TERMS IN ADVANCE. Pastors sending us TEN subscribers and upwards, will no thereby sutitled to a paper without charge, and another ztra paper for the second ten; &c. Renewals should be prompt, a little before the year expires

JAMES ALLISON & CO.,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

For the Presbyterian Banner.

Letter from Siam. BANGKOK, Siam, May 9, 1864. DEAR BANNER :- This little kingdom is drained principally by three large streams, which flow South or South west, into the Gulf. The Bampakong on the East, the Menam, or Menam Chowpaga in the mid-die, and the Tachin on the West. These three constitute the principal arteries of the kingdom, although there are other minor streams of considerable importance. All these streams are connected together. by a series of canals and creeks, winding and twisting through each other, so as to form a kind of intricate net work. These pre the highways of the kingdom, and consequently so many avenues of trade to the capital. Boats of all sizes and descriptions are constantly seen winding through these canals, or floating upon the bosom of these broad rivers. During the dry season, one special work of the missionary is to thread these weary canals, and ascend these broad rivers, and distribute the Word of Life to the perishing natives. Occasionally, too, he makes a bolder push out into the Gulf, and visits some province two or three hundred miles down the coast. On the present occasion, we concluded to take the Tachin, as a region as yet comparatively little visited by missionaries.

Imagine a native boat about forty feet long, and about six feet across the beam. and in the centre a small cabin, about twelve feet long. This cabin serves as state room, dining saloon, sitting room, &c. Then imagine the missionary, his wife, and three or four children, as the case may be. stowed away in that small cabin, together with stores, beds, bedding, cooking utensils, and other indispensables, for the journey, and you have a pretty good picture of the missionarles in Siam, upon a mission tour.
Upon the deck are five or six swarthy natives, acting as boatmen, to propel the boat with oars when necessary, but when a breeze springs up, to hoist sail, and then stretch themselves upon deck, and perhaps sleep in the broiling sun. This mission touring is the only means we have of enjoying a little respite from the din and filth of this watery city, and at the same time it is the only means of reaching a portion of this people with the Gospel, and obtaining

a knowledge of the country. The Tachin is a broad, crooked, and rapid stream, discharging a vast volume of water into the Gulf, and were it not for the obstructions at its mouth, vessels of several hundred tons might ascend to a considerable distance. The region near the sea is under the influence of salt water. This region has been devoted chiefly to the cultivation of sugar-cane by the Chinese. Vast numbers of Chinese, of all dialects, flock to Siam every year, and indeed they are now the chief producers of the kinggone into the sugar business, and employ vast numbers of Coolies. On each bank of the river may be seen vast fields of sugar cane, and in some places it is cut down and collected into heaps, ready to be put into boats and taken to the mills, which stud the banks of the stream in great numbers. The cane is ground upon a crude, wooden concern, something like an old-fashioned cider mill. only on a much larger scale, and is turned with buffaloes. The juice flows through pipes from the mill into a kind of tank, whence it is taken in buckets to the place ot boiling. A kind of furnace is built, about ten or twelve feet high, in the top of which a large iron kettle is placed. The whole operation is conducted in rather a primitive style, and like all sugar mills, one who uses much of the article, had better shut his eyes while visiting them. They manage, however, to make some very pretty sugar; and very cheap, too, which makes a person wonder, after seeing the crude processes through which it has to

pass. A young Chinese nobleman, in Bangkok, has sent to Europe for an improved steam sugar mill, which is expected shortly. A missionary speaking only Siamese, can do but little for these multitudes of Chinese, and if ever reached at all by the Gospel, some of our Boards at home must send missionaries especially to them. Leaving the sugar district, we came into a farming neighborhood. The Palnyra began to rear its lofty head, which indicates a rice growing region. Occasionally a plantain garden was seen on the bank of the river; the broad leaves, split by the winds, were "streaming in shreds" in the breeze. The inhabitants of a farming community generally live in little villages upon the bank of the river. During the day they work in the fields, and at night return home. The houses are built of bamboo, and covered with the leaf of the Nayfra palm, or a kind of thatch made of long, coarse grass. They are generally more comfortable than most of the bamboo houses in the city. In these villages the houses are placed very close together, and, so far as a stranger can see, and especially a European, they appear to have all "things common." They live thus in communities perhaps because they are somewhat claunish, and partly for mutual defence. Like all country residents, they are comparatively free from many of the vices found in the larger cities, such as gambling, drinking, &c. The temples, too, become scarcer in proportion to the distance from the city. The priests are generally lazy, arrogant, and ignorant. They are looked up to by the people, and indeed they are the Professors of the country, and thus they are spoiled. The temples are the public schools and colleges throughout the kingdom. We entered one of these temple grounds with an armful of books. The priests' novices and boys gathered around us, to the number of about thirty or forty. We commenced telling them, as well as we could, the story of Jesus, but that only excited their ridicule. We tell them they are wicked, and must be lost unless saved by Christ; but that is equally absurd, for they have been laying up merit for years. To secure attention we have to touch a more tender point. Their pride must be humbled. We ask them a question at which they are at once brought to a stand. By looking round about, and referring to the works of nature by which we are surrounded, we ask them who created the world and

