# Presbyterian Banner

PITTSBURGH. WEDNESDAY. JUNE 17, 1863.

Sabbath School Convention .- The late Convention in Pittsburgh was large and important. It occurred during the sessions of our General Assembly, and absence prevented our notising it as we should desire. Pastors and elders should feel themselves charged with these fountains of influence, and make them to be real blessings.

### THE CONTEMPLATED NEW HYMN-BOOK.

Occasionally there is a great floury made by our poets, poetesses, and critics, about the deficiency of our Hymnology, and the indispensible necessity of improvement. Our late General Assembly lent a favoring ear so far that it appointed a large committee on the subject, with instructions to report next year. We do not wish to say much on the subject; and shall, for the present, merely quote our contemporary, the Examiner, which is a Baptist journal, conducted with much taste and judgment, and inclined occasionally to a little pleasantry. .. It speaks thus :

### "IMPENDING DISASTER.

"A disaster is imminent over the religious community, in the shape of a new hymn and tune book. Happily, it is the Presbyterians only, or we at least hope so, who are now threatened, and the 'Old School at that. They are tolerably tough, and can bear a good deal. It seems that the General Assembly of this branch, now or lately in session at Peoria, Illinois, were requested by the Presbytery of Albany to prepare a new selection of Psalmody. I he request was referred to the Board of Publication; but as there is probably some private interest concerned, backed by some 'enterprising publisher's' money, there is little doubt that it will prevail.

"Seriously, there is no nuisance prominent in religious matters, equal to new hymn-books. Any disinterested Asaph, celestial or human, who might be made umpire, would decide, that out of some dozen selections, now competing for use in the sanctuary, there is no particular feature in any that makes it worthy to oust its neighbor. Indeed, some of the later selections are far from being preferable to the older. The simple fact is, that personal interest gets up, or instigates the getting up of most of these books for mercantile purposes. All this is well enough, if everybody understands it; but to have the churches set by the ears every two or three years, and forced into an aggregate expense of from \$300 to \$500 each, under the imthe songs of Zion, is nonsense-that is, speaking in the abstract. If, however they do it with their eyes open, all the better for the publishers, who are a very worthy class of gentlemen, and all of them our very good friends."

## POLITICAL PREACHING.

We still hear many complaints made about "political preaching." We find them more especially coming from sources where there is not the most cordial susten tation of our National Government in its defence of the integrity of the Union. There may, however, be some reason for a portion of the fault-finding. Happily, where it is our privilege to worship we hear nothing of wordly politics in the Lord's day sermons; and we never yet have heard a sermon, from any pulpit, to which we could take exception on this score.

We allude to the subject now, in order to advise our brother ministers to the use of much caution, both in the selection of texts and the treatment of their subjects of discussion, in the sacred desk. Be sure that you speak for God, and speak nought but God's truth. Noting the signs of the times, and the needs of the people, you cannot but speak of our national calamity, the sins of the people, the wickedness of the rebellion, the justice of God's judgments, and the repentance and reformation to which we are called.

And we would suggest to hearers the importance of consulting the holy oracles, and of forming their tastes and modifying their criticisms by what they there read. They will find that the Scriptures speak largely of social affairs of government, of rulers, of obedience to authority, of wars, of public calamities, of widows, orphans, masters, servants, &c., &c. They will hence see that a faithful minister cannot possibly avoid these things, and especially cannot avoid them at such a time as this. We would have them also note that hearers often judge of things wrongfully; that is they often impute things to the minister of which he himself has no thought; they hear him with the ears of party politicians and they call that politics which is really the veritable teaching of Jesus and of Paul. We ask them to think of this, and try whether the fault be not in themselves and by all means to judge their paster charitably, and put the best possible construction on what he says. And if he should be defective as to the amount of pure Gospel preaching, they will wisely make the more diligent use of what they get. No man is perfect. No man can elaim, however much he may make the endeavor, that he fully succeeds in rightly

dividing the Word. It is also to be remembered, in our hear ing of the Word, that the minister is Christ's ambassador, that he studies his instructions, that he prays for Divine guidance, and that he speaks under solemn responsibilities. When, then, he comes to us with a message in Christ's name, it behooves us to hear benevolently. The in ference is, that the Lord hath bidden him so to speak; and while we may go, and should go, to the Scriptures to test the rectitude of his teachings, we are to go with humility, with a docile spirit. much and earnest prayer.

