Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1861.

☞ Having purchased for our office the p "Right" to use Pick's accounting and Dispatch Patent, all, or nearly all, of our subscribers now have their papers addressed to them regularly by a singularly unique machine, which fastens on the white margin a small colored "address stamp," or label, whereon appears their name plainly printed, followed by the date up to which they have paid for their papers—this being authorized by an Act of Congress: The date will always be advanced on the receipt of subscription money, in exact accordance with the amount so received, and thus serve as a ready and valid receipt; securing to every one, and at all times, a perfect knowledge of his newspaper account, so that if any error is made he can immediately detect it and have it corrected—a boon alike valuable to the publisher and subscriber, as it must terminate all painful misunderstandings between them respecting accounts, and thus tend to perpetuate their important relationship.

**** Those in arrears will please remit.*

Rev. Henry Kendall, D.D.—This brother, whose appointment to the office of Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions of the New School Presbyterian Church we noticed some time ago, has accepted the office, and will preach his farewell sermon to the people of the Third Presbyterian church, next Sabbath. During Dr. KENDALL'S residence in this city, the church of which he was pastor prospered greatly under his labors, and he made many friends among all denominations, all of whom greatly regret his departure from a field of great usefulness and much promise.

The American Theological Review for October, is a very able number of one of our best Theological Reviews. It has the following articles: I. The Homeric Doctrine of the Gods; II. The Life and Character of Emmons; III. The Will in its Normal and Abnormal States; IV. The Constitutionality of the Sunday Laws; V. The Moral Aspects of the Present Struggle; VI. The Calvinism of the Church of England; VII. Theological and Literary Intelligence; VIII. Literary and Critical Notices of New Books.

Edited by Rev. HENRY B. SMITH, D.D., Professor in Union Theological Seminary, New-York. Published by W. H. BIDWELL, No. 5 Beekman Street, New-York.

The Christian Observer.—Our readers will remember that this paper, published in Philadelphia, by the Rev. Dr. CONVERSE, of the New-School Presbyterian Church, was suppressed some time ago by the Government, on account of its treasonable tendencies. Last week a half sheet of the paper was issued in which there was a long enumeration of the causes leading to its first establishment, of the work its has done, and of the circumstances attending its suppression. But the proprietors announce its suspension for the present on the ground that the freedom of the press has been seriously interfered with. This we take to be a roundabout way of saying that unless treason can be tolerated the *Observer* cannot be published. On the whole, we have come to the conclusion that it is best to support the Government even if we should be compelled to do without the *Observer*.

Board of Colportage.—The Annual Meeting of the Board of Colportage will be held at the Rooms, on Hand Street, next Tuesday, the 5th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M. A full attendance is requested. The following are the members of the Board:

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.—*Ministers*—Samuel M'Clung, David M'Kinney, D.D., John M. Hastings, Wm. D. Howard, D.D., M. W. Jacobus, D.D., Richard Lea J. R. Hughes, A. C. M'Clelland, Geo. Marshall, D.D. *Elders*—Jas. Carothers, Isaac McJunkin, Wm. Campbell, J. D. M'Cord, F. G. Bailey, Wm. Bakewell, Luke Loomis, Richard Bard.

SYNOD OF ALLEGHENY.—*Ministers*—E. E. Swift, B. C. Critchlow, R. L. M'Aboy, James Allison, L. L. Conrad, Wm. F. Kean, W. M. Blackburn, L. Young, D.D., D. A. Cunningham. *Elders*—J. W. Johnston, James B. Lawson, J. R. Wilson, John Reynolds, Robert McKnight, T. H. Nevin, B. R. Bradford, James Schoonmaker, S. S. Spencer, S. McMaster.

JAS. CAROTHERS, President.

POSTAGE STAMPS AND SMALL NOTES.

The *old style* of postage stamps have now become utterly useless to us. Please do not send them.

Denominations *larger* than three cents are of but little value to us. We can use but a few of them, and our Post Master will not exchange them. Please do not send these.

Three cent stamps we use to a large extent, but they are accumulating, and we have much trouble in disposing of the surplus. Send these only for change, under a dollar.

One cent stamps we can use, both on letters and papers, and as these are not abundant we can use all that are likely to be sent.

The time was when our Post Master would take stamps off our hands, but that time is past. Hence our requests.

Small Notes, of sound banks in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, New Jersey, New-York, and the New-England States, we can use. Please send us these, when gold is not convenient, for sums under five dollars.