all things in it. After some hesitation, we

get the usual reply, "Kert eng"—literally,

"born itself," or came by chance. We

then proceed to tell them the impossibility

of such a thing, and then point to the evi-

dences of design in all things, and thence

to the Great Designer. We tell them that

their religion does not speak of the crea-

tion of all things, and cannot be the true

religion. Indeed they acknowledge their

power than themselves. We also tell them

that in many other things the Siamese have been mistaken. That formerly they con-

sidered Siam the greatest country in the

world, but now they have to acknowledge

that it is but a small kingdom. That

those nations which hold the Christian re-

ligion, possess the highest state of civiliza-

tion, and are most prosperous and happy.

These remarks had the desired effect in se-

god to have been but a man, with n

Presbyterian Banner,

VOL. XII. NO. 46.

PITTSBURGH,

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST, 3, 1864.

WHOLE NO. 615

different kinds. The principal work going | say the fashionable way is to slice the fruit | of Parliament. The hungry Conservatives on among the farmers is, threshing out their crops. The rice had been stacked up since harvest, and had become perfectly dry. A threshing floor is made upon the of the fruit is thus lost. And who need propagation are an Opposite their crops. The rice had been stacked up slices with a spoon, but that is rather a being apparently on the very verge of slow process, and besides some of the best office several times, and yet by very small of the fruit is thus lost. And who need pro Palmerston majorities, unable to grasp ground, after the manner of those men- be particular about these smaller matters, the coveted prize. They, as an Oppositioned in Scripture. A kind of fancy tree unless perchance he may have an opportution, have their rises; but the great midis made and set up in the centre, upon nity of dining with some of our English dle class, the commercial public, and the which are placed some of the best heads of the rice, we suppose as a kind of offering.

The sheaves are then placed around the tree, and when ready, ten or twelve buffathat can be taken, however, a person is local are diversed and referred that can be taken, however, a person is chair to the ministerial benches. loes are driven rapidly around upon it. likely to find the juice running down over They are all tied abreast, and are frequently changed—that is, those on the outside of the ring are brought to the inside, and those inside are taken to the is delicious. outside. The threshing is done at night,

Next, comes the mango-stine-a tart because the heat is so great through the pulpy, fruit put up in lobes, within a dark, day, that the buffaloes could not endure to walnut-like shell. Break the shell and lift be driven so rapidly. These threshings out the lobes with your fork, and they melt appear to be general frolics, something like in your mouth. Then, there are the pine-secrated" at Canterbury Cathedral-in the corn huskings in some parts of Pennsylvania. Old and young of both sexes difficult to take.

But, the fruit of the season, among the model. They were Dr. Francis Jeune,

heard at quite a distance. The rice once natives is the durien-a large fruit about an Evangelical and a fine scholar, to the tramped from the straw, the latter is taken the size of a man's head, and has a prickly bishopric of Peterborough; Dr. C. F. away, and the paddy collected in a heap; shell. Within the shell are lobes, each Bromby, formerly the Head Master of a and when the wind rises, it is thrown up containing a seed surrounded by a white, Collegiate School at Cheltenham, and with a kind of shovel, in order to winnow pulpy substance, insipid to the taste, and it. In some places, too, they were burning which emits an effluvium of the same nature and even worse than that emitted by Corowther, to the bishopric of the Niger. very luxuriant growth of tall grass, or jungle springs up, but during the dry season it becomes dead and dry. The ground is therefore generally burned over, before the smell, can scarcely endure it. Notthe commencement of the wet season, in order that it may be ready for ploughing when the rains commence. It makes a trewe are sorry to say the taste of some of the le was among the first fruits of that truly mendous fire, and we saw apparently hun- older missionaries has become so vitiated evangelical and excellent Institution above

dreds of acres all in a blaze. The usual as really to enjoy it.

