

Religious Intelligence.

THE REFORMED CHURCHES.

Ministerial.—Rev. G. M. McEckron was installed pastor of the Westminster church, New York, on 22d street, Feb. 7. Dr. John Hall preached an earnest discourse to the large audience that crowded the building.—Mr. W. S. Owens, a student in the U. P. Seminary in Allegheny, Pa., has been unanimously called to the pastoral charge of the U. P. church of Chicago, a mission enterprise, and the second Psalms-singing church established in that city. They appeal for aid to erect a church.—Rev. John R. Findley of Mercer, Pa., is called to Decatur, Ill.—Rev. S. W. Miller, formerly of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has been called to the church of Wooster, O. The congregation have raised the usual salary of \$300.—Rev. S. W. Brown resumes for a time his charge of the Reformed church of Lake Owasco, which he left eight years ago to go as a missionary to Japan.—Rev. W. H. Wilson of Washington, Iowa, is appointed by the U. P. Board of Home Missions, to take charge of their proposed mission field in Salinas City, Cal.

Churches.—Dr. Cumming states that the Scotch Church in Rome is now held in a granary over a pig-sty.—Among the Choctaw Indians are sixteen Christian churches, 1160 communicants, and 1500 Sabbath-school children. A translation of the Bible into their language is now in process of printing in New York, under the auspices of the American Bible Society.—On the 4th of Feb., a new congregation was organized by the Northern Presbytery of the R. P. Church, (New Light) in East Brooklyn, N. Y. Twenty-eight members were admitted, and Messrs. John B. Guthrie and Thomas M. Stewart were elected ruling elders. A large part of the membership were dismissed by certificate from Dr. McLeod's church, New York. The N. Y. Observer adds: "This is the fourth colony sent off from that church to form others during the ministry of the present pastor." Only two of the four are "to the fore"; the other two being driven out of the denomination by the intolerant and exclusiveness of the Presbytery, in which Dr. McLeod is omnipotent. The last driven out (to the O. S.) is Rev. George Stuart Chambers' church, worshipping in the Historical Society's Hall in New York.—A remarkable petition was presented to the Presbytery of South Carolina for a church of their order, in the new town of Walhalla having upon its signatures of Lutherans, Baptists, and Methodists, as well as Presbyterians. It was organized by Committee on the first Sabbath in December. Sixteen members united.—The New York Observer mentions the following Presbyterian churches as having recently dedicated houses of worship: Amity, N. Y.; West Dresden, N. Y.; Downsville, Pa.; Taylor's Falls, Minn.; Delphos, Ohio; Union, Ohio; Sharon, Ohio; Midland, Mich.—Small German Reformed houses of worship have lately been consecrated at Fulton, Ohio; Adams, Ohio; Florence, Ohio; Clearspring, Md.; Frostburg, Md.—It is said on the best authority, that of all the money contributed to the board of Foreign Missions in the Presbyterian Church (O. S.), one Presbytery alone, that of New York, gives one quarter.—The U. P. Home Missionary in Omaha writes: "A church organization was effected about one year ago, with eleven members. Our prospects at the time, favorable to the building up of a congregation, were soon obscured. Seeing no prospect of securing a church building for time to come, I concluded to erect a small church on my own lot, at my own expense, in the extreme southern limits of the city, hoping to be able at a future date to secure one in a more central position." He has had a good degree of encouragement, and is earning nearly \$500 a year to keep himself and family by acting as colporteur, city missionary and pastor.—A beautiful house of worship has been lately built at Hazleton, Pa., by Mr. A. Pardee, at an expense of \$25,000, and has been presented by him to the Presbytery church of that place, under the pastoral care of Rev. Dr. Newlin. The new edifice was dedicated on the 17th ult. President Cattell of Lafayette College, preaching the sermon.—The R. P. church of Eden, Randolph Co., Ill., have voted the suspension of Mr. Geo. H. Stuart to be "unkind, unchristian, and showing a sad lack of brotherly love." The part of the congregation who reside in Sparta were authorized some time ago to organize a new R. P. church in that place. They resolve to hold on to their venerable pastor (Rev. Dr. S. Wylie), till General Synod meets, and then to organize in connection with the O. S. or N. S. Presbytery.

