

Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1860.

Thirtysix new students have entered Allegheny Seminary.

Works of Sessions, in the Presbytery of Ohio, are requested to send reports to Rev. Geo. MARSHALL, D. D., Upper St. Clair, Pa., that they may make out a report from Presbytery to the Synod. Send soon.

The Board of Colportage of the Synods of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, will hold its semi-annual meeting in the Presbyterian Rooms, St. Clair Street, Pittsburgh, on Thursday, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M. A full attendance is requested.

JAMES CAROTHERS, President.

New Church Organized.—A Committee of the Presbytery of Allegheny City organized a new church near Courtney's Station, on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, Friday, the 7th inst., consisting of twenty-one members. A considerable amount of property in this vicinity is about coming into market, and in a few years there will probably be a large population at this point. The name of the new organization is Emsworth, the name of the Courtney Farm as originally patented at the land office.

END OF A VOLUME.

The present number completes the eighth volume of the Presbyterian Banner. A prompt renewal of subscriptions is earnestly desired. We wish also an increase. Will not our friends help us? We press the more urgently, from a confidence that the subscriber is amply remunerated; and that whoever induces his neighbor to take the Banner, confers a very great benefit upon that neighbor and his family.

We cannot promise rewards and premiums. Our terms are too low for that; but we trust that ministers and elders, and all good men, women, and children will aid from a principle of love. Sustain THE BANNER.

NOT SINGULAR.

We would remind our subscribers that obituaries must be paid for at the rate of five cents per line of nine words, payment in advance. The simple announcement of the death will not be charged for. Payment invariably to be forwarded with the manuscript, as we can not open accounts for such items.—Presbyter, Sept. 1st.

In the above extracts our readers will see that we are not singular in making a charge for obituary notices, which extend beyond the announcement. Nor are Presbyterian papers singular. It is a custom, and ought to be regarded as reasonable. Some of our contemporaries charge for the simple announcement, and for marriage notices, and for notices of meetings of Presbyteries, Synods, &c., all of which we give gratuitously. Printers of Presbyterian papers do a great deal of work for which they send no bills.

THE NEW SCHOOL SOUTH.

This body, though small, must not be entirely forgotten. They still strive to maintain their distinctive features, and a self-perpetuation. Their organ, the Knoxville Witness, in a late number, presents a letter from Rev. Dr. BOYD, relative to their contemplated Seminary:

You are aware that the United Synod determined at its meeting in Lynchburg in May, 1859, to permit the Seminary near the University of Virginia. This location was selected because it was thought that, apart from the influence which an institution of the kind would be likely to have upon so large a body of Southern young men as are assembled at the University of Virginia, the benefits resulting from attendance upon the lectures of the Professors of the University or Theological students would be great, and would be a compensation for the increased expense that must be incurred at that place.

Application was accordingly made to the Board of Visitors at its meeting in 1859 and 1860, to permit our Theological students to attend the lectures of the Professors without charge, and also to have the use of the library of the University upon the terms prescribed for the students of the University. To our great surprise the Board of Visitors, by a majority of two, have declined to accede to our proposition.

Some \$40,000 are still needed for the endowment.

DRINKING POISON.

Last week Dr. Cox delivered a couple of lectures in the Lecture Room of Dr. PRESSLY'S church, Allegheny, that should alarm the drinkers of beer and liquors, and awaken concerted movement throughout the entire community against the further progress of the drinking habits that have been so greatly revived among us. Because, if the Dr. be a true man, as he is generally supposed to be, and if the tests are reliable, which can be easily determined, most of what is now drunk under the names of beer, whiskey, brandy, and wine, is nothing less than diluted poison—and not so very diluted after all.

He pronounced a specimen of Lager Beer, from one of the most popular establishments for that kind of manufacture in Allegheny, to have in its ingredients tobacco, instead of hops. A bottle of whiskey, obtained from one of the most respectable liquor dealers in Pittsburgh, was found to contain a large amount of sulphuric acid. With respect to brandy, he said that instead of being made from wine, its base was generally bad whiskey, containing sweet spirits of nitre, sulphuric acid, lead, lime, chloroform, and other ingredients. In wine he had found arsenic. Sulphate of zinc was very common in gin. Strychnine was a most powerful stimulant, and would make one barrel of liquor go as far as four. He had examined a specimen of imported old Cogniac, and discovered it to have whiskey as a base, with fuel oil, sulphuric acid, chloroform, pepper, &c. In view of these facts, why will people continue to use such maddening and death-dealing preparations any longer? And why is the community so regardless of such fearful ruin?

WASHINGTON COLLEGE, PA.

