

Banner and Advocate.

PITTSBURGH, DECEMBER 11, 1888.

TERMS.—\$1.50, in advance or in Clubs \$1.25, or delivered at residence of Subscribers, \$1.75. See Prospectus on Third Page.

TO MAKE CHANGE, send postage stamp, or better still, send for more papers say \$2 or \$5, or \$10, or \$15, or \$20, or \$25, or \$30, or \$35, or \$40, or \$45, or \$50, or \$55, or \$60, or \$65, or \$70, or \$75, or \$80, or \$85, or \$90, or \$95, or \$1.00, or \$1.05, or \$1.10, or \$1.15, or \$1.20, or \$1.25, or \$1.30, or \$1.35, or \$1.40, or \$1.45, or \$1.50.

PHILADELPHIA.—Messrs. J. V. Cowell & Son, South-west corner of Seventh and Chestnut Streets, will receive payments for Presbyterian Banner and Advocate.

CAPE ISLAND, N. J.—The Presbyterian church in this beautiful village, is now destitute of a pastor. The congregation is small, and the salary, not large, but there are some things connected with the place, adapted to make it a delightful residence.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES is the title of a new weekly, to be issued by the Sunday School Union, Philadelphia. See advertisement in our issue of last week. The enterprise of the Union is highly creditable.

"PROMPT."—With this introduction, last week, we gave an item stating the contributions of the Free Church of Scotland, last year, at twenty millions of dollars. Our compositor followed copy out from an exchange; but probably some previous copyist had printed "twenty" instead of two.

We have been requested to state that Dr. Lord has not resigned his charge at Buffalo, nor is it his intention to do so. He goes to Mobile to supply one of the churches there for the Winter and no longer, with the full consent and approbation of his own congregation.

The Presbytery of Beaver.

The Session of the church of New Castle invite the ministers composing the Presbytery of Beaver, and all the elders in the congregations under its care, to meet on Monday evening at 6 o'clock, with the view of spending the day previous to the meeting of Presbytery in devotional exercises.

Rev. Dr. Monfort.

We have just had the pleasure of a visit from this brother, who is editor of the Presbyterian of the West. On last Sabbath he preached in the morning to the congregation of Dr. Plumer, and in the afternoon to that of Dr. Jacobus. And on Monday afternoon he delivered a well conceived and happily written address to the students of the Western Theological Seminary, on the necessity of love to Jesus Christ to furnish a sufficient stimulus to ministerial effort, and as a proper qualification for the successful discharge of the duties of the pastoral office.

The Pre-payment System.

Can this system be sustained? As our journal is the only one in our Church which has rigidly followed up the principle, our readers may think that we are in the best situation to give an intelligent answer. We then say that it can, on one condition, that is, that ministers will, with great unanimity, zealously and perseveringly endeavor to keep it up.

By the aid of our brethren—many good elders, and others, working with them—we have kept up the system for six years. This month and next will be a farther test, whether it can be continued. The husbandman, as we all know, must attend to his work in its season, and on every returning season. Even one year's neglect is deeply, if not fatally injurious. We trust that renewed and new lists, will come in largely with the New Year. Let it be remembered that large lists and pre-payments, are both indispensable to the "good and cheap." The cause depends upon its friends.

Our Methodist brethren labor, one and all, for their weekly papers; and they succeed admirably.

Short Sentences.

There should be a good religious newspaper in every family. Any practicable time is a good time to begin, but now is the best time. Men should wisely prepare for entering upon a new year. Every subscriber should renew promptly, and induce his neighbor to subscribe. The readers of a good paper have more benefit from the editor's mind, than he has from their money. Females and children have an immense interest in a religious journal. Youths who grow up under the training of a good newspaper, become leading men in society. Printers cannot live upon air. They want it, and something more substantial. NOTE TEXT.

The club price for eight and upwards, is \$1.25.

For twenty and upwards, to the same congregation, the price is \$1.25, and a copy is added for the pastor.

A new name may be added to a club, at any time, at club price.

The price to separate subscribers, is \$1.50.