topic of conversation when the folks meet, is similar to that of the same class of men are engaged, the heavens are yet apparently everywhere: "How did your rice turn as brass. We try to be faithful in our labors, and occasionally we get a mercy drop which There is a total lack of variety in the encourages us, and confirms the promises; scenery all along these rivers. When a but there is no evidence as yet of any great person has seen three miles of it, he has work going on among this people. The een the whole. One mile of eyen the French Jesuits have lately had a success. little Juniata is worth the whole of it. They received about three hundred at one There is not even a pleasing legend con nected with it, to give it interest. Where ese among them. The Jesuits have been such a thing is attempted, it is so fabulous here for over two hundred years, and can that it becomes disgusting. We visited now number their converts by thousands, one place of notoriety, some distance from yet they have had little or no success the river. It is said that a certain king of among the Siamese. Their members are Siam, upon the birth of a son, was told by chiefly Chinese, Cochin Chinese, and Indotil he sent the child away to Cambodia. Portuguese in the East. The transition When the son grew up, and learned who from heathenism to Catholicism is so easy, he was, he collected an army and started that we wonder that they have not met with to attack his father. The father heard of greater success It requires no change of his coming, and marched out to meet him. heart, or conduct. Their converts are even They met upon this spot, when the father's worse than the native heathen. Besides, army was defeated, and himself killed. A they are now offering French protection, very high pagoda was erected upon the and other inducements, to all who will join spot. The present king has rather a dis- them. The Siamese they received lately dom. Some of the more wealthy have position to multiply places of renown, and was high priest of a temple, and a noblehas consequently opened a canal from the man of some distinction. At last accounts cased with brick, so that it has become a taken the man under their protection, to modern pyramid, whose base covers an area await the royal storm, if there be any. of about four acres. It has become a place The French have got a foothold in Coof resort for priests, and others, from chin China and Cambodia, which may re-Bangkok. It is the last place, however, that a European would go to for pleasure. They have made a treaty, offensive and de-The canal stops short, and the water is fensive, with the Prince of Cambodia, who stagnant-mosquitoes swarm in thousands is tributary to Siam, without even consult-—at mid-day the sun pours down his rays ing the King of Siam. He has protested, unmercifully; and not a shade tree offers which is about all that he can do; but they protection from the scorohing heat. The don't appear willing to give up any thing tourist here, when going to a distance, they have acquired. The Stamese authorimust carry every thing he needs, with him, | ties sent Paya Rat, a nobleman of some dis-

> soup. They will tell you they have none, small army, if possible, to bring up the whilst you can see numbers of them run- Prince and Paya Rat. Should the latter ning around. After several unsuccessful gentleman be caught, his head will likely attempts to get one, we met with a boy, pay the penalty of his desertion.
>
> who, for the money, offered a favorite hen We have been anxiously waiting for the he had. We gave him all he asked, one news of the opening of the Spring camfuang (seven and one-half cents) and car- paign at home. By the present mail we ried off the prize, and were very glad to have it, in the English papers, in substance get her. She proved to be a laying hen, as follows: "Spring campaign open in the and was perhaps the boy's only treasure.
>
> These people generally manifest the crais." The facts, too, go to confirm the reatest curiosity to see Europeans eating. statement, to some extent. Sherman They flocked around our boat in numbers, obliged to retreat to Vicksburg. Gilwhenever we were about to partake of our more's forces repulsed in Florida. Kilpatmeals. They watched with intense inter- rick repulsed with severe loss in the rear | Shaftsbury was one of the earliest promoest, every time the elbow bent, and the of Lee. We await with anxiety the next ters of this movement.

as scarcely any thing can be bought on the | tinction, to Cambodia, to see what was go-

way. Indeed, the natives themselves carry all their provisions with them when on a journey. A person could scarcely buy a ly taken all his family away. The King's

a chicken if he were sick and dying for gunboats have gone down, together with a

however, under the impression that ours'

s rather a difficult mode of eating. If such

is the impression they receive when view-

ing the simple board of a missionary, what

would they think could they see the pon-

derous courses of a modern fashionable

able! Their mode of eating is most prim-

tive. They use the fingers. When we

look at them, we almost feel that they are

about right in their conclusions, and al-

most long to get back to the old mode. It

would willingly dispense with each one

dipping his fingers in the same dish, and

whole we rather admire their mode. There

is a freedom from restraint which we cannot

help but admire. There is apparently no

fear of violating some of the minor rules of

table etiquette. We fear, lest in an un-

guarded moment they might commit the

inpardonable offence of opening an egg at

the wrong end, or by some mistake, put the

knife into the mouth, instead of that most

unwieldy of all table furniture, the split

poon. The person who gave to posterity

the simple knife, fork, and spoon, was cer-

tainly a benefactor of the race; but it

would have been well to have stopped

The Chinese thought to improve on the

fingers, and invented the chop-sticks, and

hey must consider it a complete success,

them. But what European that ever saw a Chinaman slobbering and blowing over

does not long to see him go back to the

We are now enjoying our hottest season

The sun at mid-day, shows no pity. At

wet with perspiration, and feeling as lan-

the rainy season again. Although the

heavens had been clear and brazen for

months, and it appeared as if it could not

rain again, yet about the usual time for the

As if to compensate in part for the warm

After dinner, we will have a desport. Here

comes a dish full of the yellow fruit. Roll

side to wash your hands occasionally. A

was descending in the gentle shower.

more primitive fingers?

few other incivilities; but upon the

carries one back to Scripture times.

