

American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1869.

REV. JOHN W. HEARS, D. D., Editor.
No. 1334 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 Church.
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 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.

Venice, III, by B. B. C. Cemeteries and Dead Houses of Central Europe, by S. C. P., Rev. A. M. Stewart's Letter, Semi-Centennial of Maryville College, page 2nd; Editor's Table, Literary Items, Missionary Items, page 3rd; Rejoice all ye Believers, (Poetry), Mr. Hammond's Letters, VIII, Losing the Hoppy, Not Yet, Be Gentle, Value of the Sabbath, Geology at a Discount, Budget of Anecdotes, page 6th; Religious Intelligence: Presbyterian Church, Episcopalian, Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, page 7th.

—Three times, in as many different sermons, preached in our hearing last Sabbath, was reference made to Daniel Webster,—once his dying words, upon the reading of the twenty-third Psalm, and especially the words, "thy rod and thy staff they comfort me," were quoted to illustrate the support of the divine word in a dying hour; and twice mention was made of his celebrated saying, that the idea of his personal responsibility to God was the greatest that had ever entered his mind.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MESSRS. C. SCRIBNER & Co. have issued, in elegant holiday style, Mrs. Browning's poem: Lady Geraldine; also Hagenbach's History of the Church in the 18th and 19th Century; 2 vols.

CLAXTON, REMSEN & HAFELINGER have published Miss McKeever's Holiday juvenile, "The Pigeon's Wedding;" sq. 4to, colored plates. \$1.00.

THE AMERICAN S. S. UNION has issued: Out of the Orphan Asylum, and The Third Book of 100 Pictures.

THE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION send "Margaret Gordon" and "Pomponia, or the Gospel in Caesar's Household," two substantial S. S. books.

HENRY HOYT sends Rev. E. P. Hammond's Better Life—an excellent book, reserved for future notice.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE for December has appeared, with promise of a Holiday number, illustrated, for next month.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY for December.
OUR YOUNG FOLKS for December.

MR. A. H. HUBBARD has put upon the market a handsome quarto volume, to be sold by subscription, entitled BIBLE LYRICS. It is remarkable as a very fair, smooth versification of all the principal parts of the Bible, including a full metrical version of the psalms, by Rev. John A. Murray. Its attractiveness is greatly enhanced by the sixteen full page copies from Dore's illustrations of Scripture scenes; reproduced with marvellous fidelity and power. They are worth the entire price of the book.

WHAT A GOOD MAYOR CAN DO.—PITTSBURGH.

While the people may at times be unreasonable in their demands upon the mayor and police, there are great and flagrant violations of laws, by which the persons and property of citizens are daily imperilled and wholesome statutes are systematically set at naught; for these the mayor and his police force should be held responsible. For instance, the violation of the Sunday laws, not only in places where liquor is openly sold, but in tobacco stores, frequently with a bar in the back-room. Hence numbers of drunken and noisy men are seen reeling through the streets, disturbing the quiet of the day. Another instance of open violation of law is in the sale of liquors to minors. There is scarcely a bar in the city where youths are refused liquor, no matter how tender their age.

The attempt is sometimes made to place the responsibility of enforcing these laws upon the citizens. It is claimed that they should be the informants, and supply the proper evidence, and prosecute the offenders. Were there no police, patrols of citizens or vigilance committees would be formed. But our civilization has advanced to the point of paying men to devote their entire time and energy to these matters, who are in duty bound to see that there is no infraction of the laws. If a man should come out of a house dreadfully wounded by pistol, dirk or bludgeon, would the police hesitate to enter that house and secure, if possible, the perpetrator of the outrage? Yet when an unfortunate boy comes reeling from one of these dens, and falls to the

earth wounded in body, mind and soul, no evidence can be got to convict the liquor seller of a violation of the laws.

That all the excuses urged and reasons given for this state of affairs, are mere subterfuges, intended to shift the responsibilities from those who have assumed them, is evident from the state of affairs in another city in this state.

PITTSBURGH.

