THE CENTRE REPORTER.

...ARED KURTZ.....Editor.

Centre Hall, Pa., Dec. 16, 1875.

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The republican congressional caucus was held on Saturday evening, and renominated. Mr. Blaine for the speakership as well as the other officers of the last congress.

"That means mischief for us." is what a prominent Republican Congressman said when he heard that Kerr was nominated for Speaker, and "mischief for us" means good for the country.

The most extraordinary wedding of the age took place at the Tombs, New York, the other day. Charles Weston, colored, who is to be hung in a few weeks for murder, married Catherine Guy, a white woman. Dolan, soon to be hanged for the murder of Mr. Noe, acted as groomsman. The bride thought probably that this was her last chance.

It is not any more, "Where is Charly Ross," but, Where is Boss Tweed? The Boss knows, you bet.

Grant has not yet been indicted for being in complicity with the St Louis croked whiskey ring. When Babcock's telegraphic despatches were read in evidence, lightning struck the white house near enough to show that there was a powerful conductor of the fluid there.

For the next fiscal year the total estimates of the Government amount to $314,612,608, or fully four million and a half dollars more than those of the present year. This is owing to the increased appropriations asked for the army, the navy, for public works, and miscellaneous expenses.

They are looking for Tweed in Canada. We know the Boss ain't in Pennsvalley—he might be with friends at Belle Fonte.

Tweed and Charley Ross can soon set up in the mysterious disappearance business. If any one asks where Tweed is, rely by asking where Charley Ross is.

The difference between two mysterious disappearances is, Tweed's $10,000, Charley Ross $20,000 reward. Charley is 10,000 ahead of the Boss, and still he wont come home.

The Tyrone Herald makes an attempt at rabid politics—horrible as its *monster* rooster.

A Connecticut paper has a sensation over a minister's son eloping with a farmer's daughter. Well we just think that a minister's son has just as good a right to elope with a farmer's daughter as any other son-of-a gun, and Henry Ward Beecher a better right than any body else. That's Reporter logic, on a blustery day.

The U. S. Grandjury at St. Louis have found an indictment against Babcock for complicity in the whiskey frauds. Bab has given $7,000 bail for his appearance. If Grant gets the nomination for a third term, Bab ought surely trot along side of him for Vice President.

A resolution has been prepared by a prominent Southern Congressman declaring that the Confederate war debt shall never be recognized or assumed by the United States, and that the national credit must be ever kept unimpeached.

This would be stealing away material which the radicals thought of using in the next presidential election. They thought of using—and have heretofore used it—the cry of paying the rebel debt against the democrcts, notwithstanding every southern state already has constitutional prohibition against paying any rebel debt, the same provision being also contained in the amendments to the federal constitution. They must now cry all the more earnestly that the "common schools are in danger."

Babcock, Grant's private secretary and bosom friend, and general director of the western Whiskey ring was handsomely fixed as respects lucrative positions. The Terre Haute Express enumerates as follows:

Gen. Babcock is moderately well off in offices. He is Major of Engineers, regular army; Military Secretary to President Grant, Commissioner of Public Buildings and grounds, President of the Columbia Lying-in Asylum, Engineer-in-Chief of the Washington Aqueduct, and Architect of the new State and War Department buildings. His engagement as confidential Washington agent of the St. Louis Whiskey Ring has ended.

The President's message has the old theme of religion and politics dished up—a subject upon which every Centre county—yea every American—schoolboy is booked on. President Grant has called up the subject in order to help his third-term aspirations, and really cares as little about our religion, whether it be defiled or not, as does an atheist or a pagan. But when he sticks out that kind of a sign to invite support for a third term, he should, to be consistent, at once issue his proclamation against the Methodist Episcopal Sabbath-School Union, up in New England, which is mixing religion with politics, and is the first body that has got astride the third-term horse, and nominated Grant. We suppose that kind of mixing religion with politics will suit the President. The aforesaid religious body excells any thing we know of in stepping out of its sphere and in down-right impudence. A Sabbath-School association, to favor a Sabbath-breaker, horse-racer, and dram-drinker for the Presidency! Good Lord, what are we coming too?

