THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1869.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1869.

CT TO-MORROW being Thanksgiving-Day, there will be no paper issued from the office of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

In accordance with the recommendation of the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, to-morrow will be observed as a day of general thanksgiving and prayer to the Almighty for the fruits of the earth and the manifold blessings of the year that is drawing to a rect one from a Jewish standpoint. close. Thanksgiving day is a Puritan idea, and it was originally intended to supersede Christmas as a religious festival. Christmas, however, has come to be observed by all classes and denominations. The old Puritan possible that any changes can be made withprejudices against it as a "popish" observ- out overturning the whole fabric and utterly ance having gradually died out. Thanksgiving destroying the hopes that have supported day, too, has grown into general favor, and it is no longer regarded as a Puritanisal innovation. The perfect propriety of such a festival has commended it to the people of every creed, and made it one of the most Christian religions, or to take sides one way popular of our holidays.

The last year has been one of unusual prozperity to the American people, and it is fitting wish to present this subject from an imparthat an acknowledgment of the blessings we enjoy should be made to the Giver of all good. The harvests have been plentiful, and When Judaism becomes progressive it ceases our wealth has increased in many ways, while the disagreements growing out of our civil acceptation of the term, and it loses its influwar have rapidly been settled, and the pros- ence alike with Hebrew and Gentile. The pects of a reign of an uninterrupted period of manner in which the Israelitish people have peace and prosperity in the future are such as clung to the religion of Moses is one of the to cause general feelings of thanksgiving in all sections of the country, and to secure a proper observance of the festival of to-mor- of this religion is its most remarkable fearow by persons of all shades of religious and ture. The Christian believes that the Mopolitical opinion.

THE CHURCH AND THE FENIANS. WE published yesterday an abstract of the pastoral recently issued by Cardinal Cullen to the Irish clergy, in which he begs his reverend brethren to exhort the young men of their flocks against Fenianism, and to threaten them with the penalty of excommunication if they do not abandon all connection with secret political societies. His denunciations of the "dreadful crime of murder" will meet the hearty approval of all honorable and humane men, but we do not wonder that many Irishmen persist in attempts to organize resistance to British tyranny and misgovernment, despite the mandates of their favorite Church. The Catholic clergy have reason to be grateful for the recent action of Parliament on the disendowment bill. It has given a strong proof of the readiness of English politicians to take care of their peculiar interests, and Cardinal Cullen no doubt feels in duty bound to show his appreciation of the services of Mr. Gladstone and his Whig compeers by assisting them in maintaining peace and order in the oppressed Emerald Isle. But even though priests and prime ministers be satisfied with the situation, the people continue to manifest their discontent with a system that still reeks with rank injustice; and in the absence of any better and manlier way for securing concert of action, they establish secret societies. They have so often had their public demonstrations crushed out in a tyrannical method by the British authorities, and their leaders have so often been tried. imprisoned, exiled, or executed, that we do not wonder at their imitation of the Italian and Spanish examples which are so strongly condemned by Cardinal Cullen. They must either submit tamely or prepare secretly for effective antagonism to their oppressors, and much as we may condemn the outrages and crimes by which their cause is sometimes stained, their worst wickedness is innocence itself when compared with the many infamous wrongs which have been perpetrated and sanctioned by the British Government. There is something radically wrong In the system of administration which in a period of seven hundred years has failed to pacify and conciliate a subjugated people. And vain as their aspirations for independence may prove, they will continue to find some form of expression for their righteous indignation until more of their old burdens are removed. If Mr. Gladstone follows up the Disendowment bill by a law abolishing and reforming the notoriously unjust features of the present Irish land system, he will do more to suppress Fenianism and kindred combinations than Cardinal Cullen can accomplish by a hundred pastorals. He will strive in vain to establish permanent tranquillity if he does not give to the working farmers and peasantry of the island a fair chance to reap the fruits of their labors, or if he fails to avert the storms of indignation which are continually created by summary evictions. Much as the Irishmen desire that Irishmen may rule Ireland, a great step towards pacification would be made if Englishmen learned to rule it justly and well. JEWISH REFORM. THE conservatism of the Jewish Church is its most remarkable and characteristic feature, and, to the ordinary observer, it would seem impossible that there should ever be any material change in its creed or ceremonials without a total abrogation of all that renders the Hebrews a distinct and separate people. There nevertheless does exist among the Jews a party of progress that is striving to do away with observances that seem to be obsolete, and bring Judaism to a position more in accordance with the spirit of the age. A conference of persons claiming rabbinical autho-

Grening Telegraph rity was recently held in this city, and a series of resolutions were passed by them among the Jews and Christians. By the press generally these resolutions have been commended as showing a progressive spirit, and a desire to break down the barriers that exist between the Jews and their neighbors of different nationalities and creeds. By many, and perhaps a large majority, of the Jews, however, the action of these representatives of the progressive party has been received with decided disapprobation. On our fifth page we publish a communication from the learned Rabbi S. Morais, which explains the position of the Israelites who adhere, in spite of every adverse circumstances, to the religion of their forefathers. It is the fashion now-a-days to commend any evidences of a progressive spirit, in religious bodies especially, and the idea of Judaism making an advance is so striking that it has been applauded without due consideration of all the facts of the case. A little reflection

> There is but one progressive step that a Jew can make, and that is to accept Christianity. The law as given by Moses is precise and definite in every particular, and it is imgeneration after generation of Jews for the last eighteen centuries.

