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## FROM CHICAGO TO DENVER.

RIDE OF TWENTY-TWO HUNDRED MILES—AND SIX THOUSAND FEET HIGH TO INSTALL A HOME MISSIONARY.

DEAR AMERICAN:—The church at Denver, Colorado, having made application to the Chicago Presbytery, with which it stands connected, for the installation of Rev. E. P. Wells, its pastor elect, Rev. J. H. Taylor, of Lake Forrest, and the writer hereof were appointed a committee of Presbytery to proceed to Denver and perform the agreeable service. Leaving here on the 23d of November, we reached next morning the goodly city of Omaha, now numbering upwards of 20,000 souls, having more than doubled its population in the two years since last I visited it. It was pleasant to find a handsome and commodious house of worship on the foundation which had then stood for some time unoccupied. This church has suffered from causes not yet altogether removed; but it has elements of strength and a noble opportunity, and ought to have a bright and prosperous future.

Resuming next day our journey over the U. P. R. R., a ride of 24 hours carried us across the entire State of Nebraska to Cheyenne, the capital of the Territory of Wyoming, where our route diverged from the main track. This entire route is now so familiarly known to all readers of newspapers, that I shall spend no time in describing either the country or the journey. Yet one can hardly rid himself of the feeling of wonderment, and a lurking suspicion that it is all unreal, as he rolls luxuriously along over these vast and mainly unoccupied spaces, at the rate of 500 miles per day, eating, drinking, reading, talking, sleeping as though enjoying the comforts of a well appointed house.

Cheyenne, with its 8,000 inhabitants, has the growth of little more than two years; has the fixed and permanent look of a town ten times its age. Here we found a brother of the late O. S., laboring with encouraging prospects on the terribly hard material with which he has to build, and patiently awaiting the arrival of his church edifice, which he had just been informed by telegraph, had been shipped by rail from Chicago, and might be expected any hour. It was to cost \$8,000, and to be the best church edifice between Omaha and San Francisco. Whether he got it up so as to preach in it the next Sabbath, I have not learned.

We had looked forward with some misgivings to a stage ride of 110 miles, twenty hours, from this point to D., and were happy to find ourselves just in time for the first train over the Denver branch, now built to Evans, a point about half way the distance. Unless you have a map compiled within the last six weeks, you need not trouble yourself to search for this newest of "cities;" for six weeks since not a vestige of it occupied the present site. Yet it numbered that day from one hundred to one hundred and fifty houses, and the daily paper of that date announced that, should the present favorable weather continue "a week longer," a considerable number could be added. As an evidence of the rapidity with which civilization advances in those parts, the keeper of the house where we dined had been shot dead, in cold blood, some days before our arrival, and his murderer hung upon the nearest "cottonwood," within two hours thereafter. The details were given us by a young man, a fellow passenger, who had "assisted" at the trial and execution, with the air with which he might have spoken of a picnic. The last 50 miles we made by stage, reaching our destination late in the evening.

This whole ride from Cheyenne to Denver was of a most interesting character. The road runs nearly parallel with the mountain range, some 60 miles distant, but appearing, in the pure, transparent atmosphere of those elevated regions, (6,000 feet above the sea,) to be scarcely half a dozen miles away. Its lofty snow-capped peaks are constantly in sight, and the long serrated ridge stretches away on either hand until it loses itself in the distances. Herds of antelope bounded away from us on every side at the approach of the train; prairie wolves sneaked out of sight, and pert little prairie dogs sat composedly at the doors of their houses, as though railway trains had been familiar objects all their lives long. The country itself is beautiful, the soil fine, and capable, with irrigation, of producing the finest of crops. It is, however, and will be chiefly valuable as a grazing country; cattle feeding the entire winter on the wild grasses of the region, and coming out in good condition for market in the spring. We were surprised to see how numerous were the ranches or farms lying continuously along all the water courses, indicating a much larger population than we had supposed to exist there.

Denver, the capital, and principal town of the territory, is a goodly little city of five thousand souls, skirted by the Platte, and divided by the bed of Cherry Creek, whose waters sink into the

ground about midway the town, giving a singular appearance from the bridge under which they disappear. Through all its streets, yards, and gardens are seen the shallow ditches, which bring water, taken from the Creek at a higher level, without which neither tree nor plant could grow. The scenery of the region is soarsely surpassed in grandeur, the temperature mild, the climate salubrious, the people intelligent, and generally moral.

The installation services of the Sabbath drew together a large and apparently interested audience. It had seemed a scarcely necessary expenditure of time and means, that two persons should make an excursion of 2,200 miles for this service of an hour, but we judged that it was wisely made, and that the results to the Church and the people would prove exceedingly happy. Our excellent brother Wells is universally esteemed and beloved, and we trust may long continue to labor with success in that distant, but most interesting and important field.