The action of this body of professed Christians, is thus given in a despatch dated Boston, Dec. 6, and we give it here without further comment:

At a large meeting to-day of the Methodist Episcopal Sabbath-School Union and of the Tract Society, and also weekly preachers, the meeting comprising nearly two hundred ministers, Bishop Haven urged as a measure of safety for the public the renomination of General Grant for President. His remarks were adopted by a unanimous vote.

Gen. Henderson assistant counsel in prosecuting the members of the whiskey ring at St. Louis, and through whose energy and ability, some of the rogues have been brought to speedy justice, and who has found guilty ones right at President Grant's desk, namely Gen. Babcock his private secretary, this faithful officer for doing his duty, has been removed. The rascality came too near headquarters at Washington, to suit Grant. The excuse for the removal of Henderson is the silly one that he made improper allusions to the President in one of his speeches before court. The following is the order of removal.

WASHINGTON, December 10, 1875.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

To Hon. D. P. Dyer, U. S. Attorney, St. Louis.

The sworn report of Henderson's speech forwarded by Mr. Eaton and referred to by both you and Mr. Henderson in your despatches yesterday as a correct report was read at a full Cabinet meeting to-day, and it was regarded by every member as an outrage on professional propriety thus to reflect (without a shadow of reason) upon the President by whom his employment by this department was sanctioned in order that no impediment might be placed in the way of bringing to speedy punishment every defrauder of revenue in St. Louis. You will advise Gen. Henderson of his discharge from further service and secure in his place the aid of the most able and efficient counsel you can find without regard to his politics.

[Signed.] EDWARD S. PIERREPONT,
Attorney General.

Below will be found some of the allusions reported to have been made to the President: "What right has the President to interfere with Commissioner Douglass in the proper discharge of his duties? Now, why did Douglas bend the supple hinges of the knees and permit any interference by the President? He (Douglas) was not bound to listen to dictation from the President, Babcock or any other officer."

So then let all take notice that when an officer traces rascality right into the white-house he gets his walking paper for his impudence.

The radicals are very uneasy—there is some possibility that the democratic house of representatives at Washington will do some investigating this winter, and that some of the nasty, hidden things will be unearthed to the gaze of honest men. Great wrongs have been committed, unheard of rascalities have been practiced for a long time by the dominant party, which will create a nasty smell when a committee of honest men raises the lids and opens the abuses of men in high places to the public eye.

It is only by a change, such as we now have in congress that the jobs, thievings, plunderings and systematized villany that our public servants have been guilty of, can be exposed. So long as the radical party held both houses of congress, no investigation of flagrant abuses was to be hoped for. The party in power would not expose itself, but rather studied to conceal the plunderings carried on, and white-washed such as were detected in fraud and plunder. Boss Tweed will be distanced in rascality when investigating committees enter into their work at Washington. Boss Grant will be found having around him the worst characters that ever had a hand in the administration of the government, and who found in the white-house protection and a hiding place. There will be more Babcocks exposed, and the smell of crooked whiskey will come from the breath of other men in high places and who were deep in the confidence of the President. Black Friday was a flash that flew direct into the executive mansion, and with a democratic congress at that memorable day to promptly investigate and search out the guilty parties who caused that disastrous panic which spread desolation over the country, would have brought out revelations that would have set Credit Mobilier and Sanborn contracts in the shade, and shown that the presidential mansion was head quarters of the gold speculators.

We look for investigation. The people have been robbed and plundered in a manner unheard of, and they should know how it was done and who did it. Let the democratic house go to work vigorously. Already there is trembling in certain quarters. There are many guilty radicals who see a felon's doom before them if their official crimes are investigated.

The Pittsburg Leader makes a good point upon the school question in politics when it says, "The 'inflexible determination of certain Republican papers to get up an artificial excitement on this subject with a view to furnishing a new 'cause' for the party to replace the worn out 'bloody shirt,' is far less admirable, however. Some discretion should be exercised. If the animal itself will not make his appearance and snarl a little, it is impolitic to cry 'wolf, wolf,' too often or too long previous to the time when the cry is to be of decisive political value."

