Banner and Advocate.

PITTSBURGH, MAY 8, 1858.

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DIRECT all Letters and Communications, to REV. DAVID McKINNEY, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Young Men's Christian Association of Pittsburgh.

This Association was exceedingly active during the Winter, in relieving the wants of the poor, and speaking words of encouragement to the depending. Through this agency, 27,020 bushels of coals have been distributed to 1,788 applicants, and $902.63 in money, together with flour, groceries, shoes, and clothing, amounting to $900.

West Liberty University.

The Executive Committee of this contemplated Institution, under the auspices of the Synods of Ohio and Cincinnati, give notice that no idea of abandoning the original location and character is entertained; and that there is no foundation for the report that has gone abroad, that there is an intention on the part of the Committee to purchase Antioch College. This is the Institution of which Horace Mann is President, and which is supported by that party of the Unitarians and Universalists styled *Christians*. For some time its pecuniary affairs have been greatly embarrassed.

The Twenty-First Annual Report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

The following abstract is given:

The receipts from all sources, (including a special contribution of $18,112.57 to repair losses in India,) have been $223,977.79.

The expenditure has been $207,051.51 (the sum especially donated for India, $18,112.57, being reserved,) leaving a balance against the Board of $1,186.29.

Thirty Missions, laborers have been sent out during the year, twelve of whom were returned missionaries, and ten others are waiting opportunities to embark.

Under the direction of the Board, there are nine missionaries among the Indians; one to the Jews, and one to the Chinese in California, within the boundaries of the United States; two in South America; two in Western Africa; one in Siam; three in China; two in India, embracing fifteen stations, extending over a region of country of more than a thousand miles in length; besides which, pecuniary aid has been extended to the Evangelical Societies in Belgium, Paris, Geneva, and to the Waldensian Synod.

Connected with these various missions, there are one hundred and seventy missionary laborers from this country, fifty-four native helpers, fifty principal stations and out-stations, twenty-two organized churches, and nearly five thousand native youths under Christian training in the schools connected with these missions.

Western Theological Seminary.

The closing exercises of the term were held in the First Presbyterian church, Allegheny, on Wednesday evening, the 28th ult. To a large and attentive audience, was present, and the addresses delivered were received with a very high degree of approbation.

The following are the names of the graduating class of the Seminary, viz.: James W. Allison, John E. Annan, Calvin Barr, D. Henry Barron, J. Shields Boyd, Jas. S. Elder, Jas. A. Ewing, Jas. T. Fredericks, John R. Hanna, Jesse W. Hamilton, John C. Irwin, B. Oliver Junkin, William B. Keeling, John Y. McCartney, James A. M'Intire, Wm. B. M'Kee, Robert R. Moore, Wm. P. Moore, Wm. D. Patterson, Geo. K. Scott, Samuel M. Sharp, Bernard W. Slagle, Geo. W. Sloan, Geo. Meredith Spargrove, Daniel W. Townsend—25.

J. Power Smith and Geo. Graham, of this class, were providentially prevented from completing the whole time in the Seminary required by the General Assembly, were awarded approving certificates for the time of their attendance.

The following members of the graduating class delivered addresses at the close of the Session, on the subjects connected with their names respectively: Wm. B. Keeling, "Presbyterianism Subsidiary;" Wm. D. Patterson, "Ancient and Modern Idols;" John E. Annan, "Inspiration;" John C. Irwin, "Progressive Character of Prophecy;" John Y. M'Cartney, "The Interceding Saviour." Geo. M. Spargrove, "Imputation." Calvin Barr, "The Reformers before the Reformation." D. Henry Barron, "Calvin and Servetus."

Diplomas and Farewell Address by Dr. Elliott. Delivery of Bibles by Dr. Plumer. Response to the Faculty by Daniel W. Townsend. Closing prayer by Prof. Wilson. Benediction by Dr. Elliott.

This is a class of remarkably fine and accomplished young men; and we learn that most of them are already engaged to different vacancies, and that the calls for their services far exceed the supply. There is a larger roll of students than ever before—*ninety-five* in all—and the Seminary is fully manned. The Professors are hard at work, and are proposing a schedule of studies for a fourth year, to be optional with the students. It comprises some very important items of completion, and presents the strongest inducements to remain for a fourth year, which is now becoming more common. This institution is doing a most important work for the Church and the world. Of its prosperity, all will be delighted to hear, and for its continued success, Christians will labor and pray.

