

Banner and Advocate.

PITTSBURGH, OCTOBER 3, 1857.

TERMS.—\$1.00, in advance or in Clubs \$1.25, on delivery at residence of subscribers, \$1.75. See Prospectus, on Third Page. RENEWALS should be promptly made while before the year expires, that we may make full arrangements for a steady supply of THE BANNER AND ADVOCATE, and that we may have a renewal. If, however, in the haste of mailing, this signal should be omitted, we hope our friends will still not forget us. REMITTANCES.—Send payment by safe hands, when convenient. Or, send by mail, enclosing with ordinary care, and troubling nobody with a knowledge of what you are doing. For a large amount, send a Draft, or large notes. Forward two papers, send Gold or small notes. TO MAKE CHANGE, send postage stamps, or better still, send for more papers \$1 for seventy numbers, or \$1 for thirty-three numbers. DIRECT all Letters and Communications to REV. DAVID McKINNEY, Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE EDITOR expects to be at the Synods of Ohio, and Pittsburgh, and that a friend, who will attend to his business, will be at the Synod of Wheeling.

SUBSCRIBERS must not neglect us these hard times. Renew fully and promptly. Get your neighbors to subscribe. Send us good currency. As usual, where ministers or elders desire papers for their charges, they may send all the names for which they will be responsible; the payment to be made within a short time.

Board of Publication.

The Book-making department of this Board is so regulated as to supply itself with all needed funds, from sales. The Colporteur department depends mainly on the liberality of the churches. Colporteurs are bound to supply the destitute. They sell where they can, but their sales come not, and cannot be expected to come, to an amount adequate to the expenses. Hence the call upon the churches. See letter of the Corresponding Secretary.

Fifth Church, Pittsburgh.

There was quite an attentive and respectable congregation in this house, on last Sabbath, who evidently were much pleased and interested with a sermon, delivered by the Rev. Charles Beach, of Miss. A hope is entertained that Mr. Beach will preach on next Sabbath morning, at 10 1/2 o'clock, and in the afternoon, at 8 o'clock. Notices of the meetings will be given, in the secular papers of the city, on Saturday. Rouse's version of David's Psalms only, are used in praise by this congregation.

Minister Deceased.

REV. ROBERT GLENN.—In another column may be found a brief notice of the death of this beloved servant of Jesus Christ.

REV. JAMES CUNNINGHAM.—This venerable father entered into his rest on the 8th of September. He died at his residence in Martinsburg, Knox County, Ohio, as stated in the Presbyterian of the West, being in his eighty-sixth year. About fifty years ago he entered the ministry, and chose Ohio as the field of his labors. For some time he had been unable to preach. He departed in peace.

REV. T. GALT.—From the St. Louis Presbyterian we learn, that this brother died on the 12th of September. He suffered long from sickness, but his departure was "calm and peaceful as the setting sun." His age is not stated.

REV. T. HUNTER, of the Church of Scotland Mission, at Sealote, India, was murdered by the revolted Sepoys. He is spoken of as having been a devoted laborer.

Oahu College.

A College in the Sandwich Islands may be regarded as a wonder; but it is a reality. It is the appropriate fruit of Christianity, and it is, at the same time, an evidence of the progress of the Gospel in a little cluster of Islands, which in our younger years, were entirely heathen. At the late meeting of the American Board, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, formerly the Board's missionary, but now at the head of the Government's Board of Instruction, presented the claims of Oahu College. We quote from the Puritan Recorder.

Dr. Armstrong made a most animated and cogent appeal in behalf of the College. He had been twenty-five years absent from this country. He had now returned on business—not for his health; not to see his friends; not to tell the story, in general, of the success of Missions in the Sandwich Islands—but to present the subject of their effort for the establishment of a College. It had become a great question with the missionaries, what was to be done with their children. The Mission schools were entirely inadequate; especially so since the change in the relations of that Mission to the Board. If that was to be their home, and the home of their children and children's children, were they to be contented without any provision for their education, more than a common school education? In this feeling originated the idea of a College. They asked and obtained a good charter from the Government. The next want was a President. After a time, just the man appeared, in the Rev. Mr. Beckwith, whom the Trustees had appointed, and who had accepted their appointment.

