

OBITUARY.

REV. ALBERT BARNES.

On Saturday afternoon the long, eventful, industrious, and singularly useful career of the Rev. Albert Barnes closed. In company with his daughter, he left his residence, at No. 430 Walnut street, West Philadelphia, on a visit of condolence to an afflicted family residing about a mile distant. He walked the entire distance, but soon after entering the house he fell back in his chair and expired without a struggle or a word.

Albert Barnes was born in the town of Rome, New York, on the 1st of December, 1798. His father pursued the calling of a tanner, and in his laborious occupation he was himself engaged until he had attained the age of seventeen. A year later he entered Hamilton College, New York, and graduated from that institution with the class of 1820, at the age of twenty-two. Concerning his inner life at this period he has said:—

"I began life a skeptic in religion, and I early fortified and poisoned my mind by reading all the books which I could find access to, that were adapted to the age of nineteen, though outwardly moral, and though, in the main, respectful in my treatment of religion. I had not made up my mind as to a revelation from God, nor was I willing to be convinced that it is such a revelation. Circumstances which related rather to the choice of a profession than to any question about the truth of religion, led me to some reflection on the general subject of the future and to the course which I should pursue in the world. I should have struck at that time from the being, I understood that I read the Bible, and I should equally have avoided any book that would be understood by my associates to suggest the thought that I was seeking an inquiry in regard to the truth of religion, however, I was not ashamed to be seen reading a book which was in all our hands, the 'Edinburgh Encyclopædia,' and I was not ashamed to be seen reading one of the numbers of that work nor an article by Dr. Chalmers, entitled 'Christianity.' I read it, and the argument in it, in some respects, surprised me. It commanded my assent. It convinced me, intellectually, of the Divine origin of the Christian religion."

"But," he continues, "with this intellectual conviction I paused, I formed a purpose on the subject of religion which I then intended should regulate my future course in the world. I was not, however, henceforth a strictly moral life; to say nothing against religion; not to be found on any occasion among its opposers; but to yield to its claims no farther. I passed the remainder of my life in what I understood to be the character and views of Dr. Franklin."

A year later a religious revival commenced in the college, and Mr. Barnes was firmly resolved upon maintaining the resolution expressed above. But in this endeavor he was provisionally frustrated, in the following manner:—

"A classmate, recently converted, stated to me in simple words, and with no appearance of personal animosity, that he had seen a copy of the book which I had just read, and that he had seen the change which had occurred in his mind, and left me. His words went to my heart; led me to reflection on my condition, and were the means of God, of that great change which has so materially affected all my plans in this life, and which I anticipate and hope will continue forever. It changed the whole current of his life, and in November, 1820, he commenced the study of theology at Princeton; was licensed to preach in April, 1821; and was ordained and installed as pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Morris-town, N. J., in February, 1825. Referring to the early portion of his career, he has said:—

"I began life with no wealth, and with no patronage from powerful friends. I was blessed with virtuous and industrious parents, and entered on my course with the advantage which was to be derived from their counsel and example. I was dependent on my own efforts. I claim no special credit for this, or sympathy on account of it, for this is the lot of almost every man who enters the field of true piety and the duties of practical religion."

The work of preparing these commentaries was commenced by Mr. Barnes soon after his settlement in this city. The "Notes on the Gospel of St. Matthew" were issued in 1833, and in 1835 the volume of the Epistle to the Romans was completed and published. Some of the doctrinal views expressed in the latter were regarded as especially objectionable by those who had previously been alarmed at the spread of innovations in the Church. The late Dr. Junkin, at that time President of Lafayette College, became the accuser of Mr. Barnes, although he was at that time a member of another presbytery, and not even connected with the same synod. Dr. Junkin made formal charges against Mr. Barnes, in which he studiously avoided the use of the objectionable word "heresy," as ambiguous and calculated to prejudice him in public opinion. In these accusations Mr. Barnes was charged with holding that sin consists in voluntary action; that Adam, both before and after the fall, was ignorant of the fact that the consequences of his sin would extend beyond a natural death; that unregenerate men are enabled to keep the commandments and convert themselves to God; and that faith is an act of the mind, and not a principle, and is itself imputed for righteousness. The charges of Dr. Junkin also maintained that the author had denied the covenant with Adam, and the imputation of Adam's sin to his posterity; that mankind are liable to punishment by reason of Adam's transgression, that Christ suffered the proper penalty of the law as the vicarious substitute of His people, and thus legally took away their sins and purchased pardon; and the imputation of Christ's active righteousness; and that justification was other than simple pardon. The presbytery gave a patient hearing to the case, which resulted in the justification of Mr. Barnes. The presbytery pronounced the evidence submitted in support of the charges to be mere "inferences drawn from Mr. Barnes' language," which were not legitimate, and which, even if they were legitimate, could not be used to convict of heresy or dangerous error, according to a decision of the assembly of 1824. Mr. Barnes was therefore triumphantly acquitted of having promulgated "any dangerous errors or heresies, contrary to the word of God and the standards" of the Church.