Quarterly Review of Literature.

NUMBER III.

[BY OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, April 1st, 1858.

To begin with a few "odds and ends," only imagine the Persian Ambassador at Paris, Ferukh Khan, making a regular collection of the classics *in usum Delphini* for the Shah and his Court. Horace and Virgil, to say nothing of Livy and Tacitus, will be somewhat impracticable to a Persian Prince, all perfume and luxurious indolence. Their own Hafiz will still maintain his supremacy, and if any Western rival be recognized, it will be some free translation of the "Lalla Rookh," of Thomas Moore, who once was humorously apostrophised,

"You lucky man,
Your days are known at Ispahan."

The Shah of Persia, however, would be better employed in studying the ancient classics, than he was in inditing letters twelve months ago to the King of Delhi, stirring him up to revolt against the English and rousing in the old bigot's heart the exterminating hate expressed in the couplets, (lately discovered) of which I recently sent you a copy.

Of the current small-talk LITERATURE OF ASTRONOMY, one is reminded by the recent eclipse. Astronomers are now on the *qui vive* for no less than three periodical comets, viz., Faye's, Encke's, and the great comet of 1556. A new claimant for the honor of the discovery of the sixth comet of 1857, has appeared in the person of Mr. Van Arsdale, of Newark, New Jersey. But, then, we are told that unfortunately his claim does not hold good, since he did not detect the comet till 7.55 P. M.; whereas, the other claimant Mr. Donati first saw it at 7.5 P. M. on the evening of the 11th November last; and consequently, taking into consideration the difference of longitude between Florence and Newark, the latter gentleman was the prior discoverer by several hours. For my part, I think these fine fellows should be voted, like Castor and Pollux, as *scientific twins*. What though one is born into the world of fame "several hours" sooner than the other, are they not twins still? All honor to them both!

MILITARY LITERATURE is quite in vogue just now. The first of four volumes of "The Wellington Supplementary Dispatches and Memoranda," chiefly relating to India 1797–1805, has appeared. It is announced as edited by the present Duke of Wellington. But this editing is but another illustration—and at the cost of Mr. Montgomery Martin, the *real* editor—of the

"Sic vos non vobis, vellera fertes oves."

The public, the reviewers, know nothing of this, acute as the latter are. I believe the knowledge of the fact is confined to myself and the readers of the *Banner*. They may recollect an account of a visit paid by me last Summer, to Apsley House, and of the discovery then made that Mr. Montgomery Martin (a real *literateur*,) occupied a suite of apartments there, and was engaged—for pay and pudding—in the arduous task of opening the iron-hooped dispatch packages with which the old Duke's cellars are half filled. This is a task for which the present Duke has neither the time nor the talent. No doubt he has prompted the work and exercises a general supervision over it, and for this much, he deserves credit.

As a counterpart and contrast, too, to the great Duke's dispatches, volume first of the great Napoleon's letters, in magnificent typography, has just been published in Paris. It comprises his correspondence from the Siege of Toulon (where his genius first shone forth, as Lieutenant of Artillery,) to the discomfiture of Wurmser the Austrian General in the first campaign of Italy. The preface is drawn up by a commission of Marshalls of sword and pen, and it is to eclipse, according to that document, the Commentaries of Julius Cæsar.

But the "Personal Narrative of the Siege of Lucknow, from its Commencement to its Relief, by L. E. R. Rees, one of the surviving Defenders," is the book of the hour. I lately read, rather devoured it, when traveling by railway, and found it intensely and painfully fascinating. Inglis' dispatch was in itself perfect, as coming from the brave man who, succeeding to the command after Lawrence and Banks had fallen, reminds us of King Henry's exclamation when he heard of Percy's death:

"I have a hundred captains in England," he said,
"As good as ever was he."

