American Presbuterian.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1869,

REV. JOHN W. MEARS, D. D., Editor.

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE, Rev. Z. M Humphrey, D.D., Pastor of Calvary

Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D., Pastor of the Rev. Danl. 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. 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.

OUR POSITION-A CARD.

Earnest efforts have recently been made by disinterested parties, including ministers and laymen of the highest standing in both of the former branches of the church, to procure the consolidation of the two papers in this field, upon an honorable basis. These efforts have failed. Without intending in the slightest degree to criticise or complain of others, we need only say that the failure is due to no reluctance on our part. All who were engaged in the transaction know that we offered every facility for its accomplishment. It was only when the proposal took the form of mere absorption or extinction that we drew back. The sale of our subscription list, and the disappearance of our paper, without any guarantees for the future maintenance of the principles it has upheld, seemed inconsistent with prudence and honor. Reunion is not absorption. It grows out of the abandonment of the policy of absorption, and proceeds upon the honorable and frank re cognition of entire equality between the parties Not as contrary to the spirit, but rather in the very name of Reunion, we have declined to be absorbed, and we once more give our banner of American Presbyterianism to the breeze. We shall continue to devote ourselves as journalists to the interests of Evangelical religion as held by the Presbyterian Church, but shall especially aim to foster and develop the noblest elements and the best tendencies which are stirring in the united church; its wide awake, enterprising, Catholic spirit; its sympathy with the suffering and the oppressed; its broad and generous concern for the public good; its open loyalty to the right in all relations of life; its Evangelical liberty of opinion within the limitations of the essentials of Calvinism. In this spirit we have recommitted and reconsecrated ourselves to our editor a! work. Not so much the servile following and echoing of what the church is, as the inculcating of what the church ought to be and do, shall be our ambition and our aim.

We have not the slightest idea that these principles are to be unwelcome, or the advocacy of them to be counted unsuitable for the public prints of the church. Nay, in these halcyon days, this time of honeymoon, it will be quite unnecessary to make them prominent matters of discussion. But precious as they are, we have felt that they should not be left without the special guardianship of at least one newspaper in the united church.

We shall therefore present ourselves in the opening number of the New Year in an entire new dress,—a wedding dress, from the foundry of L. Johnson & Co., of this city. We shall gather a wider range of correspondence, from writers in both the former schools. Our foreign correspondence, embracing letters from our gifted associate, Dr. March, will be at least as valuable as heretofore. The activity and wonderful growth of the church es of this city will be carefully and prominently presented in our columns. All branches of church work will of course be advocated; the interests of the Sabbath school will be better represented than formerly; the operations of earnest workers everywhere: Evangelists and Young Men's Associations will be recorded; and especial prominence will be given to city evangelization, the Work among the Freedmen, and Temperance.

Above all, we hope both to enjoy and to communicate to our readers, no small measure of that spirit of renewed consecration and despened spirituality which alone can bring increase of strength and efficiency to the reunited church Give us your hearty sympathies; give us your earnest prayers; labor with us in promoting the great ends of our work.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

The Presbyterian Ministerial Association of this city, appointed a committee last week to consider and report arrangements for the Week of Prayer among our churches. On last Monday the Committee's Report was presented and adopted as follows:

ings by our churches during the Week of Prayer would respectfully report:

1. That they find it impracticable to hold other meetings than those usually held at such time, and known as "Union Meetings of all Christian denominations."

2. That a Presbyterian Union Meeting be held in the Arch Street Presbyterian Church, Arch street above Tenth, on Thursday, January 6th, at 4 P. M., in accordance with the views of the empire.

last General Assemblies.

-Pastors will please read the second Resolution to their congregations.

A REPRESENTATIVE PAPER WANTED.