Here is a characteristic little incident of President Grant's career: When he was General of the Army, immediately after the war, he visited Canada. At that time Lord Monck was Governor General, with his residence at Spencer Wood, some three miles distant from Quebec. It was announced to General Grant, at his hotel in Quebec, that the Governor General would call upon him at a certain hour next day. Lord Monck desired to observe the usual ceremony, and therefore, at the appointed hour, sent two aides-decamp in advance to announce his approach. A few minutes later he entered Grant's room, preceded by two other officers, himself clad in full uniform. At this moment Grant was seated in earnest conversation with a horse-dealer of fame in Quebec. The horse-dealer was entertaining him with a disquisition on the off-hind fetlock of a favorite mare. As the Governor General approached and saluted him, Grant, just lifting his eyelids, but not rising, put out his right hand and said, "Hoy dy do?" And then he went on talking about the mare.

It is plain to be seen, says the Pittsburg Post, by a cursory perusal of the Radical journals that hope has gone out of the Radical bosom with the assembling of Congress. For months the Radical leaders have been bespattering the Democratic members of Congress, especially those who were mentioned in connection with the Speakership with mud and trying to create the impression that an unrestrainable intestine war was raging in the Democratic ranks. The wish was father to the thought. The Radical rascals who have been plundering the country for years, hoped to see a contest in the Democratic ranks that would afford them an opportunity to escape exposure and punishment. In this they have been sadly mistaken. However much the Democratic members may have differed as to their choice for Speaker, there was and there is no dissensions in the ranks of the party. An independent difference of opinion is essential to the purity of any party, but it is not to be construed into factious dissensions. The Democrats in Congress are of but one mind as to the necessity of purifying the Administration of the government, and dishonest officials in the White House and out of the White House, had as well begin to prepare for the worst, for exposure and punishment are inevitable. Their attempts to create dissensions in the ranks of reform are worse than useless.

The Blaine faction in the Republican party have begun an active canvass in his interest for the next Republican nomination for the Presidency. His friends say they will not on any account support Grant if he should be nominated for a third term, but will, on the contrary, give all their strength to some Democrat.

OHIO ON TRAMPS.

Ohio proposes to tramp out the tramps. Tramps have got to be a nuisance as well as a burden to the community among which they tramp. They are the terror of women alone-at-home, and frequently commit crimes. A Columbus despatch, dated 8 inst., says.

In answer to a call of the City Council of Lima, a state convention to consider the "tramp" question was held here to-day. Seventy-eight delegates, representing about twenty-five cities and towns were present. A number of short addresses were made, the pith of each being that the system of tramping had grown to such an extent as to make it a question of great importance to the people. The general tone of the speeches was that the whole system of tramping was contrary to good morals and should be suppressed; that each county should care for its own poor and that no able-bodied man who would not work should be allowed to eat the bread of charity.

To this end the plan of establishing workhouses in all cities and towns sufficiently large to maintain them is recommended and additional legislation by which any district composed of one or more townships may be authorized to erect such houses or to form a chain gang is to be asked for; that magistrates be given authority to arrest all vagrants and upon conviction, to commit them to these workhouses which may also be used for persons convicted of petty offenses.

TWEED NOT UNPUNISHED.

The journals have lately been filled with accounts of William M. Tweed's escape. Has William M. Tweed escaped? Escaped from what? From prison. That is true. He has escaped from prison; but not from punishment, by any means. Look at his situation five years ago, and his situation to-day, and then answer whether he is punished or not.

Five years ago he was among the very few most powerful men in the city or State of New York, with a bright prospect of soon becoming one of the leaders in national affairs. His wealth seemed almost boundless, and homage was paid to him on every hand. His time was divided between attention to public affairs and the enjoyment of the pleasures and splendors of luxury. He had grown great rapidly, and he believed he was to grow greater with increasing rapidity.

Those five years, how they have told upon him. His fortune reduced; his friends deserted; his name and reputation blighted, so as to be a curse to himself, and a burden to those to whom he bequeaths it.