We lear that many times those severe censurers of Christ's ministers are influenced by a very worldly spirit, and do their own selves a very great injury.

tucky affirmed that all communicating elector. members of the Church, who submitted to vote when a pastor was to be chosen. From this decision Drs. BRECKINRIDGE, HUMPHREY, and others dissented, and carried the matter, by complaint, to the Gena very full discussion of the question, sustained the complaint. But they gave no answer to the question, Who may vote? They disapprove of the restricted interpretaposition. Congregations are left in the a member of the congregation. same uncertainty, and to the same freedom, in which they were before the Synod's and equally open for discussion.

We believe that the Assembly did just too minute. The liberty of private judgment may be too much abridged. But still, conscience shall be right. The question before us is one of deep import. The peace and spiritual edification of a people, are intimately concerned in its decision. The people should give it some attention.

It is not those who are to be taught, who are the best qualified judges of the teacher. It is rather, those who are already taught, or those whose the pupils are. Wise men select the Professors for our schools and color heads of families.

The Scriptures are neither definite in instructions, nor minute in their examples, shall exercise their right, are not detailed. reason has much to do, in these things.

we should say, somewhat indefinite on this subject. When God is not minute, we should be neither exacting nor positive. In our Form of Government, Chap. I., sec. 6., it is said: "The election of persons to the exercise of authority, in any particular vote for elders and deacons. Society, is in that Society." This is truthful, but general. The office is of God.

In Chap. XIII., sec. 2, we read: "Every congregation shall elect persons to the office of ruling elder, and to the office of deacon, or either of them, in the mode most approved and in use in that congregamembers in "full communion."

In Chap. XV., sec. 6, speaking of the election of a pastor, it is provided: "No regularly administered; or who does not Here it is to be observed that in the section from which we quote, and in all the they would worship God, and acquire over the previous year of \$3,162,977. The chapter, it is not the church but the concongregation"; the people of that congregation"; the electors of that congregation." For us then to substitute church, for "congregation," and say that according to our Standards none but members of the church are duly qualified electors, in the choice of a pastor, would be to do great violence to common reason; and still more would it be wrong for us, unless clearly taught by other parts of our Book, or by the Holy Scriptures, to say that none but communientitled to a vote.

If we should take the word congregation as a synonym of church, still we cannot justly restrict its membership to those who are actually communicants at the Lord's table. "The visible Church," says the Confession of Faith, in Chap. XXV., sec. 2, "consists of all those throughout the arms; no proffers to return to duty. world, that profess the true religion, toalso, the right to vote resides in the heads punish, conspirators, rebels, murderers, the sound of the church-going bell, a proof families. Authority rests with the head thieves, and robbers.

Some two years ago the Synod of Ken charges other duties, is the duly qualified ever said, it is a righteous peace which we

discipline regularly administered, and who ought not to be deprived by any unscription of law. contributed duly to the expenses of the tural or arbitrary enactments. The man church, and none but such, had a right to who will refuse to do his part in sustaining a pastor, is justly deprived of a vote. The man also who refuses to yield to the discipline of the church, is properly disfranchised. And the man who professes alleeral Assembly. The late Assembly, after giance to another society, has no right to vote. Simply his paying money to the expenses there, does not give him a just claim to the exercise of a controlling power. And the man who does not "profess the tion given to our Standards by the Synod true religion," may not vote. He belongs of Kentucky, but they give no definite ex- not to the Christian family, and cannot be

A question here arises: Does the mar

who fails to commune at the Lord's table, the Assembly's action; and the subject is fail to "profess the true religion," and so deprive himself of a right to vote? We think not, on the supposition that he is right, in the circumstances. Laws may be otherwise qualified. We suppose him to be one born in the Church, and hence a member of Christ's visible family. His birththe more liberty there is enjoyed the right has been sealed in baptism. He has more needful is it that the public mind been taught in the doctrines of Christianshall be enlightened, and that the public ity, and has received them and holds them He abides in the family conforms to its rules: sustains the ordinances; attends worship; has never been subjected to dishence, still a member of the visible Church, and a member of that congregation. He is so, as we think, by the Scriptures: and certainly is so by our Standards.

