

Presbyterian Banner.

PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1864.

TERCENTENARY OF JOHN CALVIN.

On the 27th of the present month will be three hundred years since JOHN CALVIN, the great commentator and legislator of the Reformation, died.

But no other land owes the memory of CALVIN such a debt of gratitude as our own. Here the faith and polity of Geneva have exerted a wider and more powerful influence than anywhere else.

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His father was Notary of the Ecclesiastical Court of Noyon. Both his parents continued in the Church of Rome until their death; but they were pious and intelligent people.

The Tercentenary of his death will be celebrated with appropriate ceremonies, in the various parts of the world.

be amiss for us to suggest that some becoming notice be taken by each of these bodies, of an anniversary suggestive of such thrilling associations to all Presbyterians.

WEAKNESS AND SELFISHNESS UNITED.

The exhibitions of human infirmities are many. Sometimes they appear in one form, and sometimes in another. Not unfrequently qualities which at first seem dissimilar and even opposed, are found united in the same person.

Such the weakness which was unable to support any claims of superiority, becomes the basis on which the selfishness that thinks every thing and every body under most imperative obligations to yield to it, rests.

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The Great Battles.—The excitement in this city has been intense since the beginning of the late onward movement of the Army of the Potomac.

OUR WIFE NEWS.—We have arranged with no little care, in chronological order, for the convenience of our readers, the principal movements of the campaign inaugurated with the present month.

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Rev. Andrew Barr.—This devoted servant of God, late pastor of the church of Wysox, Pa., died in the Army of the Potomac, April 11, 1864.

REFORMED DUTCH.—The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church will meet in its 101st session in the First church in Schenectady on Wednesday, June 1st, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

METHODIST.—The congregation of the American Methodist Church, at M'Clintock, Pa., were held before them, a magnificent service of praise, worth perhaps one thousand dollars, as a testimonial of their esteem.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

Old School.—We are pleased to be able to announce a work of grace in the church of Pine Creek, Presbytery of Allegheny City.

The Presbyterian records an interesting work of grace in progress in the church of Glendale, Ohio.

PHILADELPHIA, May 14.—The United States Christian Commission wishes the friends of our brave soldiers to know that in anticipation of the great struggle in Virginia, they had a large number of delegates on the ground, going with the army on the march and present during all the battles.

Rev. Wm. E. McHenry was installed pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, Peoria, on Sabbath, May 8th.

Mr. McLaren has been laboring among this people for about six months, and has great reason to be encouraged.

A call has been extended by the congregation of Brownsville and Little Rock, to Rev. Joseph W. Stevenson, a member of the last Senior Class of the Western Theological Seminary.

Rev. A. S. Billingsley, Chaplain of the 101st Regt. Pa. Vols., who was taken prisoner at Plymouth, N. C., on the 10th of April, and recently paroled, is very well known in this vicinity.

Rev. A. S. Millholland, a licentiate of the Zanesville Presbytery, has received a call to the Presbyterian church in Bucyrus, Ohio, where he requests correspondents to address him.

Rev. Dr. Potter of New-York, because of indisposition, has received leave of absence from his church, in the University Place, for six months.

Rev. R. Kesler writes: "A revival commenced early in December, last year; the first manifestations of it were a deep anxiety on the part of Christians, and a great earnestness in their pleadings with God."

But one great reason why we should labor for the soldiers now is, that they are falling daily. They are fast passing away. Many hearts mourn to-day the loss of loved ones.

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As a fruit of this revival forty-two have already united with our church on profession of faith; among these, eighteen are heads of families, the remainder young men and women.

While there are many in the army who are away from their homes and religious privileges, there are great numbers also who at home never visited the house of God, and still they are going.

The same paper also says: "Letters from India inform us that the Rev. Andrew Gordon has been suddenly attacked with a severe affection of his brain."

Rev. E. H. Stevenson, also of the same mission, was greatly encumbered—had gone to the hills for relief, and might be compelled to seek restoration by a long sea voyage.

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At the late quarterly meeting in New-York, one of the most pleasing incidents was the presence of John Whiteman, Esq., of Philadelphia, who brought with him fifty-one thousand dollars, being the amount of missionary collections within the bounds of the Philadelphia Conference.