Revolutions are reported (1) in the O. S. church of Madison, O., where thirty have been received on examination and many are inquiring; (2) in Wrightsville, Pa., where twenty-two have professed faith in Christ; (3) in Harmony, N. J., where thirty have been added; (4) in East-Hampton, La., where the inquirers number three or four hundred; (5) in West Union, Washington Presbytery, where over one hundred and forty have joined the church and others are inquiring; (6) in Unity, Pa., where eleven have professed their faith; (7) in Liberty (O.) church where thirty-seven have been admitted on examination, nineteen by baptism; (8) in Bridge-water (Pa.) church, where thirty-one have been received; (9) in Muncie, Ind., where twenty-eight have united on profession; (10) in Williamsburg, O., where many are inquiring; (11) in Rushsylvania, O., where eighteen have professed faith in Christ, and where the church, which dedicated a house of worship last July, has doubled its numbers by recent accessions; (12) in Summit (Iowa) church, where the meetings have continued since the Week of Prayer, and many of all classes, including not a few Germans, have been awakened and converted; (13) in Liberty (O.) church, where after meetings held for five weeks thirty-seven were received on examination; (14) in Atlanta, Ill., where meetings held for three weeks awakened thirty-five at least to their lost state, of whom twenty have joined the church; (15) in Darlington, Ind., where Christians are largely awake, and fifteen persons have joined the church; (16) in Dalton, O., where nine have joined the church.

Educational.—Rev. Dr. John C. Rankin, of Baskinridge, N. J., has accepted an appointment to raise funds for the benefit of Carroll College, Wisconsin, a favorite institution of Dr. Van Rensselaer, Secretary of the Board of Education. It is greatly in want of funds.—The Western Theological Seminary in Allegheny, Pa., contains 72 students, viz: 17 Seniors, 13 Middlers, and 24 Juniors. [We give these erroneous figures as we find them.] At Princeton, as we have already noticed, there are 103, and in Union Seminary, 127 students in the three classes.—Mr. McCormick writes Dr. Lord a six-column letter in regard to the endowment of the N. W. Theo. Seminary at Chicago, the gist of which is that after all his great difficulty is not with Dr. Lord, but with the General Assembly, and the Church might as well look at it in this light at once. He expressly says that the course of the General Assembly of 1866 in "the taking from the original friends of the Seminary the Chair of Theology, in the election of Dr. MacMaster, giving a working majority in the Board of Directors to the 'new friends,' was the cause of the withholding of the fourth installment. And in another letter he says that the passage of the "Spring Resolutions" in connection with the course since pursued towards himself and friends, is another reason why he refuses to pay any more and considers that the Church has forfeited what he has already paid. In other words, Mr. McCormick looks upon the Church as apostate.

Cumberland Presbyterian Colleges.—Cumberland University is swiftly gaining its former high position as the leading institution in the South. It has done a noble work for the Church in other days,

and we rejoice to know that its prospects were never brighter. A large number of young men are at Camp Blake, preparing for the ministry. President McDonald is making noble exertions to rebuild the fallen fortunes of this institution.—Lincoln University, in Illinois, is vying with its sister in Tennessee in the good work. Here, too, a large number of young men are preparing for the ministry.—McGee College, in Missouri, has already regained, if it has not passed, its former position. Crowds of students are pouring over their books. Dr. Mitchell and his able faculty are doing a noble work.—Waynesburg College, in old Pennsylvania, was perhaps never doing so well. Dr. Miller all know to be a scholar and a teacher of the first order.—Cumberland Presbyterian.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