In these remarks we keep in mind that a particular congregation is; in some respects, leges. Parents choose the institution, and a voluntary society and as such it may hence the teachers, to whom they will en. have its special rules. It may, organtrust their sons and daughters. As the ize on the principle that the exercise of minister is a teacher, the choice ought to authority, as in voting for officers, shall not be in the hands of the wise of the parents be confined to the heads of families nor yet reside in the whole adult people; but that only communicating persons shall vote, and that all these may vote, whether in relation to the choice and installation of old or young, male or female. Such matspiritual officers. They teach abundantly, ters might well be subjects for considerathat the minister is called of God, quali- | tion in the forming of a new society; but fied, sent. He is the ambassador of Christ now we are inquiring, not what ought to He is the gift of Christ to the Church, for be, but what is, in the Presbyterian Church. her edification. God's providence is con- as it is organized and as its principles are cerned in the sending and locating of the set forth in our Confession of Faith. our minister, but what may be the people's Catechisms, Form of Government, Book of right in choosing, and in what manner they Discipline, and Directory for Worship; and, according to these Standards, we We hence infer that man's enlightened think that all heads of families, who are to our faith and order, who have never been disowned, who are members of a congregation, and who sustain their proper share of all burdens, are qualified voters for a pastor. And we regard all who have a right to vote

There are, we are aware, one or two expressions in our Form of Government The call to office, and the endowments, are which will bear the interpretation that only its auxiliaries, \$64,674. of God. The investiture is by the Church. communicants may vote for elders, but the choosing. The principles are, Scripture, every person in the congregation who has hall, Bromley, near Bow, London. right reason, and the order of the more a soul to save, and a character to protect, general Church to which the Society be and a household to visit, and a child to be controlled, edified, and admitted to church brivileges is concerned in his qualifications and character. But the question as fo the

elders, we do not press.

In choosing a pastor, however, we are in the church in which they are to exercise persons who have attained to their majority their office." The implication here is, that and personal responsibility. They have our faith and order. They share in the burdens, but do not purchase a right by money. They are members of the family, person shall be entitled to vote who refuses and not "outsiders." They are not into submit to the censures of the church adels, but Christians. They are not Methcontribute his just proportion, according to Presbyterians. And though they may not his own engagements, or the rules of that | yet have attained to a definite hope in congregation, to all its necessary expenses." Christ, so as to confess him at the communion table, still they wish to attain, and its amounting to \$23,146,936, an increase knowledge, and be guided heavenward ungregation, which is named—"the members | der the leading of a Presbyterian minister, of that congregation"; "a pastor for that and in conjunction with their own people. Let all such, we say, choose for their pastor whom they will, from among those whom our Church has educated, and examined, and set apart to preach the Gospel of sal-

# THE WAR A WRONG.

This war is all wrong, say a portion of the community. The war should never have been begun, and it should not be continued. Very true, say we. But who death of his wife has greatly accelerated cating members of the church should be began it? Was it not the South? As his steps to the grave. He will be a light actual war it began with the attack on Fort gone out. No man connected with Am-Sumpter. The South fired the first gun, has contributed so much to science, and and shed the first blood.

And who continue the war? Is it not the South still? We hear of no acknowledgment of wrong; no promise to become obedient to the laws; no laying down of

gether with their children." This em- is partly defensive, and partly an effort to count furnished respecting the Reformed braces multitudes who do not see their way execute the laws. It is defensive, in that Dutch Church clear to the Lord's table. The language of it would preserve the unity of the country, and "congregation." Now, the congrega- would protect Union men of the South tion, according to the Scriptures, and to (whether many or few,) in the enjoyment prehend the Scriptures, and our Standards in that it would bring to justice and duly was a marked character of the sacred day.

hence it is that he, when he properly dis- always in favor of peace, but, as we have advocate; a peace which shall secure to us Of this right the head of the family a whole country, and a faithful administra-

# EASTERN SUMMARY.

NEW-ENGLAND. A WRITER in the Congregationalist furnishes an interesting article on the views and practice of the Congregational Church in regard to the participation by women in the audible exercises of a worshipping assemply. He mentions among other curious facts, that John Cotton, when connecting himself with the First church in Boston, on his arrival in 1633, would not allow Mrs. Cotton to make an open confession of her faith, because, he said, "it was against the Apostle's order, and not fit for a woman's modesty:" but he gave his testimony to her qualifications, and consented that the elders should examine her.