At "Staff Officer," also, and another soldier have given accounts of this wondrous defence, so full of heroism and endurance on the part of the beleaguered band. But Mr. Rees, as has been said, "relates all the details in the chatty tone, and with the freedom from professional reticences, of one who was neither born nor bred a soldier, but had soldiering thrust upon him and was obliged to make the best of it." I presume the book has appeared in the United States by this time; but I am tempted to give the following extract, just to give your civilian readers a notion of the feelings of a naturally brave man, although a civilian, when first brought under fire:

I must confess that for some minutes I felt the fear of death predominant within me. I was certain that this was our last day upon earth. I accordingly said a short prayer, committed myself to God's care, mentally bade adieu to those I loved best in this world, fired my musket, and with the firm resolution to die like a soldier, prepared to meet the combat.

My selfish fear soon wore off. As the fire became more and more infernal, and as we saw their men boldly advancing, my fear gave way to a nervous excitement, and at *last the desire to kill and be revenged predominated over every other feeling.* * * I no longer thought of myself, but of the numbers I could kill.

After the Afghanistan war "Lady Sale's Journal" was eagerly read. We are deprived of a similar work by the loss of Lady Inglis' journal of the siege of Lucknow, in the late wreck of the *Ava* at Ceylon.

Some of your readers, when visiting Europe, have no doubt gazed on the statue of Guttenberg, the immortal printer, at Mayence, on the Rhine. There it stands unharmed (by the recent dreadful explosion in the barracks,) as when I saw it in 1853. But what think you of no less a sum than £600 recently paid for "Guttenberg's Psalter?" It certainly seems exorbitant. But our book-collectors who have means, are not easily baffled in their purpose. There now rests on the shelves of Earl Spencer's library at Althorp Park, the "Decameron of Boccacio," printed by Vaidarfer, at Venice, in 1471. It was actually sold, some time ago, for £2,260 by the then Marquis of Blandford, and at the dispersion of his library, it was purchased for Earl Spencer—formerly an unsuccessful competitor—for the sum of £900.

The recent SALE OF AUTOGRAPHS AND LETTERS, and the prices realized, are also worthy of notice. They were as follows—Roger Ascham, signature, £4; St. Vincent de Paul, letter about the Jesuit Missions, £11 2s. 6d.; Voltaire, letter, £4 16s.; General Wolfe, letter, £3 7s.; Cardinal Wolsey, a signature, £6 6s.; Gainsborough, a letter, £2 12s.; Rev. C. Churchill, (Hogarth's "Bruiser,") letter to Garrick, £4 4s.; Dr. Johnson, short letter to Garrick, £10 10s.; David Garrick, letter about Home's "Douglas," £2 5s.; *Rev. J. Home*, letter in answer to the same, £3 8s. The last of these, one would like to see, and then go back in thought to the action of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland anent stage plays in general, and the *Reverend* author of "Douglas" in particular.

Of CURIOUS BOOKS AND TRACTS sold by auction this week are some, the major part of which were collected by a Divine, during the latter part of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries. They comprise many curious pieces relating to Charles I., Cromwell, the Civil Wars, the Pretender, the Hanoverian Succession, Military and Naval Operations, Theological Treatises and Controversies, Forms of Prayer, Devotional Poetry, Quakerism and William Penn, Travels, America, the Indies, Astrology, Witchcraft, as well as Spanish books in Theological, Historical, and general Literature, and numerous valuable manuscripts—some "heraldic"—of the times of Charles II.

Speaking of curious books, I hope your readers are not unacquainted with the writings of Mr. Timbs, author of "The Curiosities of History," and other works. His antiquarian tastes have led him into the same path of exploration with Mr. Peter Cunningham, of old literary haunts in London, and give a zest to all he writes. He is just bringing out "The School-Days of Eminent Men," perhaps suggested by the repeated allusions lately to Havelock, the "Old Phloss" (old philosopher,) and thoughtful boy of the Charter House. This book will have a great run at Rugby, Harrow, Eton, and all over the Schools and Colleges of the land, as well as among the general public.

