

THE DANCE OF MODERN SOCIETY.

This is the title of a new book, by W. C. Wilkinson, the substance of which appeared not long ago in The Baptist Quarterly. It is the most powerful onslaught that has been made upon this fashionable amusement. The book critic of The Independent says of the writer:

He indicts not dancing, but the dance. "The present question is not of dancing in the abstract. Dancing does not exist in the abstract. It exists, like most things, in a certain way, in a certain way," that he speaks. This—the dance of modern society—he formally indicts in a plea eloquent, impetuous, powerful. He charges it with the violation of every consideration of health—with "midnight hours, tight lacing, paper-soled shoes," with fostering habits of extravagance, by converting society into a spectacular display, where every woman vies with her neighbor in expensive sacrifices to the Goddess of Vanity—the dance being essentially for the exhibition of the woman as a thing rather than as a person, as a miracle of decorated exterior than as the heiress of a priceless heart and of a beautiful and beautified mind."

He charges it with dwarfing and deadening the social nature, by supplanting the play of mind with mind by the stately quadrille or the breathless waltz or galop, quoting as an able witness the question of a certain Chinaman, who betrayed his innocent ignorance of the thing, but certainly discovered its utter hollowness, regarded merely as a social enjoyment, when he asked, "Pray, why do you not let your servants do that for you?"

If the following paragraphs, quoted from the book, can be regarded as objectionable—what is to be said of the social monster which they only too faithfully describe? Let the truth of such an open public nuisance be told, though the heavens should fall!

My accusation is that the dance, instead of affording an opportunity for mutually ennobling companionship between man and woman, inspired with a chaste and sweet interposed remembrance of their contrasted relationship to each other—the dance instead of this, consists substantially of a system of means, contrived with more than human ingenuity to excite the instincts of sex to action, however subtle and disguised at the moment, in its sequel the most bestial and degrading. Passion—passion transformed if you please never so much, subsisting in no matter how many finely contrasted degrees of sensuality—passion, and nothing else, is the true basis of the popularity of the dance.

It is no accident that the dance is what it is. It mingles the sexes in such closeness of personal approach and contact as, outside of the dance, is nowhere tolerated in respectable society. It does this under a complexity of circumstances that conspire to heighten the impropriety of it. It is evening and the hour is late, there is the delicious and unconscious intoxication of music and motion in the blood, there is the strange confusing sense of being individually unobserved among so many, while yet the natural "noble shame," which guards the purity of man and woman alone together, is absent—such is the occasion, and still, hour after hour, the dance whirls its giddy kaleidoscope around, bringing hearts so near that they almost beat against each other; mixing the warm, mutual breaths, darting the fine personal electricity across between the meeting fingers, flushing the face and lighting the eyes with a quick language, subject often to gross interpretations on the part of the vile hearted—why, this fashionable institution seems to me to have been invented in an unfriendly quarter, usually conceived of as situated under us, to give our human passions leave to disport themselves, unreproved by conscience, by reason, or by shame, almost at their will.

The N. Y. Tribune of Saturday issued a quadruple sheet, containing besides general news, letters of correspondents, editorials, &c., the New Constitution of the State of New York, to be voted upon in October; and an immense list of income returns in the districts immediately adjacent to New York City, and largely inhabited by the city business men. It includes Brooklyn, Newark, Jersey City, Hoboken, and rural districts, and was procured and printed at a cost of \$2,000.

No. 30 of Hearth and Home, out July 10th, contains the prize song for which the publishers paid \$100 by award of a Committee. Also an illustrated description of Mr. William Bryant's country seat at Roslyn, with a fine full page portrait.

The Greenwich St. church added six to its membership Sabbath evening, July 4th. Five of these were by profession. Twenty-four have been added to the church during the past half year. The chapel was partly unroofed by the tornado that swept over that section of the city, two weeks since.