Even honorable exile, as a mission to a foreign court is sometimes called, is hardly tolerable for any considerably length of time to a man of strong home attachments. Then what must involuntary banishment, in dishonor and ignominy, be? A man upward of fifty years of age is separated, permanently from all the associations of his previous life, driven forth like Cain, a wanderer on the earth.

Talk of his money! What difference does it make whether he carried little or much with him? Physical comforts and luxuries money may buy for him; but they are few, and avail little. Will any sum of money purchase for him esteem, companionship, self-respect, peace of mind, happiness? These he shall find again, nowhere and never more!

No, no! Do not teach the young man of the country that William M. Tweed has escaped punishment. That is a grave mistake. Imprisonment he has escaped, punishment he has not escaped and can never escape.—*Sun.*

A very extensive land swindle has recently been disclosed in Missouri. It is estimated that as much as 12,000,000 acres of western lands have been sold in the eastern states and Europe for which the titles are worthless, netting $25,000,000 to the operators. The plan of the villains, engaged in this business has been to obtain the names of actual owners of lands from the records at the county seats of western states, and execute forged deeds for such properties. Eighty half-sections (320 acres each) of land in one county of Missouri, according to a correspondent of the Pittsburg Commercial, were put upon the market in that city for which the titles were all forged. The correspondent says: "The names of owners and numbers of the land have been obtained from the county plots and taken to Pittsburg—the deeds forged there in the name of the original owner—and then placed on record. An abstract of title is then procured from the clerk of court, and the title on paper looks all right to the buyer. The publication of this warning to your people may save many a poor man in Pennsylvania from losing his all, perhaps."

HORRIBLE SUFFERING OF REFUGEES OF HERZEGOVINA.

New York, December 2.—A private letter was received from Ragusa, Delmatra, Austria, from a lady who is an eye-witness of the sufferings of Herzegovina refugees, contains the following: Very many of the children had only one garment tied together, and principally composed of patches, still one mass of rags, which seemed to make their nakedness more pitiful, and yet of all the refugees those at Ragusa are the most fortunate. The best fed and clothed are there at present.

In the district of Ragusa alone there are 12.000 refugees, nearly all women, children and old men. In Montenegro there are 50,000; in Croatia and Servia thousands again, the whole number of fugitives amounting to nearly 120,000. With the means received up to the present time, 16,000 or 18,000 people might be protected to the extent of a blanket a piece from the winter's cold, but the remaining 100,000 or more are without food or a roof to cover them, to say nothing of the wounded men brought in from battle, the sick and dying, the child-bearing women and the pest-stricken. The lady makes an earnest appeal for help to keep from deathly cold and starvation a whole population, whose sin is that they are Christians, Christian dogs, Rayahs, and adds: "My husband was on the frontier of Bosnia, where the river Save divides the Turkish territory from the Austrian. He was entreated by the people of the Austrian village not to cross the river and enter the Turkish town as he would certainly lose his life, but by allowing himself to be introduced as a merchant from Trieste, he was unmolested. He walked through the streets of Kostanitza. The headless bodies of the Christians lay all about the streets. On the river he had seen boats filled with refugees, striving for dear life to reach the Austrian shore. The Turks fired into them, and one of the boats was sunk. The others reached the shore, covered with blood, from the wounds of fugitives. Headless bodies of women were floating on the water. In the streets of the town the swine were feeding on the corpses of Christian women.

THE MESSAGE

of President Grant, is lengthy, and in the main is a slovenly document. We make the following extracts from it:

The Education of the Masses.

Under such a form of Government, it is of the greatest importance that all should be possessed of education and intelligence enough to cast a vote with a right understanding of its meaning. Large associations of ignorant men cannot, for any considerable period oppose a successful resistance to tyranny or oppression from the educated few, and will inevitably sink into acquiescence to the will of intelligence, whether directed by the demagogue or by priestcraft. Hence the education of the mass becomes of the first necessity, for the preservation of our institutions. They are worth preserving, because they have secured the greatest good to the greatest proportion of population of any form of government yet devised. All other forms of government approach it just in proportion to the general diffusion of education and independence of thought and action.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment.