Princeton Theological Seminary.—A correspondent of the Boston *Recorder* thus speaks of the new Professor of Church History in this honored Seminary:

The corps of new Professors recently organized by the General Assembly is, for the first time, complete. The recently elected Professor, Dr. MOFFAT, was, on Tuesday last, installed in the Chair of Church History. This appointment is immensely popular with those who were under his instruction in Nassau Hall, and is beginning to be with others, as they have opportunity to listen to his splendid lectures. Having almost insurmountable obstacles to overcome in early life, he has pushed his way, by merit alone, through various stages of influence, till he has been assigned this Chair. History has always been his favorite pursuit—his life's study—in which, both sacred and profane, he has few equals. While his lectures, thus far, are on the philosophy of history—the tracing of all events to the great Source—and the searching for the very springs which move all action, they are so simple that they may be understood by the merest child. When one listens to his glowing sentences, his rich and mellifluous language, combined with depth of thought and extensive research, he is carried on the rapturous wings of eloquence whithersoever the speaker willeth. We can be the more reconciled to the loss of one whom the whole world delighted to honor, when he has such a successor! May his life be precious in the sight of his Master.

MINISTERS AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

The influence of the ministry on the sentiments, character and condition of a community, is immense. Man has a conscience, and the development and culture of that conscience belongs to those who officiate in sacred things. And conscience has to do with a very large circle of social affairs. It is to take cognizance of every thing respecting which God has spoken. The whole Bible, then, is but the limit of the subjects on which conscience acts; and hence nought but the Bible can justly bound the functions of the minister. Bible subjects, Bible sentiments, and Bible spirit, are his directory and guide. The ministry thus may well be held responsible, to a great extent, for the condition of society. We know that there are ten thousand other influences at work, besides theirs, and some of them are antagonistic and powerful; but still, it is the teachings of the ministry which made men, in a great measure, what they are; or it is the want of teaching, or a defect in teaching, which leave men to the action of those other influences, and so causes their character to be fixed where it is found.

The Scriptures, as we have stated, treat of all social subjects—of husbands and wives, parents and children, masters and servants, rulers and people. They treat also of the dealings and intercourse of men with each other, as to character, person, and property. On all these subjects, then, *in their moral aspect*, ministers are to expound and apply the Scriptures, and so influence society in its thoughts and ways.

The foregoing remarks being correct—and they will hardly be disputed—the ministry are entitled to a large share of the praise or blame, for the present condition of the country. If Southern ministers had dwelt adequately upon the rights of servants and the duties of masters; and if Northern ministers had taught, fairly and fully, the rights of masters and the duties of servants; and if ministers, both North and South, had given due instruction on the obligations of an oath, and the sanctity of law, and the duty of patriotism, and the sin of interfering with the social and political prerogatives of our neighbors; and if all this had been done in the clear light and sweet spirit of the Gospel, the war now upon us would never have come. Peace and love, forbearance and kindness would have reigned triumphant.

We have heard much about the preaching of Northern ministers, as producing the sentiment and conduct which brought on the war—have heard, possibly, far more than is true, and yet it is not all untrue. And so also it is charged, and as we believe rightfully charged, upon Southern ministers, that they were the leaders in diffusing the war spirit among the people. An intelligent writer in the South Carolina *Presbyterian*, said that they, (that is, the movers in Secession,) would never have dared to make the declaration, only for the sustentation they received from the ministry. And so also in the Middle States, and even in the good Old School Presbyterian Church, the ministers are not free from responsibility. Our conservatism was so fixed, and our dread of the charge of political preaching was so paralysing, that scarcely one in a hundred of us dared to tell the people what God said about servitude, and about government. Hence the masses, uneducated as to true social sentiment on these subjects, and uninformed as to Gospel precepts and principles in these relations, were ready to yield to the other influences around them; instead of being able, as Christian patriots should be, to either quell a threatening storm, or to guide its course and modify its fury.

And now that we have waked up to the importance of handling neglected subjects, there may be danger of our going too far. True, the principle of "a word in season," is to direct us in the choice of topics for sermons; but the effectiveness of ministerial power, of which we speak, is not only, nor yet mainly, put forth on special occasions. It belongs to systematic instruction, the implanting of principles, the education and care of a people from year to year, from childhood to manhood, and thence to old age. It is in the general character of preaching and teaching, that there is put forth the minister's great influence in social affairs.

DR. LORD'S FAST-DAY SERMON.—ANOTHER WORD IN THE BIBLICAL REPERTORY.

In the *Biblical Repertory*, for October, two pages are occupied in reviewing a Sermon preached by Rev. J. C. LORD, D.D., of Buffalo, New-York, on the late National Fast. We transfer them to our columns, believing that many persons will be interested in the brief notice of the sentiments of the preacher, and also in hearing again from the Editor.

