



## ORIGINAL.

For the Weekly Messenger.

## Historical Sketch of the Origin, &amp;c., of the Ger. Ref. Church in this Country.

The Committee appointed at the special meeting of Zion's Classis to draw up and cause to be published in our Religious periodicals, for the benefit of its members, a short statement of such facts as may be within their reach, relative to the first establishment, progress, present condition, and prospects of the German Reformed Church in this country, beg leave respectfully to forward the following:

For the facts which relate to her first establishment, or early history, the committee are indebted partly to the document drawn up by the Committee of Synod, of which the Rev. Dr. Hendel was the Chairman, and appended to the printed Minutes of 1817, and partly to a series of articles on this subject written by the Editor of the "Evangelische Zeitung," and published in Vol. 1. of that Magazine (1831;) both of which sketches are based upon the Journal of the Rev. Mr. Schlatter.

There existed already, it would seem, a number of German Reformed Congregations in Pennsylvania more or less organized, as early as the year 1726; as in that year the Rev. Mr. Weiss, a German Reformed Minister from this part of N. America, in company with an Elder of one of his congregations, visited Holland, and other parts of Europe, and received from the benevolent there a not inconsiderable amount of money in aid of the feeble German Churches, with whose sad and deplorable condition they had thus become acquainted.

In the year 1746, the benevolent Synods of Holland, who for years had sympathized with our destitution—a proof of which was given not only in the contributions alluded to above, but also in the recently forwarded to Philadelphia, for the use of their Reformed brethren in Pennsylvania, something like 130 German Bibles—appointed on a mission to this new field the Rev. Michael Schlatter of St. Gall, Switzerland—a man remarkably fitted for so important an undertaking. His instructions were to visit the scattered German Reformed Churches in America, to acquaint himself fully with their condition, and to effect, where this had not yet been done, their regular organization by the installing of Elders and Deacons. Earlier he was to ascertain from each congregation what sum they would be able and willing to make up for the support of a regular minister; should one be sent to them. These several objects having been attained and a faithful report rendered the Synod from which he held his commission, he was to be at liberty to accept a call and settle down as a regular pastor.

On the first of August in the above year this devoted servant of God set his feet on American soil. He landed at Boston; whence he proceeded by way of New York to Philadelphia where he arrived on the sixth of September, and met with a most cordial reception from the Elders of the congregation in that city, then supplied once a month by the Rev. J. B. Boehm, whose place of residence was 17 miles from the city. This aged minister, Mr. Schlatter visited the following day, and found in him a devoted servant of Jesus Christ, who after he had read with joy his Instructions, offered him at once his most cordial cooperation. Besides Mr. Boehm there were three other regular German Reformed ministers in the country, viz: Mr. Dorstius, Mr. Rieger and Mr. Weiss. All these had their fields of labor in Pennsylvania—Mr. Dorstius being stationed in Bucks county, Mr. Rieger in the neighborhood of Lancaster, and Mr. Weiss in the region of Old Goshenhopen.

On the 13th of October a ministerial meeting was held in the city of Philadelphia, at which all the above-named were present, with the exception of Mr. Dorstius, who excused his absence by a friendly letter. Of the doings of this first convention of German Reformed ministers in this country, nothing farther is known, than that the benevolent action of the Synod of Holland was properly appreciated and it unanimously agreed to receive and follow their Instructions.

Agreeably to these Instructions and with a view to the objects therein specified, Mr. Schlatter as early as possible, set about visiting the already existing Churches. And during the remaining months of the year, the following in Pennsylvania, east of the Susquehanna, were visited, and after each had pledged itself to make up annually a certain specified sum toward the support of a regular minister, were, by uniting those most contiguous to each other, formed into pastoral charges, viz: Philadelphia and Germantown—Tolpehocken and adjoining congregation—Lancaster—Providence—Old Goshenhopen and Great Swamp—Indian Creek, Whitpen and Ship-pack.

As showing the feeling and interest exhibited on those occasions, take the following respecting Tolpehocken:—"This congregation, numbering over 100 members, had never yet, on account of the great want of laborers, enjoyed the services of a stationed minister; but had to be satisfied hitherto, by being visited twice a year by the aged Mr. Boehm, who to do so, had to ride each time a distance of 80 miles. On the occasion of Mr. Schlatter's visit, it so happened, that besides the minister just named, Mr. Weiss also was present. Mr. Schlatter preached to a crowded house; and after services and business transactions were concluded, wrote it is said, the following in his Journal:—"The congregation listened to the preaching of the word with great attention and seriousness, and one could read in their very countenances the burning desire after edification and a better ecclesiastical arrangement, as well as the ardent hope of being long supplied with a regular pastor. The good people knew not how sufficiently to express their great joy in seeing at one time three ministers among them, something they had never in their lives before seen; and young & old were affected even to weeping."—Or the following, written after his return to Philadelphia and having reference to all the congregations and neighborhoods thus far visited:

"In closing my travels in this first year, I must say, that in the different places in which I have been, I met with many sincere and truly godly people, and have been deeply affected in listening to their lamentations over the sad state of their brethren, and the unoffending children, in that the former were without all ecclesiastical oversight and nourishment for their souls, while the latter, on account of the great want of faithful teachers and pastors, were left to go on for years without instruction in the leading principles of religion, and thus liable to fall into the hands of dangerous sects, and to be drawn away by every species of error. At the same time, have I every where observed the highest regard for the impressive and consoling Instructions of the Synods of Holland. Scarcely in any place, did I read them without seeing tears trickle down some cheeks and hearing expressions of gratitude to God for having disposed

the hearts of so many pious and excellent men in the Netherlands, to feel on their behalf and thus forsaken orphans to compassionate them. As it regards myself, I have again and again had ocular demonstration, that God in his all-superintending providence, brought me with my Instructions to this and that place, at precisely the right time."

It was not long before Mr. S. found himself admonished that what he had accomplished in the way of visiting congregations and destitute regions, was indeed little, compared with what remained still to be done; for letters and deputies from congregations and destitute neighborhoods (several of which deputies had travelled, though it was in the middle of the winter, from two to three hundred miles) arrived almost daily, praying for spiritual help. As soon, therefore, as the weather began to moderate, tours to other neighborhoods were undertaken, and during the spring and summer of 1747 were added as regularly constituted, to the congregations already visited, the following:—Mannocacy and Conewago—York—Maiden creek, Coalcoke and White-Oakland—Saucon, Delaware Forks, and Springfield and Lehigh—Heidelberg, Egypt and Jordan—Magunshy, Allemangel and Smaltzass.

It may be interesting to some, to state here, that during his visit to the two first named churches, Mr. S. after preaching, administered the ordinance of Baptism to 51 children—26 in Mannocacy and 25 in Conewago;—the ceremony, in the latter place, being performed under the open Canopy, because there was no house in the neighborhood of sufficient dimensions to contain the large concourse of people who were anxious to witness the administration of this solemn ordinance.

The congregation at York had been supplied since 1745 by the Rev. Jacob Lishy but was at the same time, owing to some difficulties, without regular preaching; though some time after, Mr. Lishy again took charge of it, as a regular German Reformed minister.

On the 9th of September 1747 a convention was held in Philadelphia, to which besides the ministers, had been invited also the Elders of the different German Reformed Churches. This meeting, which may be looked upon as the first regularly constituted Synod, was composed of 31 members. It was opened with a Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Rieger from Ps. 133. Of the proceedings of this Synod, which were transmitted to Holland, nothing is known, save that a committee was appointed, composed of Rev. Messrs. Schlatter and Rieger, to enquire into and settle if possible the difficulty existing in the congregation at York, to which duty they attended, and the following spring succeeded in happily adjusting the matter. It may perhaps not be amiss, while touching on this subject to state, that the difficulty alluded to, was between the congregation and their minister—he being thought to incline toward the views of another denomination.—A circumstance showing us how strongly our ancestors in this country, were attached to the standards of their own Church—that what they desired was not merely to be supplied, but to be supplied with ministers of their own creed.

During the fall of 1747, were visited also, a number of congregations in New Jersey, where, according to their letter, the Lord's supper had not been administered, nor a baptism performed for three years. During this visit, the congregations at Rockaway and Fox-hill were formed into a pastoral charge; though, as in most other cases, still left without a minister.

In the spring of 1748, Mr. Schlatter directed his course into Maryland and Virginia, whence pressing solicitations had been received for some time. The first German Reformed congregation not previously visited, was the congregation in Frederick, Md. Thence he proceeded, in company with an elder, to Virginia; crossing over the Blue Ridge, on and around which the Indian then still pursued his chase, and the dreary and wild appearance of which regions generally, may be inferred from their having met on their journey large bodies of deer, as well as numerous flocks of wild turkeys. On the Shenandoah River they found a German Reformed congregation, to which Mr. S. preached; and from thence they proceeded 42 miles farther, to New Germantown, where he likewise preached to a body of Reformed members.

On his return, Mr. Schlatter administered the Lord's supper in the congregation at Frederick, Md.; and we may be excused for introducing here his own account of the interest and feeling exhibited on that occasion, as from it may be seen how little the founders and early members of our Reformed Zion in this country, could be charged with a cold, stiff formality, and at the same time, that deep as was the devotional feeling which oft pervaded the assemblies, their meetings were yet not the less free from disorder and noise:—

On the 15th (May), says Mr. Schlatter, I preached at Fredericktown, and stood in the new unfinished church, behind a table on which were arranged the sealing ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's supper. As I was collecting my mind for the introductory Prayer and saw the tears rolling over the cheeks of the anxious (heilsbegierigen) congregation, my heart was singularly possessed and enkindled with love, so that I fell on my knees, as did also the whole congregation, and was enabled with much power and love and earnest supplication to commit to the Great God the house and congregation, and to implore upon them his blessing. After the sermon, I administered the Lord's supper to 97 communicants, baptized a number of adults and children, married 3 couple, and installed new Elders and Deacons. All which exercises were performed amid great silence, deep reverence and with much stirring up of heart and mind to general edification.