Yours truly, McD.

spoon, laden with rice and curry, passed mail. into the mouth. They generally leave, FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT. LORD PALMERSTON'S vigor has been remarkably illustrated all through the present session of Parliament, even while occasionally the gout has held him in painful durance. But in the party conflict which has been awakened in connection with the failure of the Conference of the representatives of the different Powers of Europe, concerning the Dano-German question, the after night he has occupied his usual seat his wont, across his breast, and his hat over his eyes—scarcely ever changing his position. But when the great question was fairly to be discussed—that is, whether there would be peace or war, and when, along with this, came the other question, "Shall, or shall not, the ministry be kept in office?" Palmerston has shown great pluck, cleverness, and physical power Thus, last week, when the strangers' galleries overflowed, when not only every member's seat was occupied, but some were compelled to stand, and others sat on the floor-while angry attaches of Foreign for they make no attempts to improve upon his bowl of rice with a pair of chop-sticks, cupied an hour and a quarter; that it was against consistency and truth. delivered in clear, sonorous tones, without The Record has been very wroth; it renight it is generally close and sultry; and break in its continuity, entirely from mem- | minds the preacher of "The Gorham Dealthough you may have slept tolerably well ory and without aid from notes; and that cision," by which Evangelicals and High through the night; you rise in the morning the man who delivered it will be, if his Churchmen may each hold their views and life is spared, eighty years old next No- | yet be consistent members of the Church. guid and weary as if you had not closed an eye. We have, also, had a little taste of

rains to commence, the sky one day became at Harrow, the Prince and Princess of development and sacrifices for conscience suddenly overcast, the thunders began to Wales being present at the festivities. He sake. That alas! is the policy which still is an old Harrovian himself, and once sat prevails. on the benches where Byron and many up your sleeves nearly to the elbows, and have a basin of water standing by your have a basin of water standing by your has the respect and affection even of his Nor LONG SINGE. I was present at Wil-

political adversaries.

archy from destruction, by proposing that Denmark shall become a member of the German Confederation.

THREE NEW BISHOPS have been "conmentioned, which will recognize no man who is not thoroughly sound in the faith, earnest and devoted, and which in India and elsewhere enjoins and cultivates kindly fraternal cooperation with other Protestant Missions. Not very long since, a young olergyman who had been accredited by an examining chaplain of the Bishop of London, and ordained by the Bishop, was re-jected when he wished to become a missionary of the Society. The reason was, that he was found to have loose views on the question of Justification, and to manifest Rationalistic tendencies.

EXCLUSIVELY EARLY information has been given me by the Assistant Secretary of the London City Mission, with regard a soothsayer that the son would one day Portuguese, a nondescript mongrel race, to "Special Religious Services in Theacost him his life. Fear haunted him un-

facts and figures are very striking. No. of Services. tendance. Theatre. 89,000 Saddler's Wells, Clerkenwell..26 81,200 19,500 Fifth course of services, 1863-64.....103 150,500 avious four conveces

..662 1,015,000 Tracts distributed previous courses.... 368,000

MISSIONABIES TO CABMEN, and Cabmen's Clubs, (rooms where they can come and have social intercourse, without strong drink, and where Bible classes for themselves and their wives are conducted, and addresses are delivered,) are a distinct feature of the spiritual and moral progress in London. Cabmasters also have been converted to Christ, and many of that class now love the Sabbath rest and worship, because the Holy Spirit has taught them to believe in, and Love the Sabbath's Lord. Hence these men no longer send out their cabs and servants on the Lord's day. Others, not necessarily spiritual men, adopt

the same principle, and so it has come to pass, within a few years, that there are now 2,100 "six-day" cabs. All London cabs, numbered above 10,000, are of this class, and every year they increase. The wives and children of the cabmen thoroughly appreciate the boon; and the men themselves are of a superior class as to trustworthiness, sobriety, and self-respect. A series of meetings is being held at the Cabmen's Clubs, King's Cross, in connection with invitations to tea given by the Cab and Omnibus-men Sunday Rest Society. Lord