"Dr. LORD was extensively known as one of the most 'conservative' ministers of our Church; that is, as one of the most zealous opponents of abolitionism, and one of the most determined advocates of Southern rights and principles. He is only one instance, among thousands, of a thorough change, not perhaps of opinions, but of position. The men most opposed to the anti-slavery agitation at the North are now most prominent in their opposition to the pro-slavery rebellion at the South. The whole *status* of the question has been changed. Since Southern politicians have thrown off their allegiance to the Union and Constitution, which they had sworn to support, and have, by false representations and by appeals to popular passion, goaded the majority of the people in some of the States to open rebellion, the reason, the conscience, and the religion of the North, have united in denouncing this rebellion (in the language of the Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON, of Baltimore,) as the most wicked and insane known in modern history. The distinction of parties is forgotten in this great questson of National life or death. Those at the North and West, who dissent from this judgment, who stand aloof from this great National movement, are utterly insignificant in number and weight of character. The all but universal conviction is, that there can now be but two parties, patriots and traitors, those for their country and those against it. This upheaving of Nationality, this universal rising of the people in favor of their institutions and government, has the force of an irresistible torrent. It is not wonderful, therefore, that it should threaten to carry individuals, and even bodies of men, beyond the bounds of wisdom and justice. In our humble judgment, it did carry the venerable Assembly of our Church, at its recent sessions, beyond the limits of its Constitutional authority. It demanded that the Assembly should decide a question which it had no more right to decide than the title to a contested estate. The members of the Assembly might have a strong conviction that the title of right vested in one party, and that the other was sinning against honor and justice in disputing his claim; yet no one would pretend that the Assembly, in virtue of its prerogative to rebuke all sin, could decide the legal question of ownership. So they had the strongest conviction that the allegiance of American citizens is due to the Constitution of the United States, anything in the laws or acts of a particular State to the contrary notwithstanding. But whether this theory of our political union is correct or not, it is not the prerogative of a Church Court to decide. Yet the Assembly was driven by the patriotic spirit which was aroused within and around them, to decide that question for all under its spiritual jurisdiction. There is a like danger now; we fear that the people may be driven to forget the true and legitimate object of the war in which we are engaged. It is a defensive, not an aggressive war. It is a war for preservation, not for subjugation or change. God has given our rulers the wisdom and grace to announce to the world that it is a war not for the overthrow of the Constitution, not for the abolition of Slavery, nor an abrogation of the Constitutional rights of the separate States, but for the defence of the Government and for the integrity of the institutions which we are all pledged to support. Dr. LORD'S sermon is one among many similar indications, that some of our most conservative men, men who have prided themselves as being the special friends of the South, are in danger of making this an anti-Slavery war, a war to subvert and not to support the Constitution. This, we think, is greatly to be deprecated as both unjust and impolitic. We have no right to abolish Slavery, except as an act of confiscation of the property of rebels, or as an act of imperative necessity for self-preservation. Of such necessity for an act which would probably lead to the unutterable horrors of servile insurrections, which would consolidate the South and divide the North; and which would involve the negroes in imminent danger of extermination, there is at present no such prospect as to justify the serious proposal of any such measure. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. Let the future take care of itself. Slavery is undoubtedly doomed in the border States which take part in the rebellion. It cannot exist in the rear of the armies of the Union; not because of any act of emancipation, but because of the inevitable insecurity of property in slaves under such circumstances. It is of the last importance that the country should be right, and that it should be united. It is united at the North and West as one man, as to the right and necessity of suppressing rebellion and sustaining the Union, Constitution, and Government of the country, and thousands in the South earnestly pray for our success. Beyond this, we have no common ground to stand upon."

Our readers will here perceive that the Editor of the *Repertory*, while sound in his own views, and bold to declare his soundness, is yet determined to consign the Church to silence, or rather to condemn her because she has spoken what is admitted to be truthful. Happily the great body of our ministers and elders feel it to be their duty to be right on the question of civil government, and to maintain the right, not only individually, but ministerially and ecclesiastically. Where the Scriptures lead the way, they fear not to follow. Hence not only the Assembly, but Presbyteries and Synods, with wonderful unanimity, have declared it to be a religious duty to sustain the good government which God has given us, and under which he has enriched us with blessings.

The Church has been protected in the enjoyment of entire freedom and peace. She has had her Bible, her Sabbaths, her ordinances; her ministers, her schools, her printing presses, and her edifices for worship. Every protection she needed, and every privilege she could enjoy, she has had. And in her members and their families, she has had prosperity beyond all other people. In no country under the whole heaven has he granted to his chosen, a better inheritance than he has vouchsafed to us, under the civil Constitution and the laws. Surely the Church is bound to recognize his hand in the bestowment, to pray for the Government and those who administer it, to pay tribute cheerfully, and to sustain the country by all appropriate means.