THE PLACE NOT YET OCCUPIED. We fear that we spoke prematurely of the newspaper revival a week or two ago. The omens, after all, are not so favorable as we at first interpreted them. The Chicago enterprise, although making encouraging progress, will not be in shape so early as the first of the year. The Presbyterian, of this city, as yet, makes no announcement of a material change such as the circumstances demand. The Evangelist's Old School co-editor. Dr. Imbrie, it turns out, is not to leave his pastoral charge; and everybody knows how far he can represent the former Old School branch under such circumstances. The Church, we should think, required a bolder and more generous policy in the papers which aspire adequately to represent it, in the new circumstances of reunion. And more in sorrow than in anger, it must be said, that just at this juncture the Evangelist has come before the public in a light not favorable to popularity where a strict code of morals prevails, as among Presbyterians. Without meaning here to judge the right or wrong of the conduct of the editor-in-chief in the marriage which he witnessed and defended, it is certain that his card in the Evangelist will not contribute to the success of the paper in its new career.

There is work for our men of means to do in establishing a truly representative paper, one em bodying and cultivating the progressive, enter prising and liberal spirit of the reunited Church soundly Calvinistic, yet popular, vigorous, able readable; a great educator of the people, concentrating and developing the talent of her writers and commanding the regard of the public. To this end we trust the newspaper revival will yet reach. Who is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord? Why may not Philadelphia, central as it is to the densest and oldest Presbyterian population in the land, be the home of such a paper? We pause for a reply, which should be in the shape of greenbacks, to be effective.

THE ERA OF FRAUDS.

Fraud, swindling, counterfeiting and corrup tion crowd upon us. The columns of the news papers are burdened with the details; behind the old cases, new ones, like Alps on Alps arise Wall Street itself is not sharp enough to escape the operators. The reporters bring out their expletives which have long ago lost their force from familiarity, and tell us of "one of the most bold and successful swindling devices that have startled the street in years." Half a million dollars have been triumphantly carried away from the money-lenders of that famous locality, by parties who left altered securities, worth but onetenth that amount, in the hands of the unsuspecting lenders. Enormous frauds in the New York custom house, in the very department especially established to detect and punish fraud, have been discovered; and one of the parties has been arrested in Prescott, Canada, where he had purchased a house and saw-mill, and was running a brewery. These frauds have only recently been brought to light, having extended over several years. The hand of justice is on the perpetrators, although every device is being employed by Canada lawyers to prevent the delivery of the chief criminal to our courts. In New York city, on Dec. 14th, an extensive establishment for counterfeiting the printed or lithographed check stamps, was seized and the operators arrested. On the same day, a penitent counterfeiter of Philadelphia, sends to the Chief of the United States Secret Service in New York, a counterfeit ten dollar bank-note plate pronounced by experts the best plate they have ever seen. On the same day, the late cashier of a bank in West Chester county, New York, was arrested on a charge of embezzling \$30,000 of the funds of the bank. On the same day, a counterfeiter in Hoboken, with two accomplices, aged nineteen and twenty years, were arrested and committed in default of heavy bail. All these items we gather from a single page of a New York paper of the 15th inst. Turning over to the next page, we find a report of the judicial examination of a late New York State Senator, also on the same day, who used his position as a member of a Legislative Committee gambling in railroad securities. The failure of school money and have our own schools." the speculation, and the refusal of Ex-Senator Mattoon to pay his half of the loss of one thousand dollars, have brought the corrupt transac-

mate business Let apprenticeships and handi-The Committee appointed to arrange for meet- the son of a carpenter. It is not certainly from dence of the age. the influence of His religion that the mania for sudden riches which leads to such monstrous frauds has sprung.

in Russia, embraces seven hundred and fifty thousand families, to which the right of officiating as priest is restricted, and the male children of which could not engage in seculiar pursuits. The effect of this great change will be very considerable on the social and industrial life tax payers of that persuasion, shall have the

The re-united Church comes before the public

in a favorable attitude. Having taken the preshould take the precedence of all in some national work. Is there then some such work which it may undertake with a right minded ambition to be in advance of all other denominations; the poor? We firmly believe there is. And tions of learning, of the wants of our great cities, | creed, rank or color. and of our home and foreign field, we think the re-united Church might find its special mission for a national and a jubilee work AMONG THE

virtue and character, not only for their own sakes. but for ours: to shape them into a moral and po litical force which may soon be needed to turn the scale in the conflict between Atheism and Godliness in the government and the public opinion of our country; to train their glowing and impassioned natures under the influence of the gospel, so that they may renew in our own and in other continents, the glory of the African dying world.

