

Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3, 1864.

Convention for Amending the U. S. Constitution.—The Proceedings came to hand too late for this week.

Deferred.—Several articles prepared for this week are laid over for want of room.

Rev. Alexander Clarke, of Clarke's School Visitor, has become associated with Rev. T. H. STOCKTON, in a pastoral charge in Philadelphia.

A Question.—What would our brethren, ministers, elders, and church members, think of the publishing of a Monthly Magazine in Pittsburgh?

"Miscegenation"—is the title of a large pamphlet which advocates "the blending of the various races of men."

The Biblical Repository.—The January number of this highly-valued Quarterly has reached our table.

We again commend this excellent work to our readers. Ministers who have it not, are destitute of knowledge which every Presbyterian pastor should possess.

Washington and Jefferson Colleges.—We are sorry to be able to announce some advance toward the Union of these two institutions.

A Call from Memphis.—We have a letter from Memphis, pleading earnestly for an Old School Presbyterian minister.

The True Presbyterian.—We give to our Louisville contemporary its own chosen name, though we regard it as utterly a misnomer.

Another Minister Gone.—We have just learned that Rev. GEORGE W. THOMPSON, D.D., Academia, Pa., entered into his rest, on the 28th ult.

The deaths of Drs. CLARK and THOMPSON are "quite a stroke on the Church." They were among the best preachers; in the prime of life; in the zenith of usefulness.

VALDEICTORY.

Good manners require us to say, "Good-bye," "Fare ye well," when a separation from friends becomes necessary.

A change has come. Suddenly, unthought, unannounced, unexpectedly, we stop. But in this "we" the Banner is not meant.

Our work has been very pleasant. We labored assiduously, but never grew tired. We have had annoyances, but, how small they were, compared with our consolations!

Why then retire? you ask. It is in accordance with an original purpose. We entered our work as proprietor, publisher, and editor, with a determination not to carry so large a task into the feebleness of age.

We are permitted to introduce, as our successor, Rev. JAMES ALLISON. Mr. ALLISON is no stranger to our readers.

Mr. R. PATTERSON, now Professor in the College at Danville, Ky., formerly Professor of Mathematics in Jefferson College, is to be co-editor and co-proprietor in the Banner.

Our junior editor who, though in delicate health, has rendered most acceptable aid, retires with the senior. He has, since October 1862, prepared the Summary of Eastern News, and written the Book Notices, and made the Selections.

Brethren, old and young, one and all, give us your prayers. We have served you faithfully. Though in weakness, and with mistakes occurring, still in sincerity and love.

Every man should be a model. But there are some men upon whom the obligation is most pressing. The father, the pastor, and the editor should each be as near to perfection as may be within the reach of humanity.

Of the editor we now speak more particularly. His influence is far-reaching. It is not so great upon the individual as is the father's; and perhaps not so great as the pastor's; but he reaches such vast multitudes as to make the aggregate of his good or his evil to be vastly beyond that of the others.

In politics every man should read two or more newspapers—should have something able on each side. Who ever heard of a just judge and an impartial jury giving a verdict on the hearing of but one of the attorneys?

paper, and that produced by an editor deeply, bitterly, and for pecuniary gain, one-sided? No man understands any political question who reads only a one-sided newspaper.

In religion, so far as sentiment is concerned, readers have an advantage. They have the infallible Word of God to guide them. To this test they can bring the editor. And still, the editor of the religious paper has a wonderful influence.

But we began our remarks by saying that the editor should be a Model man. We said so, because he transmits himself into us, and especially into the young of our households. They catch his spirit.

These remarks apply forcibly to the selection of a pastor, and also of a husband or wife.

RETROSPECT.

It is well, occasionally, to look back. We may be made wiser thereby. We may be brought to a deep repentance. And we may, too, have our gratitude wonderfully expanded; and all know that the Lord loves a grateful heart.