With regard to the usage of Congregationalism in its later years; be quotes Punchard, in his view of Congregationalism, as

"It is utterly inconsistent with established usage for females to take any part in business transactions. Their views and wishes are to be expressed privately to: their pastor or their brethren. We suffer not a woman to speak in the church, agreeable to apostolic injunction. I would not cipline; has never been disowned. He is, be understood to say that no Congregational church pursues a different course. I have had occasion to know of one, at least, which has followed a different practice to its own detriment. All deviations from the usual course are spots upon the fair character of our churches.'

Dr. HUNTINGTON, of Boston, in a recently published sermon on "The Roman Catholic Principle," remarks that the first question put by about nine New-Englanders out of ten, when they are urged to any particular religious duty, is, not, Has God said this? or, Does Christ enjoin it? but, What good shall I get by it? May not a

person get to heaven without it? Dr. H. may present the subject a little too strongly, but the principle he condemns is practically prevalent to a lamentable extent, not only in New-England, but among churches everywhere.

The following is a summary of the Annual Report of the Boston Seamen's Friend

"Hon. Alpheus Hardy, is President. The entire receipts have been \$9,060.77. The Society owes \$18,000, but the debt members by birth and baptism, who hold has been reduced \$3,000 during the year. At the Seamen's House in Purchase Street 1,700 seamen had been received as boarders during the past year, of whom 77 were shipwrecked and destitute. Capt. Bartlett the seamen's missionary, continues to labor assiduously at the Chelsea Marine Hospital. for a pastor, as having equally a right to The Society has furnished several hundred libraries to naval vessels. The total receipts of the parent Society, the American Seamen's Friend Society at New-York. were \$29,839-including the receipts of all

THE BOSTON RECORDER says that Rev But the choice of the individual officer to general tenor of our Standards, as we J. Sella Martin, a fugitive slave, and late the stated exercise of his functions in a think, and of the Scriptures certainly, pastor of a Baptist church in Boston, has particular Society, is in that Society. The make no distinction in the qualifications of accepted a cordial and unanimous invitainference is, that the Society itself, is, on electors for one office and for the other, tion to become the pastor of the church at proper principles, to determine the mode of The ruling elder is a spiritual officer, and present meeting for worship in the lecture

> WE UNDERSTAND that the Life of Presdent Lincoln, published by Walker, Wise & Co., Boston, and entitled The Pioneer Boy and How he Became President, has reached its ninth thousand in the short time it has been published.

THE BOSTON TRANSCRIPT says that Mr. clear in our conviction that the qualified Wm. Goff, who died in that city a few days tion. But in all cases the persons elected electors are "the members of the congrega- since, was a lineal descendant of the famust be male members in full communion tion." They are the heads of families, or mous William "Goffe," one of the judges who sentenced Charles I. to death. The regicide, with General Whalley, arrived at Boston in July, 1660, and the late Mr. "modes" may vary, and that others than their rights by being with us, and of us; Goff often expressed the opinion that he "males" may vote, and also others than constituent parts of the Society, holding to was the last male descendant of the noted ancestor whose name he bore.

> THE Boston Provident Association have during the past year, made 8530 visits, and aided 2800 families, including 8603 persons. During the year they have received a legacy of \$2000 from the late Benjamin odists, nor Episcopalians, nor Baptists, but D. Green; they have expended for the benefit of the poor, \$10,827.

THERE were in Connecticut on the 1st of January, 49 savings banks, with deposnumber of depositors 104,727; average due each depositor, nearly \$323.

MR. EDWARD HARRIS, of Woonsocket R. I. has given the "Harris Block." and grounds appurtenant, valued at \$70,000 or the establishment in Woonsocket of a free public library and public lectures of a scientific. literary, and reformatory character. The library will be sustained and perpetuated by the rents, etc., of the prop-erty. It is to be called the Harris Insti-

REV. DR. HITCHCOCK, of Amherst College, the eminent geologist, is very ill, and not expected to live. He has been in failing health for some years; and the recent herst College has had such a wide fame brought back to that institution so much of renown and power.