Unfortunately the season of the year did not permit of our entering the mountains, or exploring the region to any great extent, with reference to missionary work. We saw and heard enough, however, to deepen and intensify our conviction of the urgent necessity of a great and rapid extension of our work, in this great embryo State. Its mountains are literally full of valuable ores, now more successfully extracted than ever before, and are soon to be populous with an active, enterprising, and wealthy class of persons. Both the Kansas Pacific and the Denver Pacific Railroads will have reached Denver in the course of another season, and will bring a large accession to its population. The salubrity of the climate will bring thousands there in quest of health, while in five years' time its canons, parks, streams, and, above all, its magnificent mountain scenery will make it the annual resort of thousands upon thousands of our recreation and pleasure-seeking citizens from every part of this broad land.

One thing more impressed us more than the intellectual character of the greater part of the people we met all over that great region. It would be very difficult to equal them in any similar number of people at the East. Bold, resolute, self-reliant, afraid of nothing, accustomed to carry their lives in one hand and a revolver in the other; they are yet frank, cordial, communicative, generous and friendly. Those who go to preach the gospel to such men as are chiefly found there, must be live, earnest, practical men, well versed in human nature, and prompt to enter into the interests and views of these young and vigorous communities. All others had, on every account, best remain elsewhere. They will get no hearing there. NORTHWEST.  
Chicago, Dec. 10, 1869.

## GREAT ENLIGHTENMENT OF THE NATIVE PRINCES OF INDIA.

RAJAH OF KOLAPOOR GOING TO ENGLAND. LETTER FROM REV. R. G. WILDER.

We hear that, as a part of his general education, before taking the reins of government, the Maharajah of Kolapoor is likely to make a trip to England. He will probably start in March next.—Times of India.

MY DEAR EDITOR:—The good people of America have not yet learned to feel a very special interest in the details of political, civil and religious movements in India. But doubtless, as the lines of intercommunication continue to shorten, and all nations are drawn more closely together in one common brotherhood, this interest will greatly increase.

A very hopeful sign of the times in India, at present, is the rapidly increasing intelligence of many of the Chiefs and Princes, resulting in breaking up their exclusive views and feelings, and their adoption of sentiments and principles more liberal, and more in accordance with the spirit of the age. Witness the King (Rajah) of Jeypore employing a missionary to superintend his medical and educational departments, according to him a position of the highest importance and influence under his government, and well-earning and supporting a young lady from our Women's Union Missionary Society, to teach the ladies of his palace and the girls of his capital. Four years ago I spent five hours in the Durbar of the young Chiefs of Koorundwar, an independent principality twenty five miles from my home in India, and was listened to most eagerly by them and one hundred and fifty of the heads of their people, as I discoursed on the leading principles, history and doctrines of our Christian faith, and never was I more intelligently questioned on all the leading topics which interest the most intelligent minds of the age. One of those Chiefs has since been elected member of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay. The Chief of Jamkhandi is a well-educated man, and so far in advance of the priests and people around him,

that when the first instance of the re-marriage of a Brahman widow occurred recently in Bombay, an event which seriously agitated the whole of Western India, and brought upon the parties and all who countenanced them the bitterest censure of the whole orthodox Brahman priesthood, this Chief instantly marked his sense of the propriety and importance of the reform, by sending 1,000 rupees (\$750) to the bride and bridegroom as a marriage gift.

The paragraph above, which I have clipped from an Indian paper just at hand, has special interest for me, because referring to our own King (Rajah) at Kolapoor. He is a young man of about twenty years, converses readily in English, and is well educated and intelligent. At all gatherings of the native Princes of Western India, at Durbars of the Governor of Bombay, the place of special honor is accorded to him, and he sustains it with good grace and marked ability. At my last interview with him, three months ago, he spoke of his wish to visit England—a wish which I omitted no effort to encourage, knowing it to be one of the most effective measures for destroying the remnants of superstition and caste-prejudice, and confirming his more liberal views. His Highness is already so enlightened as to care nothing for the idol ceremonies and worship, and only conforms in compliance to the priests and people about him. He has an English copy of our Christian Scriptures—a gift from our American Bible Society, and I am assured that he often reads it. His kind feelings towards our Mission have been often manifested, and when we left his capital, three months ago, he expressed a warmer wish than he for our speedy return. His Englishness and mental enlightenment is now assured, and will extend its influence to all his subjects. Could his heart be brought under the influence of God's grace and Spirit, and he become a truly converted man, like the Christian Prince, Dhalp Singh, now in England, we might soon look for triumphs of the Gospel in the Kingdom of Kolapoor, as signal and assured as those now transpiring on the Island of Madagascar. For this let us pray. Yours sincerely,  
R. G. WILDER.

