. We were particularly pleased with the remarks of Dr. Freeman. Rev. Dr. Cattell, President of Lafayette College, and Rev. Dr. Osborne, one of the professors in that Institution, both of whom have travelled much in oriental lands, and made themselves familiar with Eastern customs, showed the great importance of ¡Sabbath-school; teachers studying Scripture Geography, and endeavoring, with the use of maps and charts and the blackboard, to interest, and instruct (their spupils in archæology. Very fortunately Prof. Deihl, who has travelled more than any other man in the world, (perhaps excepting Bayard Taylor) and who has made himself perfect master of the habits and customs of those now living in what we call Bible lands, unexpectedly was present, and by his versatile knowledge and agreeable way of using it, added greatly to the interest of all the work for the Freedmen, now happily undertaken meetings. Rev. Dr. Newton, facile princeps, the prince of preachers to children, conducted a portions. It must be attended to at once, both children's church. Prof. Gould gaye some val- for the sake of the poor blacks, and for our own uable hints on Sunday-school music. Mr. J. R. Sypher of the New York Tribune, and your humble correspondent, endeavored to enforce the importance of teaching Temperance to the children. The exercises growing in interest from the beginning to the close, concluded with an excellent address by Rev. C. H. Rayne on the Possibilities of the Sunday school," and a the church, Rev. Mr. Talmage. Besides the above gentlemen, whose names were on the programme, (excepting Prof. Deihl) Gen. Gregory, Rev. Dr. Nevin, of Lancaster, and other earnest and eloquent Sunday-school men took part in the the minds of his audience that much more ought

It was good to be there. All who attended this Institute we are sure were profited and delighted, and went home resolved to try to do more for the cause of Christ in the Sabbath school than ever before. The most progressive workers no doubt received some new hints, and those who are pursuing the old-fashioned way followed by our fathers, with the little children perched on high benches, in a poorly ventilated room, and simply asking them a few general questions, we think must have felt there were modern improvements they would do well to adopt. Let those who call themselves conservatives, and who look with suspicion on all that is progressive, consider the distinction between truth and teaching. The former changes not, the latter does. All the efforts and appliances which are calculated to bring gospel truth to the heart, and thus lead the young and old to Christ,

should be hailed with joy, and used with energy. We have said the preparations for this Institute were admirable. Yet they were not perfect. As one of the conductors himself remarked at one of the meetings, "these exercises should be run on a time-table." Certainly. These warmhearted brethren coming some distance to meet each other, each full of his subject, and drawn \$20,000 on condition that a like sum should be out by the remarks of others, wish to express raised by first of January in all the rest of the their sentiments, and hardly know where to stop. The pastor of the North Broad St. church was on the programme for Wednesday evening, to address the meeting on "Adult Bible class as good as \$45,000. teaching," and, to illustrate this important subject, taking the whole audience for his class. of Control is not mentioned, much less reflected Such an exercise requires a full hour to do it old women into it, where they have already been

for his auditors, there were two very important and interesting subjects that evening preceding his, and the learned brethren, in discussing them. failed to keep account of time. The excellent brother who presided over the meeting, seemed to think there was nothing to demand promptitude, and the consequence was, that this great subject was introduced just a quarter after nine o'clock, when many of the audience felt compelled to return to their homes. Of course the Bible class teacher could not, in the fifteen minutes left for him, have an opportunity to show how smart he was, or test the docility and acquirements of his class.

Then again: there was a very handsome looking "question box," placed in the middle aisle. but if there were any questions put in it, we did not see them taken out, or hear them discussed. Perhaps they were at some time when we were not present, but not always when the subject was on the programme. This question-box arrangement is excellent. | Important points are thus presented, and, often in a few words, the most perplexing themes are well discussed. After elaborate remarks on some great subjects, these questions are calculated to give great relief, and the words which are embodied in the impromptu answers are frequently the cream of the whole.

With these trifling exceptions, we think the Institute was all that could be asked for. It was a grand success. Such communings of kindred spirits are promotive of great good. New truth is elicited, and each earnest Christian worker is stimulated to a holier devotion, and more earnest prayer.

# ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ANNIVERSARIES.

These religious festivals, of which we have spoken quite freely in previous years, were held this week in this city of Ogdensburg from which we write, in connection with the First Presbyterian church, Rev. Dr. Miller's. The attendance of delegates from other parts of the county, and of strangers from a distance, is rather larger than central, accessible and inviting; and we are happy to see that the interest of the people of the county in these anniversaries is not abated. They commenced on Tuesday evening, as usual, with the County Temperance Society, Hon. James Redington, of Waddington, being in the chair and making the opening address. Without naming them, he made touching allusions to two distinguished men of the county, who had been utterly ruined by rum. They were referred to as a fearful warning to others.

On Wednesday morning came the anniversary of the Home Missionary Society. Rev. Mr. Stowe appeared with his big map; and Rev. M. E. Strieby, of the American Missionary Association, for the Freedmen. Both made capital speeches. Mr. Strieby had not been at the anniversaries before, but all that heard him on this occasion will be glad to see him again. His speech was methodical, but full of fire and pathos. It drew tears from many eyes. He has great power over an audience, and made the protection and safety. Thes Dol**uts w**ere well put, touchingly illustrated by facts and anecdotes, and made a deep impression.

Wednesday afternoon was devoted to the Bible Society; Wednesday evening to the American and Foreign Christian Union. The Bible Society is employing a colporteur to canvass the county and supply all the destitute with the word of God. This Bible Society, auxiliary to the national institution, has now been in exisvery happy speech, as farewell, by the pastor of tence and doing its work for more than thirty

Rev. W. B. Stewart spoke earnestly and effectively for the American and Foreign Christian Union. He showed what encroachments Rome is making upon us, and made the impression upon to be done, and done at once, to meet those aggressions.

The anniversary of the Tract Society was held on Thursday morning; the Foreign Missionary Society on Thursday afternoon; and the County Sunday school Association, finishing the series, on Thursday evening. Thus seven religious meetings are held in the same place in three days, well attended, with good speaking and real interest. It has been a pleasant and profitable occasion, of which we should be happy to say much more if time and space would al-

## ST. LAWRENCE PRESBYTERY.

The annual meeting of this Presbytery was held on Tuesday 19th instant at Ogdensburg. The chief item of business was the unanimous and hearty adoption of the overture of the General Assembly on re-union with the Old School: and after such action the Presbytery also expressed its entire willingness to unite with the other branch on the basis of the "standards pure and simple" if that be found to be the better way, and to unite at once. The Presbytery is

entirely ripe for re-union. Rev. John Waugh and Wm. A. Eldridge, both of Canton, were appointed Commissioners to the General Assembly.

## HOME FOR THE HOMELESS.

The future of this admirable institution in Utica, designed for aged, indigent females, is now made sure. Hop. T. S. Eaxton offered county to put with it. For a time the subscription moved slowly, but the ladies took it in hand. nearly \$5,000 over the sum named, making now

Without waiting, however, for this, the ladies having the matter in charge, rented a building and gathered a number of dependent, and needy

funds secured they will soon erect a suitable building, and make the "Home for the Homeless" one of the permanent benevolent institutions and ornaments of that beautiful city.

The ministers of Watertown are still keeping up their Sabbath afternoon temperance meetings in the great Hall of the village. They are well attended, the last Sabbath crowded. Instead, however, of having one long address, as when the meetings were first started, they now have several short speeches. Rev. Dr. Porter, Rev. C. C. Wallace, of the two Presbyterian churches, together with the Baptist, Methodist and other ministers made five minute speeches last Sunday, with which the audience were evidently well pleased, and a good impression is being made for the cause of truth and sobriety.

Rev. L. M. Miller, D.D., of Ogdensburg, has had \$500 added to his salary, the addition to date back over a good part of the past year, making the total now \$3,000 a year, beside a pleasant parsonage, and gifts, and kindnesses innumerable, just such as an intelligent and affectionate people are apt to bestow upon a pastor who has served them faithfully and acceptably for eighteen years.

St. Peter's Church, Rochester, are so far along in the reconstruction of their house of worship lately destroyed by fire, that they are expecting to occupy their new Lecture Room next Lord's day for preaching and Sabbath-school services. Their audience room will not be ready for use before spring.

As we anticipated, the First Presbyterian church of Rochester have given to Dr. McIlvaine, their former pastor a call to return to them and again be their minister. They have great hope that he will accept their invitation.

Rev. Chas. C. Johnson, a senior in Auburn Seminary, has received and accepted a call to the Presbyterian church of Holley, and expects to enter upon the pastorate the first of June.