What God's will is in regard to the continuance of Slavery, is not yet made manifest. Certainly it should at once be reduced to the principles and precepts of the Gospel. If so modified that the master while receiving a faithful service, should render unto his bondsmen "things which are just and equal," God might long permit it. We trust that he will look upon the land in his compassion, and lead us to do right, and remove the rod of his anger, and deal with us in mercy.

DAY OF THANKSGIVING.

Gov. CURTIN, of Pennsylvania, has issued the following Proclamation, appointing Thursday, the 28th of the present month as a day of Thanksgiving:

PENNSYLVANIA, SS:

In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I, ANDREW G. CURTIN, *Governor of said Commonwealth.*

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, Every good gift is from above, and cometh down to us from the Almighty, to whom it is meet, right, and the bounden duty of every people to render thanks for his mercies; therefore, I, ANDREW G. CURTIN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do recommend to the people of this Commonwealth, that they set apart THURSDAY, the 28th of November next, as a day of solemn thanksgiving to God, for having prepared our corn and watered our furrows, and blessed the labor of the husbandman, and crowned the year with his goodness, in the increase of the ground and the gathering in of the fruits thereof, so that our barns are filled with plenty; and for having looked favorably on this Commonweaith, and strengthened the bars of her gates, and blessed the children within her, and made men to be of one mind, and preserved peace in her borders; beseeching him, also, on behalf of these United States, that our beloved country may have deliverance from those great and apparent dangers wherewith she is compassed, and that the brave and loyal men now battling in the field for her life may have their arms made strong and their blows heavy, and may be shielded by his Divine power, and that he will mercifully still the outrages of a perverse, violent, unruly, and rebellious people, and give them clean hearts, and renew a right spirit within them, and give them grace that they may see the error of their ways and bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and hereafter, in all godliness and honesty, obediently walk in his holy commandments, and in submission to the just and manifest authority of the Republic, so that we, leading a quiet and peaceful life, may continually offer unto him our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

[L.S.] Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this sixteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-sixth. A. G. CURTIN.

By the Governor: *Eli Slifer,*
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

We trust that this will meet with a most hearty response from all our people. Notwithstanding our many calamities how great are the mercies and blessings bestowed on us? And if in time past we had rendered thanks unto God for his distinguishing favors to us, and if we had walked in the way of his commandments, as we ought to have done, the judgments that have come upon us might have been averted.

THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Those who remember the opposition to the action of the late Assembly on the state of the country, in and around Philadelphia, at the time, will be gratified at the evidences given of a change in sentiment by the brethren of that section of the Church.

The following resolutions were introduced into the Synod of Philadelphia (O. S.), which has just ended its sessions at Easton, by Rev. D. V. M'LEAN, D.D., who accompanied them with a brief and patriotic address. The resolutions were adopted unanimously, the members of the Synod in taking their vote expressing their earnestness by rising to their feet:

In view of the continuance of the deplorable civil war, brought upon our country by the infatuation and wickedness of a portion of our fellow citizens, with the avowed determination to destroy this government, which is the noblest monument of statesmanship and patriotism the world has ever seen, or is ever likely to see, the Synod of Philadelphia feel constrained as they stand in their lot, to place on their records and publish the following resolutions, viz.:

Resolved, That we cordially concur in the sentiments of the resolutions adopted by the late General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, on the state of the country.

Resolved, That we express our abiding and unwavering attachment to the Constitution and Government of our country as bequeathed to us by our fathers, and our determination to labor and pray for the speedy, effectual and unconditional suppression of the present most groundless, cruel and wicked rebellion in the history of any people; and for the integrity and perpetuity of the union of the States, under which, as a Nation and a Church, we have so greatly prospered.

Missionaries Sailed.—On Saturday of last week the ship *Po-Yang* sailed from New-York, taking out, among other passengers, the Rev. Messrs. JANVIER, ROBERTS, and GEORGE, with their wives, missionaries of our Board of Foreign Missions to Siam. A number of clergymen and others were present, to bid them God-speed. The parting religious services were very interesting.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

BOSTON AND NEW-ENGLAND.

NOTWITHSTANDING the great inducement offered to capitalists to invest in valuable stocks at low figures, and in Government securities at high rates of interest, a large amount of work has been done in this city during the year in erecting new buildings of various descriptions, caused mainly by the fact that both materials and labor have ruled at low rates, and that, as a consequence, a most propitious time for improving this class of property had arrived, which is likely to continue to the end of this fratricidal rebellion.

THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY of Christ Church (Episcopal) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was celebrated on Tuesday. The Boston *Traveller* says:

"Rev. Winwood Seargent was rector of this church from 1766 to the troublous times preceding the American Revolution. During this struggle divine services were omitted, the building at one time having been used as barracks for American soldiers.

