

Presbyterian Banner

PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10, 1864.

TO OUR READERS.

When, some two years ago, I ceased connection with the Presbyterian Banner, it was my expectation that this retirement was final.

All this had not been anticipated, and until within a few weeks I had not the least thought of acceding to wishes so often and so kindly expressed.

Our predecessor, Rev. DAVID McKINNEY, D.D., after a long and arduous service for the Church in many ways, and also in this department of Christian labor,

We now enter upon our work, fully sensible of its great requirements, but also looking up to our Father who is in heaven, for his help, and earnestly desiring the indulgence and cooperation of the readers and patrons of the Banner, and of all the friends of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It is to me a source of the highest gratification to be able to say to the public that Prof. ROBERT PATTERSON, formerly of Jefferson College, Pa., but now of Centre College, Danville, Ky., is to be associated with myself.

When Gen. JOHN MORGAN invaded Danville, Prof. PATTERSON had the honor of being pointed out to him, and brought before him by MORGAN'S own brother, as the man who had done more than any other in that place to "corrupt the minds of the young men with Union sentiments."

It will be our united aim and effort to make the Banner such a religious newspaper as the advance of the world, the progress of the Presbyterian Church, and the growth of all Evangelical Churches, demand and merit.

THE PRICE OF THE BANNER. Was lately advanced by our predecessor to \$2.00 per annum. It should have been done long before, and is, by no means too much, even if it be enough.

Journal, have increased in like proportion, while the money we receive for the Banner does not go near so far, nor buy nearly so much as it formerly did.

Secular weeklies, which are chiefly made up of transfer matter from dailies, can afford to sell somewhat cheaper than we, because they have no composition bills to pay.

We think it better to make this explanation at the very outset of our editorial career, because we have already a few letters on hand from persons inquiring if they cannot have the reduction desired, and live, we should be glad to do so.

We should be very sorry to lose any of the Banner's old subscribers from inability, or indisposition on their part to pay the advance. We would much rather work the harder to please, and make all readers so well satisfied that they shall think the Banner cheap at \$2.00 a year.

We are well aware that these are rather perilous times to embark in newspaper enterprises; but with the Divine blessing, and the generous aid and hearty God-speed of our readers, we trust to weather the storm, and come out into the broad sea of prosperity with our "Banner" aloft and waving.

DEATH OF REV. FREDERICK MONOD. This excellent man, whose name has been long familiar to the Christian Church in Europe and America, departed this life on the last day of the old year.

Rev. FREDERICK MONOD was one of the young men, who while students at Geneva, were brought to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus through the instrumentality of the Haldanes.

In taking this step he acted in opposition to the will of many of his friends. His brother ADOLPHE did not go with him, but remained behind in the National Church, believing that with all its drawbacks, he would still be able to exert a wider influence for the Truth, while retaining that position, than if he cut himself off from all connection with the great body of French Protestants.

Thus he abandoned for the sake of the truth a high position, a magnificent church, and a salary of three thousand dollars, to labor among the humble, to worship in a most uninviting edifice, and to depend for support on the voluntary recompense given by the people.

In a few years he undertook the erection of a suitable house of worship, and appealed to Christians in England and America for aid. With this object he visited this country in 1857, but owing to the financial embarrassments then prevailing, his pecuniary expectations were not realized.

illness of his father, that he might receive his blessing before his departure, and close his eyes when his spirit would ascend up to God.

THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

The Second Anniversary of this noble organization was celebrated in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, on the evening of the 28th of January. The attendance was very large, and the spirit of the immense assembly was eminently Christian and patriotic.

The exercises were introduced with prayer by Rev. G. W. MUSGRAVE, D.D. This was followed by the reading of the Annual Report, which gave the following exhibit of the work done by the Central office in Philadelphia, and the branches at Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Chicago, and other places:

Table with financial details: Cash received at the Central Office and Branch Offices during the year, Value of stores donated, Value of Scriptures contributed, etc.

Christian ministers and laymen commissioned to minister to men on battle fields, and camps, hospitals, and ships during the year. Copies of Scriptures distributed, etc.

Powerful and stirring addresses were then made by Bishop JAMES, Rev. J. R. W. TAYLOR, D. C. EDDY, E. N. KIRK, D. D., and General BRIGGS and HOWARD.

The effect of this meeting should be to give a new impetus to contributions of money and stores to the purposes of the Commission, and also to call forth the prayers of the pious that the blessing of God may continue to rest upon its efforts.

THE EXHAUSTION OF THE TREASURY.

Very much has been said and written of late about the failure of food and the depreciation of the currency as convincing evidences of the waning power of the rebellion. And so they are. But there is another, and still more decisive proof, that the rebellion is hastening to complete exhaustion, though its death throes may be violent beyond parallel.

Table showing the white population of the several States now held under rebel control, between the ages of fifteen and fifty years, as follows, in round numbers, after adding about twenty per cent. for the average increase from 1850 to 1860.