As the primary step, therefore to our advancement that has marked our progress in the past century, I suggest for your earnest consideration, and most earnestly recommend it, that a constitutional amendment be submitted to the legislatures of the several States for ratification, making it the duty of each of the several States to establish and forever

Maintain Free Public Schools,

Adequate to the education of all the children in the rudimentary branches within their respective limits, irrespective of sex, color, birth place, religion, forbidding the teaching in said schools of religious atheistic or pagan views and prohibiting the granting of any school funds or school tax, or any part thereof, either by legislative, muncipal or other authorities for the benefit of any other object of any nature or kind whatever. In connection with this important question, I would also call your attention to the importance of correcting an evil that, if permitted to continue, will probably lead to great trouble in our land before the close of the nineteenth century—that is, the accumulation of vast amounts of untaxed church property. In 1850, I believe, the church property of the United States which paid no tax—municipal or State—amounted to about $83,000,000. In 1860 the amount had doubled. In 1875 it is about $1,0000,000,000. By 1900, without check, it is safe to say that this property will reach a sum exceeding $3,000,000,000. So vast a sum, receiving all the protection and benefits of the Government, without bearing its proportion of the burdens and expense of the same, will not be looked upon acquiescently by those who have paid taxes. In a growing country, where real estate enhances so rapidly with time, as in the United States, there is scarcely a limit to the wealth that may be acquired by corporations, religious or otherwise. If allowed to retain real estate without taxation, the contemplation of so vast a property as here alluded to, without taxation, may lead to sequestration, without Constitutional authority, and through blood. I would suggest the taxation of all property equally, whether church or corporation, exempting only the last resting place of the dead, and possibly, with proper restrictions, church edifices.

Foreign Relations.

Our relations with most of the Foreign Powers continue on a satisfactory and friendly footing.

Specie Resumption.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon this question, and I hope Congress may be induced at the earliest day practicable to insure the consummation of the act of the last Congress, at its last session, to bring about specie resumption on and after the first day of January, 1879, at the furthest. It would be a great blessing if this could be consummated even at an earlier day. Nothing seems to me more certain than that a full, healthy and permanent reaction cannot take place in favor of the industries and financial welfare of the country until we return to a measure of value recognized throughout the civilized world. While we use a currency not equivalent to this standard, specie, becomes a commodity like the products of the soil, the surplus seeking a market wherever there is a demand for it. Under our present system we should want none nor would we have any, were it not that the customs due must be paid in coin, and because of the pledge to pay the interest of our public debt in coin. The yield of precious metals would flow out for the purchase of foreign productions, leave the United States hewers of wood and drawers of water, because of wiser legislation on the subject of finance by the nations with whom we have dealings. I am not prepared to say that I can suggest the best legislation to secure the end most heartily commended. It will be a source of great gratification to me to be able to approve any measure of Congress looking effectively toward securing resumption. Unlimited inflation would probably bring about specie payment more speedily than any legislation looking to the redemption of legal tenders in coin, but it would be at the expense of honor. The legal tenders would have no value beyond settling present liabilities, or properly speaking, repudiating them. They would bring nothing after debts were all settled. There are a few measures which seem to me important in this connection, and which I commend to your earnest consideration. A repeal of of so much of the legal tender acts as make these notes receivable for debts contracted after a date to be fixed on the act itself, say not later than the 1st of January, 1877. We should then have quotation at real value, not ficticious ones. Gold would no longer be at a premium but the currency at a discount. A healthy re-action would set in at once, and with it a desire to make the currency equal to what it purports to be. The merchants, manufacturers and tradesmen of every calling, could do business on a fair margin of profit, the money received having an unvarying value. Laborers and all classes who work for stipulated pay or salary, would receive more than their income, because extra profits would no longer be charged by the capitalists to compensate for the risk of a downward fluctuating in the value of the currency. Second, That the Secretaty of the Treasury be authorized to redeem, say not to exceed $2,000,000 monthly of legal tender notes by issuing in their stead long bonds, bearing interest at the rate of 3 25-100 per cent. per annum, of denominations ranging from fifty to one thousand dollars each. This would in time reduce the legal tender notes to a volume that could be kept afloat without demanding redemption in large sums suddenly. Third, That additional power be given to the Secretary of the Treasury to accumulate gold for the final redemption of the currency, increasing the revenue, and curtailing the expenses, or both. It is preferable to do both, and I recommend that a reduction of expenditures be made wherever it can be done without impairing Government obligations or crippling the due execution thereof. One measure for increasing the revenue, and the only one, I think, is of the restoration of the duty on tea and coffee. These duties would add probably $18,000,000 to the present amount received for imports, and would in no way increase the prices paid for these articles by the consumers. These articles are the products of countries collecting revenue from exports, and as we, the largest consumers, reduce the duties they proportionally increase them. With this addition to the revenue, many duties now collected and which give but an insignificant return for the cost of collection might be remitted and to the direct advantage of consumers at home. I would mention those articles which enter into manufactures of all sorts, all duty paid upon such articles go directly to the cost of the article, when manufactured here, and must be paid for by consumers. The duties not only come from the consumers at home, but act as a protection to foreign manufacturers of the same completed articles in our own and distant markets. I will suggest, or mention, another subject bearing upon the problem of how to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to accumulate balances. It is to devise some better method of verifying claims against the Government than at present exists, through the court of Claims, especially, those claims growing out of the late war. Nothing is more certain than that a large percentage of the amounts passed and paid, are part or wholly fraudulent, or are far in excess of the real losses sustained. The large amount of losses, proven on good testimony according to the existing laws by affidavits of fictitious or unscrupulous persons, to have been sustained on small farms and plantations, are not only far beyond the possible yield of those places for any one year, but as every one knows who has experience, and who has visited the scenes of these spoliations are in many instances more than the individual claimants were ever worth, including their personal and real estate.