From Mission churches, and sparsely populated neighborhoods, four papers (separately directed), are sent for \$5.

Colportage in Pittsburgh and Allegheny Synods. Colportage is one of the effective instrumentalities in spreading a Gospel influence; and the times in which we live, make it a necessity. Every kind of literature, even the infidel, the fictitious and the trashy, has its agencies and its traveling agents. In the most prominent and attractive stores, in steamboats, rail cars, depots, and wherever man can be met, unless if not pernicious books are tendered. This energy must be met by a counter activity. These facilities must be overabundant by others, earlier, more winning and more effective, in favor of Christian literature.

The Synods of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, responsive to this call of Providence, have established and sustain a system of Colportage; and the former, at the late meeting, with a view to the promoting of the work, passed this resolution, along with others approbatory and directive:

Resolved, That the officers of the Board be instructed to issue a circular letter to the churches, embodying the facts and urging the claims of this work upon our people.

In accordance with the direction here given, the following Circular is issued:

THE BOARD OF COLPORTAGE OF THE SYNODS OF PITTSBURGH AND ALLEGHENY, TO THEIR CONSTITUENT CHURCHES.

Dear Brethren:—You have entrusted us with a work which is great and important, and we would most cheerfully be your servants in its execution. But while we yield a willing mind to the performance, you will know that we must have the material with which to operate. Theoretically, you are not so thoughtless as to expect that we should make books without cost, though, practically, the strain is furnished but very sparingly. The means for operation which you contribute, we endeavor to use wisely and economically, but they are quite inadequate to the proper occupancy of your extensive and inviting fields. Gladly will we, by your help, employ laborers, and send them to every nook and corner of your territory, as well as to your central and large congregations.

Your plan of operation embraces two main objects, each of which needs to be sustained with liberality.

The first is, the maintaining of a really valuable Depository of books. A vast proportion of a people's supply of religious reading should be by individual purchases. Every father of a family should provide for his own; should provide wisely, bountifully, and in due season. None should tarry long for the coming of a messenger, nor subject himself to the necessity of choosing only from the little stock which may be carried to his door. These may be the best, but they are likely to be the very books with which his family is already supplied. He should often add new books; should give variety and comprehensiveness to his selections. To this end he needs access to a well furnished Depository. Pittsburgh the road centre, the navigation centre, and the trade and business centre of almost the whole of the two Synods, is the place where this Depository should be always found.

Another medium through which should come a large portion of the supply of religious reading, is the officers of the Church. Some families are poor; some are negligent; and some have but seldom any call to leave their own neighborhood. All these should be duly cared for by the pastor, elders, and deacons. Reading is as really a part of spiritual food as preaching, and those who have the feeding of the flock, are as truly bound to supply it. They may have the books, promptly and with moderate cost, a good Depository, easy of access, is a necessity.

To have such a store, capital must be furnished. The funds which the churches have given for this purpose, enable the Board to keep up a pretty extensive stock of books; but still, the supply is far beneath what the Board should have, as the contribution from churches so numerous and wealthy, and to answer the variety and extent of the demand.

The second object of the Board is, to send books abroad, carrying them to every man's door for gift or sale. This mode of operation has become an indispensable part of the work of the Church and the Board. There are feeble congregations, secluded and destitute—without a pastor, and with an eldership not able to attend to their wants. These should be sought out, and their needs supplied. There are neighborhoods where there is no church. These should be visited and cared for. There is a numerous population in our cities and large towns which shut the house of worship, the prayer-meeting and the minister. Each of these has an undying soul, perishing in ignorance and sin. Such should not be left under guidance of the Prince of darkness.

Here, then, even supposing that all well-informed fathers, and all pastors, elders and deacons, in the fully organized and wealthy congregations shall have done their duty, there will still remain an immense amount of work for the Colporteur. Shall this work be done? The laborers can be obtained. But they cannot work without sustenance. Shall they have sustenance? We request it at the hands of the churches.

