

Presbyterian Banner.

Pittsburgh, Saturday, August 2, 1862.

The Evangelical Repository and United Presbyterian Review, for July, contains the complete Minutes of the late meeting of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church.

Sunny Side Academy.—The Semi-Annual Catalogue of this institution shows an attendance of forty-six young ladies, during the last term. It is situated at Newburg, Cumberland County, Pa., and Rev. DANIEL WILLIAMS and Mrs. C. L. WILLIAMS are the Principals, with five other instructors. For terms, see advertisement.

The Article Signed "New Jersey."—There was a communication, two weeks ago, over the signature "New Jersey," commenting on the case of Dr. FLUMER before the Presbytery of Allegheny City. A desire has been expressed to know who is the author, and also who is not the author. The latter desire we can gratify so far as to say, that he is not a Professor, Director, Trustee, or active man in any Theological Seminary.

New Book of Discipline.—The Committee of the General Assembly, on this work, sat in this city last week, and came to harmonious conclusions after three days of diligent labor. The proposed Book has been considerably modified, making it to retain more of the features of that which has long served the Church. We hope to be able to refer to the modifications more particularly next week. The meeting was large.

Board of Publication.—By request we make the following announcement: The Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to examine the affairs of the Board of Publication, will convene at the Rooms, 821 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, on Tuesday, 16th of September, at 10 o'clock A. M.

"All persons shall have full opportunity, either in person or by writing, to present to the Committee any objections or doubts they may entertain in regard to the plans and operations of the Board." By order of the General Assembly. CHARLES C. BEATY, Ch'm.

THE ASHMAN INSTITUTE.

We have several times called the attention of our readers to this excellent school for the education of colored young men. All may be thankful for its existence and for the blessing of God upon it, and that even an average of fifteen African youths are thus favored with a good education. But still, it is really surprising that so little favor is shown to a school having such noble ends and aims. Where is the real love, the ardent, practical benevolence of the ten times ten thousand who clamor so loudly, politically, for justice and kindness to the black race. Have they not a few dollars to spare for the making of liberty a blessing—for the true elevation of this portion of their fellow-men? We have but little admiration for the principles of those who vociferate, "Emancipation," but who will do nothing to make freedom a benefit.

The Ashman Institute does good not only to the few pupils there educated. It sends its sons forth to each a shining light, a specimen of what an African may become, and a means of elevating many. They are prepared to become artisans, merchants, teachers, and ministers. In these times this matter should be pressed. The Institute is delightfully situated. It is in Chester County, Pa., where it has a few acres of land, with a commencement of comfortable buildings. It is the benevolent work of the Presbytery of Newcastle, and is worthy, in every aspect, of the utmost confidence. Read the article in another column.

DEATH OF ANOTHER MINISTER.

The Rev. JAMES C. BROWN, D. D., Chaplain of the 48th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, died on the 14th of July, at Paducah, Ky., from disease contracted while in the discharge of his duties in the field. Dr. BROWN was a native of the State of Ohio, graduated at Jefferson College, Pa., studied theology two years at the Western Theological Seminary and one year at Columbia, S. C. The principal part of his ministry was in Valparaiso, Ind., and the adjoining country, where his labors were arduous and were greatly blessed in the conversion of souls and the building up of the Church. Long will his memory be cherished and revered by the people among whom he dwelt and for whose good he toiled most anxiously.

Some time ago he accepted an agency for the North Western Theological Seminary, at Chicago; but on account of the state of the country, resulting from the Southern rebellion, this work did not succeed as was anticipated. Afterwards he preached with great success for six months, to one of our churches in the City of St. Louis, when arrangements were made for a most promising field of usefulness for him, but the distracted state of the public mind prevented him from entering upon it. During last Winter he preached at South Bend, Indiana. And in March he accepted the chaplaincy of the 48th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, and while faithfully engaged in the duties of this important station he was taken to his reward.

He was a man of great integrity of character, of wonderful singleness of purpose in his Master's service, and of deep and fervent piety. He was an excellent preacher, a laborious pastor, and an humble, confident, and loving follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.

His brother, Rev. F. T. BROWN is pastor of the Bridge Street Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, D. C.

GETTING TO WORK IN BARNET.

