The above theme formed part of a series of discourses now being delivered by the Rev. J. W. Schenck, Paster of the Third Reformed Datch Church, Tenth and Filbert streets. There are numerous points in this discourse which thrilled his hearers with awe in the contemplation of this scene in the life of our Lord. It must be perused to approximate an appreciation of the beauty and high order of mind apparent in this sermon. The text was from Matt. iil., 13:-"There cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan, unto John, to be baptized of him."

John, to be baptized of him."

When men would gain knowledge of the general physical characteristics of a region of country, they choose representative spots, and study them, instead of examining every inch. Thus does the geologies, the botaust. Thus do those who determine the general climate temperature, and meteorology of the various parts of our earth. The God of nature has so established and directed the laws which govern these facts of creation, that a small portion suffices to define the ruling features of an entire section. And so uniform is this fact that science has been And so uniform is this fact that science has been able definitely to locate zon s as climate beits, and to measure the bounds of storms, and to fix the timits of fruitfulness and sterility. And so well do these methods answer this end, that no intringement has been made upon them or successive and improving generations, as they search for increasing thorough deal there there is no successive and improving generations. nowledge of these things. On a like principle do we attain to the knowledge

least twenty-eight years of the life of our Lord be detailed account of the surroundings of the birth of His Son, our : aviour, torough whom we are constrained to adore Him, and with the Magi, pre sent to Him, the choice-t, coathest dearest of our heart's treasures, awakens deares to see that detail carried on, through His childhood and youth, up to His full development; the man who was to be "the refuge from the coming storm, and covert from the But God determines otherwise. chooses a single spot in each leads us into an ex-amination of it, and bid, us take our survey of the whole region from that standpoint. And what sublimity rises telefe our view, as we look at this childrood in the light of the inspired declaration, "The child grew and waxer strong in spirit, filled with wisdom. with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him! And how in peerless magnificence fooms his youth before u, as it is sketched in that scene which presents him uttering that wonderful "My Futaer," which points to His real relations, and mingles with this, that strange subjection to human parents, through which, while He'grows in wisdom and in stature," He "increases in favor with tool and man!" And who finds not these single incidents really representative in their character, fully determining what the whole of each period was? But His manhood in which His great mission as the anointed of God was to be wrought out, and the great foundations of life and hope, righteousness in Him, were to be laid, is not so shown to us. Here God takes us by the hand and leads us close to every inch of the wonderful region, that we may see and learn how fertile is the career of Christ in light, and guidance and blessing.

Jesus has attained the age of thirty years. This which points to His real relations, and mingles with

Jesus has attained the age of thirty years. This is the legal age. Here the Prophet and the Prast step forth upon the active duties of their office. And, now, Jesus walks forth from His obscurity, never again to be hinder. He comes out of Galilee to Joroan, that John, who has for six months preached Him as about to appear may officially point him out to men, as well as personally know Him himself. And here begins an earthly career short indeed, being only three years in continuance. But, though short, it makes a history, varied, rich, wonderful, magnificent, and withal interesting and useful to men, beyond all annals of heroes, sa es, worthies, the world may turnish beside. The his-tory of a man, indeed; but, in that man, the history of "the Wonderful, Counsellor, the Father of Eter-nity, the Prince of Peace." Upon whose shoulder is "the government," and "of the increase of whose government and peace there shall be no end!" There are names that grace the chronicles of human achievement, in government, in struggle for sacred principle and right, in philosophy, in philanthropy, in rel grou, of whom we read with interest and wonder, and whose memory we are glad to enshrine in our affections and perpetuate in monuments of material enduring. And while we read and cherish, we send out praise and than sfulness, beyond and above these actors in the stene of their doings, to the Great Power, almighty, wise, their doings, to the Great Power, almighty, wise, beneficent, that graciously wrought these wonders in and through them. Whatever our emotions, we feel that we read, though of men wise, noble, great, good, ay, holy, yet of men only—men dependent for all they achieved upon that grace which is no tenfeebled in its operations even when employing weak instruments. But when we read this narrative of Jesus' public ministry of but three years' duration, we instinctively put ourselves in reverent attitude. At every stage of our progress we panse. attitude. At every stage of our progress we pause, amazed and mute. He speaks! we hear, awe-struck, as it the heavens rumbled, or voice of angels as if the heavens rumbled, or voice of angels sounded. He works! we look on aghast, as if the almighty energy that called the creation into being were exerting itself. He suffers! and our lips are compressed, our breath is held, our forms are united to the spot. We move not, speak not, think not, scarcely breathe! We only mutily adore, as if the heart of the universe were wrenched in agony, and correction in the bucken of a carrying in its rent affections the burden of a world's condemnation. Out of the limits of human being we are borne into a region strange, marvel-