This decision was unsatisfactory to Dr. Junkin, and the latter appealed from the presbytery to the synod. The presbytery refused to give up to the synod its record of the trial, and Mr. Barnes put in a plea to the jurisdiction of the latter body, declining to stand his trial before it. The synod thereupon decided that the presbytery had acted disorderly in this refusal, and merited a censure. Dr. Junkin was then given a full hearing before the synod, and as Mr. Barnes refused to appear and argue his case, he was convicted of holding fundamental errors, and by a vote of one hundred and sixteen to thirty-one, a motion to refer the whole matter to the General Assembly having been previously voted down, was "suspended from the exercise of all the functions proper to the gospel ministry" until such time as he should retract his errors and "give satisfactory evidence of repentance." Mr. Barnes acquiesced in the suspension, abandoning his pulpit for the time being, and gave notice of an appeal to the General Assembly.

An effort was then made by the adversaries of Mr. Barnes to reconstruct the presbyteries so that he should fall to the lot of one which would be able to manage him. One divine declared that the only true course was the extinction of the obnoxious presbytery; "root and branch." Others were in favor of distributing the members of the presbytery; but this was opposed on the ground that it would be "like

spreading poison," and result in the contamination of the whole synod. Still another advocated the exclusion of the presbytery from the watch and care of the synod, hoping thus effectually to free it from "wolves in sheep's clothing." The dissolution of the presbytery was finally agreed upon, its members being ordered within six months to seek admission into other presbyteries, falling in which they were declared to be ipso facto cut off from the communion of the Presbyterian Church. The members of the presbytery which it was thus attempted to dissolve appealed to the General Assembly of 1836, which met at Pittsburgh. A week was devoted to hearing the appeals of the presbytery and of Mr. Barnes, and both were sustained, the latter by a vote of one hundred and thirty-four to ninety-six. His suspension from the exercise of his pastoral duties was reversed by a vote of one hundred and forty-five to seventy-eight, and he again appeared in his pulpit, to the great rejoicing of his people, having triumphantly sustained and finally overcome a persecution for his religious views which lasted through six years. Mr. Barnes himself paid the following high tribute to the noble manner in which he was sustained throughout this trying ordeal by his congregation:—

"During these six years of conflict, notwithstanding all the efforts made from without to crush a young man, and to divide the congregation, I never swerved or hesitated. None were drawn away; none among us attempted to make a division. In every new phase of the war, I forgot not my struggle before the presbytery, the synod, and the Church at large, the entire congregation stood by me until the great result was reached which gave us peace."

For thirty-seven years he remained in the pulpit of the Washington Square Presbyterian Church of this city, discharging his pastoral duties with great acceptance, and working unceasingly at his great literary tasks. But in October, 1867, he was forced by the increasing infirmities of age, and especially by the partial failure of his eyesight, to abandon the regular discharge of his pastoral duties, in which he was succeeded by the Rev. Herrick Johnson, D. D. His connection with the congregation which he had served so long and so faithfully was not severed, however, and he occasionally appeared in his old pulpit, as well as in the pulpits of other city churches. On Sunday morning, December 18, less than a week before his death, he preached to his old congregation, and on the afternoon of the same day his last sermon was delivered, his congregation on this occasion being the inmates of the House of Refuge.

The later years of his life were not signalized by such stormy scenes as marked his early career, but they were none the less industriously employed. In addition to his "Notes on the New Testament," he published a similar commentary on portions of the Old Testament, including the books of Job, the Psalms, Isaiah, and Daniel, ten volumes of sermons and miscellaneous discourses, and other works, among which were "A Life of St. Paul," "Evidences of Christianity," and "Scriptural Views of Slavery." The just fame which he earned as a commentator and a pulpit orator caused the degree of Doctor of Divinity to be tendered him by several institutions, English as well as American, but with characteristic modesty and on conscientious grounds he invariably declined the honor. Happily, his years were so far prolonged that he was permitted to witness the reunion of the Church, whose disruption had been so intimately associated with the great persecution he had undergone in his early life, and this grand consummation gave him unfeigned joy.

