

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1869.

REV. JOHN W. MEARS, D. D., Editor. No. 1334 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

- Rev. Z. M. Humphrey, D.D., Pastor of Calvary Church. Rev. Herriek Johnson, D.D., Pastor of the First Church. Rev. Paul March, D.D., Pastor of Clinton St. Church. 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 University. Rev. Samuel W. Duffield, Special Correspondent.

Mr. Robert E. Thompson will continue to act as Editor of the News Department. Correspondents in every Presbytery and Synod will promptly furnish us with fresh items of news from their respective fields.

A Night at Great St. Bernard, by "B. B. C." Democratic Ideas pervading the Churches, by "R. E. T." Rev. A. M. Stewart's Letters, X.L.V., page 2nd; Editor's Table, Literary Items, Old Scotch Woman's Faith, Intemperate Habits, The Cape of Storms, Sermons and Conversation, Missionary Items, Scientific Items, page 3rd; Lord! Here am I (Poetry), "If we knew," by Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, Cross Bearing, Pardon, How Stringent became Liberal, Pyramid Lake, Budget of Anecdotes, page 6th; Religious Intelligence, page 7th.

TO MEMBERS OF THE TWO ASSEMBLIES.—All business connected with the entertainment of the General Assemblies will be transacted through a joint Committee of Arrangements.

Delegates who expect to attend the meeting of either Assembly are requested to forward name and address to DAVID ROBINSON, No. 73 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh.

Entertainment will be provided for all Delegates. Immediate compliance with the above request will enable the Committee to return cards of introduction to them without delay.

S. F. SCOVEL,

Pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

F. A. NOBLE,

Pastor of Third Presbyterian Church.

—The Jews of London are quarrelling with their rabbis about the dates on their tomb-stones. The rabbis insist that they must date their inscriptions A. M. (or "in the year of the world"), to which the common people wish to add A. D. (or "in the year of our Lord.") This last, the Rabbis claim, is an admission of the claims of Christ, whether the letters A. D. are given, or the number alone.

—The Lutheran Observer tells how the German Reformed church at Fifteenth and Green Sts. was saved from being sold to pay a debt of \$35,000. It was offered at private sale by the consistory, and an offer of \$90,000 being received [from the Episcopalians we believe] the congregation met to consider it. "During the discussion a member arose and said: 'Brethren, I am opposed to the sale of the Church. Providence has put it into my power to relieve you of this indebtedness, and I feel it my duty to do so. It would, however, neither be just to me, nor best for you, that I should pay the debt alone. Do what you can towards reducing it, and I will assume the balance.' These words fell like an electric shock upon the audience, and tears of joy burst from many eyes." The congregation raised about \$10,000, and he pays the balance.

—Le Droit, of Paris, has published an account of a recent trial in one of the courts of that city, of a very remarkable character; the testimony on oath before which, goes to show not only that a regular traffic in masses for the repose of the dead still exists in the Roman Catholic church, but that it is subject to swindling of an extraordinary nature. One Jean Constant Dousset, a merchant, and Antoine Francois D'Assis Viral, a recussant priest, were proven guilty of having established and maintained a regular brokerage for such masses, and of having appropriated to their own use, money which had been paid into their hands for masses to be said at the extremely reasonable rate of one franc per mass, for the deliverance of a vast number of souls from purgatory;—no masses at all being "said" for them! There are very large orders sent in to the priests in Paris by the friends of deceased persons for the purpose of liberating their souls from purgatory. But it would take much more than all the time of the ecclesiastics of the city to say these masses; and accordingly it is the custom to hire priests in small country places to supplement this lack of service. These men undertook to act as agents between the city and country clergy, and would take orders to any extent for masses; but they seem to have pocketed the money, and cheated all parties, leaving the souls of the dead also to suffer. During 3 months the accused agreed to have 72,679 masses said, and there is no proof that the engagements were met. The scandalous affair has brought new discredit on the Catholic religion in France.

