Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1862.

Scotland.—Our European Correspondent gives us, this week, some most interesting facts and reminiscenses relative to Scotland. His letter will be read with delight.

The Synod of Kentucky on Slavery.—A correspondent gives, on our first page, an abstract of an Address by the Kentucky Presbyterian ministers and elders to the people of their charge. It is not many years since it was written. Many of the brethren of that day, still live; some with altered sentiments, probably, but others firm in their ancient faith. Let us hope for Kentucky. There is good leaven there.

Postage Stamps.—The common postage stamps, it is said, are not to be regarded as currency. New stamps, on strong paper, and not gummed, will be issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, which will be an authorized currency, and exchangeable for U. S. notes, and for the regular postage stamps. The law is to take effect on the 1st of August, at which time it is expected that the new stamps will be ready.

A Card of Dr. PLUMER, in another column, will be read with much interest. In addition to the undisputed facts which we gave last week, in the Presbyterial proceedings and in our editorial statement, we now give other facts, just furnished to us, relative to the congregational proceedings. We are glad to have them. They belong to a proper history of the case. Candid readers wish to be fully informed, that they may judge righteous judgment.

The Danville Review.—The June number of this very interesting Presbyterian Quarterly, has appeared. The CONTENTS are, I. Studies on the Bible, No. 1, by Dr. Humphrey; II. The Secession Conspiracy in Kentucky and its Overthrow, by Dr. Breckinridge; III. Imputation and Original Sin, Part 3, by Dr. Landis; IV. The Immortality of Man, by Rev. E. S. Wilson; V. The General Assembly of 1862, by Dr. Breckinridge.

The Article on the General Assembly is a thorough review of some of the leading acts of that body. There are some things in it descriptive and explanatory which appear quite needless to ministerial readers; such, however, will note that a very large portion of the present subscribers to the *Danville Review* are laymen, and many of them are not Presbyterians. For the benefit of such, there are remarks which to the Presbyterian and clerical reader are superfluous. The writer has done a service to his readers and his Church, in his writing of the article.

With the views of Dr. LANDIS, on Imputation, we do not accord. We greatly prefer those of Dr. HODGE, which we believe to be common in our own Church, and which the article before us zealously controverts.

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT.

Within the last forty years, say since the War of 1812, there has been an immense change in the employments of females. In our boyhood's days, women were in many a harvest-field, and at other out-door work. All this they have long since abandoned. Then, carding, and spinning, and knitting, and sewing were the daily, and weekly, and almost the perpetual employment of women; now the two former are utterly abandoned, and the two latter are rapidly going into disuse. Then, there was scarcely a garment worn, in most families, that was not the production of female industry; now, it is a rare thing to find such garments on either young or old. The change has been induced by machinery. Steam-power, and water-power, now drive machines which do the work formerly done by women, and especially by female muscles. The result is that our women have become immense consumers, and add but little to the productive capacity of the country.

But the time for another change has come. A wasting war is upon us. The energies of the whole people are called for. The rebel women are contributing very largely to the strength of their cause. Their voluntary self-denial diminish largely the demands upon their husbands' and fathers' purses; and the contributions from their toil go far in supplying personal and family wants; and their devotion to the business of men, relieves many from home employments to go to the army.

Now, we do not wish to bring back the old custom of out-door work, nor cleaning flax, dyeing wool, carding, spinning, &c., &c. But we ask for retrenchments in expenditures for dress, and furniture, and table luxuries, and hired help. And especially we ask that females shall be greatly more employed than they have ever yet been, upon in-door work which may be adapted to their muscular power. Women could do much more in factories than they now do. They could well occupy nearly all our stores and shops. They could also do much of the writing and accountants' work, which is now performed by men. They might be so employed as to relieve tens of thousands of able-bodied men, and turn these out to the army.

This change in the work of females would be also a kindness to them, in the way of health, and of independent feeling. It would elevate them. And it would open up a greatly needed means of livelihood for women who are bereaved of husbands and fathers, by the calamities of war. Patriotism and benevolence combine in forwarding the movement.

We commend these thoughts to the ladies, and to parents, and to all who control public sentiment, and to those who need aid in the departments of business to which we have alluded.

CONGRESS.