Congregationalist.—Hon. F. Durant, Esq., of the Boston bar, has been laboring as an Evangelist among the churches of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. In Farmington and Dover (N. H.) the churches have been aroused, the Free Will Baptists uniting in the work in the former place; and in Brimfield, Mass., forty or fifty have been converted through his labors.—In Royalton, Mass., thirty have been added to the church.—The Boston churches annually give about one-twelfth of the total contributions in the United States to the American Board. Last year they gave \$41,446.—Rev. H. W. Gilbert was, by a council, installed pastor of the Congregational church in Peru, Mass., Feb. 2nd. Rev. John Todd, D.D., of Pittsfield, preached the sermon.—Rev. R. M. Sawyer, has resigned his pastorate in Middleborough, Mass., and accepted a call to the Congregational church in Ripon, Wis. Salary \$1,500. This change is dictated by ill health, as related to the east winds of the Old Colony.—Hamden East Association, embracing the clergymen of Springfield, Mass., and vicinity, at last meeting, gave the unanimous opinion that children by baptism become members of the church so as to be entitled to come to the Lord's Supper, as soon as they give evidence of personal piety; which should be expected, as the rule and not the exception; at an early age.—Rev. J. S. Clark, now seventy-eight years old, has been minister of the church in Morgan, Vt., forty-two years, but for four years has withdrawn from active labor.—The Second church of Waterbury, Conn., have built a handsome lecture room at a cost of \$6,000. Three committees have lately been appointed for home work, viz: on the poor, sick, and Sabbath school, a "stranger" committee, and a committee for conversation with the impenitent, and paper and tract distribution. Fifty-six were added to this church last year by profession and twenty-two by letter.—Rev. George Ford, formerly a missionary in India, is to leave the church in Tolland, Mass., and go to the Indians in Western New York, under the A. B. C. F. M.—Mr. M. Porter Snell, of the last class at Hartford, and now chaplain of the Y. M. C. A. in that city, has received a call (by telegram, via San Francisco), to the church at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands. Salary, two thousand dollars in gold.—Rev. Dr. Anderson is delivering his lectures on missions before the Hartford Theological Seminary. The Congregationalist says: "The church at Washington is leading the advance of the late evening of last week of last week was spent in prayer and consultation by the leading members of both sides. The regular church meetings—the first that has been held since May, 1868,—were held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings; and though the old party lines were visible in every vote, both meetings were harmonious and peaceful, not a jarring word was heard, and the conclusions reached were satisfactory to both sides."—The Observer gives the following churches as having recently dedicated houses of worship, with their respective costs:

Table with 4 columns: Town, Cost, Town, Cost. Rows include Newark, N. Y., \$13,000; Camden, N. Y., 20,000; Mt. Vernon, O., 34,000; Chicago, Ill., 2,600; Odell, Ill., 5,000; N. Portland, Me., 5,000; Berlin, Wis., 4,380; Cotter's Grove, Minn., 4,380; Chester, Iowa, 4,380; Independence, Iowa, 4,380; Alden, Iowa, 4,380; Ripon, Wis., 8,000; San Mateo, Cal., 4,380.

Baptist.—The National Baptist of this city says: "While there is no very special religious interest in any of our churches in the city, yet we believe there are gatherings into nearly all of them, and their meetings are marked with a higher degree of spirituality than ordinary."—Rev. E. L. Bailey has for the third time been elected Chaplain to the Senate of Pennsylvania. He has also been unanimously elected pastor of the Berean church at Carbondale, where he was ordained in 1854, and served the church as pastor for twelve years.—The Home Mission Board and the National Theological Institute for the education of Freedmen's Preachers have agreed to manage the denominational work among the freedmen by a standing joint committee of five members, and the educational part of the work is to be dealt with as of primary importance.—Dr. J. A. Smith, the editor of The Standard of Chicago, is chosen to the pastorate of the newly organized University Place church in that city.—The Fifty-first St. church, of New York, received some twenty German converts to membership recently, and is to establish a German mission.—The accessions to the churches in Virginia numbered some 4,000 last year. Yet there is great destitution of pastors and of Sunday and day schools.—The Home Mission Board must raise \$300,000, and the Foreign Missionary Union \$130,000, before the end of March, if the financial year is to close without a debt.—The Examiner and Chronicle, noticing our statement (copied from The Christian Intelligencer) that "The most magnificent church in New York is said to be Dr. Corey's on Murray Hill," says: "The [American] Presbyterian's informant must have a nicer appreciation for the quality than the quantity of a thing."