NEW-YORK. THE Observer is giving, through the pen of a contributor, a series of interesting articles on the earliest churches in New-On the side of the Government, the war | York. We quote a few items from the ac-

"In the early days of New Netherland our Standards, however, in regard to the prevent the Border and Northern States the Sabbath was strictly observed, when body which selects a pastor is, "society," from being subjugated and plundered, and the people, dressed in their best, attended the church services. They were almost exclusively Calvinists, and strict in the performance of their religious duties. facts, is made up of families; and as we ap of their rights. And it is executive of law The "Koeck," or bell-ringer and sexton, Having summoned the congregation, by

were hung to the girdle by like costly chains for Sunday use. Doctors and dominies had libraries, the latter being men of finished education.

"Unlike the plainly-attired Puritan, the Dutch dominies always appeared in their high, circular pulpits, with black silk gowns, and large flowing sleeves. This sacred robe seemed indispensable, and it is related that, at the installation of an early minister, who was not prepared with such a garment, the presiding clergyman refused to officiate. Fortunately for the candidate, a kind clergyman supplied his need, or the ceremonies would have been postponed. "All the pulpits then had heavy sounding boards, and the Psalms of the day set in moveable figures, either upon the sides of the sacred desk or the church. The clerk occupied a little pew or box by himself, in front of the pulpit, prefacing the morning services by reading the Scriptures, and during the afternoon the Apostles' Creed. He received from the sexton all the notices to be read, and then placing them at the end of a long pole, they were thus passed up to the dominie for publication. There were no church clocks then. and the hour-glass supplied its place, which was placed invariably at the right hand of the preacher. It was the clerk's duty, too, when the last grains of the sand had run out, to remind him that the time to end the sermon had come, by three raps of his cane. The discourse finished, the deacons rose in their seats, went to the altar, elistened to a brief address from the preacher, when they attended to the public collec-

THE Intelligencer has the following reference to the reception by the New School General Assembly of the Old School Commissioner:

"The late session of the General Assembls (N. S.) at Philadelphia will be memorable in the history of the great Presbyterian family in this country. Atter divisions that had lasted for more than a quarter of a century, the Old School Assembly sent its the disruption was consummated, to assure the sister Assembly in session there of its friendliness. The scene, as described by those who witnessed it, was most touching. While the venerable Commissioner, Rev. Dr. Tustin, was describing the gratitude with been identified with the past discussions, responded with their tears and their glowing faces. The mere delight of the occasion, however, is far less important than its influence upon catholic charity throughout the land. It is too soon to say what form to rejoice that the restoration is begun."

THE Examiner, in noticing the departure of Rev. H. W. Beecher on his four months' visit to Europe, remarks:

"We are of the number of those who have had occasion to criticise some of Mr. Beecher's principles, and may have to do so again. But we take pleasure in acknowledging that the demonstrations of attachment, respect, and love which attended him on his departure were of such a character as to convince every one, who is not thoroughly saturated with prejudice, of his extraordinary ability and worth, and of the high estimation in which he is held by multitudes in the land. The Tuesday af ternoon before he sailed, his Sunday School, some eight hundred strong, visited him at his house, and while he stood at the door, nearly overwhelmed him with flowers. On Saturday, thousands of his friends went to Montague wharf, Brooklyn, to bid him good by, and many of them travelled on a steamer down the Bay to see him off. There is, perhaps, no other man in the country, and certainly no other private citizen. who would have been wafted on his way by so great a number of kind wishes as were sent after Mr. Beecher."

THE LAST Evangelist contains a somewhat racy letter from a looker on at the Presbyterian General Assembly recently convened at Peoria. The writer, after alluding to the tobacco chewing and spitting; the whittling and the heel-lifting which, he understands, characterized-the meetings of the Assembly in by-gone days, acknowledges the disappearance of these offencer against propriety, and, whether justly or not, ascribes the commendable change to the absence of the Southern brethren. He thinks the rebellion has purged the Assembly of "much bad manners," as well as of "bad temper and hideously bad doctrine."