The building up of God's kingdom where our eye has seen, is, in no personal holiness and the due care of our households, the great work which God has given us to do. It is true that our desires are not to be bounded by a narrow circle, nor our efforts limited to our own little horizon. The whole earth is embraced in Christ's kingdom, and it is to be reduced to him by his servants. And his servants are we. But he has not given us ubiquity. The individual's range is quite restricted. We are to live and labor within that range. That special part of the earth, our individual locality, is the spot where our main work lies. Its edification and salvation are entrusted to us, mediately, and there our Lord's kingdom is, by us, to be made to flourish.

A few of us may be called to go far off to the Gentiles, and all are bound to contribute to the sustenance of such; but our great work lies in the region of the kingdom where the King himself has placed us. The centre of our charge is, each one's own soul, then his family, congregation, neighborhood, Presbytery, Synod, denomination, country. One very important and to be observed by a Colporteur system connected with the Board of Publication, is, the supplying of destinations where there are no Synods nor Presbyteries, or where there are very feeble. But where there are strong Synods, these should, each one, or two, or three, according to circumstances, form their own centre, and carry on their own work.

They better know their people, their wants, and their labors. Synodally they are thereby more awakened, and the tendency to a Church oligarchy are less fostered.

The policy of your Board is to employ all its capital in keeping up a stock of books, that by the profit on retail prices, the expenses and to appropriate the donations of the churches to the sustentation of Colporteurs, and to the furnishing of books to persons unable or unwilling to buy. It will hence be seen that the amount of work which can be done depends upon the speedy and large sales to churches which will supply themselves, and upon the liberality of the churches in contributing to the sustentation of Colporteurs.

To these two points we invite the serious attention of all our brethren. Make your purchases at your own Depository, as far as you can conveniently. Let us have the small profit arising therefrom, to carry on our work with the more energy. Let us have an annual collection, and a liberal one, that we may be enabled to employ an adequate Colporteur force to occupy the whole of the needy field which is entrusted to our care.

The Board of Colportage, in conducting their operations, do not feel themselves to be antagonistic to any other Evangelical Association. The American Tract Society is regarded with high esteem, as a co-laborer in a great cause. There is work for it and for us; and it can do a portion of the work far more effectively than we, or any other merely denominational agency can do it. But this does not excuse us for neglect in what is entrusted to our care; nor could we be justified in putting our work into the Society's hands, as though we would do it for proxy. Fidelity to the truth, and to Presbyterianism, the esteem of our own people and our reputation with others, and hence our influence for good, all require us to supply well the wants of our own churches, and to extend our kindness to any others who may be willing to receive at our hands. If Presbyterianism presents more in its fullness and purity and in sweeter attire than any other system, we should be the more zealous in maintaining it where it is, and in giving it unrestricted extension.

As the promotion of every good cause depends very much upon the pulpit, we request pastors to preach a sermon on this subject. It is certainly worthy of such notice and aid. Pastors also, in some respects, the captains of the Lord's hosts; the leaders of God's people. Their approbation we desire, and their hearty co-operation we most earnestly solicit.

Next Sabbath will be the day designated by the Synod of Pittsburgh as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the Spiritual ingatherings of the year, and for his blessing on the churches in their bounds.

This occasion of Thanksgiving is deeply interesting, and is designed to be connected with prayer for a continuance of the blessing.

Such a work of reviving connects itself most immediately with the increase of the Christian ministry, and with the prosperity of our Theological Seminaries. The effects are felt already in a large accession to these Schools of the Prophets. The Synod has therefore thought it proper and fitting, every way, to make this day of Thanksgiving a day for a thank-offering to God, in the form of a contribution from each church to the endowment of the Fourth Professorship in our Theological Seminary at Allegheny.

Nothing could be more appropriate than such an offering. It is so planned as to contemplate a contribution by each member of every church in the four Synods, so far as practicable, that all may have a share in the work. And it is recommended, that in every church the pastor and elders make it their earnest aim to secure an amount equal, at least, to fifty cents for each church member. The stronger churches, it is hoped, may give more, so as to supply the deficit of any weaker ones who may not reach that quota.