"But when the wife of General Washington joined him, in December, 1775, the church, after being properly prepared, was for a short time used for its original purpose, the Liturgy having been read by a Colonel in the American army. Christ Church was probably used for religious worship on other occasions during the stay of the American army in Cambridge.

"It was not till 1790 that attempts were made to reestablish divine service in this church. For many years the rectors of Episcopal churches in Boston officiated as they had opportunity, and the different persons in the intervals acted as lay readers. The venerable William Jenks, D.D., of this city, served the parish in this capacity for eight years."

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY at New-Haven now contains a number of valuable archæological monuments and inscriptions—some of them the property of the American Oriental Society there deposited. A gentleman connected with the College favors the *Independent* with the following account of several of these inscriptions, which will interest all who are engaged in historical researches:

Within a few days past, a marble slab having engraved upon it an ancient Greek inscription, has been received by the American Oriental Society, and deposited with their collections in the library of Yale College. This remarkable stone has already been known to scholars. It was found by Rev. Homer B. Morgan, a missionary of the American Board, in a garden on the site of the ancient Daphne, near Antioch, in Syria, a place long celebrated for the worship, magnificently conducted, of Apollo and Artemis. "If Antioch has been compared to Paris," says Mr. Howson, "Daphne may be called its Versailles."

In addition to these recent gifts, the College has for many years been in the possession of two sepulchral inscriptions in honor of children, obtained from Kula, in Asia Minor, near the town of Mæonia, and not far from Philadelphia. They were obtained by Rev. Josiah Brewer, the missionary, now living at Stockbridge, Massachusetts. The dates on the one are 295 and 301, on the other 309, which belong to the era of Actium or of Augustus, and correspond to A. D. 204, 270 and 279 respectively.

A few months go one of our countrymen, Fitz-Edward Hall, Esq., D. C. L., who has long been resident in India as Inspector of Schools under the employ of the British government, presented three Sanscrit inscriptions, cut on stone, to the American Oriental Society, and they have likewise been recently deposited with the Society's Cabinet in New-Haven. These inscriptions are less ancient than those from Daphne and Beyrout, but, for other reasons, are of particular interest. They are supposed to date from the eleventh or twelfth century of the Christian era. They were found near Benares. Such monuments, away from India, are exceedingly rare, even in the museums of Europe.

The largest and more important of the three was discovered near the side of a temple which was in process of erection, where it had been brought as serviceable building material. When rescued it was about to be buried face downwards in one of the walls, where it would have been much more completely obscured than in the chimney-piece of the Beyroot monks. Two of the inscriptions have been printed, with an English version and notes by Dr. Hall, in the American Oriental Society's Journal, vol. vi. p. 498. It may not be known generally that the Society has a font of Sanscrit, (the only one in this country,) as well as other oriental type, by which it is constantly able to render important aid to the prosecution of philological science.

THE portraits of Isaac Toucey and Thos. H. Seymour, which the Legislature of Connecticut has ordered to be removed from the State House, have simply been taken out of their frames. The latter are left hanging upon the walls, perhaps to provoke inquiry and point a moral. The Comptroller has been instructed to return the portraits to the places they formerly occupied whenever he is satisfied of the loyalty of the ex-Governors.

NEW-YORK.

THE STEADY INCREASE in the prosperity of the loyal States since the beginning of September, owing to the large amount of cash expended by Government since that date, becomes more marked in its results each succeeding week. Among the most prominent evidences of this improvement in the general business of the city, we note that the average daily exchanges at the New-York Banks' Clearing-House, for the week ending Oct. 12th, were $18,996,892 against $13,707,671 for the week ending Aug. 24th, which includes the date (August 19th) on which the loan was taken by the Associate Banks. The bank exchanges are the fair index of the amount of business transactions which take place daily in the city of New-York, and their increase or decrease defines accurately the proportion of increase or decrease of our trade. The bank balances designate the amount of specie, which the trade of the city requires to carry on its vast domestic movements, when there is no foreign drain for specie. Our readers will readily perceive the importance to an intelligent merchant of the knowledge of these daily bank exchanges and balances, because they enable him to judge understandingly of the relative movements in the trade of the city. For example, it is apparent from the figures $13,707,671 on August 24th, and $18,996,892 on October 12th, that the daily transactions of New-York, in the week ending October 12th, were forty per cent. more than they were during the week ending August 24th, and from an examination of each daily and weekly statement of the Bank Exchanges since that date, it appears that there has been a gradual steady, progressive increase, natural to a healthy state of trade, and clearly traceable to the stimulus and confidence given to the business community by the immense Government disbursements of cash

THE COMMODIOUS and admirably contrived building on Blackwell's Island, devoted by the city to the accommodation of persons whose errors indicate a necessity for penitential reflection, is at present occupied by seven hundred and sixty-eight convicts. Five hundred and sixty-eight of these are males, while the number of the women does not exceed two hundred.