The exercises preparatory to the late Commencement in Washington College, began on Sabbath, September 2d. On the morning of that day, the Baccalaureate Sermon was preached by the President, Rev. JOHN W. SCOTT, D. D., from 1 Kings ii: 2—"Show thyself a man." In the evening Rev. W. M. FRANKSON preached to the Society of Religious Inquiry, from Luke viii: 35—"Sitting at the feet of Jesus." These texts were admirably adapted to the occasion, and we doubt not, were the foundations of sermons in a high degree appropriate. We heard them so spoken of by persons who were present, and we should so expect from our knowledge of the preachers. Both are sound evangelical men, and each throws a whole heart into his ministry for Jesus.

We did not reach Washington till noon on Tuesday, when we were doomed, with multitudes of others, to a sad disappointment. The Literary Societies were to have been addressed, that evening, by Rev. R. J. BRECKINRIDGE, D. D., and they, with the citizens, and many strangers, had been anticipating a feast. But the speaker did not come.

Dr. BRECKINRIDGE was prevented by sickness in his family from fulfilling his engagement. A large audience, however, assembled on that evening, to hear the valedictory addresses of members of the graduating Class, to their respective Societies, and responses to the same. All these performances were highly creditable to the young gentlemen concerned. The Union Literary Society was represented by H. G. BLANNEY, and G. W. ROGERS; and the Washington Society by W. M. S. EAGLESON, and R. W. DAWSON. At the close of these exercises an admirable address was delivered to the members of the Class of 1857, who were present, by Mr. HENRY WOODS, a member of the class, previously chosen by them for this purpose.

The exercises of the Commencement proper were held on Wednesday, September 5th. Rev. SAMUEL WILSON, D. D., of Dunlap's Creek, led in prayer. Addresses were delivered by twelve members of the graduating Class. Distinctions were awarded to five of the Class, in the order we name them: H. A. NEWELL, J. E. EDMONDS, J. L. MILLIGAN, S. M. HENDERSON, and T. D. EWING. The speaking on the occasion was excellent. In naturalness we may have heard it excelled, but in fullness of voice and distinctness of enunciation, it was far beyond what is customary on such occasions. The composition also was fine, and the thoughts good. Of all this, and especially of the distinctness of their utterance, the young men had before them the most convincing evidence. The immense audience was silent and attentive. This thought should be impressed upon every man who would occupy the pulpit or the platform, or who would rise in a deliberative assembly. It is, mainly, for the speaker to preserve order. A sense of propriety may be powerful for a while, but an audience soon become tired of sitting still and hearing nothing. They must be entertained by the speaker, or they will entertain themselves in talking, or they will fall asleep. From the specimen we had on the stage at Washington, we think that those young men are not likely to speak to a sleeping or a talking audience.

The first degree in the Arts was conferred by President SCOTT, upon the following thirty-one young gentlemen, who comprised the Senior Class, viz: J. W. Allen, Belmont County, Ohio; M. L. Anderson, Eminton, Pa.; Henry G. Blayney, Ohio County, Va.; J. M. Blayney, Ohio County, Va.; W. L. Boyd, Monroe County, Ohio; Wm. A. Childs, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Wm. S. Eagleson, Jaffalo, Pa.; J. E. Edmonds, Piqua, Ohio; T. E. Ewing, Jacksonville, Pa.; Henry Gaits, Washington County, Pa.; Samuel Graham, Clarion County, Pa.; Samuel T. Griffin, Washington, Pa.; J. J. Hazlet, Jacksonville, Pa.; Samuel M. Henderson, Bowersville, Ohio; Wm. Jack, Jacksonville, Pa.; James Jeffery, Pittsburgh, Pa.; David Hull Leary, Wellsville, Ohio; Edward Payne Lewis, Washington, Pa.; R. J. McGregor, Belmont County, Ohio; David A. McLaughlin, Washington County, Pa.; J. F. Martin, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; J. M. Maxwell, Freeman's Landing, Va.; John C. Meley, West Middletown, Pa.; Wm. T. Meley, West Middletown, Pa.; J. L. Milligan, Leckeburg, Pa.; Henry A. Newell, Paris, Ill.; Benjamin F. Powell, Lake Spring, Pa.; John B. Reed, Suffolk, Pa.; S. S. Sloan, Rural Valley, Pa.; H. H. White, Salsburg, Pa.; D. C. Wilson, Indiana, Pa.

The degree of A. M. was conferred in course upon the class of three years standing, viz: J. W. Achness, Richard Carson, Samuel Conn, Geo. K. Orcraft, Chas. F. French, Wm. A. Hanway, Joseph Hays, S. P. Kinkaid, S. G. McFarland, J. H. H. Sherrard, Jas. P. F. Cockton, Jas. W. Warden, Joseph Wagh, Frederic H. Wines, Henry Woods.

