

Pittsburgh, and other Synods, at their Depositories, credits and discredits. Adjourned with prayer.

Afternoon Session. Mr. Schenck continued. The balance of \$22,000 had accrued as last year. The Board of Domestic Missions—large collections at the close of year. It was needed, because money came in less plentifully in the summer, and expenses will be increased.

The Board had been in the habit of reporting just as the Assembly required. He would read the order of 1889. They were in the habit of reporting (balance sheet and all) to the Assembly every year. These are offered to the Assembly's Committee. But there are things which should not be reported in print.

Mr. MacMaster had alluded to the balance in the Board of Publication, not because he thought it wrong, but because the impression had been cast on the Board of Domestic Missions for their balance on hand. The date of the fiscal year had better be altered to a season when funds were low.

The receipts of the Board from sales of books as follows: Sales of books, \$20,000; Sales of tracts, \$2,000; Sales of papers, \$5,000; Total, \$27,000.

Expenses of this part of the year, about \$10,000. The balance on hand, \$17,000. The balance on hand, \$17,000. The balance on hand, \$17,000.

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Overture No. 28, being Dr. Bell's resolutions on the subject of Colonization was taken up. Dr. MacMaster could not let the report of the Colonization Society pass without remark. He approved of Colonization, and would meet the question openly and squarely. The Society is opposed by ultra abolitionists in the North, and ultra proslavery men in the South. Both these classes of extremists believed it to be a bad thing. He, with the Presbyterian Church, was in favor of the latter view. It was a good thing. Some opposed it, because it was not a work of the Church. He regarded it as competent for the Church to bear testimony in favor of truth and righteousness, upon all subjects of secular, political, or social, in their moral bearings. The fathers did so in the dark, and sturdy days of the Revolutionary struggle. The General Assembly has often done so, as her records attest; and on this subject, as well as on others. He would not have a new doctrine thrust upon the Church. He was opposed to the report, and in favor of the Overture.

Dr. McCall thought it might be deemed sufficient to refer to the subject, and endorse its previous action on the subject. Dr. Thorneill regarded the sentiment that the Church should not be authorized to interfere with or conduct temporalities, as no new doctrine. Christ's Kingdom is not of this world. This is the authority of her Lord; and she could thus speak only what she kept close to, and uttered words appropriate. Like the ocean, she was a great blessing when she kept within her bounds; but when she oversteered, she was sure to founder. Let the Church sanctify Society. This is her work. In making deliverances before the Assembly, her power was not to be forgotten. After a few additional remarks, the report of the Committee, which is as follows, was read:

The Committee report that the Church is a spiritual body, and should not be authorized to interfere with or conduct temporalities, as no new doctrine. Christ's Kingdom is not of this world. This is the authority of her Lord; and she could thus speak only what she kept close to, and uttered words appropriate. Like the ocean, she was a great blessing when she kept within her bounds; but when she oversteered, she was sure to founder. Let the Church sanctify Society. This is her work. In making deliverances before the Assembly, her power was not to be forgotten. After a few additional remarks, the report of the Committee, which is as follows, was read:

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Pacific—all these pledges, followed and sustained by ample success in his department, leave no room to doubt that the College has made a great acquisition in securing him for a place in her faculty. His report on the "Agriculture of Europe and Agricultural Schools," embodied in the transactions of the Agricultural Society of New York, for 1858; his article in the "American Journal of Science," for March 1859, on the "Motions of Winding Plants"; his late address to the Washington County Agricultural Society, on the right use and application of manures; and the enthusiasm with which he has infused into his volunteer and amateur class in Botany, embracing almost the entire College—all show the practical spirit and power of his scientific labors. It is only necessary to add, in this day of wild speculation, that in his hands the treasure of science is all laid at the feet of the Cross, and made to pay tribute to the plenary inspiration of the Bible.

Washington College, like her sisters, has not been without peculiar toil; but it is hoped herself less in numbers than in the thoroughness of her work. In all that relates to her intellectual condition, her course is quietly but steadily onward and upward.

CURATOR.