These freedmen are already raised, by the most great a man as Dr. Campbell. sacred and inviolable compacts, to citizenship; they are framing laws and governing States Such rights and privileges can be made safe only may get them under control. Vice and superstition may usurp the place belonging to religion.

Our Church is popular among the Freedmen. Their own tropic patures demand the balancewheel of our liberal Calvinism. Our systematic in the statement of differences, with the recognitraining in theology has made us a teaching tion of a comprehensive, underlying, essential Church. And our consecration in an especial manner to this work, will link us, as a Church, to the grand world movement in behalf of the rights of man. If there is any old-fogyism lurk ing about, it will feel that it has received immediate notice to quit a Church which has under taken, as its jubilee work, the elevation of the he chooses to fill up his time. There is a great reed people of America.

We could do it. A thousand teachers sent to the South in six months would give us the field. And we don't believe other denominations would be jealous of us for such a truly Christian and undenominational work. The world would recognize in such a movement the genuine Christian people of Great Britain would be drawn to us Evangelization and Education of the Freedmen our Jubilee enterprise. It is limited and definite. It is at our doors. It is pressingly needed. It accords with the best aspirations of the two branches, each of which, in the dark times of civil conflict, sacredly pledged itself to liberty and hu man rights. It is a most faithful following of Christ, who sought out and ministered to the despised and the afflicted.

-The hostility of Romanists to our entire public school system is exhibited in a communication from one of them, published in the N. Y. Tribune of December 15th. Mr. O'Brien pleads for a division of the school fund. He says:

"This is what we are striving to obtain, and from our past success in getting what we want, on Railroads, last winter, to aid an accomplice in | we know we shall get our proportion of the

He frankly declares that

As Irish Catholics, we want to bring up our children in our own way, and teach them to be good Catholics. This we cannot do in mixed schools, and we want to educate them in the sity" to commemorate the Union. Let us pray for a contented mind, and not to true faith, with our own books, and by good be led into temptation. Let us be willing to Catholic teachers. We don't want to mix up make our living in the steady methods of legiti- with Protestants, and Jews, and Infidels in school matters, because we want our children to grow crafts of the simplest kind be held in honor. up in the Holy Roman Faith, like their fathers, The Saviour of the world was a carpenter and and not imbibe the loose and irreligous indepen

The public, he says:

Can judge that we are right in not desiring our children to be "Americanized," as The Tab let forcibly puts it, which means "demoralized" -The hereditary priesthood recently abolished | from the Holy Roman Catholic and Apostocic Church, the Mother and Mistress of all churches. Now, since Roman Catholics alone are dissatis-

wish to go by themselves, we propose that all encouragement of the whole Church. privilege of filing a declaration, upon payment

expressed in the letter of the Moderators of the A NATIONAL WORK FOR THE CHURCH. | of their school-taxes, setting forth their wishes as to the disposition of said moneys; and that the whole amount of the school-tax paid by these cedence of others in healing the divisions of parties-no less and no more-be appropriated Zion, it will be regarded as appropriate that it according to their wishes, the extra expense for such an apportionment to be defrayed from these taxes alone. If it is unfair for Romanists to pay to a general fund not appropriated according to their wishes, it is still more unfair for us to some work to which it is fitted; some work which be compelled to aid in supporting a scheme of will develope its energies and draw together its the narrowest and most anti-American bigory. sympathies; and which, by its own nature, will Or, let the Romanist tax-payers be entirely extend to keep the whole Church in the line of the empt from school-tax, and let their own extensive best public sentiment, and cultivate in it a like- and powerful church-machinery be used in collectness to the Christ who preached the gospel to ing funds, and establishing schools, while the general school system stands open, as before, for while we are sensible of the demands of institu- the admission of every American child, of every

WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

A friend connected with the Reformed (Dutch) Church, a week or two ago enclosed us an extract To educate and evangelize the four million | from the New York Times of Oct. 21, stating that Freedmen of our land; to fit the lately trampled the RIGHT Rev. J. T. Duryea, D D., of Brook and degraded slaves for freedom and Christian lyn preached the sermon before the Synod lately citizenship; to raise them up to intelligence and convened in Poughkeepsie. Our friend expresses the hope that the New School Presbyterians, having thus prefixed a title to the names of their presiding officers are always right.

