

News of Our Churches.

BETHESDA CHURCH.—Thirty persons were received into this church on Sabbath last, twenty one of whom were on profession since March 1st, last, eighty-three have been received. The large Lecture Room, which will seat 600 persons, is commonly filled with worshippers, and arrangements are now being made for the completion of the main audience room, which it is hoped may be ready for occupancy in about 7 months. Toward this object John A. Brown, Esq., through the City Church Extension Committee, has given \$5000, and promised \$5000 more; both of which sums are in addition to the \$5000 previously contributed.

The Sabbath-school is very prosperous also. A few Sabbaths ago its second anniversary was held, when the missionary offerings of the classes amounted to more than \$360. On the evening of the late Thanksgiving Day the ladies of the congregation gave a supper for the benefit of their "Mite Society," at \$1 a ticket. They seated at their tables more than 600 persons; and as nearly everything in the way of turkeys, etc.,—of which there were 60—had been given them, they realized as their profits \$525. On the next evening they supped the children—to the number of 700—free. It ought to be mentioned also, that from the start, this Church has made it a matter of principle to take up collections for all the objects of the General Assembly.

W. T. E. —The South-western Church held its usual yearly festival on Thursday evening, when the lecture room was crowded by the members of the congregation and their friends. Addresses by the pastor, Rev. John McLeod, who presided, and by Messrs. Culver, Malin, Hotchkiss, Adair, Wm. O. Johnston, R. E. Thompson and others were interspersed with more material, if not more substantial or attractive fare. Frequent reference was made to Mr. M. Caskie, their first devoted pastor, and to the early trials of the Church now happily risen to influence and prosperity. They are now building a parsonage on the lot North of the church. In Mr. McLeod's temporary indisposition, the pulpit is supplied by our associate, Mr. Robt. E. Thompson of the Reformed Presbyterian church.

THE EAST. —In May, 1868, the McDowell Sabbath-school was established by the Spring Garden Church, in memory of Dr. John McDowell. It has lately become an independent Mission, and regular services have been commenced in the Hall, on Nicholas-street, near Ridge Avenue, back of Girard College. This is the first movement towards a church in this part of the city, which has been made by Presbyterians.

—In the recent German Reformed Synod, the Philadelphia Classis was enjoined to institute measures to secure the property of the Market Square church in Germantown. This is a church which, with its pastor, Rev. Jacob Helfenstein, in revolt from the Mercersburg influence, was transferred to us at least twelve years ago.

—The interior of Olivet Church has just been frescoed, and some other improvements made, a large fine organ placed in the church, and the exterior of the lecture and school-room building, adjoining the church, entirely renovated. With all these expenditures, the church is now nearly free from debt of any description, and the congregation is growing, and active in every good work.

On Sabbath before last the church was reopened after the renovation. The sermon in the morning was preached by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, the pastor, and in the evening by the Rev. Dr. E. E. Adams. In the evening several of the ministers of the former Old School branch were present.

—Trinity Church, on Frankford-road, in the north-east part of the city, has a debt which must be paid in a few weeks, and the church building finished. It will not be possible for the small flock worshipping now in the Lecture room to do so much, and they call upon their brethren for aid. The church is a beautiful structure so far as completed, and is in a growing neighborhood.

—In the South Church, at the last communion, fifteen persons were added to the membership, representing ten families, nine of which had not previously had any of their members on the communion roll of their church. Eight of them were heads of families, and a husband and wife were baptized together. A Pastoral Letter from the Session of the church was read at the close of the services, calling the members of the church to a higher consecration to Christ, and to more diligent and earnest labor for the salvation of the impenitent and careless.

last Sabbath of November a tasteful new church was set apart to the worship of God.

—The Banner has the names of two gentlemen, each of whom will be one of one thousand to give a \$1000 each, for the establishment of a college or university somewhere in the West, to be under the control of the General Assembly, as a memorial of the reunion of the two branches of the Presbyterian Church. [The Reunited Church has two many colleges and "universities," by half, so that it is no matter of regret that the above proposal will come to nothing.]

—The church of Renovo, Pa., has dedicated a new house of worship, after raising \$1100 at one subscription to free it from all debt. A long and hard struggle is thus crowned with victory.