The last Methodist says: "Lyceum Hall, New-York, the room in which the Session of the Convention met after its adjournment from Baton Rouge, has been christened 'Liberty Hall,' and under that name was dedicated to freedom on the morning of the 6th of April.

The Methodistists, both white and colored, are canvassing for Church privileges in Oakland, California.

The Watchman and Reflector says: "The Mission Jubilee, just at hand, promises to be a mastering of the Baptist hosts such as has never before witnessed."

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envion earth, and the stars that stand as sentinels on the watch-towers of night.

In the imperfect outline I see the towers and palaces of the City of God. I see the verdant fountains that gush from the Throne of God. The breeze that floats down from that delectable land is all redolent of the Balm of Gilead, and the Rose of Sharon.

But here, too, I see an obstacle that must be overcome, before entrance can be obtained to the heavenly Canaan. It is a deep, dark, swelling river. Its waves roll far and wide, and there is no way of entering the good land, without going down into its channel.

But through the faith that could follow the Ark of God in the days of Joshua, the billows were all overcome, and the pilgrim passed over dry-shod.

There were present fifteen ministers, eighteen Ruling Elders, and three licentiates, constituting one of the largest and most pleasant meetings of Presbytery ever held since our organization, in April, 1859.

The church of Ashkum was dissolved, and the members transferred to Gilman church.

Rev. Alexander L. Knox, of the Presbytery of St. Clairsville, and Rev. Thomas J. Taylor, of the Presbytery of Ohio, were received as members of Presbytery.

Mr. John Wilson, licentiate of the Presbytery of Ohio; and Mr. A. J. Clark, licentiate of the Presbytery of New Albany, were received under the care of Presbytery.

Rev. George D. Porter was dismissed to Cedar Presbytery; Rev. J. A. E. Simpson, to Peoria Presbytery; and Rev. H. C. McCook, to the Presbytery of St. Louis.

The pastoral relation between Rev. W. T. Adams and Deer Creek church was dissolved, with a view of his removal to Elm Dale, from which church he received a call to become their pastor.

Resolved, That all our ministers be requested to set forth an early day, the special claims of the Board of Domestic Missions.

The following Commissioners to the General Assembly were chosen: Rev. S. D. Stevens and elder W. P. Parsons, principals; Rev. Geo. M'Kinley and elder J. T. M'Clintock, alternates.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at Dwight, on the Fourth Tuesday, of September, at 7 P. M. R. CONOVER, Stated Clerk.

Presbytery of Cedar, Iowa. Presbytery convened in Mount Vernon, on the 29th of August.

After the constituting prayer, by the Rev. E. L. Dodder, the retiring Moderator, and Rev. S. M. Osmond, Moderator, and Rev. J. S. Dimmit, Presiding Elder of the Upper Iowa Conference, was invited to visit with us as a Corresponding Member.

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Rev. J. N. Swan was elected Moderator, and Rev. William Gaston, Temporary Clerk.

Rev. James Allison, one of the editors of the Presbyterian Banner, preached the Presbyterian sermon, from Habakkuk iii: 1. His sermon was earnest, logical, and adapted to the times, and was listened to with marked attention.

courage, put their trust in God, and they will be strengthened.

A request was presented from the City of Sallenville, to organize a Presbyterian church in that place.

A memorial was addressed to the General Assembly, on the subject of Domestic Missions and Presbytery.

The following supplies were appointed: Poland—Mr. Dickson, First Sabbath; May—Mr. Speer, Second Sabbath of June.

Surprise Visit. On the morning of the 5th of April Apple Creek congregation made a visit to their pastor.

Personal. Major General John Sedgwick, commander of the 6th Army Corps, who was instantly killed in a skirmish near Spottsylvania Court House, has been prominently known throughout the war as an able and energetic officer.

Brig. Gen. J. Owens family, at Philadelphia, Pa., has received intelligence of his death from the effect of a severe wound received in the battles of the Wilderness.

Gen. James C. Rice, who fell in one of the late battles in Virginia, was from New-York, and was one of the noblest, purest, noblest spirits this country has ever known.

Gen. Stevenson, who was killed in the battles of the Wilderness, was a son of J. Thomas Stevenson, a leading citizen of Boston, Massachusetts, where he also leaves a wide circle of personal friends.

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