Every one who has visited this city, has vivid impressions of its many remarkable features. The heavy cloud of black smoke constantly enveloping it; its numerous workshops; the roar and clatter of forge, foundry or mill, filling the air with mingled sounds of industry; its crowded streets, fine churches, magnificent business houses, beautiful suburbs, and above all, the life and energy of its people, who are all busy, all producers, few, if any, drones. These practical people have selected for their Chief Magistrate a boilermaker. A gentleman of high moral character, good judgment, practical mind, with clear discernment of character; one who has made his mark as a business man. The results are such as may be expected in a city blessed with a chief officer of such energy, courage, and determination. He selected his police as he did his workmen, for their fitness and ability to perform their duties. As a consequence, the busy streets are remarkable for their good order, and the few drunken men to be met. On the Sabbath, the quiet of the city is most noticeable. Not a single establishment where liquors are sold can be found open, nor even a tobacco store, so often the vestibule to some bar room, where the young are the most numerous visitors.

Affairs were different in Pittsburgh under a former mayor; soon after the present incumbent took his place, parents petitioned him and complained that their sons were led astray by these places, particularly on the Sabbath. Immediate action was taken, the shops were all closed on that day, and police were stationed to watch them. When a person came out of one of them, he was immediately questioned; if he was at all inebriated, he was locked up and held as a witness, and all offenders were prosecuted to the utmost.

Existing laws were simply vigorously enforced, the police made to do their duty, and the results are most satisfactory to every good citizen.

At first, strenuous efforts were made to resist the Mayor in his efforts to enforce the Sunday law, so long an ornament to the statutes of our state. Associations were formed and money raised for this purpose. Barbers, bakers, confectioners, news agents, hackmen, car drivers, and persons going to church in their own conveyance, were informed on, with a view to bring odium upon the laws and secure its repeal. Mayor Brush held to his course with determination, and all decided opposition has died out. No one can escape the penalty of the law, be he ever so influential, and the number of friends who interfere in his behalf, cannot change his punishment. One member of council has been repeatedly fined and bound over, and will be forced to stand his trial upon several indictments. When a general is placed at the head of an army, he is held responsible for its success. And while our laws are openly violated, as is done by those who sell intoxicating drinks on the Sabbath, and to minors, shall the Mayor of the city not be held responsible when his officers are of his own selection?

The people will do it. And there is a just God who will hold him accountable for all the power and influence he may have. Let him remember that to these is he responsible, not to the party or party leaders by whose votes he has been elevated to office. P. M.

UNION MEETING OF MINISTERS.

The joint ministers' meeting for prayer and conference, in view of the Reunion, took place on Monday morning, as announced. The absence of Dr. Musgrave, from illness, and of Dr. Breed, who arrived from a distant city, near the close of the service, both of whom were expected to take a prominent part, was a disappointment to all who know how cordial they are in the matter. Mr. Barnes led the meeting, opening it with prayer. He then read a brief letter of apology for the absence of Dr. Boardman, from his son, and another explaining Dr. Breed's delay; after which Rev. Charles Brown read the seventeenth chapter of John. Mr. Barnes called on Dr. Blackwood to lead in prayer, and then addressed the meeting in the most judicious and satisfactory way. He referred to the fact that he was the oldest Presbyterian pastor in Philadelphia, and that he had lived as pastor, to see changes in every pulpit in Philadelphia but two—those of Rev. Mr. Chambers and Dr. Furness. He dwelt upon the separate history of the two bodies, now become one. It was, on both sides, a most honorable history. Both had done excellent service to the church and country; neither hindering the other in their work. He did not know but that the influence of the Presbyterian Church to-day was greater, and its hold upon a larger number of minds, than if it had not been two, with the healthful and proper rivalries of the division. The union had been effected at last upon the only basis which should have been thought of—the Westminster standards. They were the only proper basis for a united Church, and would always be the basis. As to the future,

it could not be assumed that the mere fact of union would make us stronger and more effective. It might result so—he hoped it would; but whatever was now to be done, men of a younger generation must take it in hand. Mr. Barnes expressly avoided reference to past divisions, and said that all past animosities must be laid aside. He was heard with profound attention, and his hearty concurrence in the basis of union was a graceful peace-offering which must have its effect in consolidating the union sentiment in our city. Dr. Schenck, Secretary of the Board of Publication, made an excellent address, in which he showed how the Reunion Committees had been led from unpromising beginnings and over great obstacles, to final success; referring especially to a most melting prayer of Dr. Shaw, of Rochester, which bathed all the members in tears, and which first seemed to break the ice of reserve. Dr. Schenck recognized the Divine hand in the whole movement. He expressed the hope that we might in future be brought into greater personal intimacy—to which Dr. Blackwood cordially responded, referring to the social monthly breakfasts of the Presbytery of London as an example from which we might take a lesson. Dr. Herrick Johnson spoke of the deepened sense of responsibility which he had felt in the meeting. He urged that something more than organized unity, or full agreement in doctrine, or kindly feelings, was necessary,—and that is, the oneness with each other which springs from oneness with Christ. After further remarks, interspersed with prayer and singing, arrangements were made for joint communion and other services, of which notice appears in another part of the paper, and the meeting adjourned. It was very largely attended, many brethren having come from adjoining towns, as far as fifty miles, to attend it. The cordial social greetings and intermingling of all schools and shades of opinion, after the meeting, showed that the union was real and complete, even in this historic battle-ground of Presbyterian division.