We have now been engaged in the war for more than a year, and we seem to be farther from its end than we did at the termination of the first month. We mistake the power of our enemy, his earnestness, his determination. If we had at once concluded that he was really strong, and would put forth all his strength, and contend to exhaustion, we might have been induced to exercise wisdom, and put forth all our strength and use all righteous means which God might place within our reach. In that case the war would have been already ended. We have three times his strength, independent of our naval forces; and a twelve months labor should have ended the conflict. But there were some unwise counsels got an ascendancy.

Well, let us not make the case still worse, by divisions and crimonations. Let us one and all, get to work in earnest, using every means which God has given us. The late reverse before Richmond, seems, as we remarked last week, to have an arousing tendency. On this subject, the Christian Intelligencer, the organ of that steady and conservative body, the Reformed Dutch Church, presents some excellent thoughts, which we here give to our readers:

"The Government and the people are alike coming to see and feel that there is immediate and pressing necessity for making the war with the rebels heavy, direct, and severe. We can omit no longer the use of any lawful means whereby the rebellion may be speedily suppressed. True, we have had great battles and great victories to crown the Federal arms. True, we have acquired possession of forts, ports, cities, and even States. True, the greater river of the West has been opened, and is firmly held. While these important results have been secured, the industries of the free States have been prosecuted with steady zeal, and we have presented the spectacle of a great people living well-nigh in a condition of peace, although sustaining the greatest war of modern times.

"How has it been at the South? There a terrific military despotism, sending terror into every city, village and hamlet, hesitating at no measure thought by it useful to its bad cause, has forced the entire male population between the ages of eighteen and sixty, capable of bearing arms, into the field. It has gathered and assembled a vast array of troops, in readiness of human life, for the purpose of destroying the nation. Meanwhile, the slaves have been left at home, to plant, dig, hoe, and produce for the support of the Confederate army. Thus their negroes, in fact, have formed a great reserve, for the production of necessary supplies, without which the Confederate armies could never have been brought up to their present proportions.

"There are some signs that this great advantage will not much longer be allowed the rebels. As a war measure, the Government has an undoubted right, first to deprive the Southern traitors of that arm of their strength which they have in the labor of their slaves, and next to transfer that arm over to our detachments, and to make it of service there, that our soldiers may have more time for fighting, and be less oppressed than they have been by severe labor with axe and spade. In emancipation laws and proclamations we have no faith. They can simply nourish faction without hurting the rebels. But when our armies are in repose or on the march, with intent to suppress the rebellion, why ought they not to receive all slaves, and even encourage them to come, not to fight, but to work? This policy put in execution would soon 'turn the tables.' It would add to our strength, and reduce that of our enemy. More, it would prove to the rebels, that if it hoped to preserve a vestige of its peculiar institution, it must ask for peace, and submit to the Constitution of the country.

"It has been estimated that since the war began, the Federal armies have lost, by casualty and disease, one hundred thousand men; and it is certain, that before it is over, they will lose many more besides. Who slew all these? Traitors, who in the interest of slavery made war upon a free Government. Had there been no slavery, to be as Dr. PALMER said, conserved and appropriated to the benefit of the people, as ALEXANDER H. STREVENSON avowed, an intention on the part of the rebels 'to make slavery the chief cornerstone' of a Southern empire—there would have been no war—none of the horrible desolations which now overspread the whole land. And now where are we with respect to it? We have fought through a year. We have secured gains, and encountered heavy losses too. To do more; we have maintained the status of slavery by the power of our arms. True, the institution has received some heavy blows, direct and incidental; but nevertheless, there it stands to-day, behind the Confederate armies, as their main support and aid. Accordingly, this question is before the people now, and will have a speedy answer—to wit: Can the Government afford any longer to permit the arrayed slave to be a terror to the white man, and behind the intrinsements of the enemy, as a grand supporting force? It is simply a question as to the best way of prosecuting the war, on our part, to a speedy and successful issue, and not at all a question bearing directly on any emancipation policy whatever. We are engaged in a fearful war, with an almost savage enemy. We are fighting for law, and truth, and order, and civilization, and humanity, and religion, with men who are in arms against all these for the purpose of oppressing white and black alike, and trampling freedom and right in the dust. They stick at no measures; they waste no time over political scruples; they slacken their energies by no considerations of humanity. In these respects, we cannot, must not imitate them. But at all hazards, and at whatever expense of time, blood, and treasure, we must subdue them, and make them feel, not so much the vindictive malice, as the sublime power of the Government they have wickedly undertaken to destroy. If this is to be done soon and well, let their slaves enter our armies by thousands and tens of thousands; let them work for and serve our soldiers; let the forsaken fields of the South call, in their desolation, for the return of their owners; and while we venture no predictions in respect to the immediate future, still we think there can be no reason for doubting that the effect of such a procedure would be of great advantage to the Union, and of equal disadvantage to the Confederate army.