—The miracles by which the teachings of Prophets, Apostles and our Lord Himself are attested, are sometimes very foolishly disparaged even by professed friends of the truth. That a revelation from God should be made without miracle, is at least as hard to believe or understand as the miracles themselves. But the teaching of Christianity does not base itself wholly upon the glories and wonders of the past. It is a present reality, and its vital connection

with the supernatural is capable of present illustration. The Holy Spirit personally dwells in the people of God. Christians to-day are the temple of God. We need not "point to an age of miracles which has toned down during the centuries, into an age wherein miracle is proscribed by invariable law." The day of Pentecost, viewed as a day apart, loses its force as evidence; viewed and seen to be but the first day of the Christian centuries, it gives and receives new and overwhelming force as testimony. Let the Church and the individual Christian but shine with the glory of the indwelling Christ, then Christendom itself will be a miracle; and whatever men may argue of the past, the living, transforming reality of spiritual forces is a fact that cannot be gainsaid, and that is as potent as any that can be urged in support of the Christian religion. Without it, the most complete logical demonstration of the truth of Bible miracles will be a failure. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" Let us live up to this, and argument about miracles will be superfluous in the presence of miracle itself.

—The "American Medical University of Pennsylvania" did an ill thing in adopting a name which leads many strangers to suppose that it is the University of Pennsylvania,—an institution which ranks at the head of the medical colleges of the land. We are informed that many medical students in the South and West have been deceived by the similarity of the names, and have bought tickets to the former institution, supposing that it was the latter. Of the "American University" we know little, and cannot pronounce on the ability of the "able faculty," which it advertises. Nor do we say that it has any design to deceive the public by its name, but if its intentions are honest, and since it is no university at all, it ought to petition the Legislature to change its name to College. A University combines several faculties,—arts, law, medicine, and sometimes theology. This institution has only the second.

We are glad to know that this new institution opens its doors to all classes. During last year, in addition to whites, twenty-six colored students and two Indians were received. Rev. Thomas M. Kinnaird, M.D., of the African M. E. Church, has been appointed special agent of the University. His Mission is to secure colored men for students, and money to aid them through their college course. He will visit congregations and the generous among our citizens for the purpose of prosecuting his work.

SYNOD OF WEST PENNSYLVANIA.—This body met at Titusville, Pa., Sept. 24th, and heard a sermon from Rev. T. T. Bradford, the retiring Moderator. Rev. P. S. Davies, of Buchanan, Pa., was elected Moderator, and Rev. P. S. Grassie of Edinboro, temporary Clerk. Rev. Dr. H. L. Hitchcock, President of Western Reserve College, represented the condition, wants and prospects of that institution. Mr. Mitchell ably represented the interests of the freedmen. Rev. Chas. C. Kimball, of Erie, preached according to appointment of Synod on "Sabbath Schools." This meeting of Synod was not protracted, but the deliberations of the body were characterized by much earnestness and fraternal feeling, and will, without doubt, be followed by increased spiritual blessings among the churches represented in it.

Franklin Presbytery held its semi-annual meeting Sept. 14th in the Porter Presbyterian Church at East Liberty, O. The session was opened with a sermon by the moderator, Rev. J. E. Kendall of Columbus. Rev. S. D. Smith was chosen Moderator and Rev. L. P. Sabin temporary Clerk.

Dr. A. D. Lord, now of Batavia, N. Y., was dismissed to unite with the Presbytery of Genesee. Robert Wiley was ordained by Presbytery as an Evangelist.

The overture from the General Assembly on the reunion of the two bodies was unanimously answered in the affirmative. O. H. N., S. C.

The Presbytery of Galena and Belvidere met in Polo, Ill., Sept. 21-3. Three new members were received, and one candidate licensed. Dr. W. S. Curtis, having received and accepted a call to the Westminster Church of Rockford, Presbytery made arrangements for his installation, which is to take place Oct. 20. The action on Reunion was a unanimous affirmative answer to the General Assembly's Overture. E. H. A.