The *Literary Gazette*, which is more trustworthy in matters affecting religion than the *Athenæum*, which was long presided over by W. Jerdan, Esq., but latterly fell off under other management, is likely to re-assert its vigor under the editorship of the Rev. Mr. Jephson, a Fellow of the Society of the Antiquarics. And talking of antiquaries, a Mr. Joseph Ellis, of Brighton, writes to the *Society of Arts Journal*, that he has succeeded in closely imitating, if not in actually reviving the INK OF THE ANCIENTS. By making a solution of shellac with borax in water, and adding a suitable proportion of pure lamp black, an ink is producible which is indestructible by time or chemical agents, and which, on drying, will present a polished surface, as with the ink found on the Egyptian papyri.

To the LEARNED SOCIETIES of London, I believe, I have not adverted in former notices of this kind. These meet weekly, and the names of the most eminent are associated with them. The Society of Arts, the Chemical, the Geological, the Linnean, the Zoological, the Geographical, the Antiquaries, the Numismatic, the Royal Institution, the R. S. of Literature, the Astronomical, have each their special votaries. There is a fine spirit of freemasonry in these institutions—if not to one another, at least toward kindred Societies in other parts of the world.

The Annual Congress of all the *Learned Societies in Paris*, is to be held at Paris during the present month. Literature and Science are, doubtless, the resort and solace of many a Frenchman, who, but for Imperialism, would play a great part in the forum of political debate. It makes one sad to dwell on such a theme in this connexion; so let us leave it, hoping for the dawn of a better day, when even in France, science, scholarship, and liberty, shall swell the train and triumph of heaven-born truth.

A LOST CLASSIC, hitherto supposed to be "Like the lost Pleiad, found no more below," has lately been brought to light in a Funeral Oration, by Hyperides, who was the great opponent of Demosthenes, and the cause—by his eloquent invective—of the banishment of that thunderer from Athens. A series of discovery began in 1847, when Mr. Arden, F. S. A., then on a journey of discovery at Luxor, in Egypt, obtained from some Arabs, for three hundred and fifty piastres, a small roll of papyrus, found in a tomb at Thebes. Two orations were written thereon. The next discovery was of that against Demosthenes. The Funeral Oration is the last. It has beautiful passages, which are intended to console the living for the loss of friends; and there is a remarkable clause in the concluding sentence, which approaches as near to revelation as heathen philosophy could do, as to man's immortality. Here it is:

"If death is the state of those who have not been born, they are released from disease and grief, and from all the accidents to which the life of man is liable; *but if, as we suppose*, there remain in the *unseen world, sense and capacity of Divine favor*, none can have a better title to it, than those who have vindicated the profaned majesty of the gods." And again: "How can we talk of them as having quitted life, and not rather as having been regenerated by a new birth, far more glorious than their first!"

The work is edited from the papyrus itself, (now in the British Museum,) of the whole of which there is an engraved *fac simile*.

"Studies of Homer and the Homeric Age," is the title of a new Book, by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M. P. As a Parliamentary orator, I have tried to make your readers familiar with his person and style. Of his scholarly attainments, this work is an evidence. He discusses "The genuineness and authenticity of the Homeric Poems;" "The place of Homer in Classical Education;" (considerably below, he thinks, what is demanded,) and the "Historic Aims of Homer;" in which he places his authority, as a historian, very high. He treats, also, of the probable trustworthiness of the text, the Ethnology of Homer, Olympus, and the Religion of the Homeric Age—Geography—points of the Poetry of Homer—the Politics of the Homeric Age. This summary will, I trust, not be uninteresting to the Divines and scholars who may honor this letter with their perusal.

Henry VIII, strange to tell, is the hero of a new "History of England," by Mr. Froude, who has achieved notoriety, if not fame, by making that "monster" and "Blue Beard" of real history, almost the "faultless monster" of a poet's dream. He, the said "Bluff Hal," was not at all so naughty in the matrimonial line, as is generally supposed. He was all unselfish in his changes and his beheadings. Jane Seymour's death left "a child to be taken care of;" and "Henry, suffering deeply from his loss, desired, at first, to *evade a duty in which he had little interest* at any time, and hoped to be spared," but the Privy Council were inexorable in their urgency, and so Anne, of Cleves, was selected. She was divorced because ugly, and because there was no prospect of children, &c., &c. And so *all* his doings were just; all the courtiers who suffered, deserved their fate; and the last of the Henries was one of the greatest and best of sovereigns! 'Tis thus talent, starting a theory, virtually endorses a great and mischievous falsehood; and labors hard to "make the good appear the better reason." I cannot recommend this work as worthy of a place in any of your College Libraries.