There has seldom been in the Christian pulpit a man whose life displayed more true nobility, whose labors resulted in greater good to his fellow-men, whose influence was more earnestly and effectually exerted on the side of truth in all its forms and phases. For he did not restrict his indomitable energies and his varied scholarly acquirements to any one field of labor; but was found as zealous and as efficient in the advocacy of temperance, of justice to the oppressed, and of maintaining by the strong right arm of the nation those political principles which were bequeathed to us by our forefathers, as in the mere discharge of his duties as pastor of a single church. We cannot better bring this sketch of his life to a close than by quoting the following extract from a letter written by him to a friend, on the seventeenth anniversary of his birth, December 1, 1868:—

"I have a great desire to live. I am not tired of life, nor disgusted with the world, nor discouraged of the future. I believe that there are glorious things in prospect for our earth, and that it will be a greater thing to live for the next half century than it has been to live in the one that is past, and there we have had something to do. You have the advantage of me in another respect. You have the use of your eyes. I have prolonged and unbroken friendships beyond the age of man, and this I can use but little. I preach a little, but have no charge, and am a practical farmer, with a farm of one acre, to remember the scenes of other days to which you refer. They are gone, and cannot be recalled. There are brighter scenes and even happier lands, and there will be prolonged and unbroken friendships beyond the grave—that grave which is but little before us."

The funeral of Mr. Barnes will take place on to-morrow afternoon, at 1 o'clock, from the church on Washington Square, the interment to take place at Laurel Hill Cemetery.

NEWS SUMMARY.

City Affairs.

John Spar was met by a party of rough people at Fourth and McMillan streets on Saturday night late, and was badly beaten by them and robbed of a gold watch and some money.

Early on Sunday morning five houses were burned down in "Dutch Row," east of Trenton avenue, above the Reading Railroad. The loss will amount to \$2500. The origin of the fire is unknown.

On Friday evening, between seven and eight o'clock, the residence of Mr. Frank Haas, on Seventh street, above Market, was entered by thieves through a rear second story window, and robbed of \$9000. The family, at the time of the robbery, were in the lower part of the house, the front portion of which is occupied as a saloon.

At 7 o'clock on Saturday morning a man named John Hamill was attacked by a man named Patrick M. Roe, at Seventh and Bainbridge streets, with a chair, and badly beaten about the head. It is thought that Hamill will die. His assailant is in custody.

On Saturday evening a police officer attempted to arrest a man named Edward McKnight, at Thompson and Leopard streets. McKnight turned on the officer and knocked him down. The policeman arose promptly and fired a pistol at his assailant, but unfortunately missed him and wounded a person named Alfred Helverson, who was passing by at the time.

Domestic Affairs.

The exact population of Ohio, according to corrected returns, is 2,663,681.

The latest reports from Georgia are to the effect that the recent election makes the State strongly Democratic.

Advices from Utah are that Justice McKean is not and will not be a candidate for the Governorship of that Territory.

Reports from all quarters of the United States concur that Saturday was by far the coldest day that has been experienced this winter.

About 2 o'clock on Sunday morning the Spotswood Hotel, at Richmond, Va., was burned, and a number of the guests and employees of the house perished in the flames.

John H. Surratt, the ex-conspirator, who is now engaged in lecturing upon the part he played in the proposed capture and subsequent assassination of President Lincoln, has just had the doors of a hall closed upon him in Washington.

Foreign Affairs.

General Faidherbe, with 60,000 men, was routed by General Manteuffel, on Friday, near Amiens. Two Prussian divisions only were engaged.

A despatch from Brussels says General Faidherbe is being surrounded by the Germans, and that the Prussians have occupied Soissons and Soisson.

Have is now so strongly fortified that no fears are apprehended of an attack. All the works about the city are fully manned and supplied, and there are several war vessels riding at anchor before the city.

The London Post predicts for the Prussians great hardships and losses during the coming winter, because the Parisians have demonstrated their ability to resist indefinitely.

The congratulations of Queen Victoria to the King of Prussia, on his acceptance of the title of Emperor of Germany, were presented to His Majesty by Otto Russell.

Austria, Prussia, and England have offered an asylum to the Pope.

It is understood the King of Prussia has granted Fulda, in Hesse-Cassel, to the Pope as a residence.

The first meeting of the conference on the Eastern question is fixed for the 3d of January. Prince Charles, of Roumania, calls the attention of the powers to the fact that his position, as settled by the treaty of Paris, is no longer tenable, thus bringing up another question to be settled.

MARINE TELEGRAPH.

For additional Marine News see First Page.

ALMANAC FOR PHILADELPHIA—THIS DAY. SUN SETS..... 4:39 HIGH WATER..... 5:41

PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF TRADE. GEORGE L. BUZZY, GEORGE N. TATRAM, COMMITTEE OF THE MONTH. J. PRICE WETHERILL.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMSHIPS. FOR AMERICA. C. of Paris..... Liverpool..... New York..... Dec. 1

FOR EUROPE. Russia..... New York..... Liverpool..... Dec. 28 Nevada..... New York..... Liverpool..... Dec. 28

ARRIVED SATURDAY. Steamer Black Diamond, Meredith, from New York, with mde, to W. M. Baird & Co.

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LEGAL NOTICES.

CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.—The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of Philadelphia County, greeting:—We command you, as before we did, that you summon WILLIAM MCKEITHEN, late of your county, so that he be and appear before our Judges at Philadelphia, at our District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.—The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of Philadelphia County, greeting:—We command you, as before we did, that you summon CHARLES F. BETHELL, late of your county, so that he be and appear before our Judges at Philadelphia, at our District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.—The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of Philadelphia County, greeting:—We command you, as before we did, that you summon ZEBEDEE DOBBINS, late of your county, so that he be and appear before our Judges at Philadelphia, at our District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

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CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.—The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of Philadelphia County, greeting:—We command you, as before we did, that you summon HENRY E. WRIGLEY, late of your county, so that he be and appear before our Judges at Philadelphia, at our District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.—The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of Philadelphia County, greeting:—We command you, as before we did, that you summon ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG, late of your county, so that he be and appear before our Judges at Philadelphia, at our District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, SS.—The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of Philadelphia County, greeting:—We command you, as before we did, that you summon JOHN LINDSAY, late of your county, so that he be and appear before our Judges at Philadelphia, at our District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, on the 17th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

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AMUSEMENTS.

MRS. JOHN DREW'S ARCH STREET THEATRE. Regularly at 8 o'clock. CHRISTMAS WEEK—"OURS." EVERY NIGHT THIS WEEK, the great Military Drama.

FOX'S NEW AMERICAN THEATRE, CHESSNUT Street, above Tenth. BRILLIANT TRIUMPH. being in AMUSEMENTS OF ALL NATIONS. EVERY EVENING AND SUNDAY MATINEE. SPECIAL NOTICE.

P. F. ROTHMEL'S GREAT PICTURE OF "THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG" OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON SATURDAY, December 24, and daily thereafter until further notice, at No. 103 CHESSNUT Street, between 9th and 10th Streets. Admission, 25 cents; Children, 10 cents.

CONCERT HALL. EVERY AFTERNOON AND EVENING. Commencing MONDAY, Dec. 26. SAM SHARPLEY'S SILVER SHOW. The Great BARRAGE, the Royal Contrabass. THE EUROPEAN TROUPE OF TRAINED BIRDS, NICE, and CATS, all performing together and in perfect harmony.

ARCH STREET OPERA HOUSE. SIMMONS & SLOUM'S MINSTRELS. THE CHAMPION TROUPE OF AMERICA. EVERY EVENING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE BROOK FRASER'S NEW CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

TEMPLE OF WONDERS. ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS. COME AND BE HAPPY, ROOME AND BE GAY. COME, AND SEE BLITZ, LEROY, and BIRDS PLAY. SIGNOR BLITZ, SON.

AMERICAN MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE. Northwest corner of NINTH and ARCH Streets. Open daily from 2 A. M. to 10 P. M. 100,000 CURIOSITIES.

NOTICE—BY VIRTUE AND IN EXECUTION of the powers contained in a Mortgage executed by the THE CENTRAL PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY of the city of PHILADELPHIA, bearing date of eighth of April, 1868, and recorded in the office for recording deeds and mortgages for the city and county of Philadelphia, in Mortgage Book No. 11, page 465, and the undersigned Trustee named in said Mortgage.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION. AT THE MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE, in the city of PHILADELPHIA, by MESSRS. THOMAS & SONS, AUCTIONEERS, at 10 o'clock, on TUESDAY, the fourteenth of February, A. D. 1871, the property described in and conveyed by the said Mortgage, to-wit:—

ALL those two lots of ground, situate on the east side of Broad street, in the city of Philadelphia, one of them beginning at the distance of nineteen feet seven inches and five-eighths southward from the southeast corner of the said Broad and Coates streets; thence extending eastward to right angles with said street eighty-eight feet one inch and a half to ground north or late of Samuel Miller; thence southward along said street and right angles with said street Coates street, seventy-two feet to the northeast corner of an alley two feet six inches in width, leading southward into Penn street; thence westward, crossing said alley and right angles with said street hereinafter described and at right angles with said Broad street, seventy-nine feet to the east side of said Broad street; and thence southward along the east line of said Broad street seventy-two feet to the place of beginning. Subject to a ground-rent of \$25, silver money.

TOGETHER with all the streets, ways, alleys, passages, waters, water-courses, easements, franchises, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments, and appurtenances whatsoever, and also all the above mentioned premises and estates belonging and appertaining, and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues, and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim, and demand of every nature and kind whatsoever of the said company, as well as law as in equity, of, in, and to the same and every part and parcel thereof.

EXCURSION TICKETS. FOUR DOLLARS FOR THE ROUND TRIP. Will be sold from Philadelphia for all trains of 23d, 24th, and 26th December, good to return from New York, December 26, 27, or 28, by any of the trains.