WORDS IN SEASON have been lately spoken by the Rev. William Brock, an eminent Baptist minister, at Bloomsbury Chapel, London. To large congregations on successive Sabbath evenings, he has discoursed on the topic of "Future Punishment," and in the following order: 1st. Its reasonableness. 2d. Its righteousness. 3d. Its certainty. 4th. The eternal character of future punishment. Mr. Brock is a fine specimen, both in mind and in person, of a Christian Englishman. His countenance is frank, open, and manly; his fig-Premier has been tested afresh. Night ure is robust and stalwart. Since his coming to London some ten or twelve years on the Ministerial bench—his arms, as is ago, he has labored in season and out of season with large results. He has in attendance on his ministry the elite of the Baptists of London, including Sir Morton Peto, M. P., who was the instrument of bringing Mr. Brock to the metropolis, providing at his own cost, a large and commo-

dious chapel. Mr. Brock has also preached his annual Sermon to the Young Men and Maidens of London." The hour was very earlysix or seven o'clock A. M; but the crowd was so great, that they could scarcely be

MR. SPURGEON has lately preached a Ambassadors could find no room at all, and sermon on "Baptismal Regeneration," in a crowd waited in the lobby, vainly hoping which, with conclusive logic and by the for entrance, Lord Palmerston began his language of the Prayer Book, he proved speech. One of our public writers thus that this dogma is undoubtedly taught in remarks on it: "And now, readers, you the Baptismal Service of the Church of have, we suppose, read his speech. If not, England. He therefore declared his conread it forthwith, and please to remember viction that the honest men are the High this: that wonderfully lucid and admira- Churchmen who hold and teach this docbly-arranged history of the complex Schles- trine; and that the Evangelical party in wig-Holstein business, with the narrative denying the doctrine, and yet remaining in of the proceedings of the Conference, oc- the Church of England, are sinning both

The acquiescence of the Evangelicals and Vember!"
The acquiescence of the Evangelicals and Last week, also, Lord Palmerston rode the Record in that decision—that paper on horseback all the way to Harrow on the having denounced the doctrine as "deadly Hill, and back again to London. The an-nual celebration before the breaking up of the school for the holidays, was celebrated of such men in the way of Free Church

other remarkable persons sat, his name be- that he had lost the friendship of many weather, we are now enjoying some of our richest fruits. Among these, the mango stands perhaps first—a yellow, rich, juicy others, his cotemporaries, many of whom fruit. Have you ever eaten a mango? became illustrious in the Church, in the every friend I have on earth, I should still Army and Navy, at the Bar, and on the adhere to my convictions that I have stated Bench-but most of whom are gone to the nothing but the truth, and I am ready to

lis's Rooms, at the annual Conversazione of some books, we left them reading, at the top of their voices, the history of creation, and some of the Gospels, and tracts of fruit napkin is also indispensable. Some

bury, as usual, occupied the Chair. The | well as we could. Would prefer, however periodicals, and specimens of books sup- | an establishment of our own. plied both to country districts and the col-onies, were exhibited around the great room. The periodicals—a numerous fami- room? ly of great and varied merit, mostly illustrated—were suspended from a cord which assed across the centre.

books of its own, nor derives any profit from commercial transactions. Its efforts With quiet voice, first one prayed, then are directed to the circulation of pure lit-erature, in the most comprehensive sense and for the Christian and Sanitary Comof the term. This it effects, first by the publication of a catalogue of such periodicals, books, prints, diagrams, &c.; secondly by grants of libraries, at half price; thirdy, by acting as an agency in the metropo is, in order to supply persons, schools, and institutions in the country. The offices of this Society are at 11 Buckingham Street, Strand, and a visit by any Christian stranger to the beautiful room, in which are aranged libraries, prints, and pictures, can-

to 10,000, "showing," as was said by a generous supporter, of this movement, "that where good literature is put into competiperiodicals supply water from pure unpoisoned springs!

Precious Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus Jesus, thou hast called them From this shadowy vale of test;
We are waiting, watching, weeping,

"Compassed still with doubts and fears.
Oh is foreive the vising manner.

Oh i forgive the rising murmur As we linger tearfully; May each wave of sorrow bear us Eyer nearer, nearer thee.

Precious Jesus, thou wast with them Till life's last rough billow passed; Soft the whisper—parting whisper—"Precious Jesus!"—home at last.

Home at last, beyond the river, They are waiting till we come; Death no more the links shall sever; When they 're clasped in that sweet hou

Precious Jesus, thou art faithful, Ever faithful, ever true; Thou hast trodden life's lone pathway, Thou hast pressed death's valley too, And from out the upper temple, Reaching to thy children here, Comes a sweet and holy presence, Precious Jesus, ever near.

We would trust thee, Saviour, trust thee, Clasp thee closer to our hearts. From the earthly home departs; For we know that they are with thee That they now thy glory share,

And we know that we shall meet them, Precious Jesus, meet them there.

For the Presbyterian Banner. Six Weeks in the Potomac Army; HOW THE SICK MAN GOT WELL.

Camp Parole—Burnside's Corps—Annapolis: Pageants! Let the world revere us

No. V.