Cardinal Wiseman has favored the world with "Personal Recollections of the Last Four Popes." He includes in these reminiscences, Pius VII, the prisoner of Napoleon I, and Gregory XVII, the jolly and gay. Independent of the subjects which as portraits, are of course overcolored—of the style, which, as usual, is meretricious and florid, and of the sneers at the liberty of the press in this country—which the *Athenæum* reminds the author, is most injurious to himself—there is a good deal in this book that is interesting in the way of personal *memoranda*, in connexion with Rome, the Vatican, and other matters, Italian, literary and Ecclesiastical. It will doubtless find its place, for the season, in all the circulating libraries.

If the Cardinal, as some think, aims at the Pontificate himself, (supposing Pio Nono to resign, or to die before himself,) it will require somebody more trust worthy than a Churchman to give *his* antecedents in connexion with his doings in England. He is a scholar, a linguist, and a man of varied attainments, but somehow, cunning, ostentation, and duplicity, are popularly associated with his name. His literary *forgeries* in matters of controversy have, ere now, been detected and exposed, but in spite of this, in one notorious instance, he "keeps never minding," and continues the alleged quotation, as a veritable prop and pillar to his argument!

The old spirit of *malignant Jacobitism* peeps out in such works as "Memoirs of James Graham, First Marquis of Montrose, from 1612 to 1650, by Mark Napier, Advocate," and "Memoirs of Montrose, by James Grant," which last is denounced by the publishers of Napier's book, as "an invasion of literary property, legal steps being taken to stop and suppress the same." The memory of the so-called "illustrious and much maligned Montrose," must thus be left to one devoted defender. It is a bad sign of some of the highest classes in Scotland, to see their zeal so fierce in favor of the old brood of the persecutors of the Covenanters of Scotland. It is almost invariably accompanied by Semi-Tractarian sympathies. In their eyes, Claverhouse was the attractive hero which Sir Walter Scott painted him in his "Old Mortality," and not the brutal murderer of the innocent, which Dr. McCrie, in his famous Review of "The Tales of my Landlord," long since proved him to be, to the no small confusion of the great Novelist. No doubt even the faults of a Montrose might be exaggerated, but "facts are stubborn things."

The works of Daniel Wilson, late Bishop of Calcutta, are about to be published, comprising Sermons preached in England and India, Diocesan Charges, Lectures on the Lord's Day and on the Atonement, Expository Lectures on the Colossians, and on the External and Internal Evidences of Christianity. With *two* of these works the Christian public is already tolerably familiar. His views of the Sabbath question, and his "Evidences," are admirable for their Scriptural fullness, as well as their clearness and *vigor*. He was a man of the right stamp, and he proved more and more, up till his dying day, what he wrote to his son, (the Vicar of the parish where I write, and in which he himself wrought a mighty revolution, years ago, in favor of Evangelism,) that "*prayer is the* KEY *of heaven*."

"A Memoir of the late Rev. Robert Nesbit, Missionary of the Free Church of Scotland at Bombay," has just been published, (by Messrs. Nesbit,) from the pen of the Rev. Murray Mitchell, junior companion, a laborer in the same field. Mr. Nesbit was in this country a few years ago, and left on my own mind a profound impression of masculine intellect, and of great powers, all consecrated to the noblest of causes. After a short respite, he went back to fall suddenly, in the high places of the field, in the maturity of his powers.

The publication of the "Sermons preached on Special Occasions, by the late John Harris, D.D." is now complete in two volumes. These discourses are very elegant in style, but I question if they will be *popular* in the *trade*-sense of the word, any more than sermons of far less merit.

Dr. Wylie, of Edinburgh, has just brought out "Wanderings and Musings in the Valleys of the Waldenses," the result of personal observation. The merits of his Prize Essay on "The Papacy" are, I presume, known to many in the United States, and as for his "Pilgrimage to the Alps and the Tiber," it contains such pictures of skies, and sunsets, and scenery, as no hand but that of a real poet-painter could draw. Look at the *personnel* of the man, or listen to him as a preacher or speaker, and you would not suspect the "hidden soul of harmony" within.