Dr. Armstrong then asked a contribution to the endowment. The Sandwich Island Government had given \$10,000; the American Board, \$6,000; and \$34,000 were yet needed. The importance of the College was urged from the considerations that the missionaries' children, now one hundred and fifty in number, needed instruction; that it was cheaper to send the College and educate them there, than to bring them to this country; and that the establishment of the College, embraced Missionary Extension, which has already begun to take place, from the Sandwich Islands to the thousand Islands lying West of them.

For the encouraging of the audience, Dr. Armstrong alluded to the obsequies of the Mission at the Sandwich Islands. Forty thousand persons since the commencement have been received into the churches, of whom sixteen thousand have died in the faith. This success is wonderful. The work is the Lord's.

Asylums for Inebriates.

Intemperance is a monster vice. In the family, in society, its baneful effects can not be exaggerated. Our object is not to write an essay on the evils of drunkenness. Alas, the fruits of this crying sin, that ruins the bodies and souls of so many thousands of our people, both in town and country, are so patent, that all observers may behold them. The village must be small, in which a tavern has existed for a few years, and the rural district where a pest house of this kind has had time to produce its usual effects, must be limited, where there are not broken-hearted wives, and wretched, neglected children pining in want, because of intemperate husbands and fathers; or where there are not beggared fathers, whose homes are scenes of desolation because of the ruin which reckless and abandoned wives have caused.

Intemperance is not merely a sin that destroys the soul, but it is a disease, also, that overcomes the body. The use of alcoholic stimulants gradually brings the nervous system into such a state, that the victim of the fell habit loses all self-control, and yields to a demand for fresh excitement which is irresistible. Self respect dies out; the good will of the community, the regard of friends, the peace and comfort of home, the claims of a family, health, life, and even heaven itself—all are as nothing compared to the gratification of the fell craving for strong drink which leads the victim, bound and manacled, to his doom. Hence it is that the inebriate, so long as access can be had to the intoxicating beverage, will continue to drink, even though death and everlasting misery be in the cup. Medical men know this to be the case, and the melancholy experience of those who have suffered from the disgrace and waste of substance occasioned by this moral disease, know that we are not giving an overcharged picture of the drunkard's slavery. We have long felt that the nature of this disease suggests the only effectual remedy for its cure. So long as the victim of the vice can reach the instrument with which he injures himself, so long will he persist in doing himself harm. The only way, then, to deal with persons who have lost the power of self-government, is to place them in a situation where they can not find the means of gratifying the vicious appetite, and where there will be an opportunity given to the broken down frame to recuperate its energies. There is as urgent a necessity for the establishment of asylums for the drunken, as there is for medical hospitals for the insane. The State has an undoubted right to protect itself from the outrages and crimes which are committed by drunkards; and an appeal to the criminal calendar will show that a vast percentage of those cases which occupy the time of our civil Courts, are directly produced by the subjects of this vice. The citizens of the community have a right to adopt humane, moral, and legal means to save themselves from the oppressive rates which are levied on their property to support the families of those who ruin themselves by strong drink. And it is unquestionably an act of mercy to open the door of an institution where, under the protection of law, the suffering victim may be presented with an opportunity of escaping the ruin which stares him in the face, as he feels that he is gradually but certainly approaching the precipice over which, if not rescued by a hand stronger than his own, he is sure to be borne to an ignominious doom. The numbers of our people who have unfortunately fallen into this vice, are such, that one institution would not, we fear, suffice for the wants of a State. With a view, however, to afford the community the evidence which the beneficial working of such a Home would produce where total absence from intoxicating beverages, judicious medical treatment, and industrial occupation for the support of the inmates, and for their families, provided a surplus would remain from their labors, might be enjoyed, it is high time that a vigorous effort of enlightened philanthropists were put forth for the erection of such an establishment. We had hoped, that ere now, the effort which was commenced in the State of New York, would have been crowned with success; and that the institution would have been a model for others, which might have been rising rapidly in other districts of the country.