We can stand by a breastwork of most ponderous strength and exquisite finish, that stays the current of the noblest stream, to furnish power for man's service, and freely express our admiration and appreciation of the skill and enterprise manifest. But of character akin only to a sense of littleness and insignificance are our emotions when we look for the first time on Niagara's mighty cataract! As that the first time on Niagara's mighty cataract! As that river rushes and roars and foams through those terrific rapids, as if hastening to their resistless plunge over the fearful precipice in measureless mass, we find ourselves speechless, non-admiring, because we dare not venture an opinion! The former we know man by his own power wrought; the latter we feel to be the resistless flood, pouring, at His command, from the hollow of His hand, who built, by a word, the precipice over which, with such swiftness and mgit, those waters leap into the frightful depths below. Like this the effect of looking into this inimitable, this strange narrative. Before us we feel are laid out the sayings, works, and sufferings of the God-man. When he speaks we recognize Him who declares Himsolf the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last. "The Eternal Wisdom," the Word of God! "He speaks as one having authority, and not as the Scribes." as one having authority, and not as the Scribes."
When He works we perceive Him in whom 'dwellen all the fulness of the Godhead bodily," and whose e:h all the fulless of the Godhead bodily," and whose is "all power in heaven and upon earth;" who "upholdeth all things by the Word of His power!" He works as one who controlleth all things; who "speaks, and it is done; who commands, and it stands fast." And when He suffers, we see in that anguished form, nailed so submissively to the torning and accurated cross—av. In its life is necessary, in its life is specific. turing and accursed cross—ay, in its infelessness before the expected time of decease—the Word Infelessness the Word Infelessness th filed:—"No man taketh my life from me, but I lay it down of m se f; I have power to lay it down!" And when He comes forth from the scaled and quarded tomb, then in full personification, we see the truth of the rest:—"I have power to take my life again." He dies, and rises again, as one who "can-not be holden of death"

not be holden of death"

The opening event of this strange history now claims our attention. Let us repair to Jordae's memorable shores—memorable, as once trodden by Israel, as they came, uncer Divine leadership, to the possession of the promised land—fitting that the place of witness to the fulfilment of one part of the promise to and concerning Abraham's seed should be the scene of the manifestation to Israel of the completion of fulfilment. Let us reverently wait here, and watch to see what shall transpire. Reverently we say, for hear, the Foreigner speaks. I am "the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make His paths straight'" "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance; but He that cometh after me is mighter pare ye the way of the Lord; make His paths straight?" "I mdeed baptize you with water unto repentance; but He that cometh after me is mighter than I, whose shoes I am not wor hy to bear. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire; whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into His garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And now follow his hand as no points in the direction of Galilee, and singles out an approaching form, and says, "This is He of whom I spate, He that cometh after me is before me; for He was before me, and of His fulness have all we received, and grace for grace." And who is it that comes? Fair and comely is his appearance, graceful His carriage, majestic His expression. Be still and do reverence, John seems to say; a greater than Moses approaches. "The law was given by Mosey." but "grace and truth." which have devised the way and means of release from the law's dread curse, "came by" Him. "Jesus Christ." Ay, more. I he great God hath never been brought to mortal sight. But He who comes, "who is the image of the invisible God," "the only bevoten Son;" He, in His person and the works He doeth, "hath declared Him." He who comes, then, is the gracious Saviour Christ the Lord! The Son of God! But we are not simply to look upon that wonderful being. Now hear, and learn to trust and to adore! He approaches John; perhaps speaks. However it be. John understands; and we perceive that His object, strange to relate, is "to be baptized" by him! We are filled with wonder that the Great Superior should seek this honor of the inferior. John sympathizes with us, and shrinks from the task. "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?" What thall explain this unusual, unexpected

