

OUR RELIGIOUS COLUMN.

PETER'S ORDINATION.

It was a simple ceremony, in fact so very simple that it could not be called a ceremony except for its singular impressiveness. It lacked all pomp and circumstance; it was not pre-announced; it embraced no form known to ancient or modern usage. It had not the air of a public and memorable event, but of an ordinary after-dinner conversation—and it would have been ordinary but for the earnestness of the souls engaged in it, and for the far-reaching consequences of which it was the germ.

The surroundings were not of cathedral arches, mosaic altars, gilded symbols, and richly-robed congregations. On the contrary, there was no building but the broad dome of heaven; no altar but a fire of coals; no symbols but the fragments of a repast; no spectators but ill-clad fishermen from their tolls on the sea. Nor did a mitred bishop lift up holy hands to confer spiritual powers. He who presided wore no insignia but those of suffering. On his hand was no ring, but in his hands was the print of the nails. Over his garment neither stole nor chasuble, but under his garment the mark of a spear. He who stood before him was not a college-bred licentiate whose acceptable preaching had marked him as a suitable candidate for the pastoral office, but an unlearned and ignorant man, whose tastes were vulgar, whose employments were menial, whose impulses were reckless, and whose last public exposition had been replete with lies and profanity.

Yet there was not wanting ecclesiastical authority on the one side nor spiritual capacity on the other. Beneath that simple Jewish garb were the very flesh and bones of the glorified body of Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, the King of Israel, the Head of the Church, the Son of God and Man risen from the dead. Beneath that fisher's coat, still wet with the impetuous plunge to the Lord, beat the heart of a man to whom had been promised the keys of the kingdom of heaven, upon whom, in common with apostles and prophets, was to be built a holy temple for the habitation of God through the Spirit.

In accordance with this absence of forms, and with this presence of realities, the examination was simple, brief, and thorough. "Simon"—not Peter, this time; it was not to be assumed now that the renegade disciple was a rock, but he was addressed with the unusual emphasis of his surname—"Son of Jonas." The question which followed was not a guage of intellect, nor a grappling iron thrown out to catch the corners of a creed; nor a net spread to shut within narrow bounds the plans and policy of one who was to be a fisher of men.

Genuine love is always humble; looks up to its object, not across at its rivals; trusts not to its own acts for justification, but to the insight of the beloved. Genuine love freighted Peter's words, which otherwise would have proved as empty as his rash boast of constancy. The Lord, therefore, bestowed upon this true lover the sweetest possible pledge of his confidence, the care of his flock; giving him a commission to feed those who were a part of himself, and there and forever ordaining him to minister in his stead the things which are a help and guide to salvation.

In this laying of a corner-stone next to the chief Rock on which the temple was to be built we find no trace of theological square and compass, no inquisitive hammering to find out the solidity of opinions, no following out of heart to inlay the must-gathering records of an ecclesiastical polity, but only a juxtaposition of God and man fully joined together by love to Christ. And in this christiatic act, bestowed upon Cephas without restriction after he had solemnly declared his love before witnesses, we find the Christ-given pattern for all ordinations. Why should the modern Church mix with the oil of consecration so many new perfumes? Why should a modern Christian who can say in all sincerity, "Yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee," wait for a fuller commission than, "Feed my lambs?"

SUMMARY OF CHURCH NEWS.

EPISCOPAL.

The new Episcopal church at West Chester, just completed, cost about \$33,000. The Churchman's Year Book contains the names of 51 Episcopal bishops and 2541 clergymen. Bishop Davis, of South Carolina, is totally blind. He performs the offices of the Church from memory. Rev. S. H. Tyng, Jr., of New York, has taken up a contribution of about \$8000 in aid of the House of the Evangelist, a new theological school to educate young men to preach the gospel to the neglected in New York. This is said to be the largest collection ever taken up in an Episcopal church in this country. The Episcopalians now have associations organized to represent every shade of opinion. The Latimer Association represents the revisionists, the Church Union the ritualists, the Evangelical Catholic Union the moderate Low Church party, and the Conservative Church Union the moderate High Churchmen.

CONGREGATIONAL.

Rev. Frederick Marsh, of Winchester Centre, Conn., now lacking but three months of his ninetieth birthday, celebrated the sixty-first anniversary of his settlement over the Congregational Church in that place on the 15th of February.

The American Missionary Association has commissioned annually, in the South, for the last four years, 520 teachers and missionaries; has established in that time 25 churches, 4 chartered colleges, 8 normal and 12 high schools, and not less than 600 or 700 primary schools, besides leading the way in the Southern States to a system of free public schools.

BAPTIST.

The Baptists have lately organized their sixteenth church in Chicago. It has eighty members. The Baptists of Pennsylvania boast an increase during eleven years from 37,527 to 54,133 members.

Mr. Hiram Woods, of Baltimore, has recently given \$16,000 to the building of the new Baptist church in that city. He was also donor of the lot, worth \$20,000.

The Baptists of Sulphur Springs, Missouri, have been enabled to purchase the Presbyterian house of worship, by a loan from the Church Edition in New York.