Who, in Pennsylvania, will undertake the labor of founding such a benevolent enterprise? The undertaking would not, we are inclined to believe, be of a herculean character. Funds would, we might hope, be forthcoming; and a charter, with judicious provisions, would doubtless be granted. Regulations as to the admission of residents would necessarily be somewhat similar in character to those which prevent fraud or cruelty in the case of patients in asylums for the insane. The testimony of medical men, and in many cases the authority of a jury of respectable citizens, would be needed to secure the removal of some cases to such an institution; while, with others, there would be no practical difficulty, whatever. A woman who has her circle of low-minded, tipping neighbors, and who, in their society, has fallen, and has ruined her family; might refuse to enter such a home, because of her professed regard for her children, but really from her attachment to the reprobate circle in which she was living. And yet her example is ruinous to her children, while in her daily practice she is wasting that which should procure their food and clothing. Her miserable husband, on his return to his cheerless apartments, not worthy of the name of home, is sure to find her incapable—her children cold and hungry; and yet, while he is broken-hearted and his young ones starving, he might be unable to persuade her, fallen as she is, to enter the Home, and aim at happier days. The decision of a jury—a large and dispassionate jury—should, in this case, be brought into operation, and their action should warrant her remission to the asylum, or the contrary. So also, in the case of a brutal husband, whose earnings are squandered in the tav-

ern, while his laborious wife is, with untiring industry and energy, procuring food, raiment, and a habitation for her beloved charge. The wretched man, who should be the provider for his household, is their curse, and he even becomes a drag on the wife, whose time and toil are so precious. When he knows that she is toiling for him, and that he may spend his time and means among his boon companions, it is not likely that he would voluntarily seek the shelter of a home where he might be reformed. Why then, as in the other case, should not the verdict of a jury decide on his being made an inmate of a place where he might support himself, and be delivered from the temptation under which he daily fell? Once parties were admitted, they would be occupied with such industrial occupations as would be remunerative, and thus their support might be provided for; and if no debt incumbered the asylum, there might, in some cases, be a margin of profit left for their families at home.

One idea we venture to suggest, which, we think, will commend itself to our readers, namely, that with a view to the support of such institutions where inebriates are to be reformed, a tax for their maintenance should be imposed on all taverns, and places licensed to sell intoxicating beverages; that is, if the community will still license, or tolerate this system of physical and moral destruction. Surely, the parties who profit by making drunkards, to the injury of society, are in justice bound to aid in their reformation. In the case of many inmates possessed of means, the establishment would only be esteemed because of its protective character. What such parties need is to be in a place where it is impossible to procure the means of injuring themselves, and where they would have time to recuperate. That under the careful regimen and management of a well-ordered institution, with medical aid, moral and religious culture, and healthful labor or occupation, there would, under the Divine blessing, be many who, in time, would be restored again to society, we doubt not. Time, however, and in many cases a long time, would be required to break down the evil habit, to restore the healthy tone of the stomach and nervous system, and to form the character anew.

Again, we say, who will step forth, and for the sake of perishing immigrants, for the relief of suffering children pining in want and wretchedness, broken-hearted wives and husbands bordering on despair, put forth a vigorous effort to establish such a Home? Who in Philadelphia, and who in Pittsburgh, will strive to bless the State, by founding such invaluable institutions?

Synod of Allegheny.

One of the benefits intended by the division of the old Synod of Pittsburgh, was that the two bodies thus formed, might be able to meet in places not large enough to accommodate the original body. The advantages to be secured by our ecclesiastical bodies meeting in various parts of the Church, are obvious to all. At one time, Philadelphia was considered to be the fixed place for the meeting of the General Assembly; and a few years ago no one thought of proposing any other place for the meeting of the Synod of Pittsburgh, than the city whose name it bears. But now other counsels prevail, and other places claim the privilege of entertaining these ecclesiastical bodies, and of being benefited by their presence. Erie, the place of meeting of the Synod of Allegheny, is on the extreme Northern border of its territory. By the old method of travel through Butler, Mercer, and Meadville, the distance from Pittsburgh is one hundred and twenty miles; but by the present route generally traveled, through Cleveland, the distance is doubled, but the time and fatigue greatly lessened. This city contains some eight thousand inhabitants, is beautifully located, and contains many private residences indicating taste and wealth. For a time after the completion of the railroad connexion between Buffalo and Cleveland its prosperity seemed greatly retarded; but during the last year, business has revived, and appearances of permanent growth begin to manifest themselves. The railroad outbreaks have ceased, but the sore has not been altogether healed, nor will the fatal effects of any such uprising soon disappear from any community that has been thus agitated.