Presbytery of Grand River Valley, Mich., met at Grand Haven. Ten ministers and three ruling Elders were present. Thirteen of the sixteen Church sessions were unrepresented by Elders. The opening sermon was by the Moderator, Rev. J. T. Willett, from Matt. 25: 46. "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal." Rev. Job Pierson was received into membership from the Presbytery of Kalamazoo.

The newly organized Church at Stanton applied for admission to the care of the Presbytery and was received. An arrangement was made to supply this Church and administer the Lord's Supper. It is hoped however, that it may soon have a minister with Home Missionary aid. The church was organized with ten members. Stanton is the county seat of Montcalm Co., and twenty miles from any other Presbyterian Church. An application was also had from several individuals at Ithaca, the county seat of Gratiot Co. to be organized as a Presbyterian Church, and a commission was appointed, if the way be clear, to organize a Church there. Houses of worship are being erected at St. Louis and Muir. Two young men are under the care of the Presbytery, preparing for the ministry. Our fields are many and wide and the great want seems to be for men, and for means to support them there.

On reunion there was a unanimous rising vote in favor of the Basis. A Sunday school Institute was held on Wednesday evening, which proved highly interesting and suggestive of many

improvements on old methods of conducting Sunday school exercises.

Presbytery of Dubuque.—A Presbyterian Church of fourteen members was recently organized at Manchester, Iowa, of which Mr. Daniel Russell has taken charge. Mr. A. R. Olney, a licentiate of the Third Presbytery of New York, who has taken charge of the church of Waterloo, was received under the care of the Presbytery of Dubuque, and on Sabbath evening, September 26th, in the presence of his own congregation, was ordained to the work of the ministry.

This Presbytery unanimously approved of Reunion upon the Basis adopted by the last General Assembly.

OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

THE GENESEE COLONY.

THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN has already alluded to this enterprise. Rev. C. F. Mussey, for eight years the able and acceptable pastor of the Presbyterial church of Batavia, is the President of the organization. Some thirty choice families have already signified their desire to join the enterprise. It is hoped to secure fifty families to start with. Here is a good chance for such as want to go West in good company.

The plan is to found a Christian colony. Christian families are desired. Good references as to moral character, at least, must be given by such as want to join the expedition. It is intended to prepare a good location, if possible upon some stream with water power, and upon a railway, so as to secure a rapid growth; to occupy the ground this fall, or early in the spring; to secure a pledge by all fair and legal means to exclude the sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, from the community, and so start right. Rum-sellers need not apply. Rev. Mr. Mussey is a man well known, and much beloved in all this region. His brethren in the ministry will wish him great success in his noble enterprise.

THE SYNODS AGAIN.

At the recent meetings, both of the Synod of Genesee and the Synod of Geneva, resolutions were unanimously and heartily passed, commending the work for the Freedmen as done by our Committee of Home Missions, and recommending all our churches to contribute for the Freedmen through this channel, rather than by any others less in sympathy with our own Church.

At the meeting of the Synod of Geneva, the members pledged themselves to pray for each other on Sunday mornings, with special reference to the labors of the Sabbath. Such pledges were given three or four years ago in the same Synod at Palmyra. Glorious revivals of religion followed in many of their churches. May they meet a like experience this year also.

At the recent meeting of the Synod of Geneva we heard also an admirable speech from Rev. T. F. White of Ithaca, on Home Missions and Church Extension. In thinking, he has much of the keenness of his father; in speaking he has a better elocution and more fire.

We notice that his large church has recently adopted the rotatory eldership, and eight new elders have been elected, as additional advisors and helpers to his ministry.

THE PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA.