## ROCHESTER—DR. SHAW'S TWENTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

DEATH OF ELDER FREDERICK STARR—DR. KNOX'S FAREWELL TO ROME.

With the expiration of the last month, Rev. Dr. Shaw completed twenty-nine years of his grand and successful ministry over the Brick church of this city. Last Sabbath evening he preached his anniversary sermon to a great congregation of deeply interested and attentive hearers. It was a remarkable and interesting occasion. How seldom a pastor is permitted to preach his 29th anniversary sermon to the same flock. What changes in that time! What resurrections from death unto life! How these matters thronged the minds, especially of the older members, of the congregation. They lived over very rapidly some scenes of marvelous interest in the history of the Old Brick church.

We are happy to report that the enterprise was never more prosperous than now; the pastor never stronger in the affection of his people. The church grows not old with age, but only more vigorous and more efficient year by year. The number added to the fellowship the past year was only 222! The whole number now in its communion only 1267! Such a church is a mighty power in the community.

But the Anniversary sermon was not the only notice taken of the event. After the Sabbath, the ladies took it in hand, and on Thursday evening the church proper, the Lecture Room, Sabbath school Rooms were all thrown open for a reception or social and supper. The great church was thronged. All the rooms seemed to be full. Hand shaking, kindly greetings and pleasant words filled up the flying hours. The supper, enough of the best for an army of men, was spread upon the long table in the Lecture Room. We noticed a great stout man in the desk carving turkeys! But it was not the only time meat has been dispensed from that sacred place; meat which some have relished even more than they did this which perishes with the using.

There was a great throng of young people present. The Brick church is largely composed of such, full of life, hope and activity. Long may they live and labor in the Master's service, better Christians than their fathers, making the church more and more mighty and useful every year till time shall end.

MR. STARR'S DEATH.  
Last Sabbath evening Dr. Campbell preached a most appropriate and highly satisfactory sermon on the death of his esteemed and able

Elder, FREDERICK STARR, Esq. He paid a well deserved tribute to his worth. Mr. Starr was born in Warren, Ct., settled in Rochester in 1822, where he has lived until he quietly yielded up his life to the Giver of all good, on the 27th ult., at 70 years of age. Hardly any layman of our part of the country was better known than Mr. Starr, especially within the bounds of the Presbyterian church; certainly no one was a better friend of our beloved Zion.

He was an intelligent New School man, well read in Theology, tenacious of his own views, and yet no one rejoiced more sincerely or fervently than he, in the blessed reunion now so happily consummated. The last act of his life was to help on the nuptial ceremonies at Pittsburgh. On his death bed he said: "It was glorious; it was worth all it cost."

This last remark was made in view of the fact that he was taken sick while attending the meeting at Pittsburgh. He seemed to be saying that such a consummation was worth dying for. Many of our readers will remember that Mr. Starr once owned and published the Genesee Evangelist, before it was removed from our city to Philadelphia, and grew to be the AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN. This was but a sample of the way in which he was always trying to promote the interests of the church. He carried the burden of that paper for some time on his shoulders, because he thought it a power for good in all this region.

He was one of the best men in this, or any other city; always ready to deny himself to do good; a man of conscience, a man of integrity, fearless for the right. These characteristics were beautifully presented by his pastor. He did not indulge in fulsome adulation; but with such fine discrimination as he is capable of making, the best qualities of the man were strikingly and pleasingly presented. The sermon gave great satisfaction to those who heard it.

ITEMS.  
Rev. Dr. Knox has commenced his labors with great acceptableness in the First church of Elmira. On leaving Rome last week, many of his people accompanied him to the Depot, and gave him a most friendly farewell. Among their last acts was the presentation of a purse of \$250.

A four days' meeting has been in progress the present week in the Presbyterian church of Almond. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Ogden, is aided by Rev. W. A. Niles, D. D., of Corning.

ERRATUM.  
The types in our last, made a certain fund of Hamilton College \$100,000, instead of ten thousand as it unfortunately is. True, this was only the addition of one cypher—nothing—and yet it was a great exaggeration, after all. We suspect, however, there was a providence in it. One hundred thousand is what is needed, or what the institution would gladly have, in that fund. If any one will take the hint, and supply that additional cypher, we shall not regret the mistake made. GENESEE.

Rochester, Dec. 11, 1869.

## PITTSBURGH.

A MARVELLOUS REUNION—BOLD ACTION OF THE FREEDMEN AND THE CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA.