movement? John's baptism is with water unto repetitance. But need. He, who "knows no sin," to make any sign of renen ance? John's bastism sipsific spurification. But needs He purification, or even the sign of it, who is the Holy Onc of Gcd?" Not for these elements of that ordinance, evidently, comes He. No! not even thus to signify His close relation to the humanity. The came to his to honor and geory. For as such, His every work and way must show His native exemption from the sin and corruption from which He came to deliver men. Inat he comes to John to be baptized seems to indicate another and extraordinary element in that baptism, adapted to Hm and His present circumstances. And so it is. John's baptism does not exhaust itself as the sign of purification, and the way of expressing repentance. It involves more: Its leading funcamental idea is that of preparation and consecration. It marks in its subjects the commencement of a new course of life. Jesus is about to enter upon His peculiar course of life as the Anointed of God. He comes to be publicly set apart to His special work. But why choose John's bap<sub>4</sub>ism for this object? Why not go to the temple and use the water and the oil there consecrated to this purpose? We see, my friends, in the unusual method adopted, the employment of an agency specially raised up (for such was John's baptism), the regiming of a series of unusual events. Events widen prophecy declared would evince to the Israelites the Messamh indeed, come John, who which prophecy declared would evince to the Israelites the Messah, indeed, come John, who was "sent to bear witness of that light" which "lighteth every man that cometh into the world." has for six months proclaimed His coming, saving, "Repent ye, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand." And now, on him, the appointed Foreiunner, it cevoives, to point ou, to israel the person of Messiah, and publicly to induct Him, by special process, into His office. And this leads us to notice a peculiar element and province of John's bactism, which he His office. And this leads us to notice a peculiar element and province of John's baptism, which himself specially proclaims. The day after His baptism, John, pointing to Jesus, says, "Benoid the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world!" "This is He of whom I space; after my cometh a man which is preferred before me, for He was before me, and I knew alm not, but that His should be made manifest to Israe; therefore am I come, taptizing with water." This is the point in this baptism, that especially made it fitting that our Lord should use it. It was appointed that while many were baptized unto reponiance, confessing their sins, John might, in his ordinary work, by the same process, officially slow Jesus, the Christ, unto Israel

It is true, our Lord wou'd honor the ordinance in its application to other uses; but it is clear John would never have come baptizing but to perform this specific duty in this specific way.

Our Lord's reply to John's modest question further leads into His cesign, in coming to be baptized of him. "Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." Benoid here the striking contrast between Him and other subjects of striking contrast be ween Him and other subjects of John's baptism. The latter make contession of sin. He makes avowal of righteousness. He not only answers John's question, but He gives implied testimony to the principle of His whole course of self-renueriation and self-substitution. As in later times he speaks of His sufferings as a baptism, so does He now already "comempiate in baptism His sufferings." And in what a striking form is all this brought before us as He says. "It becometh us 'thus to "imiliall righteousness!" What a powerful evidence of His consciousness of the necessity of perfect obedience to a I the Divine specifications. evidence of His consciousness of the necessity of perfect obedience to a I the Divine specifications, in order to work out effectually the sublime plan of redemp len! But He says not it becometh "me," nor "you," but "ms." It is not difficult to see that this extends His sublime thought even beyond Him and John. He evidently designs to shadow here that "fellowsnip of His sufferings," "being made conformable to His death," which they enjoy who win Christ and are found in Him," "having the righteousness which is of God by faith."