The Episcopalians, Methodists, Associate Reformed, and Baptists, have, each, one church. There is a large Universalist Society, and the Roman Catholics have an immense edifice, always crowded at public service by the large population of that faith in the city and vicinity.

Until two years ago, there was only one Presbyterian church, and it was in connexion with the New School branch, of which the Rev. Dr. Lyon has been for many years the pastor. A short time ago a new organization was effected, in connexion with our branch of the Church, called the Park Church, which has hitherto occupied a public hall as a place of worship, but will, in a few weeks, enter the new, commodious, and attractive edifice now nearly completed; and it will be gratifying to those who have contributed to this enterprise, to know, that if the subscriptions are promptly paid, the house will be free from debt at its completion. The pastor, Rev. Wm. Blackburn, is greatly encouraged in his work, beloved by his people, and respected by the whole community.

But from the fact that many of the subscriptions, owing to changes in the circumstances of those making them, will not be met, there will be a deficiency of two thousand dollars. A member of the congregation has generously agreed to add one thousand dollars to his former contribution, upon condition that the Synod raise the remaining thousand dollars. The Synod appointed a committee to make immediate application to the churches for this purpose.

The Synod was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Robert Dilworth, D. D., from Eph. iii: 8; from which he deduced the qualifications, the work, and the results of a successful pastor. The attendance was not as large as would have been desirable, but still respectable in numbers. The greatest deficiency was on the part of the Eldership. The Presbytery of Allegheny City had but a single Elder.

On Friday afternoon, the inquiries with regard to Church Extension in the several Presbyteries, elicited a most interesting interchange of sentiment. It appeared that there was not a single person within the bounds of the Presbytery of Beaver, more than four or five miles distant from a regularly organized Presbyterian church. The Presbytery of Allegheny reported, that within its bounds, there was no room for further church extension. But far different is it in the Presbytery of Erie. This Presbytery comprises five Counties within its bounds, in one of which (Warren) there is not a single minister of our branch of the Church, and in the large, wealthy, and populous County of Erie, there are but two. The number of vacancies is so large, that the ministers are unable to supply them properly, without neglecting, unduly, their own flocks; whilst it is impossible to visit destitute places, or effect new organizations. And the whole field has been invaded by various errorists—infidels, Universalists and Unitarians—to a degree not surpassed in any quarter of the land. Certainly this field has strong claims upon the Synod to which it belongs; and upon the Board of Domestic Missions.

In view of the present state of religion, the few revivals, and the many difficulties in the way, it was determined to invite the Synods of Pittsburgh, Ohio, and Wheeling, to unite with this Synod, in convention, in the city of Pittsburgh, on the evening of the last Tuesday in November, to continue in session until the evening of the following Thursday, to consider the whole subject of a revival of religion in our entire Church, and especially in the Synods uniting in this Convention. The Synod of Ohio was requested to appoint one of its members to open the Convention with an appropriate sermon. Committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the Convention, and to bring the subject before the other Synods. This project, we doubt not, will gladden the hearts of many ministers, elders, and pious people. The happy effects of such a meeting, properly conducted, pervaded by the Spirit of all grace, cannot be over-estimated. We hope for a large attendance, and most blessed results.