THE SEMINARY OF THE NORTH-WEST. The election for Professors in the Seminary of the North-West, was a matter of deep interest. A little disappointment was felt, by a few persons; but the gentlemen chosen are among the most competent which the Church could furnish; and the unanimity was great, beyond what could have been expected by those who had noticed the discussions of the last two years. This unanimity was greatly promoted by a long and powerful speech of Dr. MacMaster, in which he took ground so ultra as to drive from his many of his friends and admirers. We refer our readers to our sketch of the proceedings.

This is the Assembly's fourth Seminary. It comes into being with far more seeming vigor than any of its predecessors. We trust that there will be no frustrated hopes; that no impediment will be found to obstruct it in its onward course; that it will be greatly blessed of the Lord, and made a blessing to his Zion.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS. The discussion in the Assembly, relative to the operations, and the plans for conducting this Board are usually more animated, and exhibit a greater variety of sentiment, than those upon any of the other agencies of the Church. This is owing to the fact that its workings are more diffusive than those of any other Board. They are more directly and more fully in view of the whole people. They affect a vastly greater number of Presbyteries, ministers, and churches. Almost every Presbytery in the whole country, is as applicant for aid, and many desire to draw out far more than they put in, and, like individuals, each thinks its own wants very pressing, and its own field to be of vast importance; and the aggregate of wants, if not of demands, is far beyond the power of the Board to supply. Then, the Home Missionary work is a thing in which we all think we are peculiarly wise and able. There are also six hundred missionaries, scantily provided for, and pressed with wants, each of whom has a voice in our councils, personally, or by his representative, or by his pen. And there are some nine hundred or one thousand churches whose ability to retain the ministrations of the Word is inadequate, unless supplemented by the funds of the Board. And, in addition to all this, there are some hundreds of ministers and churches who would like very well to be added to the aid-receiving lists. And there are ten thousand givers of small amounts; and small sums abstracted, under a sense of Christian duty, from the proceeds of their hard industry. These are often the fruits of stern self-denial. The donors follow them with their prayers; and they hence desire to see them appropriated and used according to their own ideas of economy. Such being the case, it is no wonder that we have some earnest inquirers, or even some "murmurers" in regard to the "ministrations," from the treasury of the Church's benevolence.

The appointment of six wise and good men; to investigate the whole matter of our Domestic Missionary enterprise, was, in these circumstances, wise. It met with the hearty approbation of the Secretary and the members of the Board. These brethren occupy their places but to work for the Church, and they will rejoice in the discovery of any more effective means than those which have been in operation, and in the employment of any more successful agents or agencies. It is to be hoped that the Committee will earnestly and prayerfully upon the work entrusted to them; and that they will be heavenly directed.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION. The business of the Board of Publication is, comparatively, abstracted from the notice of the churches; but it yet is sufficiently before them to attract some attention, and, once in a while, to be approached with interrogatories. Its tendencies toward these may be partly owing to their unfitness. Still, they are important; and the Board's reluctance to answer, by full statements, and the efforts made by some of its members and friends to excite odium against the conscientious minister or editor who ventures to ask a question, or in any way to intimate that more light would be satisfactory, cannot but produce some painful reflections. A kind and courteous clearing up of some matters brought before the House by a respected member, would have been most happy. Every minister and every elder of our Church is a constituent of each of our Boards, and has a right to make inquiries; and, if he may not always have a direct and full answer, he is entitled at least to courtesy, and to the presumption that he is influenced by honest motives. And especially is this the case on the floor of the Assembly. It is there pre-eminently that the Board is bound to respond, and to respond without any accompanying personal imputations, to every inquiry which the House permits a member to propound.

The manner in which the inquiries of Dr. Edwards were answered (see reports of Proceedings,) induced Mr. MacMaster to make some statements and to present some figures, which, if not more satisfactorily met hereafter than they were in the Assembly, must prove exceedingly damaging. When the Board's full report for the year shall have been published, we may return to this subject again. In the meantime, we cannot but regret that the proposition to appoint an investigating Committee was laid on the table. If it had been heartily responded to, and a Committee appointed, embracing a due proportion of the dissatisfied, to insure

a thorough examination, a report adapted to restore confidence, and long to continue that confidence, might have been the result. This Board has a great and important work to do; and, though more secular in its operations than the other Boards, still, it is a creature of the Church; it has its capital from the churches; and it is bound to serve the churches. Its offices and contracts are not for the benefit of its conductors and their friends, but for the general good. Let its integrity stand forth resplendent, with its good deeds.