He utters this "as the Son of Man, in the name of humanity." "He, indeed, is pre-eminently the Fufilier; but all who become participators of His right-courses fuifil in Him, and through Him, the same right-ousness, and in the same way." It is therefore evident that John's baptism is, in His case, put to an exclusive and even extraordinary use, even to His "anointing to that sacrifice of Himself for sinners which now first properly begins." The offices on which our own Lord was now entering were those of Prophet and High Priest, in both of which anointing was required. But while he executed both these offices, His work here consisted specially and chiefly of the functions of High Priest. His life was his sacrifice, culminating in His death. He "became obedient unto death." The "tuililling all righteousness," on our Lord's part, is on this wase. The first requirement in consecrating the High Priest was: "Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring, " and shalt wash them with water," In his baptism our Lord "utifilled" this literally in the use of water, but extraordinarily in the manner and form of its use. Next, on Aaron were to be placed his tuil official robes, to distinguish him. Then he was to be anointed with oil. These latter, indeed, were not furfilled in the ordinary way. But behold how, as befitted His exalted character, as made a High Priest, not without an oath, and not after the older of Aaron, but Melchisedek. He does carry out, in an extraordinary manner, the underlying principle, which was, by the usage in the case, "the order" of Aaron only symbolized. As He comes from the water "the heavens open unto Him, and the Spirit of God, descending like a dove, lights upon Him." Here is that which He Himself dec ared His annointing, when He applied to Himself the prophetic words, as tulniled in Him, "the spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because He bath annointed me!" And now look up and hear, and behold the livery of office put on Him by the Father, audioby speaking, and there came a voice from Heaveu: He utters this 'as the Son of Man, in the name of And now look up and hear, and behold the livery of office put on Him by the Father, audibly speaking, and there came a voice from Heaven:—"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." The strength of the terms here used is worthy of note. "Beloved" means not merely best beloved, nor only one beloved but only beloved, in that high sense that admits not of immation or com parison; and "well pleased" is given in tha peculiar form of the Greek verb which denotes the eternal act of loving contemplation with which the Father regards the Son. My friends, the scene has passed before you. How

does it strike you? Is this ceremony ordinary? Can its object be ordinary? Is the who observes it ordinary? O! men! be reminded that here begins the actual work of redeeming somers from the bondage of sin and the curse of the law. Here is the first step in that "being made perfect through suffering" which "behooved Him" who would "bring many souls to glory!" Hence steps He forth upon His strange career who "bare our griefs and carried our sorrows!" Ay, be reminded that He, humble in appearance, thus solemnly and strikingly inducted into office, is 'hat Great One, who "is able to save them to the uttermost that come to God by Him." To give you confidence to seek this redemption by the faith of this sacrifice, you have Him, on His own part, "juifilling all righteousness." and the entire Trinity of the Godhead participating in His O! men! be reminded that here begins the entire Trinity of the Godhead participating in His ordination to His work. The Spirit anointing by descending upon Him; the Father, in audible word, declaring Him His only beloved, always and eternally accepted Son. Be reminded further, that here begins the motion of that fau, the purging of that floor, the superstant of that wheat and chaff that floor, the separation of that wheat and chaff the filling of that garner, and the kindling of that unquenchable fire! O, friends! it lays before you the life eternal and the death everlasting. And be reminded further that if you suffer the latter, it is because you choose it—choose it in the face of most winning influences, designed to commend and press because you choose it—choose it in the face of most winning influences, designed to commend and press you to the former. Oh! recist not its pressure, but yield; and by the way of the cross go to a seat beside the risen Jesus on His throne! One evan gelist tells us that this Heaven-scaling of Him occurred while he was praying. Here, and at the close of His work, is a singular coincidence. Just before He came to the cross He prayed, 'Father, glorify Thy name.'' It was then, also, a voice came from Heaven saying, "I have both glorified it and wi'l glorify it again." Brethren in Christ, behold in this the efficacy of prayer And more than this, behold how, at the outset as at the end, the great Intercessor is assured, and we are assured, 'Ine Father heareth him always.'' And, therefore, behold how safe and sure your case entrusted to Him! Ay, how effective your prayers in His name, and sent through him to our kather!' And, triends, our of Christ, what loss to you that you have Him not your Advocate, nor pray in His name! To be without Him, our daysman, is to thrust yourselves into the grasp of the law to abide by its decisions! To have not Him, for a Mediator is to have no way of neace with an offended God! To pray not in His name is to reach not the ear of Mercy! There is no promice to any out of or without Christ! Only His image wrought in you by the Holy Spirit, through repentance and faith in Him, is known, and only known as through Him, it comes at the turone of the Most High! Friends, you cannot live without His advo as through Him, it comes at the throne of the Mos as through Him, it comes at the turble of the slost High! Friends, you cannot live without His advo-caey; you cannot stand in the judgment without His advocacy; therefore lose not me in seeking to be "found in Him," and thus securing it; and be encouraged by His own word, "Him that cometh