The Chief Council of the Nation is a body in which every citizen has the deepest interest. It ought to be the subject of daily prayer, while in session, and the selection of its members ought to be made by the people, on Christian principles. It is the duty of every freeman to vote, and to vote only for the able and good. A new Congress is soon to be chosen. Already are politicians at work to obtain or control nominations. The Christian should do his part, and do it in season. Politics are not a thing too low and too foul for the Christian to touch. If debased by the selfish and the vile, the righteous should lay hold of them, and elevate them from their degradation, and wash them clean. "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice."

But it is the existing Congress, and especially of the session just terminated, of which we meant to speak.

It sat upwards of seven months, and did a vast amount of most important business. Its list of members presents but few names, in either House, which have attained to great celebrity, but in the aggregate it comprised a council not inferior to any which, for many years, has deliberated on the affairs of the nation. There was less of speech-making than has been usual, and less of rough and unbecoming personalities. Two or three scenes there were deserving severe reproof, but with these few exceptions the sittings have been gentlemanly.

The amount of business done has been unusually large, and its importance cannot be estimated. It bears on the unity, the peace, the prosperity, and the fundamental political principles of the country, for generations. Principles have been agitated and a tendency made toward their settlement, which are greatly to affect the land, for weal or woe. National rights, State rights, masters' rights, personal rights, property rights, the war power, the power of the President, of Congress, of the courts, have all been discussed; and laws have been passed, and acts of the Executive been sanctioned, such as are new in our Government.

Among the important acts of the session we may mention the legal tender note scheme, with authority to issue $300,000,000; the postage stamp law, for a circulation as small change; the law giving the public lands to actual settlers; the bill for a Pacific Railroad; the abolition of slavery in the District, and the prohibition of it in the Territories; the prohibition of bigamy; the law confiscating the property of rebels, and giving freedom to their slaves; the law authorizing the raising of the army of three years' men to 800,000; the law authorizing the President to call out 1,000,000 of the militia for nine months; and the Tax bill. Most of this is new, and all of it is vastly important legislation; and to accomplish it required unusual industry. If at the next session the members will labor as they did at the late session, and at the called session, they will deserve to be remembered as *the working Congress*.

Several important bills were discussed, and some of them passed by one or the other of the Houses, which did not receive final action. Among these were a Bank bill, a Bankrupt law, the admission of West Virginia as a State, a bill appropriating $200,000,000 for Border Slave Emancipation, and a bill for the abolition of the Franking privilege. These subjects will all claim attention at the next session.

It is also worthy of note that Congress and the President coöperated with much harmony. Not a single *veto* was sent in. It is true that one was contemplated, but the law for which it was intended was modified by a limiting and explanatory act, and thus made to conform to the President's views of the requirements of the Constitution.

The appropriations of money during the late session amount to about eight hundred millions of dollars, including upwards of five hundred and sixty millions for the army, and somewhat less than one hundred millions for the navy.

To raise this vast sum, there must be much industry and economy. The taxes levied are to meet the interest, and a small part of the principal. The main amount must be furnished in loans to the Government. This will be done in three ways: 1st, those who furnish supplies will take due bills in part; 2d, those who have money to invest will buy United States stocks; 3d, those who get more of the demand notes than they need, will put them into interest bearing bonds. By a judicious reduction of expenses, God's blessing being continued on our industry, we may bear this burden, in addition to our taxes, without any real suffering. But, how much of an accumulation can we bear? If we are wise, we will frown upon and repel every man who would cause division among us, and will put forth our power most resolutely, and conquer a peace.

THE PRESIDENT.

The high place given in Scripture to *The Ruler of the People*, and the many injunctions to honor and obey him, and to pray for him, clearly justify us in often speaking of the President of these United States. Mr. LINCOLN has the hardest task and the most important duties laid upon him, of any man who has occupied the Presidential Chair. If he shall accomplish his work well and thoroughly, honor preëminently will be due to him, and his name will be had in lasting remembrance. If he shall fail, still manifesting honest intentions, it will be but the lot of humanity; and he will fail, unless the Lord shall give him wisdom and strength beyond what is ordinarily bestowed upon rulers. But the Lord can guide, and we trust will guide, this chief magistrate of a hitherto favored nation, in such a way as that blessings shall be upon the land. "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water; he turneth it whithersoever he will." God's presidency over nations, his disposing of kingdoms, his calling, raising up, casting down, making wise, and confounding of rulers, is among the most frequent teachings of holy Scripture. Well then may nations fear the Lord, when they provoke him to anger by their sins; and confidently may they pray for the turning away of his wrath and for the outpouring of blessings, when they repent and pray.