DISPERSION OF THE BOARDS. Much has been said, of late, relative to a dispersion of the Boards; and one of the Committees raised by the Assembly is specially charged with an inquiry into the propriety of transplanting the Board of Domestic Missions. The question deserves serious consideration. We are not of those who are given to change. We are unwilling to hazard an experiment without a very strong ground of hope that it will be for benefit. Possibly we may be too conservative in our activities; because we do believe in progress, yes, and we believe in overturning, too, and even in revolution in a time of dire necessity; but such things should be entered into wisely. If any changes shall be recommended, we trust that they will be so obviously good, and so full of promise, that the churches can adopt them cordially, and work under them with unanimity, and with a fresh and an unfeeling zeal. We say of places as we say of men, let them be subservient to Zion's interests.

GENERAL REMARKS. We have already intimated that, as this was the largest Assembly of our Church which has ever met, it was also one of the most able, most harmonious, most conservative, and most progressive. We love large Assemblies. It is delightful to see many brethren, from all parts of our great country, assembled in the name of the Lord. The influences are most happy. And this Assembly, as did its predecessors, has given evidence that a large amount of business can be done, and well done—questions can be discussed, order be preserved, and conclusions be reached, by the many. May the meetings never be less.

The citizens of Indianapolis did themselves great credit in the provision made for the entertainment of the brethren. If we may possibly except New Orleans, we can clearly say, that never have we seen an Assembly more fully provided for, as to all its members and all their wants.

The judicial cases were mostly disposed of with great brevity, or were handed over to the next Assembly; but still, there was enough to convince us of the great propriety of bringing little matters before the whole Church. Better far would it be, to learn wisdom from the advice of Jethro to Moses, (Exodus xviii) and let "every small matter" be judged by the lower courts, reserving only the "hard cases" for the whole Church, in her convocation. An appeal from one Court to the next higher, should be sufficient in all ordinary cases.

The attendance was good, throughout. On the eleventh day, two hundred and thirteen votes were cast on a ballot, and in the P. M. of the twelfth day, one hundred and eighty members rose on a question, pro and con. The Assembly will be long remembered with blessing.

The United Synod of the South. Our brethren of the New School, South, met at Lynchburg, Va., on the 10th of May. Twelve Presbyteries were represented. They continued six days in session. The meeting seems to have been harmonious.

A resolution was passed to organize a Theological Seminary, to be located in the vicinity of the University of Virginia. An endowment of \$100,000 is to be raised. About \$25,000 of the sum was subscribed on the spot. Rev. J. C. Giles, D. D., Secretary of the Southern Aid Society, N. Y., was elected first Professor.

The College at Maryville, Tenn., was commended to the patronage of the churches. The Oberlin, of Philadelphia, and the Witness, of Knoxville, received votes of approbation.

Boards of Missions and of Education were established.

Thus has this little body begun its career, in due form and with much energy. It will afford a home to extremists, where they may live in peace, if they can only be contented. It is not likely that any branch of the Christian family, North or South, will greatly disturb them, provided that they themselves shall not commence the quarrel.

EASTERN SUMMARY. Boston and New England. Oliver Wendell Holmes, at the late meeting of the Unitarian Association, took occasion to make another deliverance of his peculiar views with respect to Theology and religion in general, avowing himself one of the most ultra and most progressive of modern Unitarians. He affects to meet at and treat with great contempt the criticisms to which he has been subjected; but the loud tory that utters, proves the wound to be deeper and sorer than he is willing to admit. The secular press is almost unanimous in its approbation of the bold Skepticism of his late paper, the "Athenaeum." So strong a current is setting in from almost every quarter against the Atlantic, that the publishers will be compelled to dismiss Dr. Holmes, and one or two other writers, or to induce them to alter their tone at least, willy-nilly speak through his pages.