The report of the Attorney General, which will be submitted to Congress at an early day, will contain a detailed history of awards made and of claims pending of the class here presented.

Our Public Domain.

The report of the General Land Office shows that there were 2,459,601 acres less disposed of during this year than during the last year. More than one-half of this decrease was in lands disposed of under the homestead and timber culture laws. The decrease of this is supposed to be found in the grasshopper scourge and the droughts, which prevailed so extensively in some of the frontier States and Territories during that time, so as to discourage and deter entries by actual settlers. The cash receipts were less by $690,322.23 than during the preceding year.

The Public Lands.

The entire surveyed area of the public domain is 680,253,094 acres, of which 26,077,531 acres were surveyed during the past year, leaving 1,154,471,762 acres still unsurveyed. The report of the Commissioner presents many interesting suggestions in regard to the management and disposition of the public domain and the modification of existing laws, the apparent importance of which should insure for them the careful consideration of Congress.

Pensioners and Pensions.

The number of pensioners still continues to decrease, the highest number having been reached during the year ending June 30, 1873. During the last year 11,557 names were added to the rolls, and 12,977 were dropped therefrom, showing a net decrease of 1,420. But while the number of pensioners has decreased the annual amount due on the pension rolls has increased $14,733.13. This is caused by the greatly increased average rate of pensions which, by the liberal legislation of Congress, has increased from $90.26 in 1872, to $103.91 in 1875—to each invalid pensioner an increase in the average rate of fifteen per cent.

In the three years during the year ending June 30th, 1875, there was paid on account of pensions, including the expenses of disbursement, $29,683,116, being $910,632 less than was paid during the preceding year. This reduction in the amount of expenditures was produced by the decrease in the amount of arrearages due on allowed claims and on pensions, the rate of which was increased by the legislation of the preceding session of Congress.

At the close of the last fiscal year there were on the pension rolls 234,821 persons, of whom 210,363 were army pensioners, 105,478 being invalids, 104,885 widows and dependent relatives, 8,420 were navy pensioners, of whom 1,636 were invalids and 1,784 widows and dependent relatives; 21,038 were pensioners of the war of 1812, 15,875 of whom were survivors and 5,163 were widows.

It is estimated that $29,585,000 will be required for the payment of pensions for the next fiscal year, an amount $965,000 less than the estimate for the present year.

