

Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, NOVEMBER 11, 1863.

The War.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC is again in motion. On Saturday, 7th inst., Gen. Sedgwick's corps was advanced on Rappahannock Station, which the enemy had still held, on both sides of the river. The place was taken, after a brisk contest. At the same time Gen. French attacked the position at Kelley's Ford, six miles further down the river, and carried it. Our army lost about 400 in killed and wounded, and took upwards of 1700 prisoners, at the two places. Both these corps of Gen. Meade's army crossed the river the next morning. On the 8th and 9th the main body of the army crossed the river, and advanced to the camp near Lee, and retired without giving battle, and is reported on the south side of the Rapidan. This places the two armies as they were months ago.

This movement would indicate another effort to reach Richmond. But, unless Gen. Lee's army is greatly weakened, and unless he has sent his troops to places where they cannot be speedily recalled, the effort must be a failure. Gen. Meade has not men enough to accomplish the task. The movement, however, is likely to be of vast benefit in that it will compel Gen. Lee to recall the troops he has sent South, and thus relieve our armies in that direction, and especially Gen. Burnside.

The commanders of the Army of the Potomac have always labored under a peculiar difficulty. A non-present superior has always interfered with their movements, preventing the possibility of prearrangement and unity of plan. They have been charged with the protection of Washington; and on the least symptom of a flank movement by the enemy, they have been ordered, instead of getting into the enemy's rear, to get between him and Washington. Hence a campaign on truly military principles has not been in their power. If there had been a Washington army, adequate to repel all fears, then the Army of the Potomac would have caused a very different history to be written. Richmond would have been its prize in June, 1862, and its course might have been Southward, on conquest to conquest. The want of 30,000 additional men, to guard Washington and quell all apprehensions there, has been the cause of great delays, bloodshed and grief.

GEN. BURNSIDE is supposed to be safe, though in danger. There is a report that two of his most advanced positions have been assailed and taken, and about a half of two regiments made prisoners.

GEN. GRANT is operating a little at Chattanooga, and preparing for an advance. Some weeks are likely to elapse before much shall be done. Part of his army possesses Tusculum, in Alabama.

GEN. BANKS' demonstration against Texas, by land, seems to have been checked. Last reports left the army still at and near Opelousas, in Western Louisiana, with indications of a return toward New-Orleans. There is no news from the expedition which left New-Orleans in ships, supposed to aim at Brownsville.

AT CHARLESTON, the last week has been exciting. The report of Admiral Dahlgren being relieved, was incorrect. The bombardment which commenced October 9th, was still in progress on November 10th. There were but a few shells thrown into the city. The previous assault had made it a ruin; not so a ruin, however, but that it could be held and turned to an earthwork, and thus become exceedingly formidable. Being reared in the midst of the bay, it cannot be approached by mining. And being close by the channel, it men and hips to labor at removing the obstructions. We hope soon to hear, not only that it is safely battered down, but that the debris is in our possession. It would be a new approach to the city; and could be used to great advantage in further operations.

Foreign Intervention.

There is another French pamphlet before the public, which is very different from the one of which we spoke a few weeks ago. It is now said that the one which incited the adoption, by Louis Napoleon, of the cause of the Confederates was got up at the expense of a man in their interest, to sell their loan. The last pamphlet is by M. de Belleyme, and is said to express the views of the Government. It advocates the tender of the imperial crown of Mexico to Maximilian; and then says: "We demand, therefore, that France, now free even by the liberty she has left to the Mexicans, should abandon the country the moment the Archduke shall have taken his seat." If the French Court shall adopt this purpose, and declare it irrevocable, it is most likely that Maximilian will hardly think it worth while to transfer his person to Mexico.

Things in France, at last dates, as well as in England, indicate that there will be no intervention. The Government, it is said, has put an interdiction upon six iron-clad rams, which were being built, on the Garonne, for the rebels.

A Place for a Physician. The physician at Eminton, Pa., is, we learn, disposed to sell his residence and give up his practice. The prospect is inviting to a new man of good qualifications. Address Postmaster, Eminton, Venango County, Pa.

New-Jersey Slaves Abolished. Alone! How! Why, she has elected Democrats to office; and all the other States, Northern and Middle, have voted the Union ticket. This is not New-Jersey in still in the Union, and she loyal as any State. In the faithful discharge of all duties, she is equal to her sisters. Democrats love office, but they love their country; and New-Jersey Democrats will be found among the most persistent foes of Slavery.