The honorary degree of A. M. was conferred upon Mr. Benjamin Shoemaker, Professor elect in the Maryland Agricultural College, and on Dr. J. D. White, of Philadelphia.

The degree of D. D. was conferred upon Rev. R. E. Westbrook, Philadelphia, Pa.; Rev. James W. McKenna, Frankfort, Pa.; Rev. Isaac Greer, Millersburg, Pa.; and Rev. John Scott, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The congregation was dismissed with the benediction, by Rev. J. J. MARKS, D. D. The prospects of Washington College were presented as being quite favorable. The late Senior Class was the largest which has ever left the institution; and one element of strength to a College, always, is the number of its graduates. Of this class, twenty have the Christian ministry in view. The Chair of Mathematics, so acceptably occupied by Prof. ALRICH, for some twenty-nine years, is temporarily filled by an excellent young man from the Western Theological Seminary. The Department of Natural History, ably conducted by Prof. BREWER, who retires, is to be under the direction of Prof. WESTER, whose name is most favorably recommended. The Chair of Latin will be filled by a suitable teacher, till a permanent professor may be chosen. Expecting a communication, shortly, relative to the condition and interests of the Institution, from a source whence full and reliable information may proceed, we suspend our own remarks.

A KINDNESS.

While we utterly repudiate a union of Church and State, and all intermeddling, the one with the other, we are yet pleased to see mutual acts of courtesy and kindness toward each other, on the part of their functionaries. It is perfectly becoming in the ministers of a city to volunteer a chaplaincy to Congress, or to a State Legislature, and it is equally proper and praiseworthy for a public officer to afford to a minister the means of personal comfort, or

facilities for prosecuting the duties of his calling. The kindness we now notice is the tender of a chaplaincy to Rev. S. B. McPHERSON, D. D., of St. Louis, Mo., which his congregation have granted him leave, for a year, to accept. Dr. McPHERSON's health has, for some time, been very feeble. He goes to Fort Union, New Mexico, where there is a delightful climate, and where he will have a temporary field of usefulness in the army, while enjoying the means of recuperating his physical constitution.

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

This institution was opened on Monday, the 10th, for the reception of students, and thirty-three young gentlemen entered regularly. The professors were all present; and a large number of the members of last year's Middle and Junior Classes were promptly in the Hall, ready to resume their important work.

On Tuesday the Faculty and students, with a number of the Directors and other friends of the Seminary, convened to hear the opening address, by Prof. WILSON. Rev. Dr. ELLIOTT presided. Rev. Dr. GRAHAM, Reformed Presbyterian minister of Liverpool, England, led in prayer. Prof. Wilson's address was brief, able, learned, earnest, eloquent. It was a most happy manifestation of the doctrine which he taught. Its practical value was manifest to the audience by the living example before them. This augurs well for a session of vast improvement.

Prof. Wilson's subject was, "HABITS OR STUDY." That every man shall form good habits is of vast importance. Habits guide the life. This is most emphatically true of the minister. The student must have a perfect control of his mind. This is an acquired power; or rather, a habit. To attain it there must be mental discipline, fixedness of attention, repetition of effort, concentration of energies. Concentration is the great secret of success. Study must grow into a habit that it shall become delightful, the mind's pleasure, the soul's joy. Study baptized with the spirit of prayer, and consecrated to Christ, is not antagonistic to a true religious fervor, but conducive of it.

The first great point to be gained, then, is to form such habits of study that intellectual exertion will be a delight. The second great point is accuracy and thoroughness. One well digested principle or truth, said the speaker, is worth five hundred crudities and half-formed conceptions. To do this our knowledge of the pen is of great service. Dr. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER used to tell his students to use the pen daily. "Writing makes a ready man." Cicero dwelt upon the importance of this to all who would be accurate thinkers. Writing, like study, must become a pleasure.

Again, there must be A PURPOSE in our studies—a definite end must be contemplated—something useful, honorable, worthy of the man, and beneficial to his fellows. And then we must have SYSTEM—a method by which to reach that purpose. This will keep us from wasting our powers, and frittering away our energies. Method will also enable us to turn all our knowledge to account. When we get a new idea we will know what to do with it—where to put it.

These habits must be formed—formed while you are at the Seminary. You must address yourselves to hard work, and persevere till you love it. Labor is an ordinance of God. Genius cannot take its place. All who would be useful must work earnestly, untiringly. What the world calls genius, is but the evidence of well-directed toil.