Now, iriends, Jesus Christ is now officially before you as Mediator and Redeemer. The scal of Heaven is upon Him. And as you reject Him, at the peril of Heaven's official wrath, so you receive Him in the assurance of Heaven's official acceptance and favor. And now, when He comes to you 'declaring the Father,' proclaiming Himself "the way, the truth, and the life," pointing you to His Cross as your peace, inviting you to come to Him with your burdens, and by taking His yoke upon you, and learning of Him, receive rest unto your souls; commanding, and basing your iriendship to Him on obedience. Be sure that in just simplicity receiving and shaping your whole course after His directions, you run no risk. Nay, be sure that thus only you go into the path of salety. For He presents His own caims, based upon this very portion of His history in this way. "There is another that beareth witness of me, and I know that the witness which lie witnesseth of Now, triends, Jesus Christ is now officially beforway. "There is another that beareth witness in of and I know that the witness which lie witnesse hold

me is frue. Ye sent up to John, and He bare witness unto the truth. But I receive not testimony from man; but these things I say, that ye might be ness unto the truth. But I receive not testimony from man; but these things I sav, that ye might be saved. He was a burning and shing light; and ye were wilting for a sea on to rejoice in his light. But I have greater witness than that of John; for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father Himself that sent me, hath borne witness of me." He was speaking to those who doubtless had stood and viewed this science at Jordan. And He refers to the voice there heard from Heaven, and to the descent of the prict in visible form. For He asks, (as the words may be properly rendered), "Have ye not heard His voice, and have ye not seed. His shape?"

Could sounder credentials be offered, or even asked? Friencs, Jesus' title to your faith and leverence and worship and service rests on no slight foundation. His exaled nature as God at once decides His right to feach, to command you. And even His assumed office as Medialor and Reference comes before you with authority attested and confirmed under the hand and seat direct of the Eteria Father. You frequently place your property, your happiness, ay, your life, in the hands of the e whose power is by no means such guaranice as His; who e right cannot begin to compare us with His whose credentiels and congregated as

tho e whose power is by no means such guarantee as-His; who e right cannot begin to compare its basis with His; whose credentials and consequent au-thority and responsibility are a rope of saud in com-parison with His. You do receive the witness of men, and stake your all upon it. Let me remind you the witness of God is greater. And what Jesus asks you to do on the basis of that greater witness, is arks you to do on the basis of that greater witness, is no more than to stake your all on His word and works, and make him your security! But, what He desires to furnish you through this staking your all is infinitely more than you can accrue from all that man can promise. It is liberty. It is peace. It is hie. It is hope. It is a crown. It is an eterral acat with Him on His throne, and participation with Him on His glory! Be warned not to prepare an eterrity of shame for yourself, and bifter remorse—the cause, your folly in remains to receive the witness of God, on which hangs your eternal desiry, while to secure pality earth you did destiny, while to secure pattry earth you did receive the lesser witness of men.