The highest grade of crime which incurs the restraints of this Institution is manslaughter, and the term of durance in no case exceeds ten years. Only one of this great number of evil-doers is held for that period, and he has yet a prospective residence of eight years.

NEARLY all of the daily journals make a common cause on the *Herald*, and darkly hint that its editor in Fort Lafayette would be the right man in the right place. The Ishmaelitish *Herald*, in turn, mingles in the battle with the cheerful gusto of a Hoosier in a Western free fight, and, after calling attention to its triple sheet, warns its "five hundred thousand" readers against its treasonable contemporaries, and demands that "the philosophers of the *Tribune*" and "the little villain" Raymond, of the *Times* shall be forthwith sent to Fort Lafayette. Thus the squabble goes on. Crimination is met by recrimination, old grudges are revived, and hard names are bandied back and forth; and if the advertising columns of the journals are not by these means filled, it won't be the fault of the quill-drivers.

RUMOR says that a new literary weekly is soon to be started in this city, under the editorial management of Mr. Charles F. Briggs, and that some of the prominent writers of the country—Mr. James Russell Lowell, Mr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Mr. Henry T. Tuckerman, Mr. James T. Fields, Mr. Edmund Quincy, etc.—have agreed to contribute to it. The general plan of the publication is to be that of *The London Saturday Review*.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT of a new magazine in this war time is a notable event. The program of the *Continental Monthly*, however, has gone forth, and the magazine will appear early in December from the press of George P. Putnam, of this city. Charles G. Leland undertakes the editorial charge, and will bring to his task an ample store of talent and experience. We infer that the *Continental* will be of the progressive school, and that it will be thoroughly patriotic is sufficiently indicated by the following passage from its prospectus:

"In politics it will advocate, with all the force at its command, measures best adapted to preserve the oneness and integrity of these United States. It will never yield to the idea of any disruption of this republic, peaceably or otherwise, and it will discuss, with honesty and impartiality, what must be done to save it."

DR. ORISON BLUNT, is nearly ready to open in this city a large Gun Factory. He will employ five hundred workmen in the manufacture of the army Springfield musket. The building is erected, and the necessary works are being put in, so that the establishment will be ready for full operation within thirty days.

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, of New-York, have expended one thousand dollars per month, for six months, for the Army and Navy. They have supplied the troops with *one thousand libraries*, comprising twenty-five thousand volumes. Of these, 600 were the "Soldiers' Camp Library," and 400 the "Soldier's Pocket Library," each consisting of twenty-five volumes.

Besides the above, they have supplied them with tracts, books, handbills, and periodicals, in English, German, French, Spanish, and other languages, to the amount of about four millions of pages. About two hundred and fifty regiments have shared in these appropriations.

PHILADELPHIA.

NEARLY all the conventions of the Protestant Episcopal Church have preferred to be silent on the national crisis, on the ground that ecclesiastical meetings have nothing to do with it. But the Board of Missions, which met on October 9th, at Philadelphia, could not well avoid the question, what ought to be done with those domestic missionaries, who had disclaimed any further connexion with the Church of the United States. Some members so much dreaded any reference to the secession question, that they wished to take no action on the subject at all; but a small majority thought it worth while to announce to those who had disconnected themselves from the Church that the Board would no longer pay their salaries.

THE MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL CONVENTION of Pennsylvania, in this city last week, was a noticable event in the history of that denomination, inasmuch as it resulted in the election of a successor to the late Bishop Bowman, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese. The Rev. Wm. Bacon Stevens, D.D., of this city, was chosen to this office, after several ballotings.

THE *Standard* says of the late meeting of the Synod of Philadelphia:

The meeting of this Synod was opened with a sermon on Thursday evening last by the Rev. W. R. Bingham, on Matt. xxvi: 56. The theme which the preacher evolved was the solitariness of Christ in accomplishing the work of redemption, and the presentation of it was very interesting and impressive. The Rev. John Farquhar was elected Moderator, and the Rev. Messrs. Dale and Ladd were continued as Clerks On Friday, the relationship of the Sabbath School to the Church drew forth an animated, lengthy, and profitable discussion. In the evening, the Rev. Dr. Jones tenderly and effectively urged the claims of the fund for disabled ministers, and was followed by the Rev. Dr. Martin, late Missionary in China, who pleaded in earnest and eloquent terms in behalf of a world perishing for lack of vision. The last half hour of each session of Synod was appropriated to devotional exercises, and the effect of this happy arrangement was very perceptible.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

A Soldier's First Experience in Battle.

[The following from an officer in our army, the son of an excellent minister in our Church, will exhibit the feelings with which our brave soldiers make their first acquaintance with the battle field.]