Seek your happiness in your work. If you do not find it there you will seek for it in vain elsewhere. If students have come to this Seminary dreaming of ease and idleness, they have come to the wrong place. We have no room here for idlers. "In the sweat of thy face" was the condition of success proposed to man, immediately on his fall; and it is a condition unchanged. Sir ISAAC NEWTON said he made his acquisitions by constantly thinking. He persevered; added little to little; till in the end, he realized acquisitions immense. If any of these young men shall find room here for ease, his epitaph may be written at once. It is very brief—"Died a Drone."

The theological student looks forward to a work, the like of which is not on earth—a work which will require all his powers, when cultivated to the highest degree practicable, and drawn out to their utmost tension. Let him note it now. Life is a solemn thing. Meet your responsibilities. The world must be redeemed by the Gospel, and you are to be the heralds. The Christian ministry is to do it, and you are being formed into that ministry.

After the address, four additional students were received, making on the whole, thirty-seven matriculates. This is the highest number ever received at the opening of a session. The return of last year's students is also larger than has been customary at a period so early. The Professor elect to the Fifth Chair, Rev. WILLIAM M. PAXTON, D. D., was present. We have not heard of a day as fixed for his inauguration. It may possibly be deferred till the meeting of the Synod of Allegheny, which will occur shortly.

A PROPHECY OF MOHAMMED.

MOHAMMED seems to have been aware that the religion which he was founding, would not be perpetual. He had some familiarity with the Scriptures, and a degree of capability for appreciating them. Many things in his system he drew there, but with great perversions. Among other things he studied the prophecies, and there learned of the coming prevalence and of the perpetuity of the Kingdom of Christ. Hence, of course, his own must decline. This is remarkably noticed in a recent letter of AND-EL-KADER, in the *Berger's Bazaar*, an Arabic journal published in France. We give, from an exchange, a portion of the letter: "Your advice might be listened to if you were speaking to the living, but you are talking to the dead. Mussulman sovereignty ought to have justice, but she is far from this. The actual state of the Christian Mohammedan powers was pre-

dicted by MOHAMMED. He announced the fall of the Caesars, and there are no Caesars. He said, also, that the Christians would maintain themselves to the end of all ages; and that the kings of his people would be deposed by God on account of their injustice and their love of the goods of this life. He said, too, that the world would not come to an end till the majority of mankind had become Christians. And this must come to pass, for according to HAMMED, the authorized exponent of MOHAMMED, the Christians have four qualities which insure their success in the future; clemency in victory, resistance under defeat, energy in renewing the fight, and benevolence to the poor, the weak, and the orphan. I will add, for myself, that to these they add another greater gift—that of the power to shed off, when it is necessary, the injustice and the oppression of their kings. I weep, O my God! over the prostration of ISLAM. At this moment a fearful trouble reigns between the Druses and the Maronites. Every where the evil is doing its work, killing and slaying, and poisoning one another everywhere. God grant a better end to all these things. Yours in poverty, but rich before God. "AND-EL-KADER."

COMPARISONS—MISSIONARY STATISTICS.

Comparisons are odious. So says the old saw, and it is right as regards a large class of them. The *North Carolina Presbyterian*,\* in one of its gratuitous efforts to injure us, perpetrates the following: "The Board cannot afford to have an inefficient or an unproductive force in the office. The Minutes of the Assembly show that the entire contribution to the Board by the Synod of Pittsburgh, to which the Editor belongs, amount for the year to \$3,817. Granting that all the ministers in that Synod are numbered with Dr. McKinley (and we know some who are not) let us compare that amount with the contributions of some other parts of the Church which demand an efficient and laboring force. The Synod of New York City contributes \$14,396—or four times as much—though the Presbyterian of that Board has but three centred Synods in which this injurious agitation has been carried on by the Board's agency. Dr. Phillips' church gives \$5,765 and the *Banner's* own Presbytery only \$1,966. Dr. Potts' \$4,498. Dr. McElroy's \$1,000. There are two or three single churches which demand two Secretaries, and which give more to the Board than the two or three centred Synods in which this injurious agitation has been carried on by the Board's agency. Dr. Phillips' church gives \$5,765 and the *Banner's* own Presbytery only \$1,966. Dr. Potts' \$4,498. Dr. McElroy's \$1,000. There are two or three single churches which demand two Secretaries, and which give more to the Board than the two or three centred Synods in which this injurious agitation has been carried on by the Board's agency. Dr. Phillips' church gives \$5,765 and the *Banner's* own Presbytery only \$1,966. Dr. Potts' \$4,498. Dr. McElroy's \$1,000. There are two or three single churches which demand two Secretaries, and which give more to the Board than the two or three centred Synods in which this injurious agitation has been carried on by the Board's agency. 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