## CITY INTELLIGENCE.

[For Additional City Intelligence see Fifth Page.

ARTISTS' EXHIBITION.—It may gratify the art-loving public to learn that the combined body of Philadelphia artists have made stremous and successful efforts to present a tull line of fine pictures at their Exhibition Rooms, No 927 Chesnut-street. The galleries of Messis, McCices and McCann will be crowded with works of rate merit. The public will have an opportunity to examine them all next week putil Friday evening, at which time the sate will until Friday evening, at which time the sale take place. Among the works deserving of special attention may be mentioned those of Rothermei, Sully, Meran, Lewis, and Faulkner. This exhibition ol ariistic merit is gotien up every year. Most o he pentlemen are natives, and all are residents of

I hi ace; hia.

Mr. J S Galvan is admirably represented, particularly by a large picture called "A Woodland Scene in the White Mountains." The fidelity with which the cetail is rendered is admirable, while the

which the central is rendered is admirable, while the effect of 1 ght and shade is exceedingly correct. The smaller pictures of this artist are picasing in design and destage in execution.

Mr. Maine hamsey sends five pictures. The specialty of this soung and talented artist is fruitery tempting to the eye, and Juscious enough to stead right out of the canyas, if the artist would only turn habeted and not write so the tief. Mr. Paragon his back and not witcess the tieft. Mr. Ramsey's compositions command very high prices. "The Backe or's Lunch," with a cigar stump, puffing smoke into the air, the mug of ale, cheese and bread cattered around, is very truthful. He is remarkable for fidelity in colors and naturalness of execution, his grarges being the embourment of excellence in countries.

mr. Frank D. Briscoe will present four pictures, mostly of a arine subjects. Like the great Hogues of Paris, this artist finds his "taken led brush on the sea." There is a treshness of touch, a breeziness of atmosphere that is thoroughly delightful; one can sit in his parior and enjoy a magnificent sail mereip by ideality, in looking at three paintings.

E. B. Bensell sends three pictures, the most prominent of which is the "Hostelrie" scene between "Falstad" and "Bardolph," where the immortal mountain of flesh makes mimic of Bardolph's red face. The painting is beautiful in contrasted colors, and will be greatly admired.

face. The painting is beautiful in contrasted colors, and will be greatly admired.

George F. Bensell proposes five pictures, the most prominent and beautiful being the "Valley of Wyeming," which will prove a great attraction. This artist is well known in this city from his compositions entitled "Undine" and "Hiawatha."

Mr. Fagan sends two pictures, which show a marked improvement on former efforts.

Mr. D. Knight remits four pieces of eight by ten inches, beautifully painted and very correct Besides these, he will have a large painting, entitled "Family Cares," in which a pretty little girl is adminis-Cares," in which a pretty little girl is adminis-tering medicine to her doll. The anxiety of the child's face is well portrayed, and the picture will

command admiration.

Mr. J. Bryan Wilson sends two pictures, "A Lion feeding in the Jungle," and a grazing scene; ie former will excite remark for its wonderiul truth to nature.

Mr. R. Heber Reed sends a number of magnifi-

Mr. R. Heber Reed sends a number of magniti-cent executions, among which are "Woodland Way," a scene from nature, with the golden sun-tinting the trees, "A Little too Venturesome," and "First Winter Day." One of the most gorgeous paintings in the entire exhibition will be Mr. Reed's scene of the "Poisoning of the Countess," from Sir Walter Scott's novel of "Kemlworth" The youth of this artist promises great advancement in his pro-

MEETING OF THE FIRE REORGANIZA-TION COMMITTEE .- A meeting of the Committee on Fire and Trusts of Councils was held last evening, for the purpose of considering the ordinance to re-organize the Fire Department, which was referred to the Committee on Toursday, and to receive suggestions from representatives of the Fire Department. The committee appointed by a convention of firemen were present, also representatives from the Fire Association, and leading members of the department

Mr. Showaker, Chairman of the Committee of Fuemen, stated that the firemen were in favor o reorganizing the Fire Department, but were opposes reorganizing the Fire Department, but were opposed to the bill offered in Councies, because it was the first step to a paid Fire Department; also, it deprived the firemen of the privilege of electing their own Chief and Assistants. He concluded by submitting an oranauce, which the Committee of Firemen desired adopted in the place of the one referred to the Committee on Trusts and Fire.