This little church deserves the sympathy of those competent to assist, in repairing its edifice, and thus fitting it up for wide extended usefulness.

News of Our Churches.

The corner-stone of the new building for the Central church, N. E. at the N. E. corner of Franklin and Thompson St., was laid by the pastor, Rev. J. Y. Mitchell, with appropriate ceremonies, July 8th. After singing, Rev. Charles Brown led in prayer, and Dr. Shepherd read the Scriptures. Rev. W. T. Eva made an address, when the glass jar containing a copy of the Bible, Confession of Faith, a history of the church, the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN, copies of all the daily papers of the city, and a set of coins of our country, was deposited in the corner stone. A collection was taken up, and an address full of encouragement, of fervor and fraternal feeling, was delivered by Rev. Wm. O. Johnstone, pastor of Kensington O. S. church. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. Hoffman, of the Moravian Church, on the opposite corner.

The church about to be erected is to be of Gothic style, and built of Hatton green stone, from the Birmingham quarries, the dressings to be of brown stone. The building, exclusive of projections, will be 102 feet by 65, with projections 113 feet by 73. The lecture-room is calculated to seat about 500. There will also be on the lower floor the pastor's study, a large room for the infant school and a Bible class room. The audience room is calculated to seat about 900. The estimated cost of the whole will be about \$65,000. The congregation expect to occupy the lecture-room about the first of March.

The North Broad St. church have arranged for joint services during the summer-vacation with the Central Congregational church, Rev. Mr. Hawes. The latter church is closed for the present. Dr. Stryker preaches for the united congregations on next Sabbath, after which he leaves for the sea-shore. North Broad St. Church will be open until after the Second Sunday in August. The Congregational church will then be opened and the two congregations will worship there the three following Sundays.

Dr. Stryker is beloved by his people, and has had a year of great usefulness and decided progress in his church. He feels perfectly at home among his Presbyterian brethren, and shows no signs of repenting of his change of relations. We say this, as we understand two attractive offers have been made to him by Reformed congregations, on the supposition that he might possibly have become home-sick. Our good brethren of the Reformed church might as well disabuse themselves of this fancy, first as last.

Ministerial.—Rev. W. W. Nowell Jr., of Wappinger's Falls, N. Y., has been called to the church in Monroe, Mich. —Rev. N. M. Sherwood (of the other branch) has accepted a call from the First church of Elmira.

—Rev. A. C. Washburn has been appointed chaplain of Onondaga County Penitentiary at Syracuse, N. Y.

—Rev. N. E. Pierson, late of the church at Ridgebury, N. Y., has removed to Escanaba, Mich., to become the pastor of its enterprising little church.

—Mr. H. H. Walker, recently of Lane Seminary, is preaching at Green Castle, Ind.

—Rev. P. S. Cleland has removed from Greenwood, Ind., to Topeka, Kas.

Churches.—A meeting of the members of the Second Presbyterian church of Cincinnati, was held June 30, for the purpose of considering the proposition to sell the church property, now valued at \$200,000. After considerable discussion it was (by 50 yeas to 39 nays) Resolved, That the Trustees of the Second Presbyterian Church and Society of Cincinnati be and they are hereby authorized and instructed to sell the present church property, and purchase a lot and erect a church edifice.

—The Oakland church, Cal., says the Occident, acting under advice of the Rev. Dr. Scudder, have been holding a correspondence with Rev. Dr. Poor, of Newark, New Jersey. On last Sunday a meeting of the congregation was held, and it was agreed to place a call in his hands, to become the pastor of the church. The growing importance of this great field, demands that the pastorate of this congregation should be filled by a person of eminent attainments. The notices of Dr. Poor's adaptability to the work are very encouraging.

