

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE

The Observer has a brief, but strongly worded article on the reduction of the Sabbath School to the Church. While it is claimed by many of the most active in the establishment and promotion of Sunday Schools, that it is an institution of the Church, and therefore should not be under its control, yet the fact is clearly shown that its efficiency and success is only attained by being employed as an auxiliary department of church labor. It is not claimed that the institution is one of divine establishment. The Sabbath School is not a place for the gathering of destitute and vagrant children. It is a connecting link between the family and the church. The education of home is enforced in the church. Faithful labor in the Sabbath School deepens the convictions of religious duty, impresses the truths of the gospel upon the heart, and prepares the mind for the preaching of the truth in the sanctuary. Divorce the Sabbath School from the church, and the way is at once opened for the entrance of erroneous views and individual opinions. Observations show that these schools have been the most successful in imparting a knowledge of the Bible, of the vital doctrines of the plan of salvation, and have been the most blessed to God to the conversion of the young, when the connection has been constantly kept in view, and the schools more or less directly controlled by the church. There should be such a union between the school and the church as should make the former the nursery of the latter. It is affirmed that there is no place where the pastor can gain and exercise a greater influence for good, no place where he can so effectively build up the walls of Zion, as among the young of his flock as they are gathered together in the Sabbath School, where he can, in various ways, lay a broad and firm foundation for their future Christian life and character. This question is assuming an importance that is worthy of the noble cause, and it is only a question of time, not very far distant, when it will be acknowledged as an important auxiliary in church labor.

The recent call of the Unitarian Association for \$100,000, to spread the principles of that sect in the United States, provoked considerable opposition among its own members. One of the Unitarian readers of the Register, responds thus: You may say, generally, that the funds will be applied to the spread of Unitarianism, but since that term is applied to almost every form of skepticism and infidelity, as Unitarianism and Spiritualism, we have no assurance that the funds will be used for the benefit of Christ. Such "liberal" Unitarians, that embrace in its bosom all Unitarianism, is repudiated.

Dr. Cullen, R. C. Archbishop of Dublin, has been elected Moderator in matters political, has lately received the honor of being elected to the office of Moderator in that period, and is still surrounded by dangers, yet we cannot but perceive that his "Vigilant" has the honors decreed to it by his faithful devotees. He has been elected Moderator, and preserved him from all the snares of his enemies.

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The capacity of some of the principal churches of Europe is estimated as follows: St. Peter's, at Rome, holds 54,000 persons; the Cathedral, at Milan, 37,000; St. Paul's, London, 35,000; St. Sophia's, Constantinople, 25,000; Notre Dame, Paris, 21,000; the Cathedral at Pisa, 18,000; St. Mark's, Venice, 7,000.

CITY AND SUBURBAN

Organization of Allegheny Council

At ten o'clock this morning, the members of the Select and Common Councils of Allegheny assembled in the Hotel Chamber for the purpose of receiving the returns of the 40th election, inaugurating the Mayor elect, and appointing the members of the Council. A temporary organization was effected, consisting of Mr. John Atwell, by the appointment of John Wright, Esq., as President, and Samuel Huddell as Secretary.

Mr. Atwell moved that the returns be received and read. The returns were then opened and read. Mr. Huddell objected to the returns from the Fourth Ward, not on account of any irregularity in the returns themselves, but for the reason that, under the charter of the city, as amended, one of the members elect is ineligible to the office, and the other member of the city charter, which provides that the chairman of said city, may appoint a candidate of the party, under the law of the Commonwealth, to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Atwell moved to appoint a committee to investigate the returns from the Fourth Ward. The committee was appointed, and the matter was referred to them. The committee reported that the returns from the Fourth Ward were correct, and that the members elect were eligible to the office.

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SPECIAL NOTICES

HUBBARD & LONG

FACTORY OF PATENT GROUND CIRCULARS. Warranted CAST STEEL RINGS, of every description. HILL, HUBBARD & LONG, 1000 PENN. ST. PHILADELPHIA.

BOILER MAKERS & SHEET IRON WORKERS. No. 20, 22, 24, 26 PENN. ST. PHILADELPHIA.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. The Department of the District of Columbia, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the returns of the 40th election, and to certify that the same are correct.

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