—Rev. D. K. Richardson, of Bryan, Ohio, has been called to the Middle Spring church, in the Presbytery of Carlisle.

—Rev. G. W. Newell having taken charge of the Fruit Hill church, his Post Office has been changed from Belleville, Wis., to Ansonville Pa.

—Rev. S. C. McElroy of Brooklyn, has gone to Washingtonville, Montour County, Pa.

—The church in Birmingham immediately opposite Pittsburg, on the south side of the Monongahela, under the pastoral care of the Rev. P. S. Davies, is engaged in providing itself with a comfortable and beautiful house of worship. The building is now under roof, and the congregation will soon enter the basement. Mr. Davies is doing a good work amid many discouragements, in a large and growing field. We hope that our people in this city and vicinity will aid liberally in supplying the means for the completion of this edifice at the earliest practicable moment. The church is zealous, active, and liberal, although it has very little wealth among its members.—Banner.

—At the 150th anniversary of the Orange, N. J. Church, some interesting historical facts were elicited. A century ago the congregation worshipped in an edifice known as the Mountain Meeting house, immediately in front of the present structure. Some fifty-six years ago the "Meeting-house" gave place to the present edifice. The Newark Journal says that "the township of Newark originally embraced in the purchase from the Indians the tract comprising Newark, Orange, Bloomfield, Belleville, and Clinton. This purchase extended to the foot of the mountain. Subsequently the title to the top of the mountain was acquired by an additional payment. From this purchase twenty acres were set aside for church purposes, and the 'Meeting-house' was erected in 1719, in the sixth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord, George, by the grace of God, King."

—Dr. McCosh says that the statement which has appeared in some newspapers, that since his accession to the presidency Princeton College has received more than \$400,000, is an exaggeration. He says, also, that there have been mistakes in some papers as to the names of the supposed donors. In due time, and when the outstanding subscriptions have all come in, a full statement will be publicly laid before the friends of the college. He adds: "Of the sums actually received, by far the greater part has been appropriated—very judiciously—by the donors, to defined purposes which they favor; and we are at this moment without funds to carry out necessary and pressing ends—such as the endowment of the chair of modern languages, and dormitories in which to room our numerous students. We have made a beginning—only a beginning—of that system of fellowships by which we intend to rear a body of scholars to match those of the old colleges of Europe."

—There are now 111 students in Princeton Seminary—37 in the Senior class, 33 in the Middle, and 36 in the Junior. Last year the classes numbered, respectively: Senior, 24, Middle, 39, Junior, 40—total, 103.

—"We hope the day is not far distant when the General Assembly will transfer its theological seminaries to the supervision of Synods."—Herald and Presbyter.

Does this foreshadow a policy for the introduction of "new measures"? We trust not. Let us have peace.—Western Presbyter.

—A member of the Congregational Church in Stockbridge, Mass., sends a check for three hundred dollars as a contribution from a few friends in that church to their old pastor in aid of the erection of a Pres. church in Bricksburgh, N. J.

The church has received other contributions from Christians of other denominations—one of three thousand dollars from R. A. Brick, Esq., who is a member of Dr. Montgomery's Episcopal church, New York, and has a large property interest in the place. The people themselves have made great sacrifices. Many of them have been Union officers and soldiers, and have invested their small savings in homes in this newly opened country; all are pioneers of limited means, employed in developing the various industries of a new community. They have done all that they can, and yet lack two thousand dollars in order to build a neat and commodious church. Their Sabbath school already numbers two hundred, and the church is sustaining an efficient Mission school in the vicinity. The town, begun only three years since, has already a thousand people, and our church numbers seventy-five members and is growing rapidly. They appeal for some Presbyterian aid.

INTERIOR. —Feesburg, O., is considerably composed of Presbyterians. A number of the families belonging to the old church at Felicity, six miles distant, were organized into a church, subject to the Ryley Presbytery (N. S.), which afterward by its own petition, was transferred to the care of Cincinnati Presbytery (O. S.). For a long time it felt unable to support a minister, and tried to connect with others. It has now begun afresh under the ministry of Rev. S. P. Dillon, who is young and willing to work. The congregation assembled en masse at the parsonage one day last week, and filled all the cupboards with useful articles.