An interesting address was delivered, on the subject of Church Extension, by the Rev. Henry I. Coe, Secretary of the Assembly's Committee for that purpose. Owing to the large amount of missionary territory within the bounds of the Presbytery of Erie, the local call for ministerial labor in that field, the inability of the Presbytery to provide the whole amount of necessary funds, and the straitened circumstances of the Board of Domestic Missions, the Synod determined to aid in this work, and appointed a committee for securing the requisite funds.

It was recommended that the condition and dangers of our missions in India be made a special subject of instruction and prayer, upon next Sabbath, and at the approaching monthly concert. Never were the prayers of God's people so necessary in the missionary operations of our Church, as at present; let them not be withheld.

The meeting of the Synod was remarkably harmonious. There was not a single judicial case, nor was there one exception taken or proposed to the records of any of the Presbyteries. And long will the kind attentions and generous hospitality of the citizens of Erie be remembered by those in attendance at this pleasant meeting.

Instruction of Servants. The Divine command recognizes authority as resident in the master of the house, and makes him responsible for, "his son, his daughter, his man-servant his maid-servant, and all that are within his gates." This principle is not sufficiently recognized by us. Our Church courts, our pulpits, and our presses should expound and urge it greatly more than they do. Where it is held that, rightfully, servants are born in the house, and bought with money, and retained for life, the religious duties of the master toward them are especially extensive and peremptory. Not more, as seems to us, is he bound to care for the souls of his children than of his domestics in such a case.

Such being our opinion, we are pleased to notice the following recent action of the Presbytery of Lexington, Va. The following paper in reference to the instruction of colored people was adopted by Presbytery.

The people of color sustain to this Presbytery relations which involve the heaviest responsibility. They are members of our families, they minister to our comfort, they are dependent upon our care. The Gospel distinctly recognizes and sanctions the relation subsisting between master and servant, and as distinctly points out the duties which each owes to the other. And among the duties which the master owes to his servant, that of supplying him with adequate religious instruction, is superior in importance and force to all others.

That this duty is sadly neglected, is evinced by the fact, that while this Presbytery reports to the General Assembly two thousand nine hundred and thirty-two white communicants, it reports only one hundred and fifty-four colored members, of whom more than one-half belong to the churches of New Providence and Bethel. If these two churches be subtracted from the rest, there will remain twenty-seven churches, with an aggregate colored membership of seventy-two, the average being a fraction over two to each church. Therefore, Resolved, That we deeply deplore our past neglect of this interesting portion of our people.

Resolved, That the clerical members of this body be affectionately exhorted more frequently to appropriate a portion of each sermon, and indeed to preach with more frequency for their special benefit.

Resolved, That the Ruling Elders and private members of the church be urged to be-

storation of ease and confidence in *The Money Market*, have been disappointed. The shrewdest conjectures have not been realized, and many hopes have been blasted. To give any definite opinion with regard to the financial condition of the great Metropolis is impossible. The troubles that began here are spreading rapidly over the whole country, until the ruin of many large business firms, and the temporary suspension of Banks throughout the North, West, and South-West, seems inevitable. Two things are certain. Merchants have held out inducements to purchase upon long credits to an enormous extent, and when the day of payment has arrived the claim is not met, and the creditor becomes the immediate sufferer. And many of the Banks for the purpose of putting their notes in circulation, have entrusted them to parties whose sureties have proved worthless. How far the present panic may extend, or when it will cease, no one can tell.

But notwithstanding the pecuniary difficulties, the people of New York, upon whose beneficence the calls of charity are more frequent than any where else in the country, do not withhold their benevolence. The sufferings and wants of the survivors of the *Ill-Fated Central America* have touched many hearts, and already \$14,000 have been contributed for their relief.

For two years and seven months a *Mormon Paper* was sustained in this city, but recently an order was given for discontinuing the paper and closing the houses of worship, from head quarters, in Utah, without assigning any reason. Fifteen men were connected with the paper, only one of whom was an American. Within the time specified they have been instrumental in forwarding three thousand eight hundred persons to Deseret, many of them of the very lowest class of European emigrants. Probably all the Mormons in this city and vicinity will remove to Utah in the Spring, although they are in a great quandary because of the present order. Nor are they satisfied with the conduct of Mr. Buchanan in appointing the present commander of the troops about to go to Utah.