[A secular paper intimates that Dr. Poor will accept the call, and that his salary will be \$5,000 in gold.] Gibson, Pa.—The Presb. church recently erected in Gibson, Susquehanna Co., Pa., was dedicated to the worship of God on the 7th inst. Sermon by Rev. J. B. Fisher, of Providence. It is a neat, and commodious house of worship; carpeted and cushioned throughout; and is furnished with a bell of 1,000 pounds. The entire cost was nearly \$6,000, and is all paid. It is the fruit of the zeal and liberality of one of our feeble congregations.

—There is a very considerable degree

of religious interest in some of the churches in the vicinity of Indianapolis. Seven persons were received into the Presbyterian church, in Zionsville, on the 4th inst., most of whom came in on profession of their faith, or had been received from a backsliding state. A daily morning prayer meeting is held by the churches of the village with great interest and profit.

Daily morning prayer meetings have been held for a few weeks past in Thorntown, with very great interest, and the weekly prayer meetings in the several churches are attended by members of the different churches, so that two union prayer meetings are held almost every day. Great good is expected in answer to the united prayers of God's people. Some of the Society of Quakers attend these meetings and unite in them most cordially.

The Second Pastorate constituted in the Presbytery of Cedar Rapids Iowa.—The Rev. A. B. Goodale, having received and accepted a unanimous call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church of Marshalltown, was, on Sabbath evening, July 4th, installed pastor of said church. The sermon was preached by Rev. Charles W. Treadwell, of Wheatland, who also presided and constituted the pastoral relation. The charge to the pastor was delivered by Rev. John Summers, of State Centre, and the charge to the people by Mr. Treadwell. The occasion was one of peculiar interest to the congregation, and was made specially manifest by the cordial greetings which immediately followed the conclusion of the services.

—The Corner-stone of the new edifice of the First church, (N. S.) of East Birmingham, Pa., Rev. P. S. Davies, pastor, was laid July 9th. The size of the building will be 56 by 85 feet, accommodating 700 persons; estimated cost \$2,000; present membership of the church—125. Rev. Messrs. Davies, Noble, Westfall, and Messrs. Aughinbaugh, and Albrecht, made addresses. The attendance was large, and the services impressive.

Presbyteries.—Chicago Presbytery met June 29th, in Calvary church, to install Rev. Daniel Lord there. The Rev. Willis Lord, D.D., preached the sermon. Rev. A. Mitchell gave the charge to the pastor, and Rev. R. W. Patterson, D.D., the charge to the people. From the drift of population southward, this church, located on 22d street, occupies one of the most important positions in the city.

Rev. Sheldon Jackson addressed the Presbytery on the importance of the Boards of Missions of the Presbyterian Church occupying the whole line of the Pacific Railroad at once. Presbytery directed Rev. W. Patterson, D.D., to write to the Committee of Missions of the N. S. Church, urging the necessity of a visitation of the whole region of the Great West, to the Pacific Coast, by the whole Committee, and by as many of the leading laymen and ministers of the Church in the East as possible. This he willingly engaged to do, as he feels the necessity of waking up the Church to greater exertion in Home Missionary work.

A letter was received from Denver, Colorado, asking the Presbytery to appoint a committee to organize a church there, and install Rev. E. P. Wells as their pastor. Mr. Jackson stated that the two N. S. and two O. S. ministers who were in Colorado intended to ask the November General Assembly to constitute them into a Presbytery. —Corr. of the Presbyter.

—The Presbytery of Steuben held its semi-annual meeting at Naples, June 8th, 1869. Rev. Charles Milne was dismissed to unite with the Presbytery of Elizabethtown. Rev. James H. Board was received from the Presbytery of Rodaway, and Rev. Alexander Galick from the Presbytery of Wilmington. The Congregational church, of Pratsburg, was reported as having perfected its organization as a Presbyterian church. Elders have been chosen and ordained. A majority of ten persons sent a "complaint" against this action, which the Presbytery carefully and fully considered, but did not sustain.

The overture from the General Assembly on reunion was answered in the affirmative by a unanimous vote. —Evangelist.