The new ordinance proposes to strike out the first section and insert as follows:—"One member of the Trustees of the Fire Association and one of the United Firemen's insurance Company, to be annu-

United Firemen's insurance Company, to be annually elected by themselves; one member of the Board of Underwriters; three persons elected by Board of Underwriters; three persons elected by one delegate from each fire company, and three elected by Select and Common Councils, shall constitute a Board of Fire Commissioners. The other sections it was not proposed to alter materially.

Mr. Lyndall stated that one of the great difficulties in the Fire Department was that there were too many stamers.

many steamers. Chief Engineer, in answer to a ques ion from The Chief Engineer, in answer to a question from Mr Stok'ey, said that not more than one-third of the steamers could get a supply of water at any one time, and then they must be in the neighborhood of a large main. The Chief also stated that he was opposed to mixing up the police with the Fire Department, and was in favor of the firemen electing their own officers.

partment, and was in layor of the bremen electing their own officers.
Several of the firemen present were of the opinion that the companies should be redistricted, and the number of steamers reduced.

After the firemen had retired, a motion was made that the Committee report back to Councils the bill as reported by Mr. Evans.

It was moved to amend by striking out Chief of Police as one of the Board of Fire Commissioner, and insert a member of the Fire Department, election by the Fire Association; which was agreed to, and by the Fire Association; which was agreed to, and

the first section was adopted.

The Board of Fire Commissioners, as agreed upon will therefore consist of the Mayor of the city. Fire Mushal, a member of the Fire Department. Irustee of the Fire Association, one from the Unite-Firemen's Insurance Company, one member of the Board of Underwriters, and the Presidents of Select

and Common Councils.

After the adoption of the second and third sections of the original bill, the committee adjourned unit I uesday next.

CHURCH IMPROVEMENT,-For months past the First Prestyterian Church, Northern Liberties, on Buttonwood street, below Sixth months past the First restylerian Undren, Northern Liberties, on Buttonwood street, below Sixth has been undergoing very extensive improvements, which speak well for the taste and vigorous life of the congregation worshiping there. The interior has been entirely remoddeled. A new marble pulpit, of beautiful design and admirable size, has been constructed. The ceiling and walls have been finely frescoed. The pews have been richly uphol stered, and the floor elegantly carpeted. Walnut misde shutter blinds have been put up, unique gas fixiures introduced, etc., while the exterior has been repainted, and the front altered, so as to correspond with the improvements within.

The whole cost, we understand, is about \$13,000. This edifice, now one of the most handsome churches in the city, will be rededicated to-mortow. The sermon in the morning will be preached by the pastor, Rev. T. J. Shepherd, D. D., and in the evening by Rev. Daniel March. D. D. Doubtless these services will be very interesting, and july attended.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—The Coroner held an inquest esterday, on the body of Coarles Morris, a stone-meson, who was killed by the falling of a brewer; in the course of construction at Bemont, in the Twenty-fourth Ward, on Wednesday last. Mechanics at work at the building were examined as witnesses, and the carpenters test fied that the stone walls were not properly used together; while the store masons restricted that the cause of the fall was not the want of a proper conscruction of the walls, but was due to the lintels over the window heads not being of sufficient thickness, to the joist placed on them extending too ar through the wall, and to an attempt to wedge the wall up when it been to settle.