The Presbytery of Carlisle.

The Presbytery of Carlisle met in the Presbyterian church, in Mercersburg, Pa., on the 6th of October, 1863, at 7 o'clock P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. W. C. Cattell, on the text, Matt. xv. 28.

A reference from the church of Dickinson to Presbytery was read, which was replied to as follows, viz: "In reply to the reference from the Session of the church of Dickinson, Presbytery would say, that the Session must judge whether the absence from church of its members for one year, on the part of the persons referred to, has been culpable or not, and consequently whether they can be dismissed as in good and regular standing or not. Further, that they may be dismissed without naming the particular church to which they shall attach themselves; in which case they shall understand, and ought to express in the certificate, that they are responsible to the church dismissing them, until they have connected with some other church."

The place of the next stated meeting of Presbytery is Shippensburg, and the time the second Tuesday of April, at 7 o'clock P. M.

Mr. J. W. Wightman was received under the care of Presbytery from the Presbytery of Ohio.

The Rev. G. M. Chalfant was dismissed to the Presbytery of St. Clairsville.

Mr. J. W. Wightman accepted calls from the churches of Green Castle, and the Waynesboro for his pastoral services. Presbytery proceeded to the examination of Mr. Wightman with a view to ordination, and heard his trial sermon on the text assigned him. All his trials were sustained. Presbytery then resolved to hold an adjourned meeting in Green Castle, on the 12th of November, at 1 o'clock P. M., to ordain and install Mr. Wightman. The Rev. S. J. Nicolls was appointed to preach the sermon. Rev. Jas. Harper, D.D., was appointed to preside and to propose the constitutional questions; the Rev. James F. Kennedy to officiate in ordaining prayer; Rev. I. N. Hays to give the charge to the pastor, and the Rev. Thomas Creigh, D.D., to give the charge to the people.

Presbytery resolved further that Mr. Wightman be installed in the church at Waynesboro, on the 13th of November; the Rev. W. C. Sitts preach the sermon; that Rev. J. W. Wightman be ordained, and that Rev. J. C. Bliss deliver the charge to the people.

Rev. J. O. Bliss was appointed to preach the opening sermon at the next stated meeting of Presbytery, and the Rev. S. J. Nicolls to officiate in the same.

Rev. Thomas Creigh, D.D., was appointed to preach on the second day, and Rev. H. G. Finney was appointed his alternate.

The Committee on Domestic Missions reported, recommending two missionaries to be commissioned to labor in the coal regions of West Virginia, and in the coal fields and the other at Piedmont, Barton and Lanesburg.

The Committee on Missions was authorized to recommend to the Board of Missions these two charges for a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars for each.

Mr. John C. Wilhelm, having been dismissed from the office of the Presbytery of Susquehanna, returned his certificate of dismission, and was again enrolled among the licentiates of this Presbytery.

Resolved, That the thanks of Presbytery be tendered to the Cumberland Valley Railroad for their courtesy in returning to their homes the members of Presbytery, free of charge.

Resolved, That when Presbytery adjourn it adjourn to meet in Washington City, at the call of the Moderator, during the sessions of Synod.

Rev. William Pridaux requested Presbytery to change the pastoral relations existing between himself and the church of Shellsburg; whereupon Presbytery resolved that the church of Shellsburg be cited to appear by its commissioners, at the adjourned meeting in Washington City, to show cause why the request should not be granted.

Resolved, That the Board of Foreign Missions be appointed Mr. John Wherry, a licentiate under our care, as a missionary to China, and heard his appointment, and that the Rev. I. N. Hays deliver the charge to the newly appointed missionaries.

Resolved, That it be enjoined on the ministers and Sessions of the churches under the care of Presbytery, to bring the following subjects before the churches under their care, and see that collections be taken up in aid of the following six causes, viz: Church Extension, Domestic Missions, Disabled Ministers, Foreign Missions, Contingent Funds of Presbytery, and Board of Education.

Presbytery having learned with heartfelt sorrow and even alarm, that Sabbath desecration, profanity, and drunkenness are on the rapid increase, in the several communities, and that many of our churches are located, growing out of the unsettled state of the country; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a pastoral letter to our churches, warning them of the evils prevalent, and earnestly exhorting them not only to carefully abstain from them, but to protest against them and oppose them in every way within their power.

The churches of Williamsport and Big Spring were permitted to supply their pulpits during the next month.

A communication from the Secretary of the Board of Education was referred to the Rev. R. McCochren, with instructions to report at the next meeting of Presbytery.

