

Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1860.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America will hold its next meeting in the First Presbyterian church, Rochester, New York, at eleven o'clock A. M., on Thursday, the 17th of May, and will be opened with a sermon by the Rev. WILLIAM L. BARNICKER, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly.

The Committee of Arrangements request Commissioners and others, who expect to attend the meeting of the General Assembly, which convenes in the CITY OF ROCHESTER, May 17th, next, to forward their names and Post Office addresses to SETH H. TERRY, ROCHESTER, N. Y., as soon as may be.

Places will be assigned to all such before their leaving home. Those who do not send their names in season, will be provided with places on their arrival, at application at the Rooms of the Committee, at the First Presbyterian Church.

Due notice will be given of any arrangements made with Railroad Companies, for a reduction of fare.

Dated, Rochester, April 6th, 1860.

SAMUEL MILLER, LEVI A. WARD, SAMUEL CLARKE, SETH H. TERRY, JOHN W. WATSON, SETH H. TERRY, Secretary of Arrangements.

The Board of Colportage is requested to meet at the Presbyterian Rooms on St. Clair Street, on Tuesday the 15th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M.

Frankfort, Ind.—This place has been enjoying, as we learn by a letter just received, quite a refreshing time on the Lord.

Washington College, Pa.—We regret that Rev. JOHN SCOTT, D. D., President of this institution, has determined to resign his place.

McConnellsville, Ohio.—The labors of Rev. W. M. GRIMES, at this place, have been greatly blessed.

PASTOR WANTED. At the Spring meeting of the Zanesville Presbytery, the pastoral relation of the Rev. W. MORRIS GRIMES and the church of Bristol was dissolved, to enable him to spend all his time in the church of McConnellsville.

SESSION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Bristol, Morgan Co., Ohio.

SYMPATHY FOR THE POPE. A large meeting was held, on Tuesday evening, in this city, in the Cathedral, by the friends of the Pope.

REV. LOJING BREWSTER. A member of Session sends us the following: "Died, suddenly at Cape Island, April 30, 1860, of apoplexy, Rev. LOJING BREWSTER, pastor of the first Presbyterian church of this city, in the seventy-first year of his age."

BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY. There is likely to be an unusual amount of important business before the General Assembly, which is to convene at Rochester on the 17th inst.

- 1. Church Corporations. 2. A Church Commentary. 3. The Revised Book of Discipline. 4. The modifying of the Boards, and a change of location. 5. African Colonization, in a memorial from the Synod of Wheeling. 6. A Fifth Professorship in the Seminaries at Princeton and Allegheny. 7. The filling of the two new chairs, and the election of Professors to fill the vacant chairs at Princeton and Danville.

USEFUL, BUT WHY NOT MORE USEFUL? The Presbyterian Church we regard not only as founded upon the Word of God, but as being more deeply and thoroughly fixed than any other Church, upon that foundation.

Now, is it so? Can we bear the practical test? It is beyond controversy, that fruit-bearing designates the character of the tree—in kind, quality, and quantity. What then, in these respects, is the fruit of the Presbyterian tree? Take Calvinistic doctrine as the trunk, the parity of the ministry as the branches, modes of worship as the leaves, and the spreading of the Gospel, with its reforming influences as the fruit, and make the comparison.

But while our Church, in its grand features, contemplating them one by one, is to be numbered with the vastly preponderating majority of true Christians, yet in the aggregate of its features, that is, as a denomination among the people of Christ, it is in numbers, greatly below several others.

The character of a Church, its truthfulness, adaptation, and working power, will certainly be known by its enlightening and saving influence upon and among men.

The question, however, may still be agitated, why has not the Presbyterian Church grown more rapidly? Why has the Baptist Church, about its equal in age in this country, and occupying the same fair field of competition, outgrown it four-fold?

It is hardly permissible to say, that Christianity in its lower forms, is better adapted to the masses. He who gave to the Gospel its purity, elevation, and beauty, knew what man is; and he intended to save men, and his intentions are the out-goings of infinite wisdom.

It is a different matter, but, is it not the right way? May not the people be informed as to their own affairs? What are religious journals for, if it is not to circulate information, and discuss questions of living interest—questions which belong to the Church, as matters of duty and activity?

Neither will it be entirely proper in us, to assign our comparatively slow progress to the defective mental culture of the community. We have our own children with us in their birth; and in civil government, and in all educational means of influence, our position has been second to no denomination in the land.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN PITTSBURGH. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, (N. S.) will meet in this city, on the 17th inst., in the Third Presbyterian Church.

DR. EDWARDS' THIRD LETTER ON THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

This letter discusses, in part, the expenditures of the Board. The writer notes the fact that the Board is doing a Church work, and hence there should be a due economy—no sinecures, no merely honorary positions, no pensions.

The expenses of the store are then given, as being \$11,365.88, of which amount the Secretary receives \$2,500, being \$600 below what is paid to any other of our Secretaries.

THE CHURCH AT FT. WAYNE. The disposition to prepare historical sketches of particular churches, is growing. It should be cherished. A knowledge of the past gratifies curiosity, and is fruitful of benefits.

J. L. WILLIAMS, Esq., of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, has received the First Presbyterian church of that place from this undesirable liability. We have before us, in a neat pamphlet of twenty-seven pages, a Lecture by this worthy brother in the Eldership, which sketches its history from its first occupancy by the French, as a trading post, soon after the year 1700.

THE N. S. VIETOR.—The Vietor, in its new and improved form, has reached us. It is now a beautiful little sheet. It is to appear monthly, at twenty-five cents a year; for copies for \$1.00; fifty copies for \$4.50; or one hundred copies for \$8.00.

GENERAL SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. This body will assemble in the church of the Rev. Mr. McMILLAN, Allegheny City, on the evening of Wednesday, next week, the 16th inst.

RECEIPTS FOR APRIL. Greenville, Blairville Presbytery, \$9.00; Lower Ten Mile, Washington Presbytery, 2.65; Warren, Allegheny City Presbytery, 6.00; Concord, do, do, do, 1.00; Freedom, do, do, do, 4.00; Total, \$22.65; Received, \$22.65; Balance, \$0.00.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

A number of gentlemen in Boston determined that the late President of HARVARD COLLEGE should not be troubled with regard to the means of comfortable support in his old age, and accordingly presented him with \$12,000.

THE SALE OF THE LIBRARY OF THE LATE MR. PERCIVAL, the poet, geologist, &c., of which so much has been said since his decease, lasted six days. It contained many valuable works.

THE REV. DR. GUYER'S SECRETARY (UNITED STATES), has recently signified his intention to present a full volume of thirteen (thirteen) thousand dollars for the elegant new church now building at the corner of Arlington Street.

THE REV. DR. CHEEVER HAS BEEN IN HOT WATER with his church, and the agency in Great Britain for collecting funds for his aid. Meetings after meeting has called speech after speech, and has been the bitterest feelings have been expressed by both parties, and the difficulties are not settled.

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PHILADELPHIA.

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