It is not our duty to enter upon a discussion of the merits of the Jewish and the or the other in the differences that exist among the Jews themselves. We merely tial standpoint, and to show that such a thing as progressive Judaism is an impossibility. to be Judaism any longer, in the Scriptural most wonderful things in the history of the human race, and the unchangeableness saic law is abrogated by Christianity: but to the Jew, who still looks for the coming of the Messiah, the law as given by Moses on Sinai is in as full force to-day as when it was revealed to His chosen people by Jehovah amid the thunders and earthquakes centuries ago, after they had come out of Egypt to take possession of the promised land. As Rabbi Morais says:-

"To a conscientious Israelite, the last conference is then but a mad attempt to erase with a stroke of the pen what the finger of God wrote in characters of fire. To the discerning Christian, who understands progress mainly to be the improvement of the mind and the heart, it must now appear an empty avowal of heterodox views."

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE. - THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE. — THE ALEXANDER and NORTH BROAD STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHKS unite in worship To-morrow. Service in the North Broad Street Church, cor-ner of Green, at 11 o'clock A. M. Preaching by Rev. Dr. STRYKKR. Subject. — "Thanksziving for Presbyte-rian Reunion." Singing by the North Broad Street choir, under the leadership of Professor BISHOP. All in-vited. Der. TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH, West CHESNUT Street.-Special Thanksgiving service Tomorrow Morning at 11 o'clock. Preaching by the Pastor, Rev. G. PELTZ. Special choral exercises by the celebrated Young People's Choir, under the leader ship of J. M. EVANS, Esq. A UNION THANKSGIVING MEETING of the TENTH, SPRING GARDEN, and FOURTH BAPTIST CHURCHES will be held at the Fourth Bap-tist Church, FIFTH and BUTTONWOOD Streets, on Thursday Morning at 10% o'clock. Preaching by Rev. LEWIB P. HOHNBERGER. UNION SERVICES .- THE FIRST AND THIRD REFORMED CHURCHES and the NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH will units To morrow. Services in the First Reformed Church, SEVENTH and SPRING GARDER Streets, at II A. M. Sermon by the Rev. C. WADSWORTH, D. D. SECOND MORAVIAN CHURCH, FRANKLIN and THOMPSON Streets. Rev. H. S. HOFFMAN will preach To-morrow Morning at 10% o'clock. Subject-"Causes for National Thankagiving." All welcome. me. UNION THANKSGIVING SERVICES of TRINITY and ARCH Street M. E. CHURDHES, in ARCH Street M. E. CHURCH, To-Morrow, at 11 A. M. Sermon by Rev. Mr. HUMPHREYS, Pastor of Trinity M. E. Church. THE BROTHERHOOD OF NATIONS.— A Thanksgiving Sermon, by Rev. Mr. MARCH, To-morrow(Thanksgiving) Morning at 11 o'clock, in OLIN-TON STRKET CHURCH, TENTH, below Spruce. REV. A. A. WILLITS, D. D., WILL preach a Thankseiving Sermorsin the WEST ARCH STREET PRESEYTERIAN CHURCH, corner of EIGHTREENTH and ARCH Streets, To-morrow morning at 11 o'clock. WEST SPRUCE STREET CHURCH, SEVENTRENTH and SPRUCE Streets.-Rev. W. P. BREED, D.D., Pastor, will proach a Thanksgiving Sermon To-morrow at 11 o'clock. Subject-"Save the Foundations." THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WASHINGTON SQUARE. - Rev. ALBERT BARNES will preach To-morrow (Thanksgiving day), at 11 o'clock. RELIGIOUS SERVICES WILL BE held on Thanksgiving Day in the UNITARIAN CHURCH, corner of TENTH and LOCUST Streets, at 10'30 o'clock A. M. MINUTE MEN FOR JESUS AND SIS-TERS OF MERCY, at HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS, on Thankagiving Day, Nov. 18, 1869. SPECIAL NOTICES. A CAPITAL INVESTMENT, with GOOD SECURITY AGAINST MISHAPS, SOLEBALE DRUGGE May now be made in WINTER SUITS Of Melton Silk Mixtures of Cheviots. WINTER SUITS Of Plaid, Stripe, and Diagonal Cassimeres. mark & the state of WINTER SUITS



POST OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA. THURSDAY (Thankagiving) this office will close at 19 o'clock A. M. The usual eavly delivery and collection and late evening collection will be made. It HENRY H. BUNGHAM, D. M. BOT H. C. BLAIR'S SONS. APOTHEOARIES.

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