—FATHER HYACINTHE has been in very intimate association with the Protestant people of New England. Under the wing of the Rev. L. W. Bacon, the translator of his speeches, he paid a visit to New Haven where he became the guest of Rev. Dr. Bacon. While there he was visited by the clergymen of the city, college professors, and a number of prominent citizens. During his stay he visited Yale College, going through its various buildings, attended morning prayers once, and also listened for a short time to one of Dr. Bacon's lectures to the divinity students. With all that he observed and heard, says the correspondent of the N. Y. Times, he expressed himself as highly pleased, it being the first institution of the kind he has seen in this country. The impression Père Hyacinthe produced on the distinguished scholars and clergymen here was most favorable and flattering to himself. While somewhat reserved in speaking of his religious views and ecclesiastical relations, his calm demeanor and general appearance showed him to be a man of power and noble parts. On Wednesday he went up to Norfolk, Litchfield Co., at the invitation of Rev. Dr. Eldridge, of that place, to enjoy a genuine New-England Thanksgiving dinner. From Norfolk he will proceed to Boston with Rev. Mr. Bacon, who accompanies him as interpreter.

OUR ROCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.

THE REUNION.

There is a great rejoicing in this region, over the grand marriage consummated last week in Pittsburgh. The commissioners have had to tell a great many inquirers "what sort of a time" they had. They have told the story over and over again; and it is easy to see that they love to tell it. It grows in grandeur and interest with each repetition. Truly the spirit of the Lord seems to have presided over the deliberations. The result was plainly arranged in Heaven. The commissioners had but to record the Divine decree. Reunion was inevitable.

A meeting of rejoicing and thanksgiving was held last evening by the Presbyterians of Buffalo, in Calvary Church. Rev. Dr. Hall of this city, who has been one of the foremost in the reunion movement, stayed over, on his way from Pittsburgh, to help the Buffalo brethren rejoice and give thanks. Dr. Shaw who has been even more conspicuous, if possible, in the same movement, reached home in time to give his own people, on Sunday evening a most glowing and congratulatory account of the matter. He said they were as near heaven in the Pittsburgh meeting as he ever expected to be on earth.

People of other denominations, Baptists, Methodists, Congregationalists, all congratulate us, and rejoice with us. We hear it on every side. It would be simple insanity not to recognize the divine hand in this movement. We give thanks for it, and ask what new and grand service we can render to the Master of Assemblies, to testify our abounding gratitude for so great favor. Now for Missions, Home and Foreign, and every proper Christian work—we trust the reconstructed, one church will do more than ever before in these various ways of usefulness; do all that it is possible for such a great and good body to accomplish. Let the world see that the reunion is not a mere name; much less for denominational glory; but for work, for usefulness and for Christ. Its effect should be felt at once

in every quarter of the globe. The nations should feel the mighty impulse. The millennium should be nearer for it. Now for work and love, and peace, and joy, in the Holy Ghost.

THE SEYMOUR CHAPEL.

This edifice, to the building of which, out of the old First Church in Auburn, we have before alluded, was dedicated last week with appropriate services. Rev. S. W. Boardman, pastor of the Second Church, read the scriptures; Rev. Dr. Hawley, of the First Church, made the dedicatory prayer; and Dr. Condit of the Seminary, gave a historical address, followed by remarks, from Rev. H. Fowler of the Central Church, and Prof. Hopkins of the Seminary.

Fifty two years ago, the First Presbyterian Church of Auburn was dedicated to Almighty God. The eloquent Dr. Lansing preached the dedicatory sermon, in which he said, (as quoted by Dr. Condit,) "In the midst of the forest, majestically waving in the wind, the tower of this house rears its stately head, and tells the passing traveler that here is a sanctuary for God to dwell in."