The semi-annual meeting of this central and important body was held this week at Meridian. The overture on Reunion was unanimously adopted; after which the following resolution was offered by Prof. Hopkins (who was Moderator of the General Assembly at St. Louis, in 1866, where the grand Reunion movement was initiated), and unanimously adopted:—

"Resolved, That in unanimously and cordially adopting the above overture, this Presbytery desires to pledge our brethren of the other part to a sound and irreversible union. We would receive them, and would have them receive us, not to doubtful disputations on non-essential points, but to the exercise of Christian liberty within the limits of that system of Divine truth, which we both heartily and conscientiously accept. We desire to put on record our condemnation both of heresy and of schism, lamenting whatever of disorder or laxity on the one side, and of mistaken zeal and unfounded apprehensions on the other, have led, in two instances, to the rending asunder our beloved Zion.

"With devout gratitude to that Spirit of Peace, who has inclined all hearts to this restoration of unity, we protest in advance against rash judgments, unfounded suspicions and uncharitable censures, as well as against any departures from the truth and order of our Church system, which may give occasion for them; and we solemnly commit this action to the blessing of God and the sanction of coming periods in our Church history."

It will be remembered that it was within the bounds of this Presbytery, in that memorable Auburn Convention, that our branch of the Church virtually took form, and prepared for separate action, led on by such men as Drs. Richards, Halsey, Wisner, Cox, and others. But this same Presbytery, beside furnishing the Moderator of General Assembly, at St. Louis, as before stated, was for ten years the home of Dr. Nelson, who was the next Moderator, at Rochester, where the reunion ball was rolled further along. And Dr. Hawley of the same Presbytery was chairman of the Reunion Committee at Rochester, whose report still further helped on the good cause. And now this resolution, adopted at their late meeting, is intended to aid toward making the union genuine and permanent.

The Buffalo Advocate reports Dr. Hancock's safe arrival in California, looking hale and hearty. One of his first greetings was a call from a dozen Buffalo boys, who are sojourning

in the golden land. At last accounts, he was about starting on a trip to the Yosemite Valley and to the big trees. He will certainly have some big things to talk about when he gets home again.

Rev. Samuel Miller's pamphlet against reunion will do no harm in this region. Let him blow against a North wester as long as he pleases; or tell Niagara to stop running, if he likes that better. He will find that the inevitable is not to be turned from its course by his feeble hand, and he may as well let it come and make the best of it. We have some churches also in this region whose "additions" will compare at least with his own; as, for instance, Dr. Campbell's with about one hundred received from the world the past year, Dr. Shaw's with about one hundred and sixty; and Dr. Wisner's with more than two hundred and forty; these are all for union, and we think the Master's approbation is upon it.

The farewell sermon of Rev. G. C. Curtis, D. D., on leaving his people at Elmira last summer, is published by their request. A very tender and touching communion address forms a part of the same pamphlet. He left an attached people, and a place of great responsibility, summoned by the stern command of disease to take a good long rest. One of our best and strongest men was thus laid aside; but we trust only for a time. At last accounts he was slowly improving. We hope he may yet be perfectly restored, and called again to fill some important position. He is well qualified for almost any which may offer.

Rev. A. Grosvenor Hopkins has accepted the Professorship to Hamilton College, and so declines the call to the Presbyterial church at Cortland.

GENESEE.

Rochester, Oct. 2, 1869.

News of Our Churches.

A Pleasant Surprise.—Monday, the 4th inst., was the tenth anniversary of the Rev. R. H. Allen's wedding. Ten years have passed since he led his wife to the altar; and, in true harmony with the social character and reputation of Old Pine St. church, that anniversary was celebrated. The Dr. and his wife were invited to spend the evening at the house of Dr. Hutchins—the Superintendent of the Sabbath-school of that church. Here they met three or four friends who had come to celebrate their "tin wedding." Entertained for a while in the parlor, they were invited to the dining room to partake of some refreshments. And here was the celebration, for here had gathered the Bible classes of Dr. Allen and his wife, and in addition to the handsome entertainment for the inner man they had prepared for them, each one came laden with tin. The room was a sight that would have pleased the most criticising tin ware dealer. On the wall in tin letters were suspended the words, "October 4th, 1859—October 4th, 1869 our tin wedding," while hanging from all the furniture in the room, and from walls and ceiling, were articles in tin. Coffee pots and caddys, tea-pots and pans, callenders and plates, dippers and kettles, watches and jewelry, spoons and platters, were everywhere. Many of these articles were of no little value. The pastor and his good wife—so much loved as a friend and teacher—were taken entirely by surprise. Joy and happiness filled every heart, and all united in the wish and prayer, that the good couple may live to celebrate their golden wedding day.