The effort will thus be, as nearly as may be, a simultaneous one in the Synod. And the Treasurer, T. H. Newis, Esq., Liberty Street, will report each and every contribution in full. Let the work be done at once.

The Providence of God now smiles upon the land. At the close of a healthful season he is saturating the earth by copious showers, and thus blessing the Agriculturalist. The opening of our rivers to commerce is a favor to the merchant, manufacturer, tradesman, and laborer. God's hand is in all this. His call comes in a day of prosperity. He asks, also, but a very small amount, and he can, yes, and will, more than pay back to the cheerful giver, all that has been consecrated to his cause, so that the liberal shall not be the loser. And he could also, in his displeasure, more than sweep away whatever is wrongfully withheld from his service. A free-will offering is requested, to the supplying of a need just now pressing, and which seems to us to be most intimately connected with the edification of the Lord's Zion.

Home and Foreign Record.

The closing number of this journal, for the year 1888, is now before us. It completes the ninth volume.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Up to November 1st, the appropriations to missionaries were about two thousand dollars in advance of last year at the same time, while the receipts into the Treasury were between five and six thousand less. It is to be hoped that the Church will both make up the deficiency, and greatly increase the means of the Board. Let not the fountain of supply fail, while the fields demanding laborers are still extending.

RECEIPTS, during October: At Philadelphia, \$4,917; at Pittsburgh, \$2,080.

EDUCATION.

The number of candidates for the ministry is greatly increased in our Seminaries. Young men also, in their Collegiate course, are, in greater numbers than formerly, turning an obedient ear to the call for laborers. But the cry for help still increases, so that by multiplying numbers, there are likely still to be many fields unharvested.

Dr. Wood gives an encouraging account of the state of things in the West, as seen by him in a recent visit.

RECEIPTS, during October: At Philadelphia, \$1,978; at Pittsburgh, \$2,084; at Louisville, \$3,180.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

INDIAN MISSIONS.—Mr. Frothingham, writing from Spencer, mentions that four persons had recently been received to the communion of the church, at one of his preaching stations, and that a number of others were anxious about the salvation of their souls. Of the four native elders of the Spencer church, he remarks, "they have rendered good service this Summer in keeping the church together, holding meetings in rotation twice every Sunday, and in the afternoon. They are earnest, active, Christian men, and well understand how to do the work of exhortation."

At the meeting of the Indian Presbytery at Wapawauka, there were Seminoles, Creeks, and Chickasaws present, and several discourses were interpreted in these different languages. Two persons were received to the church, and several applications were deposited for baptism.

AFRICA.—The intelligence from Corisco in the occasion of some solicitude. A Spanish man-of-war had recently visited the island for the purpose of proclaiming Spanish jurisdiction, and in teaching the exercises of the Protestant religion, as had been done a short time previously at Fernando Po. No steps had been taken, however, to establish Spanish authority on the island, and our missionary brethren were going on with their work as usual, at the date of their letters.

CHINA.—Since their arrival, Mr. and Mrs. Rankin have been afflicted in the loss, by death, of a promising child of the age of four years. Letters all speak of the great enlargement of the field of missionary labor in China, and the call for more missionaries.

INDIA.—Our last letters generally speak of returning peace to the country, and of enlarged openings for the Gospel. The mission at Lahor had enjoyed special tokens of the Spirit's presence and power. Five persons have recently been received to the communion of the church, two others are to be admitted soon, and there is a goodly number of others deeply interested in the salvation of their souls. At Ambala, also, there have been tokens of the Spirit's presence, three persons having recently been received to the church. Mr. Morrison, in connection with some trying circumstances at Rawal Pindi, mentions four candidates for baptism.

RECEIPTS, in October, \$12,711.

PUBLICATION.

Calvin's Letters are in the course of publication. The first and second volumes are now for sale by the Board, at \$1.30 each. The third and fourth may be anticipated before long.