But Dr. Lansing, with all his gifts, could not have foreseen that that same tower, after fifty two years of such noble service, should again rear its head, not in the wilderness, but in one of the most highly spots of a beautiful and thriving city, still to tell the passing traveller that here is this same sanctuary, hallowed by time and by richest spiritual associations, inviting him to enter in and dwell with God.

We have before stated that the Trustees of the First church gave the materials of their old house for this purpose. Jas. S. Seymour, Esq., one of Auburn's noblest and most generous citizens, gave the ground and bore most of the expense of the rebuilding of the house; hence the name. He came to Auburn in 1817, the same year in which the house was originally dedicated to its sacred use. His benevolence is only equalled by his modesty. It is not by desire that his name is connected at all with the enterprise.

The building accommodates a flourishing Sabbath-school, which was already established in this part of the city. Last Sabbath also a preaching service was inaugurated, Dr. Hawley giving the first sermon, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon; and on Monday evening a meeting was to be held in the same place to organize a religious society. It is a good work, well begun. May it be all that its most sanguine friends have desired.

PERSONAL.

Rev. D. H. Palmer of Prattburg is called to the Presbyterian church of Newark. We presume he will accept the call—a good man for the place.

Rev. A. C. Shaw accepts the call of the Presbyterian church of Fulton recently tendered him, and is to enter soon upon his new pastorate.

Rev. Edward N. Pomeroy, who has preached for a year or two past at Riga, has been called to the Congregational church of Bergen, and has entered into his new field of labor.

Rev. H. W. Morris, pastor of Calvary Presbyterian church, of this city, has nearly ready for the press a volume of very great excellence on the subject of Creation and science religiously considered. It is the result of years of patient study, tracing carefully the works of creation and drawing out the marvellous lessons of wisdom and love which they teach. The manuscript has been examined by several competent persons, and is commended in the highest terms. If suitably published, we much mistake if it does not prove to be a volume of great value, to be read and admired by thousands.

HON. WILLIAM J. BACON

Judge of the Supreme Court, after sixteen years of distinguished public service, is about to retire from the bench. He leaves his high position without a stain upon his personal or professional character; respected, honored, beloved by all, an able upright jurist, and a Christian gentleman. At a meeting of the bar of Oneida County, resolutions of highest respect and esteem were cordially passed. It falls to the lot of few men to be so universally praised, and to a less number to deserve it all. GENESEE.

Rochester Nov. 20, 1869.

THE OLD SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.

This body met in the First Church, corner of Sixth Avenue and Wood streets, two blocks removed from the Third Church; Dr. M. W. Jacobus in the chair. After Roll-call and devotional exercises, the question of filling vacancies arose, it not having been settled, as in the case of the new school body, by the assembly in May. The decision reached allowed alternates to sit in place of principals, who had sat in May and who might now be absent; and, equally allowed principals to sit whose alternates had occupied their places last May.

The object of the motion was to admit none by the Assembly, but those chosen before the meeting at New York.

The committees to investigate the condition of the Chicago and Danville Theological Seminaries were promptly ready with their reports, and the Assembly, with like promptness, voted upon them. The Committee on the Chicago Seminary, Hon. C. D. Drake, of Mo., chairman, reported to the effect that, the agreement between the representatives of the two parties in the controversy, procured by the efforts of the committee, be approved by the Assembly. This agreement is as follows:

"The parties to the controversy in regard to

the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of the Northwest, have agreed to this amicable adjustment, viz: I. That by-gones shall be by-gones. No further controversy respecting past issues to be indulged in, and all shall cordially unite in efforts to promote the prosperity of the institution in the field of usefulness now about to widen so greatly before it. II. That on the one hand, Dr. Lord shall retain the chair of Theology, to which he has been assigned by the General Assembly, and that on the other hand the General Assembly will order the release of Mr. McCormick from the fourth instalment of his bond, and that the instalments of the endowment already paid shall be regarded as a fulfillment of his entire obligations. III. That the three Trustees last elected shall resign, and their places shall be supplied by others not unacceptable to either party. IV. That hereafter all the friends and patrons of the Seminary shall have a proper share in the management of the Institution, and that as far as practicable all the Synods particularly concerned shall be duly represented; it being understood that those friends of the Seminary, who have not yet contributed to its endowment, shall make a prompt and earnest effort to raise for it the sum of at least twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

Signed on behalf of the parties we respectively represent, on this third day of November, A. D. 1869.