This number is the complement of males between the ages of fifteen and fifty, and before any waste and loss by the war. If we deduct from it those killed and irretrievably wounded in the various battles of the war, wasted by sickness and exposure to the multitudes that have emigrated to the North, to the West Indies, to Europe—a product is left much below the ordinary estimate.

considerable part of all populations from doing effective service in the field. It is a very liberal estimate to allow as remaining fit for service as soldiers, three hundred thousand; which includes the soldiers already in the field; and many think it should be reduced nearly one hundred thousand.

REMEMBER THE SOLDIERS.

This is a season of the year when every patriotic heart is anxious to do something for the comfort and relief of the bodies and souls of our brave soldiers. Willing hands are busy preparing food and delicacies for the sick and wounded. Let these labors be continued; they are needed now; and will be needed hereafter.

At present we are sending a large number of Banners to the camp, at the lowest price possible, but we would be glad to see the number quadrupled. Here is an opportunity for our readers to confer a benefit on the soldiers at a very small expense.

THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The meeting of our General Assembly in May, will be of considerable interest, because of the importance of at least three subjects that will come before that body.

The first, the Revision of the Book of Discipline, has already occupied considerable time and attention; and is worthy of all the study and care which can be given it.

The second is the New Hymn Book, concerning which initiatory steps were taken at the last meeting. This is a matter in which both ministers and people feel deeply interested, and concerning which they will certainly make themselves heard.

DONATION TO THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

The following from the missionaries of our Board at Bangalore, India; to Mr. G. H. STUART, will be read with interest: "Dear Mr. Stuart—I have much pleasure in sending you an order on the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions for seventy dollars."

In the evening we met in one of our houses. A number of speeches were made, in which the speakers dealt up the cause, for which, as Americans, we ought to be

grateful, and expressed their heartfelt sympathy with the administration, and all loyal men, in their efforts to put down the rebellion. A letter was written to Mr. Lincoln, thanking him for giving us the opportunity of uniting with our fellow-countrymen throughout the world in the observance of the day, and assuring him that the request made by him to his neighbors at Springfield—"Pray for me"—was daily remembered by us.

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The Annual Catalogue of this Institution reports: Resident Undergraduate, 1; Resident Graduates, 3; Resident Licentiates, 1; Senior Class, 44; Middle, 33; Junior, 27. Total, 114.

The Home and Foreign Record—This interesting monthly gives the following aggregate of contributions to the different Boards of the Church in December: Domestic Missions, \$15,842.44; Education; \$2,968.23; Foreign Missions, \$15,526.14; Presbyterian, \$2,155.83; Church Extension, \$1,143.63; Disabled Ministers, \$1,658.68.

Our Army Correspondents.—We are highly favored with the amount and character of our army correspondence. And if at any time we do not publish the letters of our brethren from this quarter, it is because of their delay in reaching us, so that they have been anticipated by others.

Our Market Reports are prepared exclusively for the Presbyterian Banner, and may be relied upon as absolutely correct. This is a matter which should be duly appreciated by our country readers.

Presbytery of Allegheny City.—There will be a special meeting of this Presbytery on Thursday the 18th of this month, at ten o'clock A. M. in the chapel of the Western Theological Seminary.

Letters.—Our friends are requested to observe the change of proprietorship in the Banner, and to direct all letters to JAMES ALLISON & Co., Presbyterian Banner, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

Old School.—The Presbytery of Cincinnati, says: "Rev. Dr. W. C. Anderson received a telegraphic dispatch from his church in San Francisco, announcing the failure (in health, as we suppose) of the young minister supplying his place, and asking for his immediate return to California. He expects to sail from New York for San Francisco in a few very days. He leaves Mrs. Anderson for further medical treatment, with much fear as to the preservation of her sight."

The Rev. R. H. Richardson, of Red Mills, N. Y., has received a call to the First Presbyterian church of Newburyport, Massachusetts, and removed thither. Correspondents will please notice the change of address.

Recently the First Presbyterian church of Denver, Colorado Territory, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. This is the first Protestant church which can lay any claim to architectural propriety in that new, growing, and important city.

labors have been greatly blessed. At the close of the sermon, the President of the Board of Trustees made the following statement: Total cost of the church when completed, \$4,375.00; amount paid, \$3,000.00; amount due, \$1,375. Upon an appeal being made to the audience by the pastor, the deficiency was at once subscribed, and the Governor of the Territory leading off with a goodly sum. All success to this new church in that distant part of our land.

The Presbytery of Susquehanna met on the 26th ult., at the Second church, Wyalusing, according to appointment, and in the absence of the Moderator, was opened with a sermon by the Rev. J. A. Roseell, and a corresponding member.