Since receiving the above communication we have been favored with one from another quar ter, which fairly puts the joke back upon our Reformed friends. There was a wonderful wedding in that old Dutch town, New Brunswick, N. J., some two weeks ago in which a Church of the days of Origen, of Tertullian, of General Wilson was married to a Miss Coggswell. Lactantius, of Cyprian, and of Augustine—this One of the papers of that city, in noticing the is a work fit to commemorate our year of jubilee. | affair, states that Rev. Dr. President Campbell, Or, if this be called extravagant, none who have of Rutgers College, performed the ceremony in heard the efforts of recent graduates of institu- a SCARLET GOWN. New School Presbyterians tions for their training, will doubt that they have are all right, but how about our Reformed brethcapacities of intellect and peculiarities of tem- ren? We can go the black gown, and the Heidelperament, which fit them to go like flaming berg Catechism has lately been endorsed by the torches to the enlightenment and salvation of a Old School Assembly, but we are afraid the Presbyterian Church, New or Old, is too blue to bear Here is a work that must be done now. the scarlet gown, even when worn by as good and

-We have no idea that the reunion is such a namby namby affair, that it can be disturbed or by education and religion. Other influences are | jeopardized by any frank and honorable reference at work to pervert them. Rome is putting forth to the times of division, or by a recognition of her energies. The eager thirst for instruction the great guiding impulses and tendencies which which now opens every door of access to the are now animating and shaping the body, in confreedmen, may be closed. Base political leaders | trast with those of the past. This is no schoolgirl's reconciliation which an unfortunate word may unsettle. It is the work of earnest minded men, with hearts touched by divine grace, whose very union is the result of frankness and candor unity. Union is not unison, but harmony. No man may sing, speak or teach out of time or tune, but if he is in the fundamental key of Evangelical Calvinistic truth, the reunited Church will welcome his utterances, no matter in what clef they belong, or what denomination of notes and promising stir made about work in the Church, but meanwhile, our good feeling is not to be such a sickish sentimentality as to allow thought to staguate for fear of disturbance.

Mr. Stanton once told a Presbyterian visitor that he had read over the late Dr. Alexander impulses actuating our Re-union. The Christian M'Leod's Sermons on the "Lawfulness of Defensive War," once a year, during the term of more closely than in any other work which we the rebellion. These sermons were preached in might undertake. Let every other department of the First R. P. church of New York, at a time labor be pushed forward. But let us make the of great excitement and dissension at the open interest felt in them was so great that the sidewalks in the vicinity of the church were often blocked up by the throngs who sought admission published.

FIRST FRUITS OF THE UNION.

MR. EDITOR: - You will be happy, I know, to Church to love and good works. Kansas, I beof the two great Presbyterian bodies in North America. In what way?

A movement has been on foot for some time both in the New and Old School branch, to establish a first class literary institution in this State. It was felt to be a necessity for the far West. The Old School had the Highland University, twelve miles north of this place, but it ranked only as a good Academy. The UNION has given that movement a new turn; and now it is proposed to establish a " Memorial Univer-

A hopeful commencement has been made at Highland. The subject has been agitated and discussed at public meetings. At a recent meeting, \$16,000 was pledged, and a purpose avowed \$15,000, the value of the present property of the in the beginning of the movement.

I send you these facts, because every eye, as we are aware, is turned to see what are to be the results of the Union-one of the great events of fied with the present public school system, and | should be recorded for the glory of God, and the

> JOHN S. CHAPMAN. Troy, Kansas, Dec. 23d, 1867.

WALNUT STREET CHURCH.

The S. S. Anniversary of the Walnut street Church took place last Wednesday evening, (December 22d). The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and at an early hour was filled with the school and its friends. The singing was spirited and excellent. Addresses were made by Messrs. Rene Guillou and R. S. Walton, and by the pastor, Rev. S. W. Dana. The reports for the year showed that it had been one of prosperity; and one of the most encouraging features was the fact that nine of the scholars had united with the church during the year.

The only thing to mar the pleasure of the occasion was the retiring of the superintendent, Rev. J. W. Dulles. For thirteen years he has held this position and has endeared himself to all, both old and young. He felt that a pressure of other duties compelled him to resign. As a slight testimonial of their affection, the school presented him with a handsome secretary as a parting gift. As Christmas was so near, each of the scholars was given a box of sugar plums to carry to their homes.