DOLENTS: October 14th to November 16th, \$2,399. Sales, in October, \$3,622.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

The Secretary visited, at their late meetings, the Synods of Albany, Buffalo, New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, on the subject of Church Extension. We shall greatly rejoice to find, through the means used, an awakened interest, or rather an adequate interest created, on the subject. It is not yet understood, in its full bearings, upon the prosperity of our Zion.

RECEIPTS, in October: At St. Louis, \$3,256; at Philadelphia, \$228; at Pittsburgh, \$66; at Cincinnati, \$21.

Synodical Thanksgiving, and Seminary Endowment.

Next Sabbath will be the day designated by the Synod of Pittsburgh as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the Spiritual ingatherings of the year, and for his blessing on the churches in their bounds.

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Shooting and Fishing.

May clergymen engage in these amusements? And if clergymen may not, then may Christians? These questions are sometimes asked. The answer must be determined by circumstances. The acts are not wrong in themselves, but they may cause a great waste of precious time, and deeply wound the brethren. The occasion on which they are performed, may make them to be the means of great evil.

The disciples of our Lord certainly went a fishing; but we have no account that the Master and Teacher went with them. They, however, did this as a means of support—not as an amusement. They needed, at that time, the products for their sustenance, and God blessed them in their work.

Christians, and ministers as well as people, need relaxation. Amusement they really want, for health of body and vigor of mind. And let them have it, and enough of it. But modes, times, and seasons, Christian sentiment and public opinion, are to be noted. Utility, as well as recreation, is to be considered. And we think that Christians but rarely, and ministers with exceeding rarity, may resort to shooting and fishing as an amusement.

We see Capt. Hammond quoted as making, in his late biography, the following excellent remarks:

"I hardly know how to answer your question about shooting. With regard to those things that are not particularly mentioned in the Bible, we must be guided by the general rules and commands laid down in Scripture; and in determining what is, and is not lawful, each one must be guided by the measure of light which God has given him. The general rule is plain. 'Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world; for all that is in the world, is of the world, and do all things to the glory of God.' By this standard we must judge all things, and be judged by it in all our occupations, and pursuits.

"I agree with you, as a general rule, in thinking that what is not right for a clergyman, cannot be any more so for a layman; but I think there are many exceptions to this rule. For instance, I cannot conceive of there being anything amoral wrong in an individual fishing or shooting. At the same time, I think such entirely worldly pursuits are unbecoming the character and duties of one who is set over souls. The same may be said of many things. Our great object in life is to glorify our Father who is in heaven, and to devote all we possess to his service. Whatever hinders us in doing these things ought certainly to be given up. I feel ill able to advise, but would say to you, if you are in doubt about anything, ask of God to guide your judgment and incline your will to that course which he approves. Whatever appears right (God's Word being the test), do not hesitate to engage in it. If, on the contrary, there is any doubt, give it up at once. God will guide you aright, if you lean upon him. See the promise, Phil. iv. 6, 7."

Decease of Mrs. Riddle.

Mrs. Elizabeth Riddle, wife of Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., late of this city, and daughter of Rev. Matthew Brown, D. D., died at Jersey City, N. J., on the 8d inst. Mrs. Riddle had suffered from disease for a considerable time before her death. She was a lady of superior mind, well known and much esteemed during her twenty years residence here, as consistent of the valued pastor of a large congregation.

"THE LOST CHILDREN."—Let Parents, and Superintendents of Sabbath Schools, in buying Christmas Presents, not forget this excellent little book. We gave a notice of it Dec. 4th.

Western Africa.

This country is one of the most unhealthy, for white men. One of the great difficulties attending the colonizing of colored people, on the coast, springs from the deleterious influences of the climate, upon agents. And the missionary work is, by the same cause, greatly retarded. Still, white men do live there. Multitudes did so, in carrying on the slave trade. And some still do so, for traffic. It is estimated that there are six thousand to eight thousand Europeans and Americans on the coast, and on Islands near the shores, carrying on business. And there are about one hundred and fifty missionaries, whites, connected with the British and American Missions. All this proves that it is possible there to live and work, and induces a hope that the kingdom of Christ will yet be set up and flourish.