The rebellion in our land is such an one, in many of its aspects, as had never before existed. Its management is made difficult, not only by its greatness and virulence, but by the genius of our Government—our freedom, our personal and property rights, our system of legislation, our courts, the hampered condition of Executive power, our system of State authority, the recognized rights of masters to their slaves, and the rights of loyal men who are dispersed through the seceded States.

The President needs the cordial support of all the people. To have this, he must adopt measures and aim at ends which the people approve. But how shall he ascertain this? They cannot tell him, because they do not agree. Listen to the Congressional speeches; note the votes on some great questions; read the public journals; compare the resolutions of great political meetings. Hear the radicals, and the "Union as it was" men, and the border State men. See the differences among our Generals as to the proper mode of carrying on the war. What a variety, confusion, yea, opposition of ideas! Now, if the President were an autocrat, he might bring things to order; but as the ruler of a free people, what shall he do? He needs wisdom to conciliate and unite the people, as well as to direct their armies. And that wisdom can come only from on high.

Daily, universal, effectual and fervent prayer, becomes us. Let every man and woman, in the closet; and every parent, in his family; and every minister of Jesus in the churches, pray for the President of these United States. The Lord bless him, give him wisdom, make him faithful, make him a blessing; that the rebellion may be suppressed, and righteousness be established, and the land have peace.

Biblical Repertory.—The July number of this valued journal, is on our table. CONTENTS, I. Hickok's Philosophy; II. Vindications of Hickok's Philosophy; III. Augustine; IV. Diversity of Species in the Human Race; V. The General Assembly; VI. Slavery and the Slave Trade. Short Notices.

The first and second articles will, by many, be considered dry reading. It is, however, the duty of our Quarterlies to note dangerous errors, and lift up a standard against them. Most readers may pass such articles by. The *Repertory* is a bold and able defender of the faith. It shrinks not from any task which errorists may impose. Our Church needs the work, and should sustain it well. And happily, in this number, as in every other, it presents to the general reader, matter which can abundantly compensate him for his money and his time.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

BOSTON AND NEW-ENGLAND.

THE ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT of Harvard College took place on Wednesday of last week, and a class of ninety graduated. Of one hundred and twenty-nine candidates for admission to the Freshman Class examined on Monday and Tuesday, all but sixteen were admitted. Twenty-six candidates were from the Boston Latin School. The college mortuary list for the year numbers forty-eight. The only degrees conferred at Commencement were of LL.D. on John Stuart Mills, of England, and Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, of Kentucky.

THE following is an extract from the Narrative on the State of Religion in the churches of Massachusetts, presented at the late meeting of the General Association:

"Revivals—some of them of marked and unusual interest—have been enjoyed in quite a number of the churches, especially in some of those under the pastoral care of members of the Andover, Berkshire, Brewster, Hampshire, Mendon, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk South, Vineyard Sound, and Woburn Associations, while there have been some cases of individual hope in almost all. These, in connexion with the fact stated in almost all the reports, that there has been little or no falling off in our strictly religious charities, notwithstanding the severity of the times, and the large gifts flowing through so many side rivulets from all our dwellings, into the great stream of patriotic sacrifice, it seems to your Committee, demand special, humble gratitude to God."

NEW-YORK.

THE MONEY MARKET is again easier, and has settled down with an ample supply. The rates for call loans are 5 to 6 per cent. Business paper of high grade is very scarce. The banks are lamenting the scarcity of good paper. The commission brokers quote 4½ to 5 per cent. for 60-day, double-named paper, 5 to 5½ for 4 to 6 months, and single names ditto 5 to 6 per cent.; second-class 7 to 10 per cent. The average of bank loans for last week is $148,000,000, a decrease of $646,000. The deposits show an insignificant increase, but amount to $127,500,000. The specie in bank has increased $300,000, being $32,000,000, notwithstanding the continued heavy exports. The shipments last week amounted to $2,425,000, making since January $33,000,000. The high premium on gold is bringing it freely out of its hoarding-places and making it useful, for the small supply from California is of itself utterly inadequate to the demand. The fluctuation in the premium on gold is considerable. Last week it rose to 17 per cent., declined to 14¾, on Saturday, but rose on Monday again to 16½, while double eagles command a still higher premium.

