THE PRESS.—PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1864.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Prayer for the Success of our Armies.—Men possessing "the conscience of this fight" have been earnest and unceasing in their prayers to "the God of battles," since the commencement of the recent sanguinary engagements in Virginia for the suppression of treason, and the maintenance of our national honor and integrity. Our people have exercised a religious patience, an abiding hope, and an unwavering faith during the entire struggle, believing that victory must crown the right. Never since the commencement of the war has there been a more calm and deliberate resolve manifested by the best people in the community to fight this war through successfully at all hazards and any cost. Intelligence of killed and wounded kindred and friends is received with sober resignation, and a confidence that God will not suffer these sacrifices to be made in vain. In our churches, on Sunday last, the burden of every prayer, and the most vital part of every theme discussed, was the sacred cause of Union and Liberty, which our brothers on the battle-field are pouring out their lives to sustain. And if

"The sway is the heart's sincere desire,
Uttered, or unexpressed,"

What was true on Sunday in the churches, has been no less true in the living temples of every patriotic heart since then. "What can we do for our country?" is beginning to be the universal self-examining interrogatory. Instead of wincing under prospective taxation, men, women, and children are making it a study how they can add of their substance, outside of more legal demands, to the power of that benign Government which traitor hands would overthrow. Thousands of dollars are thus daily flowing into channels of relief for the soldiers; not with an ostentatious sounding of trumpets, but in that secrecy which is to be openly blessed—which does not "let the left hand know what the right hand doeth."

We are made to feel that there is a sphere for heroism even at this distance from the bloody field, as we read the accounts of noble souls in all stations of life bearing up under the burden which the war has entailed, and apparently growing stronger for the trial. An intelligent correspondent writing from Washington makes the following allusion to that firm friend of the Union in the United States Senate, Mr. Fessenden:

"The sympathies of the nation, I am sure, will be most sincerely given to Senator Fessenden, in the loss of a second son in battle. I remember meeting the son just plain three years ago, and being impressed with his guileless, enthusiastic nature. By bravery and skill he had advanced from a lieutenancy to a brigadier generalship. The last appointment he did not live to receive. The commission is at this moment on its way to him, and was made out before it was known that he had met with his fate upon the banks of the Red river. In my walks about the town I meet the smitten father, and see the manly in his sorrow, never flinching from the great responsibilities and cares put upon him. I hear that he has not neglected to meet with the Finance Committee for a day—even the day when the news reached him of his great affliction. This is real heroism."

Congregationalism in Philadelphia.—On last Sunday morning, at Concert Hall, there were held the opening services of a new Congregational church, being a movement long in contemplation, and which has grown up