A work called "The Protoplast," has reached a third edition. Contents: The First Day; The First Man; The First Blessing; The First Sabbath, &c., &c., &c.

Mr. Ryle is giving to the Church of Christ another valuable contribution, in his "Expository Thoughts on the Gospels, with the Text Complete." These "Thoughts" appear in monthly parts, and afterwards in volumes.

LENT SERMONS form part of the Theological Literature, peculiar to this season of the year. Thus we have, "Lenten Sermons," preached at Oxford, by Bishop Wilberforce and Professor Stanley; on the Repentance of David, by the Bishops of Oxford and Lincoln, and Mr. Hoskins; on the Repentance of Esau, by the Bishop of Salisbury; and two others, on the Repentance of Judas; two sermons, also, on the Repentance of Ahab; one on the Convictions of Balaam; two on the Goodness of King Josiah; and one on the Convictions of Pilate. All these topics are suggestive to preachers, independent of the season in the Church Calendar, which called forth sermons thereon during the last seven weeks.

The *Union* party are sufficiently busy and impudent in publishing any thing and every thing which they think conducive to the success of their conspiracy. Its end and object is the union of the Anglican, Roman, and Greek Churches. "*Prayers for the Dead*," figure prominently among their publications. Of course they fall back on what they call the primitive doctrine on this subject, and ignore the grossness of the modern purgatory of Rome, and its cleansing flames. But traitors, un-English, they are, in this and all their movements.

The *Stars and the Angels*, (Menzies, Edinburgh,) is an attempt to harmonize, after a new fashion, Science and Revelation. There is much that is able in it, but the views of the writer on the nature of the Angels, demoniac possession, as well as his strange theory that the brain is the residence of "the spirit," and the ganglionic nerves that of the soul, are, to say the least, extraordinary.

"*A gentleman*" offers prizes of one hundred guineas, and of fifty guineas, for Prize Essays—on what subject? Why, he laments, that although the general population has doubled, the *Society of Friends* is less in number than at the beginning of the century. He believes that it was once a powerful witness to the world as to some errors to which it was most prone, and to some truths the most necessary. But this witness, having become more and more feeble, he is anxious to obtain light as to this change. He has asked three gentlemen to be adjudicators, who have all some knowledge of the Society, although not of it. Professor Maurice is one, Professor Nicholl, (of Glasgow,) is a second, and a Rev. E. L. Bryce, Gravesend, is the third. And so, having got thus, first into Bishopsgate, (City,) on one of those days when Quakers, male and female, are seen trooping from their meeting house, and thence across the Atlantic to Pennsylvania, and among the broad-brimmed *venerabiles* of Philadelphia, my space warns me that I must abruptly close, asking forgiveness for the incompleteness of this quarterly resume of literature.

J. W.

P. S.—Our Quarterlies being all re-published with you, I say nothing of them at present, except as to the *Westminster*, to add to your recent article, on its recent blasphemies, "*Caveat emptor*."

Home and Foreign Record.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

This Board has been able to meet all its engagements during the year, and to have, as usual, a surplus at the close. But unfortunately, in the month of March, there was a falling off of $10,279.89, in the amount received, compared with the previous month. It is perfectly evident that such a large and rapid diminution will speedily exhaust the sum now on hands, and cripple, sadly, the operations of the Board, if continued. This must not be; friends of Domestic Missions must rally to their support. The reports from the missionaries are highly encouraging.

RECEIPTS for the month: at Philadelphia, $8,909.12; at Louisville, $1,108.07. Total, $5,017.19.

We hope we will never have to present so small a monthly contribution, to this cause again.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The number of candidates will not vary materially from that of the last year. But large additions are expected next year, owing to the precious revivals that have been enjoyed by many of the churches. Revivals are productive of large accessions to the ministerial force. The churches have responded so promptly that this Board has met all its claims, for the last year; but funds will be needed for the August appropriations.