D. C. MARQUIS.
H. F. SPAFFORD.

The Report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on Danville Seminary, Stanley Matthews, Esq., chairman, reported a plan vacating all the professors' chairs, Dr. R. J. Breckenridge, Yerkes and West (all but Dr. Landis) having previously resigned; recommending that this Assembly proceed to elect their successors, also that certain changes be made in the topics of two of the professorships, in the Seminary year, and in reference to the constitution of the faculty; also recommending the Institution as needful to the church at large, and the State of Kentucky in particular. The report was adopted.

The expenses of these committees were ordered to be paid out of the funds of the respective seminaries. The Committee on the North-Western Seminary had been at an expense of ten to twelve hundred dollars, six hundred dollars having been spent in phonographic reporting. The expenses of the other committee were about two hundred and fifty dollars.

Quite a lively discussion arose, on the subject of a more general Presbyterian union, in which the chairman of the committees on that subject, appointed by the three Assemblies (Dr. Pressly) was charged with neglecting his duty of recalling the Committee. The following resolutions on the subject were passed:

Resolved, That, rejoicing in the immediate reunion of the two Presbyterian bodies so long separated, we would gladly hail a Pan Presbyterian Union, embracing all branches of the same family, holding to the same confession of faith and form of government.

Resolved, That until such desirable union shall be accomplished, we will gladly welcome to our Church connection all congregations, pastors and members, who embrace the doctrine of the confession.

Resolved, That all uniting with us shall use such songs of praise to God as their consciences may dictate; as indeed is already allowed to and variously engaged in and by the several congregations now in our communion.

A memorial from the Board of Publication was presented, protesting against the appropriation of \$5,000 of their funds to carry on a law suit for church property in Kentucky, in the United States Supreme Court. The memorial was admitted to record, and it was ordered that the action complained of be not regarded as a precedent.

On Thursday, vacancies in the Trustees of the Assembly were filled by the election of Rev. George Hale, D. D.; Rev. D. A. Cunningham; Hon. J. K. Findlay; Archibald McLuttre; James T. Young; Robert Cornelius; H. Lenox Lodge, M. D. Two Presbyteries were authorized to enroll foreign ministers, Rev. Joseph Nelson in the Presbytery of Carlisle, and Rev. S. H. Thompson in the Presbytery of Ohio. The action of the Reformed Church, authorizing the use of the Westminster Catechism in the instruction of the children of the Church, was referred to a committee with a view to a similar authorization of the Heidelberg Catechism.

Delegates to the Welsh Calvinistic Synod were appointed.

Dr. McGill, the Stated Clerk, reported on the Presbyterian Vote on Reunion, "that all but ten Presbyteries, (viz: Austin, Corisco, Knox, Knoxville, Maury, Ogdensburg, Shantung, Siam, Stockton, and Western Africa), had informed him of their action or non-action in regard to Reunion [Stockton really voted unanimously in the affirmative.] Santa Fe Presbytery could not meet; Canton and Allahabad voted by circular, without meeting; Lahore Presbytery in Northern India—not yet on the roll—votes in the affirmative. Dr. McGill proceeds:

"We have thus one hundred and forty-four Presbyteries. One hundred and twenty-eight of these have answered the overture sent down affirmatively in writing—Three—Hudson, Rio de Janeiro, and West Lexington—have answered in the negative. Fifty-eight have been unanimous in the vote. Not including Presbyteries in which the divided vote is not specified in the answers, and those in which the want of unanimity is expressed only by a non liquet and 'excused from voting,' there may be counted two hundred and forty-five negative votes detailed in these returns, and distributed among sixty Presbyteries, and in about equal proportion of ministers and ruling elders. The Presbytery of Nassau has reported a formal protest along with the detail of negative votes.

The answers have been made in great diversity of form. They have not generally come with the categorical precision which seems to be required on the face of the overture; and many of them must be read along with the whole action of the Assembly, to be understood. Sometimes it is 'the plan,' sometimes 'the overture,' sometimes 'the question,' sometimes 'the basis,' and sometimes merely 'the subject of reunion,' which has been reported as carried in the affirmative, without any precise reference to the third article of the first part, in the document the Assembly adopted at New York.