—The Central Presbytery (O. S.) of this city, on July 12th, voted to approve of the basis of union, 24 yeas to 1 no.

"GALLUSUS." We hang men on the gallows, but we hang our breeches on the "gallus." Now it must be a very provoking thing to a man setting, nicely hung to have the gallows give way all of a sudden; and a very provoking thing it is to have our "galluses" give away. The only way to prevent such an awkward experience is by buying them at Oak Hall, Wanamaker & Brown have enlarged their Gents' Furnishing Department and you can get shirts, collars, suspenders, everything in that line at the lowest of low prices!

Dutcher's Lightning Fly-Killer.—Death to the Living! Long live the Killers! Sold by Dealers Everywhere!

MARRIED. McNEIL-FISHER.—By the Rev. John McNeill on the 1st of July, 1869, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Thomas McNeill and Miss Janet Fisher, eldest daughter of William Fisher, Esq., all of Allegheny City, Pa.

IN MEMORIAM. FRANCIS BEATTY, Esq., died near Sharpburg, Allegheny county, Pa., on Wednesday, the 7th of July, 1869, in the 75th year of his age. The Presbyterian Gazette of the 8th inst., contains the following notice of our esteemed friend, whose death in a good old age was to him great gain.

We are very sorry to notice in our obituary column the death of Mr. Francis Beatty, which took place yesterday at his residence, near Fairview, Indiana township, this county. Mr. Beatty was a very excellent and highly respected citizen. He was for a long time a member of the church in the Reformed Presbyterian church, in Zionsville, on the 4th inst., most of whom came in on profession of their faith, or had been received from a backsliding state.

The writer has reason to believe that the subject of the above notice, was Barnabas-like, "a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost." Being possessed of a considerable amount of worldly goods, he was generally of what the Lord had given him, for the support of various religious and benevolent schemes. He was especially friendly to the American Bible Society. His children and his children's children hold Certificates of Deposit drawn in their names by the officers of this noble institution, which, we believe, they prize more than the titles to houses, lands, and stocks, which by their fathers and grandfather's gift they now inherit.

The deceased was sincerely attached to the great principles of the Reformed Presbyterian church, but had no sympathy at all with the "unduly restricted and impractical" connection given them by the Synod of Pittsburgh in the matter of Feelsday and Communion.

It is an interesting fact also that our friend belonged to one of the old families in the Reformed Presbyterian connection. When about five years of age he came with his father, Francis Beatty, Sr., in the first days of the present century, from the banks of the Hudson to the farm on the Allegheny river, where he resided a residence of six years he died. He was frequently called to drink from the cup of affliction and sorrow during the days of his sojourn on earth. He always seemed, however, to sit loosely to things below. His affections were on high—and when the day of his departure came, he rose at peace and glad to be called "beyond the smiling and the weeping," to be "forever with the Lord."

Love, Rest and Home—Sweet Home! Lord, carry not, but come!

SPRINGER CLOTHING OF ALL KINDS.—A large assortment selling rapidly, but replenished daily. New, elegant and fashionable, superior quality, at reasonable prices. In suits, frocks, shirts, collars, neckties, &c., and making, and sold at prices guaranteed lower than the lowest elsewhere, or the sale cancelled or money refunded.

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WANTED.—AGENTS for our great American Household Book, "The Lives of the Presidents of the United States," by B. RUSSELL, Boston, Mass. July 15-ly A.

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HEALTH.—The location of the College is beautiful and healthy. The first object of its managers is the preservation and improvement of the health of all the students. Great pains are taken to follow the wisest and best rules for their rearing and rising, for warming and ventilating the rooms, and in the selection and preparation of all articles of food for the student required to take all needful exercise in the open air daily.

THE COLLEGE FAMILY.—The Lady Principal, aided by many lady teachers, exercises a maternal care over the manners and habits of the students, and aims to render their social and domestic life in the College cheerful and happy. In case a student becomes sick, the kindness and best care is given to the case, and the parents notified.