Business is very much contracted in Wall Street, and is likely to remain so until after the heats of the Summer. Capitalists are disposed to be idle, and not to venture their funds in doubtful ways. They are far more stringent to whom they make advances. That the gold obtained for shipment comes out of private hoards is clear, for the banks add to their supply, and have a very large amount not to be diminished, and California sends only about $300,000 per week—the shipments being eight or nine times as much. The speculation in gold has the effect, therefore, of bringing out a supply from independent sources, at the expense of those who remit gold abroad. The imports just on the eve of the new tariff are large, and the entries brought a million and a quarter dollars into the treasury last week for duties. The dry goods imports are only one-fourth of the imports for the week. The general merchandise imported is chiefly of teas, sugars, etc., for which specie has to be remitted. Dry goods no longer require specie remittances, for our exports to England more than amount to what comes from her of her own products. The imports since January 1 amount to $89,206,528, and exports of produce to $65,213,482, and exports of specie to $33,025,790.

THE EXPORTS of breadstuffs from New-York, for Europe, during the last week, were 890,394 bushels of grain and 89,197 barrels of flour—being the largest shipment of flour ever made to Europe from this port in one week. Provisions, in extraordinary large quantities, are also going forward.

THE WAR against the abuses of the Sabbath in this city goes on steadily and prosperously. The Police authorities seem true to their pledge, and in spite of the unfaithfulness of some of the Judges and Justices, leave but little scope to the Sunday dramshops and theatres. The City Judge has overdone the business of befriending the liquor and lager traffic; so that even the counsel of the liquor dealers concedes that his decisions have no moral weight, and are rather an injury than otherwise to the bad cause he has espoused. There are intimations that the expounders of "Beverages" will be impeached next Winter. Perhaps others who are playing a deeper game than Judge McCunn has the ability to play, may share his fate.

ROBERT CARTER & BROTHERS have in preparation *Vesper*, by Madame de Gasparin, author of the "Near and Heavenly Horizons." Translated by Mary L. Booth, the translator of Count Gasparin's "Uprising of a Great People," &c.

CHARLES SCRIBNER has just published "America before Europe. Principles and Interests. By Count Agénor de Gasparin." This is another noble contribution in defence of our Government by the able author of "The Uprising of a Great People," one of the truest friends of the United States in Europe. A full notice of this valuable and timely work will be given next week.

THE FOURTH AVENUE Presbyterian Church of this city has invited its pastor, the Rev. Dr. Parker, to take a trip to Europe, and has generously supplied him with the means of doing so.

PHILADELPHIA.

THE LAST QUARTERLY STATEMENT of the Superintendent of the Girard estate shows receipts to the amount of $120,929.39; expenditures amounting to $88,188.61. The cost of maintaining Girard College for the past three months amounted to $17,238.32.

MR. JEFFERSON GAUNTT, of Haleden, New Jersey, is the owner of an original copy of Dr. Franklin's "Poor Richard Almanac," which was bought of Dr. Franklin himself, by Mr. Gauntt's grandfather, at Franklin's printing-office in Philadelphia, on the first day of January, 1753. It is consequently one hundred and nine years old. It has been preserved in the family up to the present time.

The following advertisement appears in the back part of the book (the pages are not numbered,) of the then recent invention of lightning rods:

How to secure houses, &c., from lightning.

It has pleased God in his Goodness to Mankind, at length to discover to them the Means of securing their Habitations and other Buildings from Mischief by Thunder and Lightning. The method is this:

Provide a small Iron Rod (it may be made of the Rod-iron used by the Nailers,) but of such a lehgth, that one End being three or four Feet in the moist Ground, the other may be six or eight Feet about the highest part of the Building. To the upper End of the Rod fasten about a foot of Brass Wire, the size of a common Knitting-needle, Sharpened to a fine point; the Rod may be secured to the House by a few small staples. If the House or barn be long, there may be a Rod and Point at each End, and a middling Wire along the Ridge from one to the other. A House thus furnished will not be damaged by Lightning, it being attracted by the Points, and passing thro' the Metal into the Ground without hurting any Thing. Vessels also having a sharp-pointed Rod fixed on the top of their Masts, with a Wire from the Foot of the Rod reaching down, round one of the Shrouds, to the Water, will not be hurt by Lightning.