For our people's rights and laws, And the breasts of civic heroes Bared in Freedom's holy cause." Our Commission Rooms here are of still ess pretension!

Yes. The demands of the Ninth Corps structures of a camp.

"Man wants but little here below"-Yes, but Father T., Agent for our work in camp here, has a good deal of true Irish civility about him. It was tested last evening, however, when he would carry our had not been to California! Does n't it contain more than you will

Possibly. But we always like to go pregage," and why should we be an exception! the "94th New-York," without your sup- well furnished with stores. per, was rather unexpected; what kind of congregation had you?

About one hundred men and one woman! and besides giving good attention, they made excellent music. Chaplain Cook, of this regiment, is a musical man himself, and has evidently trained his men to sing -a practice which they seem to enjoy. But I did n't go to bed supperless! The 'lunch" in my haversack came just in place, after service. I breakfasted with the Chaplain, this morning; and, including the Colonel, the Quartermaster and his wife, we had a nice "mess." Where only men are expected, it is uousually pleasant to see a tidy lady grace the table. How did you rest last night?

As well as could be expected in my first experiment in army blankets on the floor! But Bro. G., who undertook to elevate himse'f on three boxes of unequal height, and with open spaces between, couldn't quite in the Navy-Yard, we are riding on a railsearch of sleep!

I promised to take you round-let us go Really, Camp Parole is quite a neat affair! Rows of barracks, in line, al white-washed, streets between, and alleys, Jefferson and Washington Colleges-Their after the fashion of a town, neat and clean -a comfortable place for the temporary

abode of paroled soldiers. Yes; and I don't believe you can find a town or city in the United States where the streets and alleys are kept so perfectly clean and neat as these. And these Headquarters, adorned with evergreens, shell walks, and white fences, make a pleasant impression. The hospitals, too, standing apart, but in range with each other, neat, clean and airy, are all that could be de-

eft the dinner-table? to leave?

and their families, who claim-and properit. But fearing lest our leaving en masse

Did you hear those two soldier boys at prayer, last evening, in the adjoining

Yes. As they passed in, one of them-"Willie," the boy-of-all-work about the Rooms here—said, "Mr. C.; we are going to have our evening devotions now, if it This Society does not publish books or to have our evening devotions now, if it periodicals. It neither issues any new will not disturb you;" and said it with a child like simplicity that was pleasing missions. I suppose it was them I heard last evening, also, when they closed with "Now I lay me down to sleep," &c.

Such manifestations of simple-hearted piety are pleasing, when, as in this case, they appear to be entirely unaffected. What have you been doing to-day?

Exploring the Ninth Army Corps; nost of which lies between this camp and Annapolis, on either side of the railroadnot fail to give pleasure.

Good literature, the more widely it is circulated, always tends to thrust out that which is evil. One thousand libraries have already been already which is evil. One thousand libraries have already been supplied, and each would probably be used by 75 to 100 readers. How encouraging is the fact that while impure literature some years ago had a circulation of 52,000; last year it was reduced friendly to our Commission, however. Some of the camps are very prettily arranged—tents in right lines, streets neat tion with bad, the latter is destroyed." and clean, and ornamented with ever-Happy the family whose hewspapers and greens; looking as though the boys expected to live here all Summer. The "56th Mass." seems to take the lead in fitting up with taste. Their Colonel treated us courteously. But he may be somewhat severe in his discipline. Some of his men seemed to think so, at any rate; and the man whom I saw obliged to make his regular "beat" with a stout barrel over his shoulders, his head protruding through its bottom, and his feet to be seen just below its mouth—as also some ten or fifteen others, who spend the live-long day, and night too, on a small scaffold at an eleva-tion of about twenty, or twenty-five feet, may perhaps be considered in evidence of the charge being true. Wonder if some less degrading form of punishment for mi-

nor faults, would not answer the ends of. military discipline quite as well? Visited, in all, some eight regiments to-day, distributing among them 145 papers, 100 soldier's books, and nearly a dozen New Testaments; and begin to feel that this outdoor tramping-free from wearing care, and yet with an object in view—is good for "the sick man." Passing down from the 56th Mass., we met an officer who asked for German papers for his men, saying, with an earnest frankness of manner that pleased us, "I am a Catholic; but the prejudices of former days are passing away, and I wish to do my men good." We answered by saying: "We have but one common Saviour to trust in." "Yes," said he, "We must all be saved by the blood of

Christ." You are about through exploring now, are you not?

Yes; and among us we have got up a map locating each regiment of the Corps—some twenty-five or thirty in all-and as there is evidently a feint or a movement-by land or water-foreshadowed, our Field Agent. Mr. S., orders three of us to Annapolis tomorrow morning, to go into tents, in the Nary-Yard, to keep match over the bay

And this is Annapolis! Like most Southern towns, it looks old; and has many low buildings which exhibit but a low order of architectural beauty.