The thanks of Presbytery were tendered to the members of the church and congregation, and to the citizens of Mercersburg for their kindness and hospitality during the meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery then adjourned to meet at the call of the Moderator; or, in his absence, at the call of the last Moderator present, during the sittings of Synod in Washington City.

Concluded with prayer, and the benediction.

OCTOBER 24, 1863.

The Presbytery of Carlisle met according to adjournment, in the New-York Avenue Presbyterian church in Washington City, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. I. N. Hays, the last Moderator present. Rev. I. N. Hays was elected Moderator pro tem.

It was resolved that Presbytery overture Synod to transfer the Freedmen's church, (now within the bounds of the Presbytery of Winchester), to the Presbytery of Carlisle.

The pastoral relation existing between the Rev. William Pridaux and the Shellsburg church, was dissolved, and the Rev. R. F. Sample was appointed to preach in said church and declare the pulpit vacant. The Mechanism church had leave to supply their pulpit for the next six months.

The Committee appointed to prepare a pastoral letter to the churches reported. Their report was accepted, and adopted, and reads as follows, viz:

PASTORAL LETTER. The Presbytery of Carlisle, ministers and elders in session, at Washington City, to all the churches under our care greeting: We recognize it as one of the high and responsible offices of the Church, as God's living witness, at all proper times and ways, to lift her voice of warning against, and put forth her powers to resist, every effort on the part of wicked men, either to introduce false doctrine, or to corrupt practices into our midst. When the enemy comes in like a flood, it is for her, in the name of her ascended Redeemer, to lift up a standard against him. In the providence of God, we feel called upon to lift our voice of warning and exhortation.

When we met, as a court of Christ, a little while ago, to talk and pray over the interest of our beloved Zion, the evidence reached was painful and overwhelming, that the monstrous crimes, Profanity, Drunkenness, and Sabbath desecration, was making inroads but sure progress in the several communities, and that many of our churches are located, not only in the hearts of God's people, but threatening to inure and destroy not a few of our precious youth.

It is believed that the alarming progress which these evils are making, has its origin, or at least its apology, in the proximity of our military camps, which, we fear, in most cases, exert a most baneful influence upon the morals of the surrounding community. Be this as it may, they are upon us, and of their deadly influence, none can doubt. Shall we speak of Profanity? It is a direct attack upon God—an insult flung in his very face; and of all heinous crimes, there is the least possible influence upon the morals of the surrounding community. There is no pretence good in it, or pleasure derived from it; and yet, without it, it is a direct violation of an express command, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." And although the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

Shall we speak of Drunkenness? It violates almost every law both of God and man. It degrades the intellect, pollutes the soul, and debauches the whole man. It clothes its victim in rags, and sends him to a premature and honored grave and a hopeless eternity. What hearts has it not crushed; what hopes has it not blasted; what evils has it not perpetrated? Should any evil like it come suddenly into our world, men would flee from it as a deadly plague, and the nation would at once demand that it should be legislated out of existence.

And what of Profaning the Sabbath-day? It is treason against both the Church and the State. What element of civil liberty is not interwoven with its sanctity? What ordinance of our holy religion is not almost inseparably connected with its proper observance? Take away our American Sabbath, and our Nation's destiny is sealed. One step more, and with indeed France we shall have the Word of God dragged through the streets, and the doctrine proclaimed: "There is no God but reason, and death is an eternal sleep." But no argument is needed. The enormity and baneful effects of these evils, are known and confessed by all. Nor are you to suppose that their influence is felt only outside of the Church. The element of civil liberty made very sad, with the evidence that there are a few in our churches who are not altogether free from these scandalous vices, greatly to the dishonor of our holy religion.

To such, we would utter a word of affectionate but faithful admonition. Have you forgotten the Word of God? Are you dead to all the high appeals which religion addresses to your better nature, and on behalf of your immortal souls? And, besides, what will the enemy say? How will he exult in such a defection in the Church of God?

But, were these evils as yet entirely outside of the Church, have we no reason for anxiety and alarm? What will become of the youth of our land, and the children of our youth? If our Sabbaths are profaned, and the land becomes full of cursing and blasphemy, and the midnight air polluted with the hideous cry of the Inebriate, can we hope that they will escape the deadly darts of Satan? Already we hear of confirmed drunkards, as the ages of twelve and fourteen years!