While the College is not conducted in the interest of any religious denomination, it is the desire of its managers to make it, eminently, a Christian school.

There are morning and evening prayers daily in the College Chapel, and a religious service every Lord's day, which all the students are required to attend, unless their parents make arrangements for them to attend church in the City of Poughkeepsie, two miles from the College.

STUDIES AND LECTURES.—The College has first class Cabinets and Apparatus to aid the students in obtaining a complete education. Thorough instruction is given in the Modern Languages, as well as in the Classics and Mathematics. Illustrative lectures are delivered in connection with the recitations in the Natural Sciences, English Literature and the Fine Arts. Besides, the College every year engages some of the most eminent scholars in the country, to give to the students about twenty-five Lectures on Literature, the Arts and Sciences. They have also the free use of the Library, the Reading Room, the Art-Gallery and the various Cabinets, and the Gymnasium.

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A CARD.

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Fifteen years' successful experience justifies us in claiming for the Waltham Watches peculiarities of excellence which place them above all first-class rivalry. The system which governs their construction is their most obvious source of merit. The substitution of machinery for hand labor has been followed not only by greater simplicity, but by precision in detail, and accuracy and uniformity in their time-keeping qualities, which by the old methods of manufacture are unattainable.

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These general claims to superiority are no longer contested. An English watchmaker, in a recent lecture before the Holographic Institute of London, describing the result of two months' close observation at the various manufactories in the United States, remarks in reference to Waltham: "On leaving the factory, I felt that the manufacture of watches on the old plan was gone." Other foreign makers, some of them eminent, have publicly borne the same testimony. They admit that the results aimed at in Europe by slow and costly processes are here realized with greater certainty, and with an almost absolute uniformity, and at a cost which more than compensates for the difference between manual labor in the Old World and the New.

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The conditions which makes this cheapness possible are also favorable to the excellence of our work. Our actions long ago ceased to be services. Time and effort, under a superintendence which combines the subtleties of science with the strength of practical skill, have produced a body of artisans whose efficiency is for the time present. We have the best workers in every department that are available—workers whose experience and experience would be alone sufficient to secure for Waltham its high position. Among other tributory causes, may be stated the readiness with which each succeeding invention and improvement has been tested, and if approved, adopted. We are always ready to examine whatever experience, or art, or skill may suggest, but we adopt nothing until our experiments have demonstrated its excellence. In pursuance of this rule, we have brought to our aid all the mechanical improvements and valuable inventions of the last fifteen years, whether home or foreign in their origin. We have thus acquired the exclusive possession of the best and most valuable improvements now known in connection with watch-making, and secured for the Waltham factory a force and completeness not shared by any similar establishments in the world.

These constant efforts to perfect in all ways, and by all means, both the machinery of the factory and the construction of our watches, have placed within our means the production of a greater variety in grade and finish than other American makers have attempted. In the manufacture of very fine watches we have no competitor in the United States and only very few in Europe.

The various styles of these watches have undergone the severest trials in the service of Railway Engineers, Conductors and Expressmen, the most exacting class of watch wearers, and the presence of over 400,000 Waltham Watches in the pockets of the people is the best proof of the public approval, and must be accepted as conclusive of their superiority by discriminating Watch-buyers, especially so since the important matter of price is also very greatly in favor, being at least twenty-five per cent. cheaper, quality for quality, than those made elsewhere in the United States.

An Illustrated description of the Watches made by the American Watch Company of Waltham, will be sent to any address on application.

In addition to a description of the watches, the pamphlet contains much other useful information to watch-buyers.

AS THESE WATCHES ARE FOR SALE BY ALL RESPECTABLE JEWELLERS, THE COMPANY DECLINE ALL OTHERS FOR SINGLE WATCHES.

For facts and all other information, address

ROBBINS & APPLETON, General Agents, 182 Broadway, N. Y.

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