The Princeton Review thus states the result of Missionary efforts, in Western Africa: "Those who have given particular attention to the subject, are aware that the history of Protestant missions in Western Africa, with the exception of two missions of somewhat earlier date, is substantially comprised within the last twenty-five years. What, then, has been effected in that time? More than one hundred Christian churches have been organized in that country, and upwards of fifteen thousand hopeful converts have been gathered into these churches. Nearly two hundred schools are in full operation, in connexion with these various missions, and not less than sixteen thousand native youths are receiving a Christian training in those schools at the present moment. More than twenty different dialects have been studied and reduced to writing, into many of which large portions of the sacred Scriptures, as well as other religious books, have been translated, printed, and circulated among the people; and we are no doubt in the bounds of truth and probability, when it is assumed that some knowledge of the Christian salvation has been brought, by direct and indirect means, within the reach of at least five millions of immortal beings, who had never before heard of the blessed name of the Saviour."

A Brilliant Manhood but Sad End.

Judge Wells, of Wisconsin, was a native of Vermont, a man of "excellent legal attainments, deep native shrewdness, and genial suavity of manners." In 1836, he emigrated to Milwaukee. He was made, successively, District Attorney, member of the Territorial Legislature, and of the State Council. He was chosen Mayor of Milwaukee, and afterwards County Judge. He continued in public life till 1854, "adding new laurels to his fame and gathering additional friends to his already swollen list." But the end, O, how sad. The News adds: "In the meantime, he had acquired an appetite for that insatiable fiend of the human race—that infernal invention of Satan to destroy the mind of man—RUM."

"Since then, his course has been downward, until he, who was the admired of all who knew him, became a loathsome, dissolute and miserable soul—dependent upon his former friends and peers for charity and sustenance, having lost the powers to support himself or the manhood to stay his debasing career. All trace of him had been lost for the past few months, until yesterday, when some of his associates of better days were informed that he was about dying. Immediate attention was given to his wants; but too late. He expired soon after."

Alas, what fate to humanity, so reckless and so destructive as Rum! And who so lost to all the better feelings of our race, as those who will furnish the means of destruction and tempt to their use! Would that the community could be awakened and stimulated to self-protection!

Thanksgiving Sermons.

Thanksgiving day affords an occasion which many pastors embrace to deliver their sentiments upon public affairs and National morality, beyond what they do in their ordinary Sabbath ministrations. We regard them as wise in this, when they wisely select their subjects and discuss them with the prudence and firmness which become Christians and freemen. Several of such sermons have been sent us, published in the secular papers, a plan of which we greatly approve. Others we have received as pamphlets.

One now before us is that of Rev. Henry Kendall, D. D., of this city, ally setting forth "The Responsibility of American Citizens." It is handsomely got up by J. R. Weldon, of this city. As Dr. Kendall is still rather a stranger to our churches, this sermon will serve as an introduction, and as such will be sought for and read with interest.

Historical Society.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, was organized on Monday of this week, by the adoption of a constitution. On the last Monday evening of December, the Society is to meet again, for the election of permanent officers.

The principal features of the Association are the following: Article 1. This Society shall be called "The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania," and its object shall be the collection and dissemination of information connected with our early history. Article 9. The Society shall hold stated meetings on the second Monday evening of every month. Article 11. After this Society shall have been organized, the election of members shall be by ballot, and shall form part of the business of every stated meeting. Article 12. All persons duly elected members of this Society, shall pay an annual contribution of three dollars.

The Yellow Fever.

This fatal scourge has been severe on New Orleans. The mortality tables of the city, show four thousand eight hundred and fifty deaths by this disease, from June 27th to Nov. 21st. The report of the Howard Association shows a treatment under its benevolent care, of three thousand four hundred and fourteen cases, of whom seven hundred and seventy one died. If these proportions hold good as to the whole treatment, there must have been, in the city, about twenty-one thousand cases.

Of the cases treated by the Howard Association, one thousand four hundred and eighty-five were Irish, one thousand and sixty-nine were Germans, and four hundred and nine were natives of the United States.