"On this topic we have no new or recently-adopted opinions. We expressed them then as we do now, more than a year ago, immediately after the fall of Sumner; and the progress of events has only deepened our conviction, that we cannot afford to carry on a civil war in which the armies on either side of the contest are fighting substantially for one object, and that object the preservation and conservation of slavery. None but the most stupid reader will accuse us of having sympathy with the abolitionists. They have clamored for proclamations and for edicts, and have said a thousand foolish things about the conduct of the war. They are fond of theories, and enamored of impossible plans. But the country—the people—Democrats and Republicans, who are in blood earnest to crush the rebellion—have thought, and do think, that contraband negroes may help our loyal armies, as much as contraband horses, or corn, or cotton. Why not, then, let them come, and invite them to come, and pay them when they have come, to assist in the tremendous labors of the camp? When once we have got ourselves possessed for our good cause of one-half the earnestness which influences the zeal of the Confederates for their bad cause, we shall then be very near the final victory. In view of recent events, may we not ask ourselves whether Divine Providence is not teaching us the way in which we should walk, and by what method we should rise, to the height of that great argument which we are making in behalf of Constitutional order and human freedom?"

The idea that slavery is to be conserved must be abandoned. The other idea is becoming more and more apparent, that God means its extermination.

We do not now, however, discuss the right or the wrong of slavery, nor the morality or immorality of abolitionism. We now speak of carrying on the war, of conquering the rebellion, of establishing law, order, and peace. To this end the Government must overpower the enemy. We must take from him the armor in which he trusted, and use it ourselves. Events show that the slaves, according to his original boast, are to him an element of immense power. He has in them his almost entire productive force. They are his laborers, men, women, and children of them. They sustain his armies, and they feed his women and children whom he leaves at home. We must take them to the utmost extent that we can, to weaken him; and we must employ them, they being willing, in all ways which to them will be just, to overcome him.

DR. MARKS' NARRATIVE RELATING TO AFFAIRS BEFORE RICHMOND.

Rev. Dr. MARKS, Chaplain to the 63d Regiment Penn'a Volunteers, owing to his fidelity to the trust reposed in him, was taken prisoner before Richmond, and detained some weeks. He was then released, without parole, and returned to his regiment, at Harrison's Landing. He is now on a brief visit to his family. Dr. MARKS is an example to Chaplains, and merits the esteem and gratitude of the soldiers' friends. He thus writes:

DEAR DOCTOR:—You requested me, if I found it possible, to pen a narrative of the events of deepest interest to us which occurred in connection with the retreat of our army before Richmond. In consequence of the sickness of our surgeons, Dr. J. K. RODGERS and Dr. SURTON, I was left in charge of two hospitals, near Savage Station. In these were about two hundred and fifty men. At the commencement of the retreat of the left wing of the army, on Sunday morning, I went to the Savage Station, and found the right wing of the army moving on the Williamsburg road toward James River. I now learned for the first time that the removal of the hospitals was not an impossibility, and that the safety of the army demanded that the sick and wounded should be left to the enemy. I returned to the hospital in CARTER'S house, and found that officers of our army had been sent to urge all those who could walk, or drag themselves away, to hasten and join their regiments, for the enemy would occupy all the country before night. Afraid that I should be a witness of the fall of a hundred—one-half of them rising from sick beds—hastened to escape. Those who were unable to bear their knapsacks and guns, were aided by the stronger. Many of these were assisted by wagons and ambulances, when they had reached the highway of our army, and but a very small number fell into the hands of the enemy.