The boss stone-masons, Phineas Grace and William Carlin, testified that the walls were well built, and CORONER'S INQUEST,-The Coroner held

Carlin, testified that the walls were well built, and that I aims were taken to the them together, world J C the er, the carpenter employed to superintend the work, and Wultam Baldwin, a journeyman carpenter testified that bulges in the walls were noticed some time before the falling of the building, the offer she I of the wall separating from the inner Ali of the witnesses testified that air. Austin, the owner, had given orders to have the best of material, and was paying by the perch for laying the stone.

Mr. W.W. Binder, carpenter and builder, who had gone at the instance of Mr. Austra to examine the ruins of the building which fell, and to inspect the new structure acjoining, which jet s'ands testified that the latter is not secure, in consequence of the splt in the cense of the walls and be-had recomended that it be taken down. The mortar used in the building which fell he did not consider good, as he had found humps of lime in it, and it did not appear to schere well.

pear to achere well.

The jury rendered the following verdict:—"That the said George Morris came to his death by the fulling of a building at Belmont, December 5, 1863.

From the evidence before us we centure Messra Grace & Carlin, contractors for the stone wors, for the tad workmanship in the construction of said building, as it was in tyrdece that the walls were not properly tied, and for using mortar of an inferior quality."

SUICIDE AND INQUEST.—Yesterday morning, at 10 o'clock, Mrs. Susan Weoster, aged fifty-three years, residing at No. 873 N. Eighth street, a ove Parrish, commit ed suicide by cutting her throat with a rezor. The deceased had been laboring under an attack of pervous paralysis, and was melaucholy for some time. She had frequently said she would make away with herself. Fearswere entertained that she would contribute to the fatal deed was hidden away. One day last week the deceased asked her housekeeper, Mis. Mary Low, to show her which was the vein in her arm that, if severed, would produce death, but she would not show her. She then again reiterated her threat. SUICIDE AND INQUEST .- Yesterday mornnot show her. She then again reiterated her threa: Yesterday the procured a razor belonging to her husband without the knowledge of any one, and proceeded to the second story front chamber, and

From the appearance of the room and the de-ceased, the act must have been committed while ceased, the act must have been committed while standing before the looking glass, which was hanging on the wall of the chamber. Under the glassiards a bureau, the corner or which was saturated with blood. The deceased was lying on her lack, both lands being on her breast. Across her throat was a frightful gasb, severing the windpipe and jugular verb. The body presented a ghastly appearance, being surrounded by pools of blood. Mrs. Webster had been down stairs during the morning and only left a short time when her lifeless body was discovered.

The Coroner held an inquest on the body, and the jury returned a verd of that the "said Susan Webster came to her death from a wound inflicted on herself by a razor."

A NOBLE TRIBUTE TO THE SONS OF NEW A NOBLE IMBUTE TO THE SONS OF NEW LESSEY.—There has been recently erected in the city of Camden a splehold and lasting monument to the soldiers of Camden county who were killed during the late Rebellion. The monument is of granite, having a base 6 feet squre; a die or pedesta 4 feet square by 4 feet 6 inches high; and an obelisk 25 feet 9 inches high, 3 feet square at the base, in a single stone that weighs over sixteen tons, being of the most perfect proportions, the whole surmounted by a bronzed engle of fine proportions and workmanship, forming a monument portions and workmanship, forming a monumen noble in design, as enduring as lime,—a mos worthy tribute to the patriots whose memory it

worthy tribute to the pairiots whose memory it is intended to perpetuate.

The designers and contractors of this monument are engaged on a sim lar memorial, to be erected in Allegheny City, near Pittsburg, Pa., to commemorate and perpetuate the names of the men women, and children who were killed by the explosion at the Arsenat in that city in 1862. This will be erected by the citizens of the place as a public imbute to those who were sacrificed while pursuing their dutylto their country. A committee is now here to maject and receive the same.

Still another monument is being erected at Laurel Hill, of the same material, showing conclusively Hill, of the same material, showing conclusively that the public are fully appreciating the enqueing quality of the materials and superior skill of our fellow-citizens, Messrs, Comber & Co., at whose establishment the above monuments have been

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