If the Church has not forgotten her high mission as a light in the world, and a witness-bearer of God, can she dare be silent, at such a time as this? Can she sit still until these vices become popularized and have obtained a footing among us, and the spirit of wickedness vauntingly defy her power to cast them these deadly monsters?

Both experience and the Word of God admonish us to act quickly, if we would act successfully. The public conscience is becoming seared; evil habits are being formed, and immortal souls are perishing. But you say, "What can we do to arrest the progress of these evils? We answer, first, where they are under the control of those in official position, we can, as a Church, and as individuals, imitate the example of Nehemiah, and rebuke the elders, and the rulers, and say unto them, It is not good that ye do." Ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God, because of the heathen, our enemies? Is this nation worth all this blood and treasure, if our precious youth are to be hopelessly corrupted, and our land to become through this baptism of blood, a land of infidels, and the institutions of our holy religion to be utterly defamed?

Again, we can remonstrate with those on the highway to ruin, and by our appeals, awake the public conscience, to a sense of our danger, and the necessity of putting forth the most vigorous efforts to arrest the tide of evil. We can also appeal to the laws of the land for the suppression of these vices (defective as they are), and if ten men would have saved Sodom, may we not hope (if we stand firm in our lot), to do something to save our land from these impending evils. And who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom from such a time as this?

Resolved, That a copy of this letter be sent to the Presbytery, and to the Presbyterian Banner, for publication, and that it be read before the churches.

Presbytery then adjourned to meet in

Green Castle on the 12th of November, at one o'clock P. M. Closed with prayer. JOHN O. PROCTOR, Temp. Clerk.

Peace and War.

A large pen-drawing, representing the goddess of Peace offering a wreath to the god of War, executed by Wm. H. Duff, Professor of Penmanship, Duff's College, Pittsburgh. Behind the artist gives an animated representation of the emblems of peace and abundance. Behind her stands the mailed figure of War, and he is depicted the torch and other emblems of destruction and desolation. By inspecting this and other photographic performances in ornamental lettering, card writing, wreaths, &c., on exhibition at the College, Fifth Street, we think our readers will agree with us in pronouncing all Mr. Duff designs new and remarkable performances, and that the premiums awarded him by the United States and other fairs were well deserved and very properly bestowed.

Messrs. Wheeler & Wilson's Great Family Sewing Machine received another substantial compliment at the hands of the State Agricultural Fair, which closed at Northampton on the 24th ult., where, as usual, it took the highest premium. The fact that all the prominent sewing machines in the country were represented at the State Fair, and that the Wheeler & Wilson's was the only one which received the highest premium, is a strong evidence of the superiority of the Wheeler & Wilson's machine over all others in use.—Phila. Cultivator.

DIED—October 20th, at his residence at Hillside, Pa., of the pulmonary consumption, Mr. M. B. BRENNER, aged 82 years, and a native of Pennsylvania. He was a kind and affectionate father, a devoted husband, and a true friend. He was a member of the Presbyterian church of Hillside, and was a man of high character and noble mind. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and was a member of the Presbyterian church of Hillside, and was a man of high character and noble mind. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and was a member of the Presbyterian church of Hillside, and was a man of high character and noble mind.

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was made to late; the hand of the destroyer was upon him, and he was to follow other brave ones who have fallen for their country. It is probable that the incipient foundation of his disease was laid in the Western Virginia campaign, where the 7th Ohio suffered privations and hardships which have been unequalled by any of our wars.

DIED—At the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Archibald Sturgeon, in the city of Pittsburgh, on the 20th of July, 1863, Mrs. ANNE McLELLAN, the wife of the late Thomas McLean, of North Fayette Tp., in the 68th year of her age.

She was the second daughter of Ephraim and Mary K. Herriott, who were among the early settlers of Western Pennsylvania, and located in Fayette Township, where deceased was born February 17th, 1798. For the last thirty-six years she was an esteemed and consistent member of the Presbyterian church of Bethany, of which her husband was, for ten years previous to his decease, an esteemed and efficient Ruling Elder. For the last five or six years, on account of bodily affliction, she was unable to attend the services of the sanctuary. She was a sufferer from paralysis, which she endured with Christian submission. She was kind and affectionate, as a sister, wife, mother, and friend. The writer knew her intimately from her youth; for more than thirty years was her pastor, and esteemed her very highly as a Christian and friend.

She is gone; and friends and bereaved relatives, and especially a daughter, her only surviving child, mourn. But they sorrow not as those without hope; their loss is not eternal gain. "Blessed are the dead which do not mourn." W. J.

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