The late issues in the Boston Schools with Roman Catholics, have resulted in an association for establishing Catholic schools for secular instruction, in order that the children may be protected from the influences alleged to be brought to bear against Catholic faith and worship in the public schools. These schools are to be connected with the parish of St. Mary's, and to be sustained by monthly assessments on the members of that parish. One of the features connected with that movement showing conclusively its un-American character, is the business meetings for determining the number of teachers, fixing buildings, fixing salaries, and rents, &c., are to be held on the Sabbath. And the pastor of St. Mary's Church, or any one appointed by him, is invested with absolute power in the government and direction of these schools.

Rev. Charles Beecher, of Georgetown, Mass., a son of Dr. Lyman Beecher, is reported to have denounced the doctrine of original depravity, in his pulpit, a few Sabbaths ago, and to have said that men are now born as pure as Adam was when first created. This, Mr. Beecher Beecher, has been for several years endeavoring to make himself conspicuous by his eccentricities. But the doctrine broached above, like some of the errors of other members of his family, is rather odd, and has been too frequently repeated, and is too contrary to common sense to excite much attention.

Rev. Joseph C. Sill, D. D., of New Haven,

The Assembly of 1859. The General Assembly, at Indianapolis, adjourned, sine die, on Thursday, the 3d inst., after a session of thirteen business days. This has been one of the most protracted of the Assembly's sittings, in recent years. The Commentary question, and some other matters, were laid over till next year. But there was a very large amount of very important business transacted, as our columns exhibit abundantly.

The meeting continued harmonious, as well as deeply interesting, to the end. A few remarks were made, on two or three subjects, which might have been as well omitted, and a little feeling was manifested such as does not claim unqualified praise; but these things were too small and too evanescent to be noted in speaking of the character of the Assembly. It was large, harmonious, dignified, gentlemanly, Christian. May all which so successfully succeeded it, be similar, and still more so.

THE SEMINARY OF THE NORTH-WEST. The election for Professors in the Seminary of the North-West, was a matter of deep interest. A little disappointment was felt, by a few persons; but the gentlemen chosen are among the most competent which the Church could furnish; and the unanimity was great, beyond what could have been expected by those who had noticed the discussions of the last two years. This unanimity was greatly promoted by a long and powerful speech of Dr. MacMaster, in which he took ground so ultra as to drive from his many of his friends and admirers. We refer our readers to our sketch of the proceedings.

This is the Assembly's fourth Seminary. It comes into being with far more seeming vigor than any of its predecessors. We trust that there will be no frustrated hopes; that no impediment will be found to obstruct it in its onward course; that it will be greatly blessed of the Lord, and made a blessing to his Zion.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS. The discussion in the Assembly, relative to the operations, and the plans for conducting this Board are usually more animated, and exhibit a greater variety of sentiment, than those upon any of the other agencies of the Church. This is owing to the fact that its workings are more diffusive than those of any other Board. They are more directly and more fully in view of the whole people. They affect a vastly greater number of Presbyteries, ministers, and churches. Almost every Presbytery in the whole country, is as applicant for aid, and many desire to draw out far more than they put in, and, like individuals, each thinks its own wants very pressing, and its own field to be of vast importance; and the aggregate of wants, if not of demands, is far beyond the power of the Board to supply. Then, the Home Missionary work is a thing in which we all think we are peculiarly wise and able. There are also six hundred missionaries, scantily provided for, and pressed with wants, each of whom has a voice in our councils, personally, or by his representative, or by his pen. And there are some nine hundred or one thousand churches whose ability to retain the ministrations of the Word is inadequate, unless supplemented by the funds of the Board. And, in addition to all this, there are some hundreds of ministers and churches who would like very well to be added to the aid-receiving lists. And there are ten thousand givers of small amounts; and small sums abstracted, under a sense of Christian duty, from the proceeds of their hard industry. These are often the fruits of stern self-denial. The donors follow them with their prayers; and they hence desire to see them appropriated and used according to their own ideas of economy. Such being the case, it is no wonder that we have some earnest inquirers, or even some "murmurers" in regard to the "ministrations," from the treasury of the Church's benevolence.

The appointment of six wise and good men; to investigate the whole matter of our Domestic Missionary enterprise, was, in these circumstances, wise. It met with the hearty approbation of the Secretary and the members of the Board. These brethren occupy their places but to work for the Church