Of the one hundred and fifty that remained at the hospital in CARTER'S house and Meadow Station, but few could bear removal any distance, even in wagons. Of the surgeons, all were gone. Dr. RODGERS, our Brigade Surgeon, was sick, and unable to prescribe. The surgeon in charge had been laid aside with fever for two weeks. I had assumed from necessity the charge; and when their captivity became a painful certainty, I found it impossible to forsake the sick and disabled, without shame and dishonor.

In the hurry of conversation, the impression I made on the reader in the Gazette was not fully correct. The enemy were about us on Sunday evening, but we were not taken prisoners until Monday morning.

The officers of the Confederate Army who in form took us prisoners, treated us with great kindness, and were with our invalids, in a few moments, on the best of terms. (It is hard to extinguish all national feeling.) They searched the premises, took possession of fifty muskets, twenty revolvers, and some dirks and knives, appropriated to their wants two coats, some blankets and gloves, and a bottle of hospital whiskey. They left with us a guard for our protection, and we were never molested.

During the week, we learned at Savage Station that our wounded men lying in the hospitals on or near the field of battle, were in the greatest destitution and misery—some having been stripped by the enemy, others still lying on the spots where they had fallen, and all without sufficient food, bandages, and medicines. I requested permission of the Confederate Major in command, to pass the lines of their army and carry to the wounded such things as were most needed. He assured me such permission could not be granted; he would render himself liable to arrest; and with out a strong guard went along with me, he could not secure me from danger, and if anything befell me of evil, there would be no end of the trouble; but if I was die, he would do it, and if I was die, he would do it, and if I was die, he would do it.

The first day, I met full fifteen hundred soldiers of the Confederate army, worn out and exhausted—many of them without guns, a part of the shattered mass thrown off from every army, in defeat and retreat. They were turning their faces for rest, and

to camp. I passed through portions of Hill's and Jackson's divisions. I was not molested or stopped at any post, but the pickets and guards let me pass without a question. I visited this day a hospital in tents, and found several of our men, who had risen from their sick beds and followed to this point, our army, but here they were compelled to stop and become prisoners.

"This day's safety and success emboldened me. The following day I passed the White Oak Swamp, and went to the various hospitals on the field of battle. I found on the FRAZER Farm, near to the field of battle of Monday, about two hundred and forty men, most of whom were wounded. At this place were lying several officers of the Pennsylvania Reserves—Lieut. COL. CURRIE, Major W. W. WOODWORTH, Capt. CURRIE, Capt. M. B. ADAMS, and others. All of these were alive and doing well when I left Richmond.

The sufferings of our men here were most severe and bitter. The Confederate authorities had sent out from Richmond all the wagons, ambulances and carriages which could be found, and removed their own wounded to the city; but ours were left to perish, unprotected by them. As a great addition to their cruelty, their surgeons had robbery; the sick and wounded had no instruments and sanitary stores, and thus the few surgeons of our army who remained, were without the means of aiding our wounded men.

In these hospitals, surrounded by the camps of the enemy, our men were greatly wronged by the exorbitant prices charged for every article of necessity. Many were robbed of money and clothing; the horses of the officers were killed. When these hospitals were created, there was no food left for our disabled troops. Requisition after requisition was made upon the Confederate Quartermasters—the Generals were besieged—many promises were given, but no food came. The cry of our wounded men became long and loud, not for surgical help, but for "bread." Day followed day, and still no food came, until the evening of the fourth day after the battle of Monday, when the soldiers had cracker and a small piece of fat side-bacon for each man. The following day, flour was sent to the hospitals. This sick and wounded were left to manufacture into bread, as best they could, without salt and yeast. The flour was rolled into a little cake, and baked on a stick or the end of a ramrod. Such, until their removal to Savage Station or Richmond, was the food of many of our disabled men during those days. Many died of exhaustion and want.

In my visits to these hospitals I was deeply affected by the painful, harrowing narrative of the sufferings of those days. One of our surgeons, Dr. MARKS, of the 4th Cavalry, who remained with the wounded at WILLIS' church, won my lasting respect by shedding tears as he described the dreadful sufferings of his patients in those hospitals. Wounded men suffer much from hunger and exhaustion, and need to be nourished every few hours, by good food and stimulants.