The State Temperance meeting is held this week in Rochester, but we are too far away to report it. Rev. E. P. Hammond is also to be in Rochester next Sunday, to hold meetings there for a time, of which we shall hope to have something good to say ere long. GENESEE. Ogdensburg, Jan. 22, 1869.

## LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

DEAR AMERICAN:-The Christian Convention, held last week in the Second church, was very successful, both as respects the numbers in attendance throughout, and the spirit which marked its exercises. It was generally participated in by the clergy of all denominations here, and to some extent, by strangers. A very wholesome influence seemed to proceed from it upon the churches, and more than the usual degree of interest is manifested in many of our congregations. In a few a very decided revival of relichurch is thoroughly roused to prayer and effort. A somewhat similar state of things obtains in the suburban church of Hyde Park, Rev. Mr. John. son's, where a considerable number appears to have entered upon a new life.

The 31st Street church has extended a unanipastor, which he will doubtless accept.

Rev. G. R. Williams, late of Medina. N. Y. is invited to become pastor of the Waukegan

them an affirmative reply.,,
The new Farwell Hall, of the Young Men's Christian Association, was opened this week by their expectations. Beyond an occasional passage of considerable eloquence and fluency, and a good voice and elocution, there was little to rean orator, with his countryman, Henry Vincent, ders so grateful.

The Hall is an ornament to the city, and a great public benefit. In every respect it is quite superior to its predecessor, and has no equal in this country that I know of, or any other, for the purposes for which it is designed.

At a meeting of the congregation of the Second church, on Monday evening last, it was resolved to sell their present church site, and build again "not north of 16th St., nor west of Wabash Avenue." Final action was reserved till an adjourned meeting, two weeks later. If, however, the action of that meeting is rightly understood, immediate steps will be taken for carrying their design of removal into prompt execu-

Our church at Pontiae, in Livingston Co, in this State, having unanimously invited Rev. Wm. McConnell, late of this city, to become their pas tor, Mr. McC. has acceeded to their request.

All are enjoying the finest weather imaginable now for several weeks past, If you have as good or better, I am "glad of it." NORTH-WEST.

#### LETTER FROM HARRISBURGH. HARRISBURGH, Jan, 1869.

DEAR BRO. MEARS:-Your correspondent

rom Central Pennsylvania must be very remiss. have seen nothing from his pen in your columns from time immemorial. Things occur here. Here gather the Solons of the State. Do we not give laws to the whole Commonwealth?

It is perhaps too early to judge of the character of our new Legislature. Rumor, with her many tongues, says bad things of them, that they are corrupt, have already begun to take bribes, are below the ordinary standard both for integand when the time was up they had a surplus of rity and ability; but they have certainly done one good thing in the election of Hon. John Scott to the U.S. Senate. ) The Commonwealth may be congratulated in this servant of hers, an incorrupt, talented, and Christian man, against whose character lies no oreproach, and in whose

people pray for their rulers and legislators? There is the highest need of prayer.

Our excellent Governor is slowly but surely recovering from a serious attack of sickness, and in a few days will be at his post again. May his useful life be long spared.

Our capital city has lately been honored by being made the head-quarters of a Catholic Bishopric, and rumor says great changes are to be made in the way of schools, numeries, &c. Already we hear of processions, confirmations, grand services, &c., in great abundance. When the new Episcopal diocese is formed, and its Bishop establishes himself among us, the Bishops of the single Churches among us will learn their inferiority.

One of them, the greatly loved young pastor of the O. S. Pres. church, Rev. S. S. Mitchell, is said to be seriously considering the duty of accepting a call to the pulpit made vacant by the death of the lamented Dr. Gurley, of Washington, D. C. It will be a great disappointment to his people, and his many other friends here, should he conclude to accept the call.

The Church with which he is now connected is a strong, vigorous and active one, having in it a very large proportion of earnest and devoted men and women. It would not die, though bereft of a pastor. It might almost dispense with office-bearers. Dr. Candlish says, that the Plymouth Brethren and the Friends are so far right, in that their system which sets aside official distinctions, were it only practicable, would be the beau ideal, the very perfection of Christian organization. It is the necessity, not the glory of the Church on earth, that she must have her office bearers. "I would that all the Lord's people were prophets."

The week of prayer was observed by our Presbyterian churches this year with more than usual interest. The nightly meetings were largely attended, and were very impressive and hopeful. They were followed on the succeeding week by two large union meetings of the Presbyterian churches, Old and New School, in which a delightful spirit of fraternal love was manifested.