Yes; and these centres from which the streets radiate like the ribs of a lady's fan, are but temporary, and those of Camp are always a pest to strangers! But the Parole are not large. Besides, the build- Capitol is associated with the revered ings in general, here, are but the passing Washington, and from its lofty dome the scene is beautiful. Let us go up-the go ing will try your nerves, however.

How quietly sleep the waters of the Chesapeake-on the one side-and as quiet seem the white tents that cover the plain on the other. But how soon may fierce winds disturb the quiet of those waters !two story carpet bag up from the platform. and as soon those brave men be called to Its weight led him to inquire whether we mingle in the fiercer storm and strife of battle!

But we must go down to the Navy-Yard. With its buildings, old and new-its long, brick walks, green sward, and its pared for any event. Besides, it is said water-laved walls-this Navy-Yard is dethat "raw recruits always carry extra bag- cidedly the most pleasant place we have seen here. And here are C. C. Rooms, Volunteering, last evening, to preach to too, within its walls !- pleasant rooms, and

Yes; wherever soldiers are, we must have these; and wherever soldiors go, our delegates must follow them. But I thought we were to go into tents here—set up for ourselves, and be relieved of the annoyance of a boarding

So did I. But now that we are here, there s nothing of it! Our Agent has seen Gen. Burnside, since last evening, and evidently kn ows more than he tells us!

Well, I am beginning to see that some body must gather information, and direct your movements accordingly-commanding and countermanding as circumstances and changing circumstances may dictate; and who, rather than your " Captain"? Nor need you give yourself uneasiness, since yours is not the responsibility.

And here, at 4 P. M., instead of tenting make the connection, and was obliged to fast as steam can carry us-no one of us come down to our humble position in knowing whither, save our Agent! But it is ours to "obey orders."

The subject announced in the above caption is one which has engaged the attention of the friends of literature and religion for a time. And not without reason. It is a subject intrinsically important, and one which must, on the bare mention of it, awaken a lively interest in many minds. The Alumni of these two colleges are scattered all over the land. They are found in all departments of intellectual labor. They are in the pulpit, on the Judge's bench, in the halls of Congress, and in the Profes-What was the trouble, to-day noon, that sor's chair. They are preachers, farmers, all the C. C. delegates rose in a body and | merchants, lawyers, missionaries and legislators. In this state of the case, to speak Didn't you see that officer's wife, soon of the union of these two Colleges, is to as she had fairly entered, turn on her heel speak of a subject which must awaken an interest in almost all circles. The writer of this article was absent from home at the And therefore we left! The fact is, the time this subject began to engage public C. does n't run this concern at all. We attention. Excluded from access to the are but boarders here, with these officers ourrent religious periodicals at that time, and their families, who claim—and properhe is not thoroughly posted in the early ly, we suppose—the preference. The table history of this attempt at union. It may is too small to allow us all to be seated at also be stated without any impropriety, that once, and by some mistake too many of us | the writer is an Alumnus of Jefferson Coltook places at the same time to-day. Hence lege. And by virtue of his Synodical rethe lady's discomposure, and hence our ex- lation, he has been, for the past ten years, somewhat intimately connected with Washmight be construed as a discourtesy, and so ington College. Being an Alumnus of one, to the injury of the Christian Commission, and having spent some time and labor for two of us returned, resumed our seats, the benefit of the other, he cannot but feel made the necessary explanation, and en- a deep interest in the issue of this attempt | the price of the blood of the Son of God deavored to do the agreeable generally, as to unite these two institutions of learning.

THE PRESBYTERIAN BANNER.

Publication Office: GAZETTE BUILDINGS, 84 FIFTH ST., PITTEBUEGH, PA. SMITH, ENGLISH & OO., 28 NORTH-STH ST., PHILA., PA.

ADVERTISEMENTS: PARMENT IN ADVANCE. TRANSIENT ADVERTISEMENTS, 10 CENTS & Line for

SPECIAL NOTICES, 15 CENTS & LINE. EDITORIAL NOTICES, or CARDS, on second page. 2 CENTS A LINE.

OBITUARY NOTICES, 6 CENTS & LINE. This is his apology for offering a word to the public on this subject.

The successful consummation of this scheme, it must be admitted, is highly imp rtant both in a religious and literary point of view.

These two Colleges, in their separate condition-taking into consideration their proximity to each other, the present and prospective condition of the country, the number of rival institutions each claiming a portion of public patronage, and the comparative poverty of both-cannot calculate on a very brilliant and prosperous future. While the two, united on a proper basis, might look forward to a future of high honor and usefulness. That it may realize such a future, there are at least two things that are indispensable.