As I went from one to another through his hospital, we came to the spot where a non-commissioned officer of the Reserves was breathing his last. We stopped, and in a few moments the weary was at rest. He had under his right hand, a Bible, which was clasped in death. The doctor could not tell his name. I lifted his hand from the book hoping to find his name on the front page. As I did so, a wounded soldier lying alongside of the dead, requested me to leave the Bible, as it was larger print than his own Testament, and he wished to read some of the blessed words. I found him to be 1st Sgt. JOHN A. PRICE, of the 3d Reserve. He was near his end, but expressed his joyful confidence in God's salvation. He said that he had been a follower of the Redeemer for more than six years, and had, as he hoped, never forsaken his Lord; and on the battle-field and on this painful bed he found the Gospel all his hope and stay. And now as he approached the valley and shadow of death, he had no fear. He was now trembling and gasping for breath. After praying with him, I left him, to see him no more; rejoicing that if left alone by man, his Divine Savior, would never leave him. He thought of the prayers and language of the dead by his side, that he was a good man, and had entered his rest.

At the hospital on the NELSON Farm, I found WILL. SMITH, of Co. B, of Sharp's Regiment. He was wounded in the chest. He lived several days after the battle of Monday, possessed his reason to the last, and died, as I hope, penitent and believing. He had been a follower of the Redeemer for more than six years, and had, as he hoped, never forsaken his Lord; and on the battle-field and on this painful bed he found the Gospel all his hope and stay. And now as he approached the valley and shadow of death, he had no fear. He was now trembling and gasping for breath. After praying with him, I left him, to see him no more; rejoicing that if left alone by man, his Divine Savior, would never leave him. He thought of the prayers and language of the dead by his side, that he was a good man, and had entered his rest.

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"NEW-YORK, July 28.—The Tribune has received a special despatch from Columbus, Ohio, which states that the Rev. Dr. HAYS, of St. Croix, and Rev. D. HOYT, of Louisville, were arrested on Friday night, at the house of Judge CLARK, of Ohio. It is reported that important papers were found on them, implicating VALLANDIGHAM, who will be taken to Cincinnati."

The New-York Tribune, like the New-York Herald, being an extreme sensation paper, is not the best authority for statements of this kind. We shall therefore keep a lookout for a contradiction in reference to the two eminent brethren named. The Cincinnati papers said, a short time ago, that the True Presbyterian, of Louisville, was suppressed, and its senior editor arrested. The paper, however, still comes to us, and it denied the statement indignantly. It seems, however, that the Presbyterian and Gazette published not entirely without authority. The order had been given, says the Presbyterian, but within two days, at the instance of a prominent minister and truly loyal man, it was revoked.

Rev. Benjamin Wallate, D.D., editor of the Presbyterian Quarterly Review, (N. S.), Philadelphia, died on the morning of July 28th.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

BOSTON AND NEW-ENGLAND. A CORRESPONDENT of the Christian Inquirer (Unitarian) furnishes its columns with a brief Catechism, some portions of which are very well asked and answered—thus:

Q.—Wherein has Unitarianism been a failure? A.—In unconsciously taking for its motto misreading of Proverbs iv 23—"Keep thy head with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life." Q.—Where is the text, thus read, to be found with full comments? A.—In the Gospel according to Buckle. Q.—What is the result of such religious "headship"? A.—A rationalness which some are uncharitable enough to think indifference, and a Church too "broad" in proportion to its length and depth.

Q.—Into what does all-head religion often harden? A.—Into skepticism. A.—Into what does it flatten? A.—Into formalism. A.—Into what does it soften? A.—Into aestheticism, figures, metaphors, and such beautiful "prayers and chants." The author of this catechism thinks that the great want of Unitarians is earnestness. Doubtless this is so, but we doubt the possibility of growing any very general or deeply-rooted earnestness on the soil of Unitarian doctrine.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions has appointed its meeting for 1862 in Springfield, October 7, 8, and 9.

THOUSANDS of acres of corn and potatoes in Connecticut have not yet had their "first hoeing," in consequence of the scarcity of laboring men this season. The wages of farm laborers in many parts of the State have advanced to \$1.50 per day. THE POWDER MILLS at Hazardville, Ct., were blown up on Wednesday afternoon, causing a most appalling calamity. About 40 tons of powder was destroyed, the fine wooden buildings were blown to atoms, and eight persons were killed outright, and a few injured.