Some time ago Bishop Hughes purchased the property of Mr. Forrest, the tragedian, on the Hudson, just above Yonkers, for \$100,000. On this property, which embraces forty acres, and is beautifully situated, a *New Convent* for the "Sisters of Charity" is about to be erected at a cost of \$140,000. The building will be two hundred and sixty-four feet long and eighty broad.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

BOSTON AND NEW ENGLAND. There are seasons of rest in every department of trade—times when but little inquiry is made, and few sales effected. And again there are occasions when but few commodities are brought into the market, or at least the number of new productions introduced is small. This has been the case with the *Book Trade* of Boston, for the last six months; it has been unusually quiet, and the critics have become almost restless with waiting for the appearance of new publications. So that there is great danger of undue severity or undue praise, when the new claimant for literary approbation comes before the public. But it must not be supposed that authors, editors, or presses have been idle. On the contrary, they have been unusually active, and the results of their labors are beginning to be made known.

The Boston publishers are bringing out a large number of valuable books, in the highest style of typographic art. The first two volumes of the great National work of Prof. Agassiz, entitled, "Contributions to the Natural History of the United States," will soon be issued by Little & Brown. The whole work will consist of ten volumes, and will cost subscribers \$120. The long list of names already received, warrants the publication, notwithstanding the great price. The same house has also issued the eighty-seventh volume of its excellent edition of the *British Poets*.

Among its large importations, is the eighth edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, for which it has the sole agency in the United States. This is a work of great and permanent value, the twelfth volume of which has been issued, extending to the letter M. The price is \$5.50 per volume. Another work to be had of the same publishers, is the letters of John Calvin, from the original manuscript, by Dr. Jules Bonnet, which amount to four octavo volumes, at \$2.50 per volume. This work will be highly valued by all Presbyterians, especially, because of its revelation of the true character of the great Reformer, who has been so grossly misrepresented by different parties.

We feel ourselves under obligations to mention another publication by the same house. In nothing concerning antiquity has there been greater ignorance, than with respect to its geography. The most of the Manuals on this subject are sadly defective, while many of them are utterly valueless. It is no uncommon thing to find men who can read the Greek and Roman Classics with great ease, who have no knowledge of the location of the empires, cities, battles, and peoples, of whom they are reading. And it is not strange; for their instructors have not been competent to the task, and they have not had the books from which reliable information could be had. This want is now supplied by the "Dictionary of Greek and Roman Geography," by Dr. Wm. Smith. Its value as a work of reference on the subject of which it treats, can scarcely be over-estimated. The cost is \$10.

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Various reasons have been assigned for the *Resignation of Judge Curtis*, of the Supreme Court of the United States; but this gentleman has declared the true cause to have been the small salary, totally inadequate to the wants of his family. Excessive salaries are a great evil, but insufficient salaries will not command the highest legal ability for our Courts. In some of our Courts, the compensation is so low as to keep from the judicial bench any but second, or even third rate lawyers.

It is reported that the *American Board of Foreign Missions* has received a legacy of one hundred thousand dollars, from the late Henry Dwight, of Geneva, New York. Mr. Dwight was educated for the ministry, but his voice failing, he was compelled to choose another vocation, and became a banker. For years he had been a liberal, but unostentatious contributor, to many benevolent objects.

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stitution of ease and confidence in *The Money Market*, have been disappointed. The shrewdest conjectures have not been realized, and many hopes have been blasted. To give any definite opinion with regard to the financial condition of the great Metropolis is impossible. The troubles that began here are spreading rapidly over the whole country, until the ruin of many large business firms, and the temporary suspension of Banks throughout the North, West, and South-West, seems inevitable. Two things are certain. Merchants have held out inducements to purchase upon long credits to an enormous extent, and when the day of payment has arrived the claim is not met, and the creditor becomes the immediate sufferer. And many of the Banks for the purpose of putting their notes in circulation, have entrusted them to parties whose sureties have proved worthless. How far the present panic may extend, or when it will cease, no one can tell.