—The church in Lancaster O. had a very happy November communion; five were received upon examination; six by letter. Two of those received by examination were Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Howe, the commissioner and matron of the Ohio Reform Schools or Reform Farm. They have labored zealously for the cause of Christ among the boys gathered there, now numbering 336.

—Rev. S. McE. Anderson, D.D., of Davenport, Iowa, accepts the call to the church of Hamilton, Ohio.

—Rev. J. R. Hughes of Blairsville, has taken charge of the East Church in Dayton, O.

—The little church of New Hope, near Peru, Ind., six months ago numbered thirty members. They secured the services of a minister for alternate Sabbaths and at their July communion received ten members: four on profession. One month ago they set apart a special time for prayer, and on a recent Sabbath twenty presented themselves for admission, eighteen on profession.

—Rev. R. A. Condit has accepted a call to the church at Carondelet (St. Louis), Missouri.

—Rev. George N. Johnston, for the last few years pastor of the church at Knoxville, Ill., has accepted the call to the "Grace Mission" church, Peoria.

—Rev. John Crozier, recently of Oxford, Ohio, accepts the call to the North Sangamon church, Illinois.

—The Reunion was fittingly celebrated at Chicago, on the evening of December 5th, in Farwell hall. About two thousand persons were present, the ministers of the two former branches occupying the platform. The preliminary services of reading the Scriptures, and prayer were conducted by the Rev. Robert Patterson, D.D.; Dr. Willis Lord presided and made the first address. He said that the 12th of November was hereafter to be set apart as a special anniversary, "and one which God alone could have brought about, since it witnessed the Reunion of those who had been sundered for thirty years." In the illness of the pastor (Rev. Dr. R. W. Patterson), who was to have spoken next, the Hon. William Bross made the second address, being followed by Judge Jesse O. Norton, H. G. Spafford, Esq., Rev. D. C. Marques, and Rev. Arthur Mitchell. The services closed with the doxology, and the benediction by the pastor of the Second church.

—Charles S. Wood, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, has accepted a call to the church at Winconne, Wis.

—Rev. Louis Mills, of Iowa, has removed to Paw Paw, Mich.

—The church in Plainfield, Livingston county, Mich., after a school-house existence of more than thirty years, dedicated its first church edifice Dec. 8. After the sermon a collection was taken, which nearly cleared the Society from debt. The house is beautiful, substantial, and well furnished, costing about \$3,200. This is one of the churches encouraged and helped by the Church Brethren Fund.

—Every true friend of the nation will rejoice at the elevation of Edwin M. Stanton to the U. S. Supreme Bench.

The Situation. —One of the many advantages of Oak Hall is its central position. It is easily accessible from all parts of the city, and from all the Depots and Boat landings, and all the City Railways, by means of exchange tickets, carry passengers right to its doors. Even a child, a stranger in the city, can easily find Wanamaker & Brown's, and no one can miss it.

HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENT. A beautiful little circular, with the above heading, has been issued by Mr. Wanamaker, announcing some special preparations made at his Chestnut Street Clothing House for the coming holidays. Among them are Scarfs, Ties, Cravats, Fancy and Toilet articles, but especially "Christmas Boxes," containing half a dozen Fine Hdks., a very appropriate present to a gentleman, and all kinds of gowns and wrappers. These latter are especially beautiful and elegant, and wives wishing to present their husbands, or congregations their pastors, with a handsome Christmas gift or New Year present could not do better than purchase for them one of these gowns or wrappers.

MARRIED. BROWN—BEAVER.—On the 16th inst., at the residence of the bride's parents by the Rev. Chas. W. Wm. H. Brown, Esq., of Philadelphia, Pa., to Alice, second daughter of Thomas Beaver, Esq., of Danville, Pa.

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THE GREAT PICTORIAL ANNUAL. Hostetter's United States Almanac for 1870, for distribution, gratis, throughout the United States and all civilized countries of the Western Hemisphere, will be published about the first of January, and all who wish to understand the true philosophy of health should read and ponder the valuable suggestions it contains. In addition to an admirable medical treatise on the causes, prevention and cure of a great variety of diseases, it embraces a large amount of information interesting to the merchant, the mechanic, the miner, the farmer, the planter, and professional man; and the calculations have been made for such meridians and latitudes as are most suitable for a correct and comprehensive NATIONAL CALENDAR.

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