—A sermon in behalf of the Philadelphia Tract and Mission Society was preached on Sabbath morning, September 6th, by Rev. P. Stryker, D. D., in North Broad street church, corner of Broad and Green. A collection was taken of \$161.71. This church has been active in Tract and Mission work in the past. It is hoped that as the members are resuming their fall and winter work, there will be many who will co-operate with this society in the upper part of the city.

Ministerial.—Rev. T. M. Hopkins has removed from Geneva to Hannibal, Mo., and desires correspondents to note his change of address. —Rev. Gerrit Huyser, on Sabbath, Sept. 19th, tendered his resignation as pastor of the Pumpkins and Springport Presbyterian church. His address will be, until settled elsewhere, Parma, Mich. —The pastoral relation between Rev. J. H. Burns and the church of Granville, Ill., was dissolved at a late meeting of the Presbytery of Ottawa. The congregation by a unanimous vote declined to join in a request for the dissolution, but afterward agreed to submit the question to the Presbytery. Mr. Burns' P. O. address is changed from Granville to Ravenswood, Ill. Rev. John Rankin, of Ripley, Ohio, goes to Granville, Ill.

—In November next it will be forty years since Rev. J. A. Carnahan began preaching, and during all that time, with the exception of four years, he has ministered to the church at Dayton, Ind. This is certainly a long pastorate for a Western minister. The warm affection existing between pastor and people recently took a tangible form, when they presented to their beloved pastor a beautiful new carriage, costing three hundred and twenty-five dollars. It was a pleasant surprise to all the members of the family.

REV. DANIEL CLARK.—The Rev. Daniel Clark, M. D., a member of the Presbytery of Chicago and pastor of the Congregational church of Plainfield, Ill., was drowned in the creek which flows through that village, Friday morning, September 24th. It is supposed that he rode his horse into the creek to water, not aware of the depth of the stream, or of the character of the bottom, which

was a deep mire, that the unexpected plunge of the horse threw him, and in the struggles of the horse he received a blow which stunned him, and deprived him of the power of swimming, (he was a good swimmer), resulting in his death. His body was found after it had lain three or four hours in the water. A contusion on the head showed that he had received a blow, probably from the foot of the horse, or of the colt, which was in its company. The family were all absent from home. The telegraph flashed the dreadful news to an estimable wife, a sister of Rev. Joel Parker, D. D., and five children, that a loving and beloved husband, and an affectionate father was dead. All but the eldest son were gathered to their desolate home, from different parts of this State and of Iowa, before the Sabbath. On that day the funeral was attended at the church by a large number of sympathizing friends. The sermon was preached by Rev. C. R. Burdick, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Joliet, from Rev. xiv. 13.

Brother Clark was born in the State of New York, was 65 year old, and had been nearly 40 years in the ministry. His first charge was in New York City. Thence he went to Norwich, Chenango Co., thence to Fredonia, thence, after a short term of service to one of our benevolent boards, to Lyons, Iowa, thence to Galena, Ill., and from that place he came to Plainfield, where he was installed three years ago, by a joint council. He was a successful winner of souls, and greatly beloved as a pastor. His bereaved people feel that his place can hardly be filled. He was highly respected by all who knew him. He had been a practising physician, and the author of a small treatise, lately published, on Electricity, or the Electric Battery as a curative of disease.