DEAR PRESBYTERIAN:—Let me tell you something of the meeting of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, just closed. Presbytery met in the late Old School church in this place. I hardly know of anything more marvellous connected with the Reunion movement than this very fact, i. e. the coming together of the Old and New School churches here. It was in this very house that the so-called FREE CHURCH movement started, some twenty-three years ago. In no part of the country, perhaps, has a more bitter state of feeling existed. To the credit of all concerned, a few months ago a movement originated in the Old School church, which has resulted in an almost unanimous and most hearty coming together of these two divided branches, for the Free church branch had been taken into our Presbytery two years ago. It is marvellous to an extent that only those who know something of Scotch Irish Presbyterian character in Western Pennsylvania can understand, that these two congregations should have been brought together frankly, fairly, confidingly, under the same pastor. But so it is. Our eyes have seen it. Would that you could have been present at our meetings, and especially last evening, to hear brother Wm. F. Mitchell, the really eloquent Quaker representative of our Freedmen's work, carry along that large mixed audience of old-line, Free Church Abolitionists, and those who, until lately, rejoiced to be politically and otherwise their avowed foes, with breathless attention for fifty minutes or more, as he pleaded for a true reconstruction of the South, especially of the portion

embraced in the Southern Church—by the Spirit of LOVE, through the medium of first-class Freedmen's teachers; not going to the South to irritate, but to soothe and win, by showing a more excellent way. All the meetings of Presbytery have been attended by large congregations, and the deepest religious feeling seemed to prevail.

I copy for you the resolutions adopted unanimously on the subject of the Freedmen and the Chinese in California.

FREEDMEN.  
Resolved, That the Presbytery has been deeply interested in the presentation of the cause of the Freedmen, by Wm. F. Mitchell, the representative of the General Assembly's Freedmen's Committee.

Resolved, That Presbytery heartily approves of the manner in which Dr. Hatfield and the Freedmen's Committee have entered on this work.

Resolved, That it is the duty of our church, and of the entire united Church to go on more extensively and earnestly with this work, and that we pledge the Committee our full sympathy and best efforts to promote the cause and urge the churches to take up larger and still larger collections for this object, and in every way in their power to go on, until every neighborhood in the entire South is supplied with a good day-school, Sabbath School, church, and pastor for the Freedmen.

CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA.

After an earnest discussion of this subject, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the situation of the Chinese in California, presents a special claim upon the sympathies of American Christians.

Resolved, That we regard with unmitigated disapprobation and disgust the treatment the Chinese in California are reported to have received.

Resolved, That it is the clear duty of the Presbyterian Church in the United States to see that these people have the opportunity of instruction in day and Sabbath Schools suited to their peculiar circumstances, and that we specially commend their case to our Freedmen's Committee, and hope that, at the earliest possible day, a District Secretary will be appointed under their care and direction to attend to this department of labor.

May as well add that Rev. J. F. Hill was appointed Moderator. Rev. D. H. Evans, of Grand River Valley Presbytery, was received into our Presbytery. Mr. B. C. Montgomery of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and now a student of the Western Theological Seminary, was taken under the care of Presbytery.

Rev. W. T. Wylie, late of for the last time. He goes to the Presbyterian church in Bellefonte. He has been a very earnest and successful worker with us. We shall miss him exceedingly. The church at Lowell—some six miles away, where there has been very little evangelical preaching for many years, has been, through the labors of Bro. Hill, and the contributions of many who have chosen to regard themselves as skeptics, renovated and refurbished very neatly. They held their first communion on last Sabbath. The organization now numbers sixteen members, and they have a flourishing Sabbath School. J. S. T.  
New Bedford, Lawrence Co., Pa., Dec. 4, '69.

## MINISTERIAL UNION IN PHILADELPHIA.

An interesting event transpired at Calvary Presbyterian Church on last Monday, in the organization of a new Ministerial Association, composed of all the Presbyterian ministers, (of what used to be called the Old and New School branches of the Church) in Philadelphia and its vicinity.

The meeting was largely attended, nearly all the brethren being present, and the best feelings were manifested on every side.

The Rev. Dr. Musgrave was called to preside, and was assisted in leading the devotional exercises, by the Rev. Dr. Humphrey.

At the close of the religious services the meeting proceeded to business.

The joint committee on organization, which had been previously appointed, submitted a series of Rules for the regulation of the doings of the new Association. These were fully discussed, and after being amended in a few minor points, were unanimously adopted.

The Rev. Charles Brown was unanimously elected permanent Secretary, notwithstanding his earnest desire to be excused. But his long experience (for twenty-one years) as Secretary of the late Pastoral Association, induced the brethren to press him again into service.

The Association will hold its meetings every Monday at 11 o'clock, A. M., in the Rooms of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, No. 821 Chestnut street.

—Dr. Boyd, "The Country Parson," made a good point, not long ago, when in maintaining the need of an order of service or ritual in public worship, he added that when the ritual became ritualism; a religion instead of an aid to religion, it becomes an abomination.