Sabbath Conversation.

There is probably no day in the week in which the tongue becomes more "an unruly evil" than on the Lord's day. We do not mean that there is more of vulgar profanity uttered on that day than on any other, though this is not at all unlikely. What we mean is, that there is a great amount of inappropriate and forbidden, and hence sinful conversation on that day. Christians forget themselves. The tongue runs wild. They talk of their gardens, rains, horses, cattle, of the prices of stocks and produce, of failures and news, of their worldly successes and troubles, of almost every thing of which they might innocently speak on another day.

This is exceedingly wrong. It injures your companions, robs God of his glory, and prevents you from obtaining duly, the rich benefits which are connected with a proper Sabbath observance; and it incurs deep guilt. The Divine rule for the restraint of the tongue on the Sabbath is, "Not speaking thine own words."

Methodists.

The Methodists are much the most numerous body of Christians in the United States. The statistics of all the branches of the denomination we have not seen collected. Those of two of the branches are stated thus: The Minutes of the Methodist Episcopal Church North, just issued, show the following figures: Number of Conferences, 49; Sunday Schools, 11,490; Church members, 956,556, being an increase during the year of 136,000; churches, 9,935; parsonages, 2,407; value of church ed. soc. as assessed, \$1,560,000; number of traveling preachers, 6,502; local preachers, 7,530.

The Southern Church has a membership of 665,000; 2,434 traveling, and 4,907 local preachers. Total Methodist membership, North and South, 1,762,332.

The Minutes of the Church, South, for this year, will doubtless show a large increase upon these numbers, in that branch.

A Pulpit Crushed.

The heavy cornice over the pulpit, in the First Presbyterian church in this city, (Mr. Paxton's) fell from its high position, one night last week, crushing a portion of the pulpit and descending through the floor. While the loss occasioned will be regretted, there will be many a thankful heart that the fall did not occur during a time of public worship. Builders and superintendents of buildings, will take an admonitory warning of the importance of making every thing in a structure really secure.

Good Resulting from Evil.

Among the many instances in which Providence induces good out of evil, is the following: The Friend of India relates that a native convert to Christianity was compelled to leave his books at Mallania when the outbreak occurred, in the house of a man who had sheltered him. This man read the books, was struck with them, and read them to his family daily. A knot of listeners were formed, and, as soon as peace was restored, the audience sought the aid of a missionary. More than forty persons have been baptized in consequence, and the converts commenced building a church at their own expense.

THE MESSAGE, formerly the "Five Points Monthly," is the title of a periodical issued at New York, by Wm. C. Conant.

A PRESBYTERY WITHOUT A PASTOR.—The Presbytery of Missouri, which has a dozen ordained ministers in it, has not a single pastor.

Rev. D. W. TOWNSEND'S Post Office address is changed from Logan's Ferry, Allegheny County, to Paranaus, Westmoreland Co., Pa., in consequence of the removal of the Post Office to that place.

Rev. EDWARD J. HAMILTON was ordained by the Presbytery of Nassau, on the 25th ult., and installed pastor of the church at Oyster Bay, Long Island.

Rev. MR. WARDLAW, of Paris, Ky., has, it is said, resigned, to open the way for a union of the Old and New School churches of that place.

Rev. W. J. FRASER has removed from St. Francisville, Mo., to Brimfield, Ill.

Rev. JAMES P. HENDRICK was installed pastor of the church in Flemingsburg, Ky., on the 20th of November, by the Presbytery of Ebenezer.

Rev. W. W. SICKLES has resigned the charge of the church in Bedford, Indiana, and become the supply of the churches of Knightstown and Greenfield, Indiana.

Rev. H. M. BACON, who had lately been invited to take charge of the churches of Hickman and Columbus, Ky., has also received a call to become pastor of the church in Vincennes, Indiana.

Rev. R. E. SHERRILL, of Daneyville, Tennessee, has received a call to become pastor of the church in Harrodsburg, Ky., and is expected to commence his labors there about the first of January.

Rev. F. R. MORF