But notwithstanding the pecuniary difficulties, the people of New York, upon whose beneficence the calls of charity are more frequent than any where else in the country, do not withhold their benevolence. The sufferings and wants of the survivors of the *Ill-Fated Central America* have touched many hearts, and already \$14,000 have been contributed for their relief.

For two years and seven months a *Mormon Paper* was sustained in this city, but recently an order was given for discontinuing the paper and closing the houses of worship, from head quarters, in Utah, without assigning any reason. Fifteen men were connected with the paper, only one of whom was an American. Within the time specified they have been instrumental in forwarding three thousand eight hundred persons to Deseret, many of them of the very lowest class of European emigrants. Probably all the Mormons in this city and vicinity will remove to Utah in the Spring, although they are in a great quandary because of the present order. Nor are they satisfied with the conduct of Mr. Buchanan in appointing the present commander of the troops about to go to Utah.

Some time ago Bishop Hughes purchased the property of Mr. Forrest, the tragedian, on the Hudson, just above Yonkers, for \$100,000. On this property, which embraces forty acres, and is beautifully situated, a *New Convent* for the "Sisters of Charity" is about to be erected at a cost of \$140,000. The building will be two hundred and sixty-four feet long and eighty broad.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

BOSTON AND NEW ENGLAND. There are seasons of rest in every department of trade—times when but little inquiry is made, and few sales effected. And again there are occasions when but few commodities are brought into the market, or at least the number of new productions introduced is small. This has been the case with the *Book Trade* of Boston, for the last six months; it has been unusually quiet, and the critics have become almost restless with waiting for the appearance of new publications. So that there is great danger of undue severity or undue praise, when the new claimant for literary approbation comes before the public. But it must not be supposed that authors, editors, or presses have been idle. On the contrary, they have been unusually active, and the results of their labors are beginning to be made known.

The Boston publishers are bringing out a large number of valuable books, in the highest style of typographic art. The first two volumes of the great National work of Prof. Agassiz, entitled, "Contributions to the Natural History of the United States," will soon be issued by Little & Brown. The whole work will consist of ten volumes, and will cost subscribers \$120. The long list of names already received, warrants the publication, notwithstanding the great price. The same house has also issued the eighty-seventh volume of its excellent edition of the *British Poets*.

Among its large importations, is the eighth edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, for which it has the sole agency in the United States. This is a work of great and permanent value, the twelfth volume of which has been issued, extending to the letter M. The price is \$5.50 per volume. Another work to be had of the same publishers, is the letters of John Calvin, from the original manuscript, by Dr. Jules Bonnet, which amount to four octavo volumes, at \$2.50 per volume. This work will be highly valued by all Presbyterians, especially, because of its revelation of the true character of the great Reformer, who has been so grossly misrepresented by different parties.

We feel ourselves under obligations to mention another publication by the same house. In nothing concerning antiquity has there been greater ignorance, than with respect to its geography. The most of the Manuals on this subject are sadly defective, while many of them are utterly valueless. It is no uncommon thing to find men who can read the Greek and Roman Classics with great ease, who have no knowledge of the location of the empires, cities, battles, and peoples, of whom they are reading. And it is not strange; for their instructors have not been competent to the task, and they have not had the books from which reliable information could be had. This want is now supplied by the "Dictionary of Greek and Roman Geography," by Dr. Wm. Smith. Its value as a work of reference on the subject of which it treats, can scarcely be over-estimated. The cost is \$10.

Messrs. Gould and Lincoln have issued a book that will be eagerly sought by the young, styled the "Poor Boy and Merchant Prince," or elements of success drawn from the life and character of the late Amos Lawrence, by Rev. Wm. M. Thayer.

Various reasons have been assigned for the *Resignation of Judge Curtis*, of the Supreme Court of the United States; but this gentleman has declared the true cause to have been the small salary, totally inadequate to the wants of his family. Excessive salaries are a great evil, but insufficient salaries will not command the highest legal ability for our Courts. In some of our Courts, the compensation is so low as to keep from the judicial bench any but second, or even third rate lawyers.

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