He further writes: that these brethren for the most part stick to old orthodox ways in minor matters. They all wear, with few exceptions, the stovepipe hat and shave their faces clean, as of old. There are, of course a certain number of full beards, well trimmed; and now and then a moustache, German and catlike, adorns a reverend face. The Modan untrimmed awning, of half a cubit's length or so; which, some observers think, adds nothing whatever to beauty or dignity. fully persuaded, if he can."

studies to be pursued. Four hundred and an abundant harvest may be gathered.

regiments, their places and terms of service, their honors and their casualties, if any—in a word, whatever properly pertains to the life and experience of the soldier. The book is neatly and strongly bound, and is labelled, "Army Record of the Broadway Tabernacle Congregation." In ancouncing the preparation of this volume. the pastor stated that it would be deposited in the archives of the church as a memorial unto all generations.

Some LADIES of the Rev. Dr. Storrs

sively bound, with silver edgings and | 000. He commenced life as a clerk at \$20 | him to obey God's command Men are clasps, and sometimes gold; and these per month, and leaves off the largest iron sometimes called to the ministry. They dealer in the country.

EMIGRANTS from Europe continue to sand a day. As yet, the greater part of those who have arrived this year are from Ireland, though a fair proportion are from not his duty to do so. Germany, the other great European hive. THE price of Gold Coin experienced a

slight advance on Saturday, closing at 143 him to task himself severely in the labors per cent. Exchange on London did not of his profession. His partner performed respond to the advance in Gold. The quo- a large portion of the labors of the firm. tation is 1551 to 156 per cent. The whole export demand for Gold and Silver for the week, amounted to only \$255.000. Superfine flour was quoted at \$4.75 to \$5.10.

### PHILADELPHIA.

A PHILADELPHIA CORRESPONDENT of

the Christian Intelligencer writes: "There are thousands in this city who churches are conducted in the German language. A Dutchman by name and church connexions, and bearing a very strong afbeen strongly impressed, since residing age came on. here, that if it were possible to drop the term Dutch' from our Church title, it would be for the good of the Master's cause. Beyond know that an effect was to take away the the bounds of New-York and New-Jersey, reluctance which the father felt toward the this is painfully evident. I know of but performence of a manifest duty. two Holland Dutch families in my congregation. I believe there is but one in the and afflictions designed to overcome our resecond church, and two or three in the luctance to perform our duty? Third."

EXTENSIVE ARRANGEMENTS are being made in Philadelphia, for the celebration upon a grand scale, of the approaching an

niversary of Independence. On the afternoon of the third, says the News, there will be a grand public reception of the President of the United States. Commissioners to the very city in which who is expected to arrive in the city for the purpose of taking part in the ceremo-On the Fourth there will be firing hearty readiness and desire for returning of salutes from different points, ceremonies at the Hall of Independence, a procession of the Union Leagues, a parade of the Provost Guard, the Gray and Blue Reserves, the Home Guard, &c : a fireman's which his aged eyes beheld such a day, other | torchlight procession at night, an illuminavenerable men in his audience, who had tion of the public buildings, arches of evergreens at several points in the streets, a review of troops on parade by the President, a banquet at the Academy of Music, &c., &c. In addition to the President and his

Cabinet, a number of prominent officials these restored relations will ultimately take. and distinguished citizens are invited and Providence will shape them. But no man expected to be present. Among these will JOHN PEMBERTON, the rebel commander

Philadelphia, and by birth connected with the Society of Friends.

THE Chief Engineer of the Philadelphia Water Department declares that the Delaware river water pumped into the Kensington basin is entirely unfit for domestic purposes, owing to its impurity, and even dangerous to the health and lives of the

## ECCLESIASTICAL

Mr. JOHN W. POTTER, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Allegheny City, has re-Mr. P. has accepted this call, and been dismissed to put himself under the care City, Pa., to Ogle P. O., Butler Co., Pa. Lev. S. V. McKEE's Post Office address is changed from Vincennes, Indiana, to

Clermont, Marion County, Ind. Rev. G. N. JOHNSTON has removed from New Salem, Beaver Presbytery, to Eimwood, Ill., where he has an important

Rev. D. Owen Davis has accepted a unanimous call to the church in Paris, Ky. Mr. D. C. MARQUIS, late-of-Chicago Seminary, has accepted an invitation to supply the church at Decatur, Illinois.