Episcopalian.—Of the wealthy churches in New York diocese, St. George's church (Dr. S. H. Tyng's) and her two chapels, raised last year for all purposes \$230,183, while Trinity and her three chapels raised not half as much—\$108,238. Next come the church of the Incarnation (Dr. John Cotton Smith's), which raised \$42,000, while the fourth is the church of the Holy Trinity (Rev. S. H. Tyng, Jr.'s). Thus of the \$667,828 raised by the forty-five churches and chapels of New York county, three Low churches give \$307,183, or nearly half. The diocese includes eight other counties, and contributed to all purposes in 1868 \$937,492, a gain of nearly fifty per cent since last year, when the amount was \$494,893.86. The growth in membership is from 21,098 to 22,177. The Bishop of Kansas positively refused last week to walk through the streets in the procession of singing clergy at the consecration of Bishop Littlejohn, and was made the subject of merriment among the assembled Bishops and clergy for his scruples.—The church of the Good Shepherd, built by Mrs. Col. Samuel Colt of Hartford, at a cost of \$200,000, was dedicated a few days since.—Bishop Eastburn has resigned the rectorship of Trinity church, Boston. This renders vacant a second influential Episcopal pulpit in Boston, Rev. Dr. Huntington's acceptance of the bishopric of Central New York having just emptied one.—Prof. Johnson, of the General Theological Seminary, has resigned—it is said, on account of a want of sympathy with the unprotestant tendencies that exist in it.—A High church paper recently remarked that "Brother Hubbard's (Westerly, R. I.) millennium seems to have come to an end." Thereupon, a correspondent of The Protestant Churchman writes: "Brother Hubbard's year of Jubilee seems literally to have expanded into a millennium. The revival appears likely to become a permanent feature of the

place. Our visit being during the Week of Special Prayer, we found that nine union meetings were to be held during the week, but it was still more gratifying to learn that for nearly a year a stirring union prayer-meeting has been held every day without a single exception. Every Sunday afternoon during the warm weather the rabble of the street are collected together in front of the hotel, and earnestly exhorted to repent and believe. The neighboring villages also are not forgotten. One young man, himself a recent convert, has for several months driven twenty-six miles every Sunday to hold a prayer-meeting in a destitute village. Many have perhaps expected to hear of the withdrawal of Mr. Hubbard and his flock from our Church, but the tables seem now to have turned, for the union meetings, instead of injuring the churchmanship of the Episcopalians, seem to have worked just the other way. Indeed, there seems to be greater prospect that the 'schismatics' will all become Episcopalians than of the opposite result, for we hear all of the 'sects' have just celebrated Christmas for the first time in Westerly, the Baptists dressing their church with evergreens."—Bishop Cox of Western New York has issued a pastoral against promiscuous dancing, and warning his people against the sin of fornication.

Methodist.—Our High church papers having given the British public the impression that American Methodists are bent on re-union to the Episcopal Church, Dr. Stevens writes to the London Watchman: "I know not one Methodist in the Republic who believes there can be any identification of the two Churches. There certainly can be no such union without the fullest concession of the validity of our ordination, sacraments, &c. This concession will never be made by the High church party of the Protestant Episcopal Church; and no Methodist expects, therefore, that any result will come of these preliminaries. We are a Presbyterian Church, with episcopacy as an executive office, not as a divine order." We cannot compromise our relations to the Presbyterians of the Protestant world by tacitly disparaging their ministerial validity in a reunion with the comparatively small Protestant Episcopal Church of these States—for numerically it is one of our minor religious bodies.—Zion's Herald remarks, concerning the Episcopal Church: "It draws one-fourth of its ministry from the Methodist Episcopal Church, and not one of them and youngest Bishops were Methodist ministers."—The Methodist College at Belfast, Ireland, closed its term on the 17th of December last, with eight students in the College, and ninety-eight in the school. Two of the students have gained scholarships in Queen's College.—A Cincinnati pastor, who believes in woman's right to work, has organized some forty of the sisters into visiting bands. They call on the sick and the poor, inquire into and relieve their physical wants, sing and pray with them, and do all the work that belongs to a real pastor.—The Methodist church of Saratoga has resolved to ensure any member who may sign an application for liquor license.—The funds raised so largely in New York city for Church Extension are to be expended through the Sunday-school and Missionary Society, which has already gathered twelve mission schools of 3340 pupils, and built four chapels at a cost of \$175,000. Twelve hundred are claimed as converts through its labors.—In Baptist indictments of Pseudo-Baptist churches for the inconsistency of leaving "the children of the Church" unbaptized, the M. E. Church has all ways had the most prominent place. Yet in the last five years 188,508 children have been baptized in the denomination, and the annual total has risen from 31,190 in 1864 to 46,107 in 1868. This shows a pretty real existence and rapid growth of Pseudo-Baptist sentiment.

Revivals.—In Grace church, Buffalo, there have been 150 conversions; on Smyrna circuit, Wilmington Conference, 200 conversions, and as many accessions at Centenary church; Long Branch, New Jersey, 200 conversions, and 180 accessions; on Westminster circuit, Baltimore Conference, 260 conversions, and 241 accessions; Farmingdale, Long Island, 140 conversions; Whitby, New Jersey, 55; Warren Street and John Street, Brooklyn, New York, each 50; Sparrowbush, New York; 75; Locust Street, Harrisburg, 50; Bedford Street, New York, 50.