It is now eleven and one-third years since THE BANNER was established. It was regarded by most men, by even intelligent and good men, as an experiment, wild, if not reckless.

THE BANNER was commenced in Philadelphia, as a "Cheap Paper," in the Autumn of 1852. "Cheapness" was strictly subordinated to goodness, and was predicated on a circulation of 30,000 to 40,000; which number it was supposed the Assembly's influence could readily obtain.

THE BANNER AND THE CHURCH.—We have sustained Presbyterianism, in doctrine and order, with entire heartiness. It has been, to us, no trammel. Its bonds are not fetters.

WEIGHED IN THE BALANCES.—God represents his equity by the simile of a balance. BELSHAZER was weighed in the balances, and found wanting; and was cut off. How would it be with this nation, if God should adjust his scales, and test us by the equipoise of righteousness?

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Christians are the very men who should attend to, yes, who should lead politics. God's ministers and the religious press, should teach the fundamental principles of government; the equity, morality, social rights; and the people should conserve, administer, and purify the social system.

THE BANNER AND SLAVERY.

During the first half of our existence we said but little about slavery. We then, as now, regarded it as a sin against God, a horrid sin; but a sin, as we supposed, to be extirpated by the Gospel.

But we have not taught that the civil ruler is entrusted with the sword, to punish sin. Romanism is a sin; but, not the literal sword but "the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God," is the weapon ordained for its extirpation; and, more yet, it is not the civil magistrate, but the minister of religion, who is the ordained agent of God, to be the operator.

THE BANNER AND THE WAR.—We entered into the war with sadness, but not with hesitation. When Secession came into being, we at once denounced it. When treason became a fact, we said, suppress it. Enforce the laws. Preserve the country's unity.

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of having a Unitarian for a Chaplain in Congress—"denying the Lord that bought them." What so heinous in God's sight, as the denial of his Son? Then see the "raffling"—gambling; at our Sanitary Fairs for the army; and the drinking, dancing and gaiety at Washington, and in all high places.

OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The letter from London, for this week, did not arrive in time to appear in full. We regret the delay; and yet we wonder at the regularity with which that correspondence has reached us.

We bequeath to our successors, and to the readers of the Banner, a rich inheritance in the "good will" of Rev. JOHN WEAVER, D.D., of London.

The correspondence is now very expensive, owing to the high rates of exchange. The par value of the pound sterling is \$4.84. We usually, before the war, bought at \$5. For our last draft we had to pay \$8 per pound sterling.

THANKSGIVING SERMONS.—We still receive, occasionally, a sermon preached on Thanksgiving day, November 26th, 1863.

God deals with men in judgment, as really as in mercy. His hand is in each; in the evil as truly as in the good. "Is there evil in the city," asks the prophet, "and the Lord hath not done it?"

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"morality and knowledge is necessary to good government." Let it be confessed that religion has a civil value and redounds to the good of the State as well as the individual; that it is unpatriotic to be wicked; that he is a bad citizen who is a bad man.

EASTERN SUMMARY.

NEW-ENGLAND.

A MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT, on its arrival at Boston from the seat of war, on Sabbath, the 17th ult., was received by a military escort, and, at the State House, was welcomed by a speech from Governor Andrew.

"2. Second only in importance to this our duty to be loyal." Public attention has quite recently been directed to this word as one that is unsuited to our land and to these times.

"3. In the third place, let us learn to appreciate man. The religious, the Scriptural estimate of man is the true one. He is God's special handy work.

"4. In the last place, such a time as this demands that we be in earnest on our country's behalf, that we be consecrated to our country's service and salvation.

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INBROOK. He was calm, clear, and attractive. We have before us a pamphlet called a "Life." It gives a very brief sketch of the Archbishop's past, but narrates with some fulness events connected with his death and burial. It is published by T. B. PETERSON & BROTHERS, Philadelphia. For sale by H. MINER, Pittsburgh.

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