Christian Commission in the Potomac Army. The following is the report of Rev. Ross Stevenson, of the Presbyterian church of ligion, and thus to testify their grateful Ligonier, who has been laboring as a delegate of the Christian Commission, in the Armyrof the Potomac : Inq ben in

"As the time allowed to me by my con-"And while I am about it, I may say gregation has expired; I give you an out capacity, gave still greater zest to the meetine of my labors. I arrived at Washing ton April 7th, and entered immediately on the duties of my commission, by visiting praying with the sick and wounded men, many of whom had just been borne from the battle-field of Chancellorville. On the 12th of April was sent to Camp Conveleserator, and one, or two others, indulge in cent, where I remained about one week, aiding in carrying on the daily meetings. We had Divine rervice three times each day During the intervals we visited the hos But as to such things let every man be pitals, distributing books, papers and tracts, and conversing privately with the soldiers. On the 20th I left Washington for the front THE ANNUAL CATALOGUE of the Uni- of the army, and after a few days labor at versity of the City of New-York shows Aquia Creek, was transferred to Falmouth that forty professors and instructors are Station. Here the work is at the Station, engaged in its various departments. The among the camps preaching and holding eclectic seems to be fully carried out; prayer-meetings and distributing religious reading of The field is vast, the work great, young men being allowed a selection of the and by the blessing of God on the labor,

labors, and the Christian Commission. See (

The Reluctant Child. To your a

to rest. Authority and perhaps force may golden truits! The intellect of neither be necessary to induce compliance on the man nor angel can fully comprehend the of families. Authority rests with the head of the family. Responsibility is there. Experience and wisdom are there. The head of the family has the right to say, who head of the family has the right to say, who head of the family has a a pastor and teacher, and where his house as a pastor and teacher, and where his household shall go for instruction. He it is who is bound to instruction. He it is who is bound to instruct or to provide the teaching. And successfully and to the laboratory of the continue of the continue of the family has the right to say, who he cashion of himself and assistants was congregation, in Brooklyn, undertook to for its good. So it often is with Christiane. The sine is with the man nor angel can fully comprehend the congregation, in Brooklyn, undertook to for its good. So it often is with Christiane. The sine is with the war the man nor angel can fully comprehend the congregation, in Brooklyn, undertook to for its good. So it often is with Christiane. The chird he may not angel can fully comprehend the congregation, in Brooklyn, undertook to for its good. So it often is with Christiane. The chird he may not angel can fully comprehend the congregation, in Brooklyn, undertook to for its good. So it often is with Christiane. The chird he most good is the continue of the most good. So it often is with Christiane. The chird he may not angel can fully comprehend the congregation, in Brooklyn, undertook to for its good. So it often is with Christiane. The chird he most good of the chird of the most good. They make the day it of the child with what is manifestly part of the child wit

are unwilling to enter on the work. They engage in other employments. God oftenpour into this port at an astonishing rate. times thwarts their purposes and thus com-For weeks past they have averaged a thou- pels them to enter upon his work. The fact that one may feel a reluctance to en-

ter upon a service, is no proof that it is Mr. A. was a member of the Church—a lawver of good talents, and possessed of a fortune which rendered it unnecessary for

Mr. A.'s services were needed as superintendent of the Sunday School. He was unwilling to undertake the work. He saw that his services were needed-that there was no other man in the church so well qualified—he saw that there was a wide field of usefulness open before him. He hesitated. He was not fond of children. He declined the work.

He had a beautiful and lovely child suppose the services of the Reformed Dutch | about eight years of age. That child was smitten with disease, and in a short time was consigned to the tomb.

Soon after, the father offered his services fection for my nationality and the title of as Superintendent of the school. It was our Church, I should feel very loth to have soon remarked, "What a deep and tender the term designating its origin, and bring interest Mr. A. feels in children!" He ing forward so many glorious associations was most useful in his work, and felt no at its mere mention, abolished; still I have disposition to ask a relief from it, as old

It is not for man to say what was God's specific design in removing the child. We

Are not many of our disappointments ONE WHO WOULD LEARN.