MR. HENRY S. TARR, the well-known proprietor of the Marble Yard, on Green Street, above Seventh, has volunteered, upon application at his office, to supply, *free of charge*, a suitable marble stone, to mark the resting-place of *every soldier dying in the hospitals of this city*. The stones will have inscribed upon them the name of the deceased, his native place, and the company and regiment to which he belonged. As the applications for these stones are likely to be numerous, the generosity of Mr. Tarr deserves the highest commendations, and we are sure it will receive the thanks of hundreds in the future, who, but for this gratuitous act of our fellow citizen, might hereafter seek in vain the graves of their kindred who are dying in the cause of our country.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

MR. D. M. MILLER was ordained and installed pastor of the church of Bethesda, June 18th, by the Presbytery of New Lisbon, and arrangements also made for his installation as pastor of the church of Alliance, Ohio.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

A Card.

By God's good providence I was born under the Government of the United States. Under the flag which floats over its Capitol, I have always lived. Of my own free choice I expect to live and die under its noble Constitution. I have never thought of a better, nor desired a different form of fundamental law.

I religiously believe, and I have uniformly held and taught, that civil government is the ordinance of God. I believe the Government of the United States is the ordinance of God to me and to my children, as it was to my parents before me. When any man is chosen our Chief Magistrate, I accept him as the Minister of God to me in civil affairs. I regard it as my solemn duty and my high privilege to sustain this Government; and against any and every attempt to destroy it, I intend to sustain it in word and deed, by precept and example, with my prayers, with the little worldly goods I possess, and, if called thereto, with my life. I would not live under it, if I could not heartily do these things. I have often spoken and written for it, but never against it. For better and for worse I own no other Government than that under which I now enjoy all my temporal blessings. I have long ago written, and I still maintain, that there is no provision in our Form of Government for Secession, and that Secession is revolution.

Of these things I have so long and familiarly spoken, both publicly and privately, and they have for many years entered so fully into the very elements of my principles, that I was surprised when I was told that any one thought it would be proper that I should avow them any more publicly than I had already done, in order to prevent a misunderstanding of my true position. WM. S. PLUMER.

Allegheny, Pa., July 22, 1862.

Documents not before Published, Relating to the Central Presbyterian Church, Allegheny.

The following documents have been communicated from a responsible source, with a request that they shall be given to the public.

NO. I.

Passed by the Congregation on the 13th of May last.

Resolved, 1st. That the Confession of Faith and the Directory for Worship found in the Standards of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and fairly drawn from the teachings of God's Word, are clear, and fully sufficient for the guidance of this church and congregation in the difficulties that now exist, or in any that may hereafter arise in our public affairs.

Resolved, 2d. That there is no cause for disturbing the pastoral relation in this congregation.

NO. II.

Passed on the 18th of June last. The congregation of the Central Presbyterian church in Allegheny, assembled in reference to an adjustment of the difficulties contemplated in the recent action of the Presbytery of Allegheny City, do express our views as follows:

Resolved, 1st. That we reaffirm our adherence to the Presbyterian Church, and our entire satisfaction with its basis of doctrine and its Standards of government and worship.

Resolved, 2d. That we feel a devoted attachment to our pastor; that we take pleasure in assuring him of our confidence in him as a man, a Christian and a minister; and that we regard any rumors calculated to impair confidence in him as unjustifiable and without foundation.

Resolved, 3d. That our pastor, as the leader of the devotions of the sanctuary, in having diligently besought the favor and blessing of God upon our country, its Chief Magistrate, his counsellors, our Senators and all our rulers, has met the spirit of the Scriptural requirements, and expressed comprehensively the wants of a Christian and patriotic people; and that to the best of our judgment this church and congregation under our pastor's direction have in all good conscience uniformly complied with the principles laid down in the action of the General Assembly of 1861, when that body called upon ministers and people humbly to confess and bewail our national sins; to offer thanks to the Father of Light for his abundant and undeserved goodness toward us as a nation; to seek his guidance and blessing upon our rulers and their counsels; and to implore him in the name of Jesus Christ, the great High Priest of the Christian profession, to turn away his anger from us, and speedily restore to us the blessings of an honorable peace.