Scarcely a vestige of the buildings was left. The concussion was so severe, that dwelling-houses within two miles were unroofed, trees uprooted, cattle and people prostrated, etc. The explosion was distinctly heard at Northampton and West Brookfield, a distance of over 50 miles. In Springfield houses were jarred as by an earthquake. There will be great suffering in the vicinity, as many houses were rendered unfit to occupy.

DURING the French war, as it was called, the poll-tax in New-England was four dollars, the tax on real estate was at the rate of thirty-six dollars on an hundred dollars valuation, and there was an excise duty on tea, coffee, wine, rum, and other articles in general use.

NEW-YORK.

The supply of money is easy, and tends to increase. The rates are 5 to 6 per cent for call loans and for discounts of prime business paper at or under ninety days, and 6 to 7 per cent for longer dates. Second-class paper is neglected. There is a great disposition to use caution to an extreme degree, so as to check transactions, while first-class borrowers find it very easy to obtain what they want. The market for gold is very unsettled. The premium has risen to 20 per cent, and the money market has hardly awakened to the fact that the standard of money exchanges is not gold, but Government securities. This cannot fail, however, to do shortly. Gold is only wanted for shipments. The amount shipped last week was only \$1,800,000—about one-third below the average of recent weeks' shipments. Gold is very abundant in the country. The high premium brings it out of its hiding-places steadily. The banks do not lose any, but hold fast to their \$32,000,000. The return of American securities continues, and is a natural result of the rise in their value here. We can readily spare our gold, for which we have little home use; and we cannot lose by its export, for we do not give it away.

The excitement in the market for cotton goods has become very intense, and prices are rising daily. We cannot give quotations. No holders will sell large parcels; but keep their customers sparingly supplied. Both city and country jobbers are eager to buy. The aggregate sales are very large, and the market has seldom been so active, and never so much so at this season. The advance in the price of cotton is the chief cause of this, and the prospect of a great scarcity, as manufacturers decline making many goods while the cost is so great. The retail trade is buying now, instead of at the usual period of August and September. Stocks are light, and are rapidly getting lighter. The greatest advance is on the lower qualities, which are most in demand.

SECRETARY STANTON has received a letter from Wm. H. Aspinwall, of the firm of Howland & Aspinwall, of New-York, enclosing a check for \$25,290.60, being the amount of their commission for the sale of Enfield muskets to the Government. Mr. Aspinwall desires to receive any pecuniary compensation for services rendered to the Government in suppressing the rebellion. The Secretary of War, in reply, eulogizes the conduct and the patriotism of Mr. Aspinwall.

Trow's "New-York Directory," lately published, gives the following list of churches: Baptist, 33; Congregational, 4; Dutch Reformed; 22; Friends, 3; Jewish Synagogues, 18; Lutheran, 7; Methodist Episcopal, 34; African Methodist Episcopal, 4; Methodist Protestant, 1; Presbyterian, (including two Mission chapels,) 48; United Presbyterian, 1; Reformed, (Roman Catholic, 31; Unitarian, 2; Universalist, 4; miscellaneous, 20; making a total of 305. Some half dozen Mission chapels are not enumerated; but as several of the foregoing churches will probably ere long be sold out

and closed up, the number may stand as it is—305.

The following table shows how this compares with other cities:

Table with columns: City, Population, Churches, No. to Pop. New York, 805,651, 305, 1 to 2,641 Philadelphia, 565,529, 275, 1 to 2,056 Baltimore, 212,418, 170, 1 to 1,249 Boston, 177,718, 112, 1 to 1,588

The correspondent of a contemporary thus speaks of the newly elected Professor in the General Episcopal Seminary in this city: Dr. Seabury is rector of the Church of the Annunciation, corner of Sixteenth Street and Sixth Avenue, where previous are read every morning to three pupils (as I can testify from ocular inspection), and all the rubrics are sedulously observed. He is one of the highest of the High, and his election is very distasteful to the Low Church party, to whom Dr. Turner had been acceptable. The Seminary will, of course, lose every particle of their confidence, and all interest will be transferred to the new Divinity School established in Philadelphia.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION have undertaken the beneficent service of supplying all the New-York hospitals for sick and wounded soldiers, with night-watches. About two hundred and fifty young men have already volunteered to take their share of this necessary and merciful work, and as many more are needed.

PHILADELPHIA.

THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY are contributing with great liberality in aid of recruiting. THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, of this city, learns that President Benson left London on the 5th inst. for Hamburg and the Continent—expecting to be absent some five or six weeks. It is therefore unlikely that he will visit the United States. Everywhere in England he has been treated with the greatest possible kindness, courtesy, and respect. The three last invitations he had before his departure from London were to breakfast with the Duchess of Argyll—to dine at the Lord Mayor's Banquet, where the Viceroy of Egypt was, and to a magnificent evening party at Miss Burdett Coutts'. "He had innumerable invitations," writes Gerard Ralston, Esq., "more than he physically could accept."

REV. BENJ. J. WALLACE, D.D., died Saturday, at his residence in Philadelphia, after an illness of several weeks. The deceased was born in Erie, Pa., in 1810, and from 1827 to 1830 was a cadet at West Point, but resigned to become a student of divinity at Princeton. He has had charge of several Presbyterian churches in this State, and for a time was Professor in the College at Newark, Del. For the past twelve years he resided in that city, and was the editor and principal contributor of the Presbyterian Quarterly Review.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

REV. C. P. CUMMINS, M.D., of Brookville, is about removing to Beaver, Pa., where correspondents will please address him. THE CONGREGATION lately under the pastoral care of Dr. Woods, have engaged the Rev. O. O. McLean for three months, commencing on the first Sabbath in August, proximo.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

The Ashmun Institute. MR. EDITOR:—The propriety of employing persons of African descent as soldiers in our army, is questioned by many. Certainly they are more deeply interested in the issue of this war than any other class, having their personal liberty at stake. It would seem therefore that they should have a place in our armies, and a place of danger and effort in proportion to the benefits they are to receive, if we succeed. Whether this be right or wrong, however, we will not pretend to decide—it is a political question. There is another in reference to the position of the colored people of our country, which we as Christians need not err in determining, viz.: In the battle for the success of Christ's kingdom, they should be permitted to take their place, and especially in places where by physical constitution best qualified to fill. Some of laborers among their own people here, and in Africa. To qualify a portion of them for this place, is the object of the Ashmun Institute. Many of your readers were interested in this Institution when first established, and now that the question "What shall we do for the contrabands?" has become so important, they would no doubt be pleased to hear of it again in connection with that subject.

On Thursday last the Fifth Yearly Session closed, with a public examination of the young men; and the thorough, faithful teaching of the Rev. Dr. Martin, the Principal, was clearly exhibited in the course of the examination, and was highly gratifying to the Trustees, and others who were present. The progress made in all the studies, the order and evidently deep sympathy between the Master and his pupils, and the piety and Christian zeal as proved by their own constant non-day, or other prayer-meetings, and their labors among the colored people around them as preparatory to the work of the ministry and of missions abroad, were regarded as calling for thankfulness to God, and activity and hope for the future.

The average number in attendance for the five years, has been fifteen, though now somewhat diminished by the failure of previous patrons to contribute for their support of particular students, who have therefore been compelled to leave the institution. Now let me say a few words to the benevolent reader, interested in the building up of Christ's kingdom:

1st. The education is entirely gratuitous to the pupils. A hundred dollars contributed will support a young man for the Session of ten months, whom you may find among the lately liberated slaves, or from the congregations of colored people; many such are waiting for you to say, "Come, we will help you;" and they may be your missionaries in the West India Islands, or in Africa, or may act as preachers and teachers in your place, among their destitute people in our own country.

2d. Funds are needed to pay the salary of the Principal, and to meet the current expenses of the Institution. The watchful care of the Newcastle Presbytery may be a sufficient pledge that they will be judiciously and faithfully applied.

3d. There are many encouragements. That since December morning, when the

sainted Dr. Van Rensselaer delivered the opening address, has already brightened into a cheering harvest day. His closing words were, "Heaven bless the Institution in its plans, its officers, and its pupils. Bless it, God of Ethiopia, who has made of one blood all nations of men. Be then glorified on every Continent; be thou glorified in Africa." Are thy graduates are preaching in Africa and in this country, and under present providences the door is wide open. Have we not all long used the fruits of slavery? Do we not owe a debt to the colored race? And how can we better discharge it, than by supporting such an Institution for them? ONE OF THE TRUSTEES.