The Treasurer's Report,

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows the receipts from customs for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1874, to have been $163,103,833 69, and for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1875, to have been $157,167,712 35, a decrease for the last fiscal year of $5,936,111 34 The receipt from Internal Revenue for the year ending June 30, 1874, were $102,409 784.93, and for the year ending on 30th of June, 1875, were $110,007,393.58, an increase of $7,597,708.68. The report also shows a complete history of the workings of the Department for last year, and contains recommendations for reforms and for legislation which I concur in, but cannot comment on so fully as I should like to do if space would permit. I will confine myself to a few suggestions, which I look upon as vital to the best interests of the whole people, coming within the purview of the Treasury.

MRS. MOULTON AND PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

Mrs. Emma C. Moulton has addressed a long letter to the members of Plymouth Church, setting forth the wrong to which she alleges she has been subjected. She says they turn her out now for five years' absence from the ordinances of the church, to which no one member or officer asked her during all that time to return except Mr. Beecher, and that was lest her going to another church might have an injurious effect on his reputation. Her absence was caused, she says, by her knowledge of Mr. Beecher's guilt from his own confessions to her and otherwise, and after that absence was well known to him, his visits to her husband and her for advice and aid to conceal his position were frequent and full of anguish and contrition on his part. It was for his sake that she refrained from severing his connection with Plymouth Church and joining some other, and now he proposes to cut her off as if the fault were hers. The church now asks her why she did not demand a trial, and she replies that a leading man among them knew of her statements concerning Mr. Beecher long ago, and all knew of her absence, and it was their business, not hers, to bring her to trial. She concludes as follows:

"My reason for my course was the one I have stated—solicitude for one whom I had greatly loved and revered, whom I loved still, in spite of his wickedness, because he seemed to me privately penitent, yet whose ministry I could not continue to attend while he showed himself to the public as an innocent and injured man, though I could not leave it without exposing what I know of him. I had a heavy burden to carry; and I am sorry to say that the first act of Christian attention which I have received from the church in the five years past was the notifying me that my name was to be dropped from the roll the next evening

"My proposal to you in my previous letter was that you should unite with me in calling a council of churches, before which you should state your reasons for your action and I should state mine, and which should impartially judge between us That proposal I understand you to have accepted. The questions thus coming up for decision ought, I should think, to be these:

First—Have my convictions in regard to the guilty conduct of Mr. Beecher been justified by the evidence which I have had?

Secondly—If they have been justified, ought I still to have attended his ministry and received the sacrament from his hands, while kept, by the reasons which I have stated, from withdrawing from the church?

Thirdly—When I had stated to the church my reasons for being absent from the services, and had protested against being dropped from its roll, ought I to have been thus dropped, without further trial, and with neither censure nor recommendation?

Fourthly—If I was improperly removed from Plymouth Church, will the council give me a certificate of the fact, upon which I can enter another church?

"I am not perhaps well able to judge whether the six questions which you propose to me to have submitted to the Council cover the same ground with these of mine. Yours appear to me less distinct, perhaps because I do not understand them so well; and mine to take up more directly the points of issue between us. I suppose it is my right to have something to say about the questions to be submitted; and accordingly I propose that yours be submitted, as you put them, and that these of mine be added to them. In this way, I think, the whole case between us will come up, and the questions which I wish to have answered will have an equal chance with yours.

"When you notify me of your acceptance of this proposition, will you please also to send me the names of ten or twelve churches which you would wish to invite to the council, with two or three experienced and wise ministers who are not now in the pastoral office, as I am informed is customary? Then I will add as many more to the list, of such as may be known to me to be of good standing in the denomination and with the Christian public, and the letters of invitation can at once be sent out. Respectfully yours,

EMMA C. MOULTON."

For the Reporter.

CHRIST THE ONLY FOUNDATION.

By Rev. John Tomlinson.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble: every man's work shall be made manifest, for the day shall declare it because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.* If any man's work shall be burned he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire." It is proposed to discuss this difficult passage of the divine Word under three divisions, viz: 1 CHRIST THE ONLY FOUNDATION. 2. THE MANNER OF BUILDING ON THIS FOUNDATION. 3. HOW THE WORK SHALL BE TRIED.