RECEIPTS: at Philadelphia, $5,924.32; at Pittsburgh, $195.72; at Louisville, $216.70. Total, $6,141.02.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

There is intelligence from Africa, China, South America, India, and the Indian tribes. The health of the missionaries is generally good, and their work is successfully prosecuted. Mrs. Campbell and her children arrived in England at the beginning of March; and Mr. Orbison is expected home in a few days. These persons are from the India Missions. All that will probably ever be learned of our Futtehgurh missionaries, is recorded on our first page.

RECEIPTS for the month, $18,160.89. Receipts from friends in India, during the year, $5,672.31.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

This Board presents an abstract of its Report to the General Assembly. The total distribution for the year has been three hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred and forty-six volumes, and two millions five hundred and eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven pages of Tracts. The amount received from sales of books, tracts, and Sabbath School *Visitors*, has been $30,842 86, being a decrease of $6,581 52 on the sales of the previous year. The aggregate of receipts has been $126,960 28, an increase of $7,639 25 over the former year. The total expenditures have been $106,801.68, leaving a balance in the treasury of $20,158.60. But we are told this will be rapidly called for by the renewed and enlarged operations of the publishing department.

RECEIPTS for the month: Contributions, $1,560.88; sales, $3,369.81. Total, $4,930.69.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

The receipts for the year are slightly in advance of the previous year. The donations in March were especially gratifying; they amounted to $9,931.46. A large number of applications for aid is now on hands.

Editorial Correspondence.

CAIRO, April 29th, 1858.

The uncertainty and delays in traveling on the Western waters, is no small annoyance. The editor, and some of his brethren who desired to have full time to reach the Assembly without even seeming to encroach upon the day of sacred rest, left their homes in due season to reach St. Louis on Saturday, the 24th. This they readily accomplished by rail. The Line Steamer, *Philadelphia*, was advertised to leave St. Louis on Monday, her regular day, at 10 o'clock A. M. This she failed to do, partly owing to detention in New Orleans, and finally to the breaking of a shaft. This caused a detention of Delegates in St. Louis, till Wednesday, the 28th. To be detained two whole days and a half, after having rested the half of Saturday, and all of Sabbath, is no pleasing incident, in these *fast times*; but it is one of those things which the sovereigns of the floating palaces on these great rivers, sometimes find themselves obliged to inflict upon such as are dependent on their movements.

Our journey from Pittsburgh to St. Louis was, upon the whole, pleasant. The Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Road, carried us delightfully to Crestline. Thence to Indianapolis we had one of the roughest rides, to which we were ever subjected, on rails which did not lie crosswise. At Indianapolis we were detained five hours; and thence to St. Louis, there were some detentions. These were not accidental. They belong to the arrangement, and are a serious objection to the route. We would advise the Managers to obviate them speedily, if they wish to make their route a favorite.

St. Louis is a great place—a wonderful place—but we have no great talent at description; and we do not, just now, feel much in the mood of moralizing. But a fellow traveler will make up all our deficiencies.

From St. Louis to this place we had a delightful passage. The Commissioners to the Assembly, with a few female friends who accompany them, number seventy-two passengers. Here we have just received between thirty and forty more, all joyfully entertained on the *City of Memphis*, Capt. Wm. M. Kountz. We are, just now, endeavoring to negotiate with our commander, to lie over on the Sabbath, for a reasonable compensation, thus to keep the day of sacred rest, and then sail in company to New Orleans; and to reach the place in time for the opening of the Assembly. It is a pity that the regulations of business on this noble river, do not recognize the Sabbath; but, as things are, we have some hopes of being able to succeed in having this craft rest for once.

Our regulations for daily worship are, family devotions at 6½ A. M.; preaching at 10 A. M.; Reading the Scriptures, singing, exhortations and prayer, from 8 to 9 P. M. Dr. Hoge, of Columbus, Ohio, preached to day; Mr. Findley, of Mercer, Pa., is to preach to-morrow.

We bid our readers *good-bye*, referring them, for a more satisfactory account of things, to the correspondence to which allusion has been made.

The Church of God.