LESSONS ON THE LIFE OF PAUL NO. 15.

Note.-In the preparation of these questions, which re mere outlines, originality is not sought, but free use is made of all materials within reach, especially of Conybeare and Howson's great work, "The Life and Epistles of St. Paul."

YHas any age of Christianity been without controversies or corruptions?

How early did these difficulties commence? Where did we leave Paul in our last lesson? Was his return to Antioch followed by a con-

Did this involve serious consequences to the hurch?

Were the Jews now scattered everywhere? Acts xv. 21.

Though their synagogues were in every city vhere were their sacrifices offered?

In their dispersion were they surrounded by idolatry :

And by the false philosophy of Greece and Rome? Would this make a line of separation between

the Jews and Gentiles throughout the Roman Empire? Was this separation both religious and social?

How long did Paul and Barnabas remain in Antioch? Chap. xiv. 28. Who came from Judea to Antioch?

What does Paul call them in Gulatians ii. 4? Did they come as open antagonists or clandes-

What did they teach? Was this all they taught? Chap. xv 5. Would Paul be likely to oppose such a doc-

What was Peter's experience under similar

ircumstances? Acts xi. 2. Was this a question of expediency or of fun-

lamental truth and duty to Paul and Barnabas? How did they receive it? What was the result of the dissension and dis-

putation ? Who determined that Paul and Barnabas

hould go to Jerusalem? Why go to Jerusalem?

Had Paul any other authority for going? Gal. ii. 2. Had not Peter equal authority for going to

Who were Paul's companions in this journey to Jerusalem? Acts xv. 2; Gal. ii. 2. Why these two?

THE MISTAKE OF CLERGYMEN.

[From "The Day."]

SIR :- We take up the newspaper on any Saturday and notice many sermons are to be preached on the following day. We go to hear some of them and find the announcement an error. They are not preached—they are read. Why is it that a body of men so intelligent and so full of knowledge as the clergymen of our city should make this great mistake? Are they not aware that the vital influence of a sermon is marred, if not altogether lost, by so doing? The power of the ing of our second war with Great Britain. The gospel is from and upon the heart and the hearer must so feel it, else it has no effect upon him. Many hard working earnest ministers, whose hearts are now sad and troubled at the apparent want of success in their labors, would find them to the church. They have been frequently re- cheered and made happy did they correct this mistake. Said a minister to one of his elders some time since, (both having come from another city and the same church,) "Why does my work here progress so coldly and unfavorably, as com-MR. EDITOR:—You will be happy, I know to pared with my former charge? I labor harder spread good news, and encourage the united than ever in the cause of my Master." "Sir," said this venerable elder, "you preached to your lieve, presents the first fruits of the RE-UNION people then: they felt your heart was in the work. You thus touched their hearts, and did not fetter up your power by reading elaborately written manuscripts. Try the old plan here; preach as you used to." He did so, and God has blessed the change. Many a vacant pew in his church has been filled; and, far better, many a new convert has been added to it, filling his heart with joy and g'adness. The writer has in mind a minister, full of picty, of brilliant intellect and imagination, thoroughly cultivated, whose forensic power on the platform and in the pulpit can thrill every hearer, and with one accord they say, what great heart that man has, and how full he is of the religion he professes and preaches. Put that same man in the pulpit, over his manuscript, his eyes scarcely ever leaving it, the beauty of his sermon marred by hesitating and defective tone and reading, and how changed the feeling of his hearers. They say the sermon is well written, but the man's heart does not appear to to run it up to some \$35,000. Add to this be in it; he has read it as would a school-boy his lesson, and thus the good effect is all lost. Would Highland University, and we have some \$50,000, that our ministers would take this important matter into consideration. They could make their power for good more felt all over this community. What would be thought of a lawyer pleading to a jury for the life of his client did he read his plea from a manuscript, when the well known the century. It is right and proper that they power of his eloquence could enforce it so much better? Are not our ministers pleading with

sinners for the life of their immortal souls? and should they not enforce it also with all the powers God has endowed them with, and there-

fore preach the Gospel? A LAYMAN.