Moravian.—The Moravians in the Southern States have had a separate ecclesiastical organization, called a Provincial Synod, ever since the year 1771. The reason now assigned for its original creation was "the difficulty of communication between the North and the South, and for no other reason." And yet, long before that time, the mails were carried without interruption. But whatever may have been the real reasons, it seems that they are now removed. The late Synod of the Southern district appointed a delegation to propose a unity of the two districts. The overture was met in a friendly spirit at the North, where the Synod declared its readiness to effect a union, on an equitable basis, "in case the General Synod shall sanction the project."

Unitarian.—Rev. J. F. Ware, of Baltimore, predicts that Methodism is to be the religion of the South, but is to become "more broad in its faith and charity." Unitarianism, he says, cannot be popular in that section, but will succeed in the West.—Rev. Dr. Gannett, who, forty-five years ago, was settled as colleague with Dr. Channing, has resigned his charge, but his people generally refuse to accept the resignation, and offer him a permanent stipend from duty, while continuing his salary.—The successor of Dr. Noyes in the chair of Exegetical Theology, at Harvard is Rev. Mr. Young of Newton, a young man of thirty-five. A Unitarian minister told the Boston correspondent of The Observer that it was almost impossible to find a fit successor in the denomination, for the reason that the critical study of the Bible has been greatly neglected by the present generation of preachers. So many of them reject the Old Testament, that the Hebrew language had not been generally "kept up."

Romanist.—The Pope has recently addressed an autobiographical letter on extravagance in dress to Mademoiselle Marie de Gentelles, who has recently published a work rebuking ladies for their indulgence in this growing evil. He says: "Let all be persuaded that to ensure the esteem and love of their husbands they have no need of such costly hair dressing, such splendid toilets; but rather to cultivate their mind, cultivate their heart, and to cultivate their virtue; for all their glory cometh from within."—The conflict between Church and State in Austria has recently been decided by the Courts in favor of the State, under the following circumstances: The Archbishop of Schwarzenberg was convicted some time ago for disturbing public order by publishing a pastoral letter, in which he advocated disobedience to the civil laws respecting marriage. The jurisdiction of the Court was then called in question, and it was alleged that immunity in such cases was guaranteed to the Bishops by the fourteenth article of the Concordat. The Supreme Court of Prague has now confirmed the sentence of the inferior Court, and has decided that, by the fundamental laws, which form the new Constitution of Austria, the fourteenth article of the Concordat is virtually abrogated, and that the clergy are subject to the penalties inflicted by the general laws.—The last convent existing in the Rhenish provinces of Prussia, that at Neustadt, has been suppressed. The work commenced in 1834, when all the convents in the Rhine provinces were ordered closed, the institutions having already been abolished in the rest of Prussia.—Three Franciscan

houses were allowed to remain, because they possessed no property with which to compensate the Government for the pensions it was obliged to accord the expelled monks. The arrangement was therefore made that these three should not be closed until the inmates died off. This process was effectual in the case of two, but the Convent at Neustadt preserved a remarkable vitality. The discovery having been made that it recruited its members secretly, the penalty of summary extinction was inflicted.—Gladstone has six Romanists in his Cabinet. Disraeli had not a single one.

Miscellaneous.—It takes 30,000 men to run the Sunday railroad trains in this country.—Of 1,300 convicts at Sing Sing, N. Y., 826, or about 60 per cent, have been in Sabbath-schools.—The controversy of the two Tract Societies goes on briskly. The New York Society seems in the ascendant now. The Boston Society, from the division until now, has been badly managed. The Congregationalist proposes some amicable terms of separation between the Baptists, Episcopalians and its own denomination. To this The Watchman and Reflector objects. There is certainly a crisis now upon the Boston Society, and much prayer and wisdom will be required to meet it.—The Observer gives an account of the first public meeting of the Female Branch of the New York City Mission and Tract Society, which has been in existence for more than forty years. It undertook the work of Bible reading before it was commenced in London. During the last year eighteen assistant missionaries have been employed; 28,131 missionary visits made; 2,692 persons induced to attend church; 585 children gathered into the Sunday-schools; 565 religious meetings held; 97 united with churches; and 687 families have received temporal aid.

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