Churches.—West Nantmeal.—The congregation of West Nantmeal, Chester county, Pa., has during the past six months greatly revived in attendance and energy, under the ministry of the Rev. A. N. Hollifield, pastor elect. The church has also been coming up to the more spiritual part of its work, and at special services two weeks ago there seemed to be the beginning of a season of special mercies.

—At a meeting convened at the chapel of the church of Ithaca, on the evening of the 20th of Sept., to take into consideration the propriety of adopting the system of rotatory eldership for said church, a resolution to that effect was offered and adopted, when the meeting elected eight new elders, to be ordained on the first Sabbath in October. The deacons having offered their resignations the meeting elected four new deacons to act in their place.

—J. L. Allen died at Dover, N. J., Sept. 22d, in his sixty-fourth year. For thirty-five years a ruling elder, he was a model of consistency. Liberal in the support of the Gospel at home, he was a leader in liberality for its publication abroad. In his will he leaves \$10,000 towards the erection of a new church in Dover, and \$5,000 for a parsonage, and liberal sums for other benevolent objects.

Presbyteries.—The Presbytery of Ilwaco, O., held its stated meeting at Melmore, Sept. 14th. On the question of reunion submitted by the Assembly to the Presbyteries the vote was unanimously in the affirmative. The congregations of Fremont and Norwalk are each erecting large church edifices, which will engross their interest and tax their energies until they are completed, which will probably be in the course of four or five months. Several churches are yet without pastors, though the churches in Sandusky and Monroeville have just been supplied.

—The Presbytery of Madison, Ind.—met at Madison, in the Second church, Sept. 14th. The new basis of Reunion was unanimously approved.

—Greencastle Presbytery, Ind., met at Danville, Sept. 9th. Rev. Henry S. Little was dismissed, at his own request, to the Presbytery of Lake Superior. The vote on reunion, which was taken standing, was unanimous. William J. Lee was installed over the Danville church. Presbytery held a prayer meeting Sabbath evening, according to the recommendation of the General Assembly, to seek the divine blessing on the reunion movements. Vandalia church by a special messenger (with a subscription in his hand) asked for supplies. Presbytery appointed six ministers to supply that church monthly for six months. Rev. Wm. J. Dee, of Danville, and Rev. Blackford Condit, of Terre Haute, were appointed a Committee of Correspondence to invite ministers into this field, and ministers seeking places are requested to make known the fact to these brethren.

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Montrose, held at Waymart, on the 22d instant the pastoral relation of Rev. Yates Hickey to the congregation in Abington was dissolved. Rev. Mr. Hickey has accepted a call from the congregation in Mount Pleasant and Uniondale, where he will be installed on the 13th of October. On the 22d instant Rev. Jacob Best was installed by the Presbytery of Montrose pastor of the congregation at Waymart. Mr. Best has labored acceptably and successfully for six years past in the congregations at Waymart and Prompton. The installation at Prompton will take place next week.

The overture on "Reunion" was answered by the Presbytery of Montrose, in the affirmative, unanimously.

The Presbytery of Grand River held its semi-annual session at Kingsville, O. The overture of the General Assembly on the reunion of the Church was answered unanimously in the affirmative. In connection with this action, the following resolution was adopted: "That we recommend to such of our churches as are not thoroughly organized in accordance with the Presbyterian Form of Government, in view of the favorable opportunity presented by the reunion of the Church, and the importance of avoiding in the Reunited Church any issues that may be productive of difference or disagreement, to take measures as soon as practicable to complete their Presbyterian organizations." On the subject of Sabbath Cheese Making it was resolved: "That Presbytery regard the making of cheese, and the transportation of milk for that purpose on the Sabbath, as a flagrant violation of the Divine law; and we earnestly urge upon our churches to take such action as will purge them from the taint and curse of this sin."

The Fourth Presbytery of New York at their stated meeting, Sept. 27th, unanimously adopted the "Basis of Reunion" as submitted by the last General Assembly. It dismissed Rev. Perez D. Cowan and commended him to the Holston Presbytery, Tenn. His address is Rogersville, Tenn.