The work on this subject by the Rev. Stuart Robinson, late of Danville Theological Seminary, which has been announced for some months past, is now issued from the press. The object of the book is to discuss the idea, structure, and functions of the Church under the four following heads, viz.:

1. The relation of the idea of the Church to the plan of redemption ideally in the eternal purpose of God.
2. The relation of the idea of the Church to the mode and structure, and the subject-matter of the revelation of the Divine purpose in the Scriptures.
3. The relation to the idea of the Church thus obtained, of the principles of spiritual government, as set forth in the Scriptures; and,
4. The relation to the idea of the Church, of the ordinances of worship, and the agencies appointed to the Church according to the Scriptures.

We have only space here to say that the book is a valuable contribution to the literature of the country, and the age, on the doctrine of the Church. The contents of the Appendix are more than usually interesting. They are:

1. Ane Schort Somme of the First Buik of Discipline.
2. The Second Buik of Discipline, or Heads and Conclusions of the Policie of the Kirk.
3. Robert Baillie's Letter, 1643.
4. Extracts from Gillespie's Notes of Procedure in the Westminster Assembly.
5. Votes passed in the Westminster Assembly, concerning Discipline and Government.
6. The Form of Government agreed upon by the Westminster Assembly.

Many of these documents have become scarce and difficult of access, and they will be hailed with much acceptance in connexion with this essay on the important question of Church Government.

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West Hanover,	Wm. J Hoge,	J. S. Armistead.
East Hanover,	Edward Martin,	Abel Head.
Concord,	Wm. C. Sheets,	T. H. M'Roris.
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St. Clairsville,	W. M Grimes,	J. W. Milligan.
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Beaver,	David Waggoner.	
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Central Miss.,	R. B. Campbell,	Judge Barnett.
Red River,	J. F. Ford,	Dinsmore Neely.
East Mississippi,	J. H. Thomson,	G. S. Gillas.
Logansport,	A. C. M'Clelland.	Geo. Gilliford.

Dr. Scott's Church, San Francisco, Cal.

At a late communion, fourteen persons were received on examination, of whom six were baptized, and six on certificate. The Sabbath School, of which Judge Coon, of the Criminal Court, is Superintendent, is also in a highly prosperous state. A recent canvass of the vicinity, showed that almost all the children who did not attend Sabbath School were under three years of age. The Dr. has two Bible Classes; one on Friday, for ladies, and one on the Sabbath, for gentlemen; both are well attended.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

BOSTON AND NEW ENGLAND.

Formerly, Boston was quite famous for the amount of its *Ship-Building*—as many as forty vessels have been seen at one time on the stocks. But this branch of business is now quite depressed, since now there are only five ships in process of construction at this port. Indeed, the maritime business on the Atlantic was some years ago so profitable, that such numbers were led to engage in it as to exceed the demand, and the same result has followed as from the same cause, on the Western rivers; the competition has been so great as to ruin many of the rivals.

It seems that New York is not to stand solitary and alone, in the *Honor Done to Assassins*. This city contains not a few persons such as those who got up the demonstration in the Empire City, to the memory of Orsini and Pierri. And last week a procession of similar character paraded the streets, while the speeches and resolutions were equally reckless. Addresses were made in four languages, while a letter of sympathy in the object of the meeting was read, from the notorious William Lloyd Garrison. Scenes such as these, and sentiments such as were expressed at these meetings, prove most conclusively the inflammable and dangerous character of a part of the foreign population congregated about our large cities. These men would not be slow to advocate a similar course in this or any other country, if necessary to the accomplishment of their designs.

The *Rev. John Vinton*, of South Boston, who graduated at Dartmouth in 1824, and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1831, but who has been laid aside from the active duties of the ministry for several years, on account of weakness of voice, has just completed a full genealogy of all the descendants of John Vinton, the ancestor of all who bear the name in this country, who settled in Lynn in 1642. We refer to this work especially now, because of the history it gives of the revival of Evangelical religion in this city, at the beginning of this century; and in which Josiah Vinton, father of the author, acted so important a part.

A short time ago, we mentioned the state of *Religious Feeling* in this city at that time, as related recently by a venerable deacon. Then the Old South church was supposed to stand alone among the Congregational churches of Boston, in the affirmation and defence of the doctrines of the Puritan Fathers, and which had been set forth in later times by Edwards, Bellamy, and others; all the others, together with the greater part of the wealth, learning, and influence, had united in an attempt