The Baptists of Massachusetts during the past ten years have lost two churches and gained 3601 members. Of this gain 1476 has been in the Boston churches. There are in the State 266 Baptist churches and 39,851 members. There has been an annual average gain to each church of less than one member and a half.

The London Baptist Union includes 108 churches in and around London, with over 25,000 members. They make it a chief aim to build one or more church edifices each year, besides paying off debts on old churches, and helping the feebler ones to support their pastors. The union includes Close Communion Baptists, General Baptists, and those which allow membership some who have been baptized only by sprinkling, and there seems to be no difficulty of their fraternizing together.

PIANOS.

ALBRECHT, RIECKE & SOHMIDT, MANUFACTURERS OF FIRST-CLASS PIANOS. Full guarantee and moderate prices. WAREHOUSES, No. 410 ARCH STREET.

Robert Stockwell, Esq., of Lafayette, Indiana, has given \$25,000, in paying stocks, to Asbury University. The Zion's Herald says:—"Our papers re-

FINANCIAL.

NO SAFER OR BETTER INVESTMENT THAN THE

FIRST MORTGAGE 7 PER CENT.

GOLD BONDS

OF THE

Central Railroad of Iowa

At 95, Free from Tax.

This railroad runs 234 miles north and south through the finest and most thickly settled portion of the magnificent State of Iowa, and is the only link wanting to connect the railway centres at St. Louis and St. Paul by an unbroken line, 147 miles shorter than any existing route. This road offers many advantages. The building of the railroad north from St. Paul to Duluth, at the head of Lake Superior, where five railroads will soon centre—the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad, already begun—and the rapid development of a new and productive country in Minnesota and the Northwest, must furnish a large Southern traffic. As the Upper Mississippi is frozen over during the winter, and its navigation is often uncertain during the summer, from low water, this road must have at all times a large amount of transportation, and a monopoly of the business at some seasons of the year. Its connections with other lines increased by mutual ownership or running arrangements, will give it almost the entire north and south travel between its terminal points and their vicinity.

This road will have a great advantage over any other Western line in carrying the best quality of coal from where it is abundant in Southern Iowa to Northern Iowa and Minnesota, where none is to be found, and in securing return freights on lumber, for which the demand is very great.

Forty-six miles of the line are just completed, and eighty-eight miles more are graded. An abundant supply of iron, ties, and other materials has been contracted for. The Company have a large and daily increasing surplus of money on hand, and the stock subscriptions and the sales of the bonds, give them ample means to push the work forward, so that, with favorable weather, it is expected that the whole line will be completed this season.

WE BELIEVE THERE WILL BE NO MORE FAVORABLE TIME TO SELL GOVERNMENTS, AND BUY REALLY FIRST-CLASS RAILROAD SECURITIES—SUCH AS THESE—THAN THE PRESENT.

Pamphlets, with map, may be obtained, and subscriptions will be received at the COMPANY'S OFFICES, No. 32 PINE STREET, New York, and by its advertised agents.

After a full examination, we have accepted an Agency for the sale of the above First Mortgage Bonds, and desire to recommend them to our customers AS A THOROUGHLY SAFE AND WELL AS PROFITABLE INVESTMENT. We have no hesitation in saying that in our opinion the CENTRAL RAILROAD OF IOWA will be one of the most important and valuable roads in the West.

THE BOND IS COMPLETED AND FULLY EQUIPPED AT AN ACTUAL COST OF OVER

\$16,000,000,

AND HAS PAID FROM 7 TO 8 PER CENT. DIVIDENDS ON ITS STOCK FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS.

The Bonds are Coupons of \$1000 Each, with Right of Registration.

\$1,200,000 of the Bonds have been sold already (one party taking \$500,000 as a permanent investment), and we have but \$1,000,000 on hand, which we offer to investors as

A FIRST-CLASS SECURITY.

WE OFFER FOR SALE \$1,000,000

Louisville and Nashville Railroad

First Mortgage Sevens AT 87%,

And Accrued Interest from October 1

LENGTH OF ROAD 390 MILES.

THE ROAD IS COMPLETED AND FULLY EQUIPPED AT AN ACTUAL COST OF OVER

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FINANCIAL.

THE BONDS

OF THE

Chicago, Danville and Vincennes

RAILROAD CO.

UPON EXAMINATION WILL BE FOUND TO BE

The Cheapest and the Best

Yet Offered to the Public.

THIS WILL BE BORNE OUT BY

The rich country the Road traverses, with its agricultural and mineral resources;

The cash subscribed to the Capital Stock;

The excellence of the 55 miles already built, and its full equipment;

The plans completed and money expended for vigorous finishing of the Line in the Spring;

The excessive earnings to accrue from the completion of the whole line;

The ample Sinking Fund for the certain redemption of the Bonds;

The very liberal interest, running over a term of 40 years;

The security afforded by Registry;

The Mortgage covering the entire Road, Equipment, Franchises, and all Property, present and future—indeed the security of twice the amount of Bonds issued;

The low currency price they are now offered at.

All this is verified in detail in the complete Pamphlet, which can be had of us.