The Rev. James Gordon Carnahan was appointed Commissioner to the next General Assembly, and the Rev. Hallock Armstrong, Alternate. Hiram Stevens, Ruling Elder in the church of Stevensville, was also appointed, and Bezael Gates, of Rome, his Alternate.

Rev. Dr. Steadman, of the First Presbyterian church, in Memphis, has been ordered South from that city for disloyalty.

Reformed.—This denomination is making most commendable efforts toward the endowment of its Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. The success so far has been quite encouraging. By reports received from the Northern, Philadelphia, and Ohio Presbyteries, it is ascertained that, with a little more effort, the entire amount could be secured at once.

United.—The past month has been one of encouragement to the Board of Foreign Missions. The contributions, amounting to over \$3,000, have about met the immediate demand, but need to be continued at once to provide for moneys that were borrowed abroad during the past year by order of the Assembly, on condition that the funds for their payment should be invested, and be thus at the call of the Board when needed.

Rev. B. L. Baldrige, of Leavenworth City, Kansas, writes us: "There is more interest just now in this city on the subject of religion than has ever before. We have been holding weekly Union prayer meetings since the 1st of January, and the interest is increasing."

German Reformed.—At a late meeting of St. Paul's Church in Crawford County, Pa., a letter was received from persons residing in the town of Butler, Pa., asking permission to organize a German Reformed Church in that place. The petition was granted and arrangements for this purpose made.

METHODIST.

A great indignity was recently offered to Bishop Ames in New Orleans. The Bishop, shortly after his arrival in the city, was announced to preach on Sunday, the 17th ult., in the McGhee Methodist church on Carondelet street, and a large audience assembled to hear him. But the pastor and stewards of the Church were differently minded. Having possession of the building, nothing short of a military order could have prevailed on them to afford the distinguished Northern divine a hearing. He was not even invited into the pulpit, but was permitted to sit in the audience in most unbecoming fashion, while the Rev. Mr. Davis conducted the services.

The village of Hayesville, Ky., on the Ohio river, about 150 miles below Louisville, widely known as a very wicked place, has within a few weeks past been visited by a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, adding about 50 to the church.

gy of the diocese in protesting against the views published by Bishop Hopkins on the subject of slavery, just previous to the late State election in Pennsylvania. Part of the Vestry sustain the Rector, and part oppose.

Rev. Richard Henry Lee, Rector of the Episcopal church in Washington, Pa., has published a card, in which he expresses regret for having signed this protest.

Christ Church, in Lexington, Ky., which in a week after the public announcement that a debt of \$9,000 remained on the church, raised the amount.

The Missionary Bishop of the Northwest has just completed a visitation of three weeks, riding "in a miserable stage day and night, with only two opportunities to change one's clothing, or to get a single night's sleep, and those two at distances of 600 miles!"

The distinctive feature of the course of study at Andover is, that it concentrates attention, as far as possible, upon single departments in succession. Thus, while other Seminaries the different branches of study are extended in parallel courses throughout the three years, here, the first year is devoted to the study of the Scriptures in the original languages; the second, to Systematic Theology; the third, to the departments of Ecclesiastical History and Sacred Rhetoric.

CONGREGATIONAL.

The catalogue of Andover Theological Seminary for 1863-64, has just appeared, and from it we glean the following facts: Students—Residents, 6; Senior Class, 31; Middle Class, 13; Junior Class, 17. Total, 68. (Of these, 54 are from New-England, and 88 from Massachusetts alone. Andover's College sends 14; Williams, 11; Dartmouth, 9; Harvard, 7; Yale, 6; Middlebury, 5; Oberlin, 3; University of Michigan, 2; and Haverford, Union, University of Pennsylvania, and New-York Free Academy, one each. Six did not graduate at any College.)

UNITARIAN. One of the most eligible pews in "State Chapel" of Boston, has lately sold at auction, and so spirited was the competition, that it brought five thousand and four hundred dollars. It belonged to an estate, and was bought by one of the "solid men" of the city.

Literary Items. The memory of Oliver Goldsmith has at last received due honor in his native country. On the 5th of January, Mr. Foley's statue of the poet, was inaugurated by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (Carlisle), and a company consisting of the Lord Chancellor, the judges, the authorities of Trinity College, and the most distinguished residents of the Irish Capital.

IN relation to the higher educational interests of Liberia, President Roberts writes to a gentleman of Philadelphia: "It is very much gratified at the effort I observe you are making in Pennsylvania in favor of education in Liberia, by proposing to endow, or at any rate to raise a sufficient fund to support a professorship in Liberia College for at least five years."

BAPTIST.

Moses G. Buck, late of Bucksport, Me., recently bequeathed \$1,000 to the first Baptist Society that shall organize in the first school district in that town upon an open communion platform.

Considerable excitement has been caused in St. Peter's church, Pittsburgh, because of the refusal of the Rector, Rev. Dr. Van Deusen, to unite with the Bishop's other cler-