Resolved, 4th. That we earnestly desire to live peaceably with all men, and especially to maintain the unity of the Christian brotherhood. To this end we are willing to do anything that is just and practicable to promote the harmony of the whole congregation. So far from wishing to withdraw our esteem and friendship from those brethren who lately memorialized the Presbytery, we assure them of our fellowship and of the full enjoyment of their rights and privileges, if they shall remain with us and heartily endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. But if they judge it most for the glory of God and their own spiritual comfort to leave us, and to unite in another organization, we pledge to them as a congregation our hearty good wishes and our fraternal assistance in any enterprise looking to the spread of the Gospel, and the extension of the Presbyterian Church.

Resolved, 5th. That a committee consisting of five persons [afterwards enlarged to eleven] be appointed to meet the committee sent by the Presbytery to visit this church and congregation; and that the said committee are hereby authorized to act definitively in the premises in all matters for the pacification and full adjustment of the business in hand, instructed only by the letter and spirit of this series of resolutions; and if in anything said committee should be in doubt, they are requested to call a congregational meeting for further directions.

NO. III.

On the 3d day of July, the foregoing Committee presented to the Committee of Presbytery, the following paper, which was agreed to by all concerned:

The Committee appointed by the congregation of the Central Presbyterian church, Allegheny, being, both for themselves and for those whom they represent, desirous of removing every occasion of unkindness of feeling, of speech, or of conduct, and of enjoying in quietness the ordinances of religion and the ministry of our own choice, submit the following statement to the Committee of Presbytery, and through it to the memorialists, and to the Presbytery itself:

Those whom we represent, constituting a clear majority of the voters in the congregation and having an undoubted legal claim to the well-ascertained rights of such majorities, do nevertheless make the following proposals:

I. We will retain the name and organization of the Central Presbyterian Church, Allegheny, with its present pastoral relations.

II. We will retain the charter and perpetuate the succession of the congregation of the Central Presbyterian Church, Allegheny.

III. We will retain the house of worship finished and dedicated last November, if left by the memorialists in the undisputed possession thereof, on the following conditions:

1. That the five Trustees, who are Memorialists, shall, at once, as soon as this matter is settled by Presbytery, unite with the other Trustees in calling a congregational meeting for the sole purpose of enabling said Memorialists to resign to the congregation their trusteeships, and to elect in their places five others concurring with us in our views. The former Trustees shall then deliver over to the Board of Trustees thus completed by a new election, and put in authority by the congregation, the charter, and all the books, papers and evidences of property in possession of said Board or any of its officers and pertaining to said congregation, except such as shall be hereafter named.

2. That said Memorialists do jointly and severally relinquish all claim and pretence of claim, legal and moral, to the whole property now held by the Central church, at the corner of Anderson and Leacock streets, and every part thereof, upon our securing to be paid to them the sum of forty-nine hundred and twenty-nine dollars in current funds of Pennsylvania, in four equal payments at four, six, nine and twelve months from the day on which this adjustment shall be confirmed by Presbytery and approved by the Memorialists, deducting from the whole amount a sum equal to the sum of the pew-rents of the Memorialists for the present quarter. All unpaid and unmatured notes executed by the Memorialists or persons acting with them, and held by the present treasurer of the congregation, shall be retained by said treasurer and disposed of by the Memorialists.

It is also understood that any advance of payment offered by us shall be received with the usual discount of six per cent. per annum.

It is also expected that the Elder, who is a memorialist, shall unite in holding a regular meeting of Session for the purpose of receiving any new members whose certificates shall have already been handed in, and granting dismissions to any who may duly apply for them in person or by writing, either for the purpose of joining other existing churches or of uniting in forming a new church in this city.

Under this agreement, the stipulated amount was paid to the memorialists, on the 21st inst.

A FEW PLACES IN GERMANY.

[EXTRACTS FROM A PRIVATE LETTER.]

I was much pleased with Innsbruck, and was quite amused at the costumes of the Tyrolese mountaineers, who came down to the Capital on Saturday to sell and buy, and who strolled through the city on the Sabbath, evidently enjoying it as a holiday. The women (or at least many of them,) not only wear hats, but hats of the oddest and most varied shapes imaginable. Indeed all over German the peasant head-dress is strange, and very varied. As to the dresses of the Tyrolese, and of the peasant German women generally, I may say that they are quite unstylish, according to English and French taste; though at the same time they give to the wearers a pleasant air of comfort, simplicity and tidiness.