We KNOW these Bonds to be good, and we know the character and capacity of the Company's estimates can be implicitly relied upon to give these Bonds the highest standard. We therefore freely and fully recommend them.

W. BAILEY LANG & CO.,

MERCHANTS,

No. 54 CLIFF Street, New York,

Agents for the sale of the Bonds.

We have these Bonds at 95 and ACCRUED INTEREST, and heartily recommend them to our friends and the public.

DE HAVEN & BRO.,

No. 40 South THIRD Street,

8 5 South Third Philadelphia.

A FIRST-CLASS SECURITY.

WE OFFER FOR SALE \$1,000,000

Louisville and Nashville Railroad

First Mortgage Sevens AT 87%,

And Accrued Interest from October 1

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And Accrued Interest from October 1

FINANCIAL.

NEW LOAN.

City of Allegheny Six Per

Cents,

FREE OF STATE TAX.

We are offering a limited amount of this Loan

At 90 Per Cent. and Accrued Interest.

The interest is payable first days of January and July, in Philadelphia, FREE OF STATE TAX.

We recommend them as an unquestionable security for investment.

The debt of Allegheny City being comparatively small, the security offered is equal to that of the City of Philadelphia, the difference in price making them a very desirable and cheap security.

WM. PAINTER & CO.,

Bankers and Dealers in Government Securities,

No. 36 South THIRD Street,

1 56 South Philadelphia.

BANKING HOUSE

JAY COOKE & CO.,

Nos. 112 and 114 S. THIRD St.,

PHILADELPHIA.

Dealers in Government Securities.

Old 5-20s Wanted in Exchange for New.

A Liberal Difference allowed.

Compound Interest Notes Wanted.

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

COLLECTIONS MADE. STOCKS bought and sold on Commission.

Special business accommodations reserved for ladies.

We will receive applications for Policies of Life Insurance in the National Life Insurance Company of the United States. Full information given at our office. 11 1/2

SILVER

FOR SALE.

C. T. YERKES, Jr., & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

No. 20 South THIRD Street,

PHILADELPHIA.

ELLIOTT & DUNN,

BANKERS

No. 109 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

DEALERS IN ALL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD BILLS, ETC.

DRAW BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND ISSUE COMMERCIAL LETTERS OF CREDIT ON THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

ISSUE TRAVELLERS' LETTERS OF CREDIT ON LONDON AND PARIS, available throughout Europe.

Will collect all Coupons and Interest free of charge for parties making their financial arrangements with us. 4 1/2

D. C. WHARTON SMITH & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

No. 121 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

Successors to Smith, E. Adolph & Co.

Every branch of the business will have prompt attention as heretofore.

Quotations of Stocks, Governments, and Gold constantly received from New York by private wire, from our friends, Edmund D. Randolph & Co.

JOHN S. RUSHTON & CO.,

STOCK BROKERS,

No. 59 South THIRD Street,

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ADVANCES MADE ON GOOD COLLATERAL PAPER.

Most complete facilities for Collecting Maturing Country Obligations at low cost.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS. 1 1/2

FINANCIAL.

DREXEL & CO.

No. 34 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

American and Foreign

BANKERS,

ISSUE DRAFTS AND CIRCULAR LETTERS OF CREDIT available on presentation in any part of Europe.

Travelers can make all their financial arrangements through us, and we will collect their interest and dividends without charge.

DREXEL, WINTHROP & CO., DREXEL, HARRIS & CO. New York. Paris. (31

AUCTION SALES

M. THOMAS & SONS, NOS. 139 AND 141 N. 8. FOURTH STREET.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE AND STOCKS, March 22, at 10 o'clock, noon, at the Exchange, will include:—

STEWENS ST., Nos. 227 and 228, Camden, N. J.—Two modern brick Dwellings.

SPRING No. 1913—Valuable Residence.

SEVENTEENTH (North), No. 1423—Modern Residence.

FIFTH (South), No. 679—Modern Residence.

FAIRVIEW, MONTGOMERY CO., PA.—Country Place.

NORRIS, No. 1904—West brick Dwelling.

CLAY No. 2207—Modern Dwelling.

TWENTY-NINTH (North), No. 1945—Modern Residence.

SEVENTH (North), Nos. 2283 and 2285—Modern Dwellings.

KANKLIN, No. 2285—Modern Dwelling.

CROWN, No. 224—Modern Dwelling.

Pow No. 36, M. A. Calvary Presbyterian Church.

24 shares New York Co. of Vending Co.

1 share Point Breeze Park.

2 shares Leisen and Hill Land and Imp. Co.

30 shares Seventh National Bank.

100 shares Hack Mountain Coal.

1 share Philadelphia Exchange Co.

1 share Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

10 shares Belmont Avenue and Frank Road Co.

1 share Butcher's and Grocers' Association.

100 shares Clinton Coal and Iron Co.

50 shares Lee Medical Department of Pa. College.

10 shares Lee Oak Copper Mining Co.

10 shares Lee State of Pennsylvania.

10 shares American Buttonhole Machine Co.

1 share Pennsylvania National Bank.

1 share Wagon and Carriage Co.