Christ the only foundation.

1. Generally Christ is the foundation of the whole Church. As the God-man, He purchased salvation for the Church and His spirit appropriates it to the membership, Hence Jesus Himself said: Upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. Of this foundation the Lord God himself said, Is. 28-16: Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation, he that believeth shall not make haste. See 1 Pet. 2-6.

2. Particularly, Christ is the foundation of all true doctrine, by which the sinner individually is lead to Chrst and obtains justification, sanctification and eternal life.

Christ himself is the truth, upon him the whole superstructure of sound doctrine rests, viz: Knowledge, repentance, faith, fustification, resurrection, etc.

1st. The manner of building upon this foundation. His doctrine of salvation in Christ alone, acts 4-12. It is not only important to have a good foundation, but also to build well upon it with good material. A house with the best kind of a foundation may be ruined by working into it bad material, into the floor, or into the roof, etc. So a character well founded may be almost ruined by working in bad material. A little of the lust of the flesh, a little of the lust of the eyes, or a little of the pride of life. Notice 1st. The good material—gold, silver, precious stones, representing true, pure, useful and precious doctrine and good practices, good knowledge a good heart and a good life.

2. The bad material—the wood, hay and stubble, representing not heresy, but error and tradition, vain, unprofitable and worthless doctrines, e. g, the mode of Baptism, the mode of Christ's presence in the eucharist, Baptismal regeneration, distinctive sanctification—in short almost all controverted points. The discussions on those topics are largely wood, hay and stubble.

How the work shall be tried, viz:

1. By the fire of the Holy Ghost, the Holy Ghost by the Holy scriptures. 2. The fire of temptation and persecution. This is fire that will prove teachers, doctrines and characters very effectually. Two observations are in point here. 1st It is a probatory fire that is meant, it is the fire of the judgment of Jesus Christ to prove men's characters that is intended.

2. It is not a purgatory fire that is meant in the text, in which men will be purified from sin after death. For both the works that shall be burnt and pass away and those that shall remain and be rewarded, shall be tried. It must then be some other fire, and we believe it is the fire of the Holy Ghost. Paul speaks of it in the text. It is a fire to prove what is truth and what is error, what is good character and what is bad—what are good practices and what are bad.

Application.

1. The judgment of Jesus Christ is a great solemnity. Are you, reader, ready for your trial.

2. The results of the judgment will be important.

1. If a man's work abide, he shall receive a reward—a gracious reward in proportion to the fruitfulness and usefulness of his doctrine, preaching, work, etc., in the church on earth.

2. If a man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss. If it do not stand the fire or test he shall suffer loss. His work and happiness in the future would not be what they would have been had he not been an errorist. It is no small matter, therefore, to be an errorist. His capacity will be full, but his capacity is not what it would have been had he not been an errorist.

This matter may be illustrated by measures of different capacity—some holding a pint and on up to a firkin or barrel, all may be full but some hold a great deal more than others. So of the degrees of happiness in the future world, one will have more capacity than the other and his capacity will of course be full. Will there not be room for envy there then? Not if each one enjoys all he is capable of enjoying. Paul, Luther, Calvin, Whitefield and others will enjoy themselves more, no doubt, than many an ignorant and uncultivated and undeveloped individual, no matter how pious, he may have been—and for the sole reason that their capacity. An errorist will feel the effect of his mistake through all eternity. Hence the question is important: What is truth.

3. SAKED SO AS BY FIRE. This expression indicates,

1. GREAT DANGER. An errorist is in danger, in imminent peril.

2. GREAT DIFFICULTY. The person will be saved, soul will be saved, he will have a lower place in Heaven, but will be saved. His false views and theories, wrong opinions and errors moreover render his salvation exceedingly difficult. So much so that it may be said with propriety: He has been plucked as a brand out of the fire.

Let each one, therefore, choose Christ for a teacher and an example and follow him closely.

*If any man's work abide, which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

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