On Monday, (the 2d inst.,) I went from Innsbruck to Munich. On the way, I fell in with two Virginians, who have been studying at Berlin. They were very gentlemanly and agreeable, but oh, how bitter were their feelings toward the North! They hooted at the idea of the Southern States ever agreeing to be in a Confederacy with the Yankees. They said they were strong Union men until the North refused to accept the Virginia propositions as the basis of compromise. Then, they said, the only resort for the maintainance of their political and social rights was Secession. I let them know that I approved of the course of the Federal Government in the war, though I kept cool and avoided an unpleasant discussion. Aside from politics, I was much pleased with these Southern students.

I spent but a day at Munich. This is a beautiful city, but is said to be unhealthy in Summer and early Fall, owing to the stagnant water of the country around. The galleries of paintings are very fine, and amply repay a visit. The Church of Holy Boniface is large and highly ornamented. It is said by some to be the most beautiful church in Germany.

On Wednesday, I paid a visit to Augsburg, which is but a short distance from Munich. In the evening I rode to a place called Donauwörth, on the river Danube, where, the following morning, I took the regular boat for Regensburg. I was much pleased with the scenery along the Danube. Farther down than I went, it is said to be far more interesting. Many regard the Danube scenery to be superior to that of the Rhine.

Regensburg (or Ratisbon,) is, as you know, famous as the seat of the Imperial Diet, from 1663 to 1806. The Rathaus (or Court-house,) interested me very much. I saw there the Hall in which the Diet held its meetings; sat in the chair in which Charles V. and other Emperors sat while presiding; was shown the old benches in which the members used to sit, which I must say appeared to me more uncomfortable than any I have ever seen in a back-woods country school-house; and, (perhaps I am laying upon august personages a very grievous and unjust imputation,) judging from the present condition of these same benches, I am disposed to think their grave and dignified occupants were quite equal to our American college-boys in the art of *whittling*.

After visiting the Diet chamber, and other rooms above containing many interesting mementoes of former days, I proceeded with my guide to the examination of the dungeons and torture chamber underneath.

I had often read of the dark, gloomy dungeons of the Old World, and of the dreadful tortures to which real or suspected criminals were subjected, but I never realized these things as I did when by the light of a candle in a glass lanthern, I followed the steps of the keeper of the place through these dark, chilly and horrible rooms and cells. In one of the dungeons I noticed an iron grating in the floor. Through this the guide threw a lighted paper which, in its descent, revealed to me a dungeon even more repulsive than those above. I could not but shudder when I thought of human beings consigned to such horrible places of abode. Adjoining the dungeons, on the same subterranean floor, I was shown the rooms in which criminals were examined and subjected to tortures to elicit confession of guilt. The judge sat outside of the criminal's room in a narrow court, and examined the prisoners through an iron grating. The instruments of torture are still to be seen as they were last used in 1784. After examining these horrible machines, one can imagine the dreadful sufferings undergone in past ages, not only by criminals, but by holy men of God.

On Saturday, went by rail to Nuremburg, where I spent the Sabbath. Was more interested in this city, than in any I had yet visited in Germany, mainly because it, more than perhaps any other, preserves the architectural style of the middle ages. Such a collection of buildings, with narrow, high-peaked gables, I never saw, nor dreamed of. There is but a very small number of houses to be seen which are built in the modern style.

On Sabbath morning, I attended service in what is called the Lorenzer Kirche, the principal Lutheran church in the city. This church is of vast size and imposing appearance, and is noted for its elaborate finish and its fine paintings and statues. And, alas, I am obliged to say that it so nearly resembles a Romish cathedral, that most persons, not otherwise informed, would, on a superficial view, take it for granted they were in one. There are the statues and paintings of the Apostles, and of holy men, since their time; there is the familiar crucifixes in marble, in bronze, and on canvass; there is the Virgin and Child, in bas-relief, and otherwise represented. There is a beautiful altar-piece, with the Crucifix in front and burning candles on either side. I am glad, however, I can say that, with a single exception, everything connected with the *service* was free from all Popish resemblances: and the preaching was, so far as I could judge, evangelical, simple and earnest. The exception just alluded to, was in the act of pronouncing the benediction and dismissing the congregation. This was done not in the pulpit, but at the altar, and consisted in the intoning of certain formulas and of enunciation of the benediction, the minister meanwhile changing his position several times, having his face at one time toward the congregation, and at another fronting the Crucifix. This closing ceremony seemed to me to savor entirely too much of Romanism. As to the crucifixes, candles, &c., the Lutherans maintain they are justifiable, as emblems and suggestions to the mind of important religious truths. And they ignore all thought of regarding with anything like adoration, the images of the Virgin and of the saints, they keep in their churches. But is it not true that intelligent Roman Catholics will say the same, or nearly the same, in regard to these very things in their own churches?