The opening of the New Year is with us the season for Sunday-school anniversaries. We have in our city several of the most effective and well conducted Sunday-schools in the State, and their yearly reports are very encouraging.

The Fifty-third Anniversary of the First

Presbyterian church Sunday-school occurred a few days ago, and is still the subject of so frequent remark and so great congratulation that a brief account of it may prove interesting.

[Account of S. S. Anniversary in our next.]

#### na a<del>n di Gagografia and an</del> war a see Missionary.

What Missions have done for Polynesia. - When the London Missionary Society sent out their first missionaries, these islands were sunk in the lowest heathenism. Incessant war, merciless cruelty, infanticide, indescribable vice, in many places cannibalism, made the strong races a ceaseless terror to each other and to the world outside them. gion is in progress. From twenty to thirty have The four great Societies which have sent their been hopefully converted in the congregation of brethren forth as messengers of mercy, have Rev. A. Eddy, of the Ninth, and the entire gathered into Christ's fold 300,000 people, of whom fifty thousand are members of the Church. They have together expended on the process less than £12,000,000; a sum which now-a-days will only make a London railway, or furnish the navy with six iron clads. Yet in all but Western Polynesia, land and people are Christian now. The victories of peace have taken the place of mous call to Rev. G. W. Mackie to become its war." Resources have multiplied; wealth has begun to accumulate. Books, knowledge, order, and law, rule these communities. Large churches have been gathered, schools flourish, good men church, by a unanimous movement of the people. and good women are numerous. Not a few have This is an important church, in a very attractive offered themselves as missionaries to heathen young city. Mr. W. expects to be able to give islands; and in zeal, self-sacrifice, and patient service have equalled the earnest men of other climes. All over the southern groups of Polynesia this is the work which missionaries have been two lectures from the distinguished English doing.—This is the influence which they have Methodist minister, Rev. Wm. Morley Punsbon. exercised, and these are the fruits of their devoted I think most of his hearers were disappointed in toil. It is not merely Admiral Fitzroy, and Captheir expectations. Beyond an occasional pastain Erskine, and Admiral Wilkes, who testify to the reality of such results; but to these Christian Islands, where sailors were once afraid to mark of excellence in the lecture to which I lis | land, hundreds of whalers run gladly every year tened. He cannot for a moment be compared, as to get the refreshment which their hard toil ren-

> The Chinese in Hawaii are much better looked after by the native churches than are the Chinese in California. "Several of them have long been in the habit of attending our native services on the Sabbath, and of contributing generously at our monthly concerts; and for other benevolent objects. Thus it is in building churches, our Chinamen are ready and generous in helping. Most of our more intelligent Chinese give up their old forms of worship, and prefer to believe in the Christian's God. Some are inquiring, candid, and tender, and some say they are sure that the Christian religion will, ere long, prevail over all their vast empire. They have no confidence in the gods of their fathers, but are ashamed of them. The children of these Chinese, by Hawaiian wives, are fast multiplying. These are active, bright, and are all receiving a Christian education. They are all seen in our schools, our Sabbath schools, and our Sabbath assemblies."

> . . "Our Hawaiian Board, during its session last June, engaged the services of Mr. S. P. Aheong, a young Chinese mcrchant of Labaina, as a travelling agent among his countrymen at the Islands. He has given up his store, and left his wife and four young children at Maui, and is now pursuing the business of a Christian colporteur with zeal, discretion, and efficiency. One week ago we had the pleasure of welcoming him into our family, where he now is. Last Sabbath morning he preached to an overflowing house, in the Hawaiian tongue. In the afternoon he preached in two Chinese dialects, to all the Chinese in and around our town. None were absent, and all were greatly interested. Her is a young Apollos, and like the Alexandrian, he only needs, under God, the good Priscilla and Aquila to teach him 'the way of the Lord more perfectly.' He understands six of the Chinese dialects, he can speak English tolerably, and he is ready in the Hawaiian. He is lucid, eloquent, and impressive.' -Missionary Herald.

Romanism in China. The Universe, the Paris Roman Catholic organ, states that the whole of China has been divided into twenty-four Catho-Justice. Unfortunately for the speaker, if not caring for them; but now that they have the future there is everything to hope. Do Christian ope, and five prefects apostolic of different na-