#### For the Presbyterian Banner Ordination and Installation.

On Tuesday, the 9th of the present month, the Presbytery of Allegheny City held a very pleasant meeting at the church of Pine Creek, formerly part of the same charge with Sharpsburg. The principal object of the meeting was, the ordination and installation of Mr. Gilbert M. Potter as the pastor of the congregation of Pine Creek. It was understood to be the first meeting of Presbytery-certainly the first of the Presbytery of Allegheny Cityever held in the church. Besides the interest occasioned by the fact that we were assembled on the spot hallowed by the toils and prayers and successful ministrations of such men as the late venerable Joseph Stockton, there was much in the meeting itself to render it a pleasant one, and with the Divine blessing it will prove of rich promise for the cause of our common

Christianity. For a great number of years. Pine that loves Christ or his Church, can fail be the Governors of loyal States, General Creek has been without a pastor, its former Cass, General Halleck, General Scott, Hon. associate, Sharpsburg, having grown to the great want thus occasioned was of course only partially supplied by such temporary at Vicksburg, is a native of the city of and casual ministrations as the Presbytery could afford. It was, therefore, with feel ings of no ordinary satisfaction we learned that, in the kind providence of God, the way was prepared for having a minister of their own choice again settled over that people; one to go in and out among them, and break to them the bread of life. For this object the Presbytery convened.

. The meeting was especially delightful

because they met on every side the pleasing indications of the marked appreciation of the institutions and privileges of the Gospel. The reviving influences of the season, the glory of Summer, the balmy fragceived a unanimous call to become the rance breathing from the rich clover fields, pastor of the Plains church, in the and the bright promise of abundant harvest bounds of the Allegheny Presbytery in the waving beauty of the growing wheat these and many similar sources of gratification were in happy sympathy with of the Allegheny Presbytery. His Post the neatness and elegance which, on enter-Office address is changed from Allegheny, ing the church edifice, were presented to our view, and with the gladness reflected from many bright countenances present on the occasion. It would afford us much pleasure to speak at length of the Christian spirit which has prompted these brethren to devote a portion of their time and their tasteful skill, as well as to give liberally of their money, for the adornment of their house of worship. With the new and quite handsome pulpit, occupied with a costly cushioned sofa, sufficient for three to be seated comfortably with the walls of the church elegantly papered in brilliant colors and tasteful style, and the floor spread with carpeting every way suitable and comfortale, the Presbytery were more than merely gratified: they felt/thankful to witness such demonstrations, on the part of the people, of a desire to honor the institutions of rereverence and respect for its Divine Author, In addition, the very large and interested assembly, sufficient probably to fill the house more than twice, to its utmost ing. ... Of the profuse abundance for the table, furnished by the ladies, in the grateful, shade of the neighboring grove, the large hospitals in that city, talking and we will not speak particularly—except to say that of the large crowd, ministers, elders and people, there was more than sufficient for all; and none who were willing to partake, were sent empty away. We are not exactly prepared to say that "the land" of Pine Creek literally "flows with milk and honey," as was said of Canaan of old, but we certainly had ocular demonstration, and more, that it abounds with many excellent things not less precious, and even more substantial, for strengthening and comforting our inferior nature.

Mr. Potter commences his pastoral labors with many encouraging eircumstances. Though for a series of years they have been as sheep without a shepherd, the people have, with remarkable unanimity and cordiality, rallied around their young miniseighty-eight students are in attendance at this institution.

The Broadway Tabernacte Church od 50,000 pages of tracts, 3,000 weekly in New-York has opened a distinct record papers; 500 hymn books, 300 Testaments and many fervent prayers, we doubt not, in the service of the country during the ally conversed, on the great subject of sale war. In this book are entered the names vation, with at least 500 men! Gladly and people, that this pastoral union may be would: I remain longer, but the time given long and happy in God, we trust, has put me byomy people has expired it to de a into the hearts and lips of both people and may the blessing of God abide with my pastor, the beautiful song of suspiration: For log The Winter is past: The flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singto recover me For the Presbyterian Banner ing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtlegs heard in the land. How pure, The proper hour for retiring may have sympathies and joys, which spring up all come, but the child, it may be is interested salong the bright pathway where religion in the company present, is reluctant to go sheds her rich fragrance and scatters her