I am satisfied that but few, if any, of even the higher Church Lutherans view them as do the ignorant masses in the Romish Church, but the tendency of these symbols and images is, to say the least, very dangerous.

On Tuesday, I reached Coblentz, taking a Rhine steamboat at Mayence, for Ems.

I was much pleased with the scenery of the Rhine, but it fell far short of my expectations. In many respects, that of our Hudson greatly surpasses it. There is no part of the Rhine that equals in sublimity, and varied beauty, that portion of the Hudson which passes near the Catskill Mountains. On the Rhine, you see on either side high hills, but you have no picturesque mountain scenery such as we have on even our little Juniata. The "Seven Mountains," near Boras, scarcely afford an exception to this. Were it not for the old castles and other ruins, and the beautiful villas of modern date which continually appear on either side of the Rhine, and which are extremely attractive, I would pronounce the Rhine far less interesting than even the Ohio. About Coblentz, however, the scenery is romantic and strikingly beautiful, independent of ancient ruins and modern embellishments.

On Wednesday I reached Ems, with the appearance and arrangements for comfort of which, I was delighted. Thence I proceeded to Ostend, my present locality.

The President and the Border States.

Shortly before the adjournment of Congress, the President invited the Representatives and Senators from the Border States to a conference on public affairs, and especially on Emancipation. His views he had put in writing. After the reading of his paper, and some earnest conversation, they retired, and responded in writing. His desire was that they should recommend to their States the speedy passage of laws providing for the gradual emancipation of the slaves. He closes his paper in these words:

Our common country is in great peril, demanding the loftiest views and boldest action to bring a speedy relief. Once relieved, its form of Government is saved to the world, its beloved history and cherished memories are vindicated, and its happy future fully assured, and rendered inconceivably grand. To you more than to any others, the privilege is given to assure that happiness and swell that grandeur, and to link your own names therewith forever.

The replies are patriotic. The majority dissent, partially, from the President's Emancipation policy; but they assure him that they "are ready for renewed efforts, and even greater sacrifices, yea, any sacrifice to save the country." They affirm that they "will never consent, in any event, to unite with the Southern Confederacy;" if Congress will perform its duty, they will urge their States and people to take the proposition into careful consideration. The signatures include Crittenden, Davis and Wickliffe, of Kentucky; Wilson, Carlisle, Phelps, Thomas, and others from other States. The minority assent cordially to the President's proposition.

Gen. Pope and his Army Orders.

With Gen. Pope's address, on assuming command of the army of Virginia, we were not much pleased. His Orders Nos. 5, 6, and 7, are admirable. They look like infusing vigor into the war. The purpose of holding the inhabitants of the country in the rear of the army, responsible, is most just. If the army shall regard their persons and houses as sacred, they are bound in all righteousness to keep the peace, and do no injury.

The substance of these orders is as follows:

General Order No. 5 directs that, as far as practicable, the troops of his command will subsist upon the country in which their operations are carried on—supplies being taken by the officers to whose department they properly belong, under the orders of the commanding officer of the troops for whose use they are intended, and proper vouchers being given to the owners, payable at the conclusion of the war, upon sufficient evidence being given that such owners have been loyal citizens of the United States since the date of the vouchers. General Order No. 6 directs that hereafter all movements of cavalry shall be made without supply or baggage trains, unless so stated specially in the order for the movement. Two days' cooked rations will be carried on the persons of the men, and all neighborhoods will be laid under contribution in the manner specified in the preceding order. General Order No. 7 is directed specially to the people of the Shenandoah Valley and other regions where the army may operate. It warns them against meddling with the railroad or telegraph lines, or guerilla depredations, or the murder of straggling soldiers, or any other lawless proceedings, and enumerates the punishments which they may expect, the fear of which will probably be sufficient to prevent a repetition of the numerous outrages which have heretofore been submitted to.