1. In point of literary merit it must be made the College of the West. Its curriculum of studies, its faculty, its libraries, its literary Societies-in a word, all its appurtenances must be such as will place it in the fore front of literary institutions. 2. In point of religious influence, it must be thoroughly Presbyterian. A College without religion may be an engine of vast evil. Knowledge is power. But knowledge without the controlling power of Evangelical religion, is as likely to be an instrument of evil as good. The College must be sanctified by a strong infusion of religion. And a first class College, formed to take the place of the two existing ones, and to be located anywhere in the same region, must be Presbyterian. In the constitution of its Board of Trustees-in its Faculty-in its religious teachings-and in its modes of worship, the Presbyterian element must predominate. And yet it must not be so exclusively Presbyterian as to be intolerant, or to forbid the presence of students whose religious preserences are different. Its spirit must be Evangelical, while its literary standard is so high and commanding as to attract generous, aspiring youth of all denominations. And now on what grounds can a

College? 1. Sufficient patronage can reasonably be expected from the field now occupied by the two existing Colleges, and from the regions beyond. The people of the region in question are intelligent, and strongly Presbyterian. And they will support such a College. Able to judge of the value of a good thing, they will show it favor.
Such a literary sun will be seen. Its light and heat will be felt. And its attrac-

successful future be expected for such a

tive power will draw patronage. 2. The amount of funds to be realized from the present limited endowments of the two Colleges-from the generous pledge already made to the new College-and from other appropriations that can doubtless be secured-would be so ample that the buildings and grounds can be made commodious able, tried men can be secured. And all the helps connected with modern educational machinery can be secured. Such a College, founded in faith and prayer, commenced and carried forward in a spirit of dependence on the Divine blessing, cannot fail of being successful. But is such a union practicable? Can it reasonably be looked for? Not unless those who are more immediately concerned, will show such a spirit of concession as will merge all party and local interests in the higher considerations of the general good and greater usefulness. There are questions having reference to location, funds, the present Faculties, and the present buildings, which cannot be comfortably adjusted. except in the exercise of the spirit above indicated. If any one party will say-"Such a College is much to be desired; but ours is the location, and we will hear of no other"—this course must at once arrest all progress.

These preliminary questions are more likely to be settled properly by competent disinterested parties. And unless such a reference of these points can be made satisfactorily, all the discussion on this subject will be likely to produce no good re-

The suggestion made by Mediator in a late article in the Banner, for a convention of the Alumni of the two Colleges, does not seem objectionable. The members of such a Convention, coming from all parts of the country, acquainted with the views of the Christian public, intelligent and capable of forming comprehensive opinions on the subject, might reach such conclusions as would be received by all parties, and render important help in solving the knotty problem.

Nothing to Do.

" Nothing to do!" in this world of ours, Where weeds spring up with the fairest flowers, Where smiles have only a fitful play, Where hearts are breaking every day

"Nothing to do!" thou Christian soul! Wrapping thee round in thy selfish stole! Off with thy garments of sloth and sin! Christ thy Lord hath a kingdom to win. "Nothing to do!" there are prayers to lay

On the altar of incense, day by day; There are foes to meet, within and without There is error to conquer, strong and stout "Nothing to do!" there are minds to teach. The simplest forms of Christian speech.

There are hearts to lure with loving wile, From the grimmest haunts of sin's defile. "Nothing to do!" there are lambs to feed, The precious hope of the Church's need. Strength to be borne to the weak and faint, Vigils to keep with the doubting saint.

Nothing to do!" there are hights to attain. Where Christ is transfigured yet again; Where earth will fade in the vision sweet,

And the soul press on with winged feet. "Nothing to do!" and thy Saviour sail, "Follow thou me in the nath I tread." Lord, lend thy help the journey through,

Lest, faint, we cry, "so much to do! -Congregationalist

Ministerial Responsibility.

I have ofttimes, not without wonder and indignation, observed the strange confidence of empiries in physic, that dare venture on the practice of that noble art which they do not at all understand; considering how, for a little paltry gain, they shrewdly hazard, or rather certainly destroy, the health and lives of men; and have judged them worthy of as capital and ignominious a punishment as those that kill men on the highways.

But I have soon exchanged this meditation into another of more concernment to myself; and my indignation hath quickly returned into my own bosom, when I consider how much bolder and more hazardous an attempt it is for a man to venture on the priestly office; to minister to the eternal health and salvation of souls. How much skill is requisite to qualify a man for such an undertaking! how great care in the discharge of it!

What a sad thing it would be, if through my unskilfulness or negligence one soul should miscarry under my hands, or die and perish eternally!
We minister to souls. Souls! Methinks

in that one word there is a sermon. Immortal souls! precious souls! one whereof is worth more than all the world besides. -Bishop Bull.