We went through our three months' probation as quietly and peacefully as most of the three months' volunteers did; but we've seen the shells bursting around us, heard the roar of cannon and rattle of musketry, and smelt the smoke of battle, at last.

Our company was just collecting from the picket posts for the usual morning drill on Wednesday, when we heard the heavy boom of cannon at Harper's Ferry. This alone did not disturb us much, for we have grown accustomed to hearing "cannon to right of us, cannon to left of us, cannot in front of us," and "nobody hurt" except some rebel haystack or rebel barn, on which our volunteer batteries frequently practice their raw recruits. But presently the firing grew heavier, and as we listened we could now and then distinguish the pattering fire of the skirmishers, and then the thr--r--rd of a whole battalion, and we felt that company G must button up their coats and gird on their belts, and await the summons that we felt sure would soon come. And come it did in the shape of a railroad engine that *reined up* at our headquarters with orders for our company to get on and steam back to the Ferry. Arrived on the bank opposite the town, we began to appreciate that we were at last entering battle. Right at our feet thundered a couple of 12-pounders, and right overhead, on the Maryland heights, a couple of the Rhode Island rifled guns; away across the Shenandoah we could see the shells of the enemy bursting in mid-air, in a puff of smoke, while the volleys of musketry continued over on the Bolivar Heights, behind the Ferry. We soon received orders to cross, which we did, accompanied by one piece of artillery. As we marched up the hill out of the town we began to meet the wounded and the dead, and as we mounted the crest of the hill we saw on the road ahead a cannon playing heavily on the enemy. After crossing a piece of road which was completely commanded by the enemy's cannon, and toward which they were directing their shells, (which happily for us burst prematurely above our heads,) we met Col. Geary, wounded as he was. He made us an exciting and enthusiastic speech. He told us of the hard fight that he had been sustaining, but that he trusted with our timely help, and the help of God, to gain the victory. Giving him three wild cheers, we deployed as skirmishers, and advanced to clear a line of woods on the right of our position. But the enemy did not wait for us; we dashed into the woods and emerged on the other side just in time to see the enemy's cavalry flying to the shelter of another wood, at some little distance. We were advancing toward this also, literally obeying Col. Geary's last words to us, "Your only command will be *forward*," when he sent word to us to fall back to the edge of the wood and hold it, as "he didn't wish to conquer all Virginia at once."

Here we rested, watching the enemy, who remained just out of reach of our Enfields, occupying some old outhouses on the left, and partially covered by the woods on our right. And then it was that the most thrilling incident of the whole day took place. I suppose that the enemy thought, that when we retired under cover of the woods we had retreated altogether; for our gray uniforms (their color improved for *skirmishing purposes* by three month's wear,) blended completely with the trunks of the trees. They were further deceived by a rally of the company adjoining us to the left, where they made a bayonet charge. Probably the Confederates thought that all our line had rallied there, from the noise of guns and the hurrahs and cries that arose "from that dread close." However this may be, we had not waited long before two Rebel officers boldly emerged from the woods on the extreme right of our line and advanced close to the edge of the woods where Company A was stationed, so close, that the eldest one was heard to say, as he made the sudden discovery, "——— the woods are full of soldiers!" "Halt!" cried our picket; the elder hesitated as he looked around and saw his retreat cut off, and nothing left but to surrender or make a dash along the road whose course lay parallel to our line at the distance of one hundred and fifty yards, and *for* the distance of six hundred. He hesitated but a moment—his companion beckoned him on, and they thrust the spurs into their steeds and ran the terrible gauntlet.

Never shall I forget the thrill that ran through me, as I saw them lean forward on their horses' necks and fly along, with a parallel line of fire flying along the edge of the woods as all the line of skirmishers successively discharged their guns. The splinters of the fences on either side of them flew and the dust arose before and behind them as that leaden hail hurtled around them, and still they dashed on unhurt. Every moment I expected to see those noble horses fall headlong, or their gallant riders sink from their seats, but on they went. At last, just as life and liberty were almost within their reach—just as a lane turned away toward their lines, the younger, a lieutenant, went down, and his riderless horse broke away and dashed up within our lines, a noble prize. The other—a large dark man in blue uniform, and whom we afterward learned was Col. Ashby, a Virginia cavalry officer of some reputation—turned away and escaped, but only galloped without the reach of our bullets, and then recklessly turned and seemed to be watching the fate of his comrade, while we, Company G, leaned on our rifles in sheer mortification, and yet with admiration, and withal a kind of satisfaction—a feeling of poetical justice—that such courage had its reward. That was all the battle on the right wing; Company G just got enough of the battle fever to give it thirst for more. They behaved beautifully; not a man shrank.