Oxford, Chester Co., Pa.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

Board of Colportage. REV. DAVID MCKINNEY:—Please acknowledge the following donations to the Board of Colportage, during the months of June and July:

Table with columns: Donor, Amount. Elderton cong, Saltsburg Puy, for soldiers, \$ 4 00 Sewickley cong, Redstone Puy, " 37 25 Butler Puy Sabbath School, " 13 00 A lady friend, " 2 00 Joseph McGahan, Esq., " 1 00 Rural Valley cong, Blairsville Puy, " 18 00 Rev. W. F. Morgan, " 2 00 Miss Anna Reed, " 1 00 Bethel cong, Ohio Puy, " 35 00 Statelet cong, Allegheny Puy, one-third, " 25 50 Freeport, " 2 00 Bluffton cong, Synod of North Indiana, 2 00 Mount Pleasant cong, Erie Puy, 9 00 Cross-Roads cong, Allegheny City Puy, 5 00 Concord cong, " 2 00 Montours cong, Ohio Puy, 12 29 Harrisville cong, Allegheny Puy, 6 50 Amity cong, " 4 50 Leechburg cong, Saltsburg Puy, 7 50 West Greenville cong, Allegheny Puy, 14 00 Jacksonville cong, Saltsburg, " 8 50 Christ's Creek cong, Redstone Puy, 6 00 Salem cong, Blairsville, " 18 50 Charlestown cong, Ohio, " 17 35 Sandy Lake cong, Erie, " 6 00 Indiana cong, Blairsville, " 18 68

\$277.21 F. G. BAILEY, Treasurer. Pittsburgh, July 29, 1862.

Religious Depression.

It is a strange truth that some of the highest of God's servants are tried with darkness on the dying bed. Theory would say, when a religious man is laid up for his last struggle, now he is alone for deep communion with God. Fact very often says, "No; now he is alone, as his Master was before him, in the wilderness, to be tempted of the devil." Look at John the Baptist in imagination, and you will say, "Now his rough pilgrimage is done. He has nothing is out of the world, with the rapt forecaste of heaven in his soul." Look at John in fact. He is agitated, sending to Christ, not able to rest, grim doubt wrestling with his soul, misgiving for one last black hour whether all his hope had not been delusion. There is one thing we remark here by the way: Doubt often comes from inactivity. We cannot give the philosophy of it, but this is the fact—Christians who have nothing to do but sit thinking of themselves, meditating, sentimentalizing, (or mystifying,) are almost sure to become the prey of dark, black misgivings. John struggling in the desert needs no proof that Jesus is the Christ. John shut up, became morbid and doubtful immediately. Brethren, all this is very marvellous. The history of a human soul is marvellous. We are mysteries; but here is the history of it all; for sadness, for suffering, for misgiving, there is no remedy but stirring and doing.—Robertson.

John Bell Refusing the Protection of the American Flag.—1st. May last, Gen. Mitchell received a letter from Mrs. Bell, asking him for a passport for her husband from Blount Springs, Ala., to Nashville. The General granted the request, and Nicholas Davis waited upon Mr. Bell, to communicate to him the wishes of his wife and the assurances of the General. The courtesy was declined; the leader of the late American party evidently preferring to remain on rebel soil, to the acceptance of the protection of the American flag.

Our Minister to Rome and the Pope.—In a letter from the London Times correspondent at Rome, we read, "Among the numerous presentations to his Holiness, during the last few days, has been Mr. Randall, United States Minister, who speaks no other language than English. His excellency was declined; the leader of the late American party evidently preferring to remain on rebel soil, to the acceptance of the protection of the American flag."

Duke Pasquier, the oldest statesman in France, the very Nestor of publicists, has died at the age of ninety-six. He was born, April 25, 1767—two years earlier than Wellington and Napoleon. At that time, George III. had reigned seven years; Louis XV. had been fifty-four years on the throne of France; the Empress Catharine had been six years at the head of public affairs in Prussia; Joseph II. was Emperor of Germany; Frederick the Great had reigned twenty-seven years in Prussia, and truly greater than any of these, Lord Clive was in the third year of his sway as first viceroys of India. When Pasquier died, nine years old, the Declaration of Independence was signed and proclaimed in Philadelphia. Into the life of this one man, extended so long beyond the