At dead of night, at signal of a big gun, we quietly withdrew, crossed the river, dispersed to our posts and fell into the old routine as quietly as if our first fight had been but a dream.

Yours, &c.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

Presbytery of Toledo.

The Presbytery of Toledo held its third semi-annual meeting at Vinton, on the 20th of September, and was opened with a sermon by Rev. Luther Dodd, the last Moderator present. The members were all present except Bro. Kirk, who, since the last meeting, had removed beyond our bounds.

The sessions of Presbytery were all pleasant and fraternal. A considerable portion of our time was spent in devotional exercises.

From the reports from all parts of the field, it was made very manifest that the sad calamity that had befallen the nation has absorbed the attention of all classes of people to an extent that leaves but little thought for their spirituality.

Mr. A. H. Forbes was ordained to the full work of the ministry as an evangelist. Rev. John Steele preached the sermon; Rev. Luther Dodd presided, and asked the constitutional questions, and Rev. Alexander Caldwell gave the charge.

Rev. James Kirk was dismissed to the Presbytery of Ohio.

The following is the assessment for Commissioner's fund to General Assembly: Toledo, $3.00; Salem, $3.00; Corinth, $2.50; Newton, $6.00; Vinton, $9.00; Big Grove, $2.00; Montezuma, $4.00; South Ridge, $2.00; Millersburg, $1.50; Shiloh, $2.00; Sand Prairie, $2.00; Rock Creek, $3.00; West Irving, $2.00.

A German church was organized during the Summer, and measures were taken for the organization of another, if the way should be open.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at West Irving on the third Friday of April, 1862, at 7 o'clock P. M.

JOHN STEELE, Stated Clerk.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

Acknowledgment.

The following contributions to the Board of Colportage were received during August and October:

Eldersridge cong., Saltsburg Presbytery	$ 6.26
Lebanon " " " "	7.32
Manchester German cong., Allegheny City Presbytery	50
Rev. Wm. Jeffery, D.D.	50
Lima cong., Findley Presb'y, Sandusky,	2.00
Little Grove cong., Findley P'by, "	1.00
	$18.18

JOHN CULBERTSON, Librarian.

PERSONAL.

Col. Edward D. Baker, who fell while fighting at the head of his brigade, on Monday, of last week, at Edwards' Ferry, on the Potomac, was a native of England. He studied law at Springfield, Illinois, with Judge Logan, and commenced practice in that city. Col. Baker commanded the Fourth Regiment of twelve months' Illinois volunteers in the Mexican war, and commanded the brigade of Gen. Shields, after his fall. He was distinguished in the battle of Cerro Gordo, and led the New-York troops in that bloody engagement. From 1849 to 1851, Col. Baker was a Member of Congress, from Illinois. Soon after, he removed to California, where he practiced law, and took a prominent part in politics. Removing to Oregon, he was last year elected to the United States Senate, his term expiring in 1865. Senator Baker introduced President Lincoln to the people on the occasion of his inauguration. After the war broke out, Senator Baker commenced in this city, on the 21st of April, the organization of a California regiment. He was tendered a commission as Major-General, but declined. He held a State commission as Colonel, and was acting Brigadier-General for three Regiments at the time of his death. Col. Baker leaves a widow and several children. One son was attached to his brigade. He was about fifty-three years of age.

Sam. Houston has written a letter to the Richmond *Enquirer*, declaring his full sympathy with the rebellion. He says that he opposed secession until Texas voted herself out of the Union, but that since that time he has obeyed the will of his constituents, and has "performed all the acts of a dutiful and loyal citizen of the Southern Confederacy." Sam's influence, however, has departed.

"**March 20, 1782.**—On the Earl of Surrey's rising, in Parliament, to make his motion about removing Ministers, he happened to espy Arnold, the American *seceding* General in the House, sent him a message to depart, threatening, in case of refusal to move for breaking up the gallery, which the General answered that he was introduced there by a member. To which Lord Surrey replied, that he might under that condition stay *if he would promise never to enter it again*. With which Gen. Arnold complied. This is the second instance of public disrespect he has met with: the King having been forced to engage his royal word not to employ or pension him—a just reward for treachery, which is ever odious."—*Curwen, p. 338.*

The Marchioness of Westminster has presented to the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital, the gold watch worn by Lord Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar, and this relic has been placed for exhibition in the Painted Hall, in a case containing the coat and waistcoat worn by the deceased hero in the same memorable engagement, and which were presented to the Commissioners by His Royal Highness Prince Albert.

Brigadier-General Charles P. Stone is a native of Massachusetts, and his first military career bears date 1841, when he entered West Point as a cadet. In 1845 he stood seventh in a class numbering forty-five. In July, of that year, he was brevetted Second Lieutenant of Ordnance, and from