During the summer and fall of this year three Reformed ministers from Holland arrived, viz: Messrs. Bartholomew, Hochreutner and Leydich. Mr. H. received a call to Tolpehocken; Mr. H. to Lancaster; and Mr. L. to Providence and Falconer Swamp. On the 29th of September, 1748 another meeting of Synod was held in Philadelphia, at which were present 6 ministers and 12 Elders. At this meeting all of the above named calls were confirmed. Mr. Hochreutner, however never reached his field of labor, a sad occurrence, viz: the accidental discharge of a gun, which out of precaution he was about to unload, depriving him suddenly of life, while he was on the point of leaving to preach his Introductory Sermon, his horse being already before the door.

In the year 1749 the aged Mr. Boehm was called from his labors by death. In the fall of this year another minister arrived from Europe, Rev. J. C. Seiner, of the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland. The Synod met in Philadelphia on the 20th of October and was composed of 5 ministers and 16 elders.

On the 13th of December, a special meeting of Synod was held to take into consideration the state of the Church and to adopt measures to supply, if possible, the vacant congregations, who from every quarter were

sending up the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us!" As many of the communications to Holland had been lost and they saw not that their wants could be supplied from any other quarter, it was resolved unanimously, that Mr. Schlatter should visit Holland and in person, present the condition of the German Reformed Churches in this country and implore their assistance. Complying with the request of Synod, Mr. Schlatter embarked, and arrived in Holland in April 1751.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

York, Pa., Dec. 14, 1840.

For the Weekly Messenger.

## A brief view of the union of the two natures in Christ.

When men are thrown upon beds of "anguishing and pain" they usually manifest much solicitude about their future recovery. Their manner of diet, the properties of the prescribed medicine, and above all the character of the physician must be known. So the children of men, who have all kinds of spiritual maladies raging within them which must terminate not in temporal but in eternal death if not speedily removed, should be careful to examine the ground on which to place their hopes of immortality. Christ is the only physician who can cure us of our spiritual diseases, and restore us to the enjoyment of God's favour: and here the question arises: why is he the only one to be found in the whole universe who can accomplish this great work—the only one who can save the human family? We answer because he is God, and yet "is touched with the feeling of our infirmities"—because he is God, and yet is personally united with humanity.

We shall mention but three reasons why the doctrine of a personal union between the Son of God and humanity may be relied on—

I. The sacred scriptures teach that the SAME PERSON performed both divine and human acts in his own name. The Saviour ate, drank, and slept; yet the same person miraculously multiplied the loaves of bread and turned water into wine. He was in every respect just as we are, sin excepted: yet he restored sight to the blind—hearing to the deaf—motion to the palsied—and even life to the dead. He spoke with human lips; yet his words were sayings of undivided wisdom. He saw with human eyes; yet he saw with the broad eye of omniscience. He had arms of flesh; yet there was the arm of omnipotence. He had power "to lay down his own life," and power "to take it up again." He had a human face: but from that countenance beamed forth the mild rays of the Deity's love. In the epistle of Paul to the Hebrews (1. 8, 9) "It is said to the Son, thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of the kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity: therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." This scripture is just in point. Here the son is declared God: for the throne of God alone can endure for ever: and He is likewise declared man by his anointing: for God can have no fellows. It is the same person the same "He" of whom both divinity and humanity are predicated.

II. This doctrine does not contradict reason. It is certainly not unreasonable that the scriptures should demand of us the exercise of faith: for it is by this grace alone that the righteousness of Christ is imputed unto us; but if there were no mysterious doctrine in him to believe, what need then would there be of faith? Those truths which are evident to the senses need no the exercise of faith. There is no faith necessary for me to believe that I am now seated at the side of a table. The fact, therefore, that this doctrine is mysterious (furnishes no argument of its unreasonableness. We often make for ourselves difficulties where there are none, by confusing certain terms. In common language we are in the habit of using the terms "Person" and "Individual" as synonymous. The expression: "This person did so" and "this individual did so" convey the same ideas. This is not so in science. Here the difference between these terms is as great as that between "men" and "animal," for all will readily agree that no animal is a person; while it may be said with all propriety that an animal is an individual; and at the same time that a man is both a person and an individual. So likewise we are wont to consider the terms "person" and "nature" as concrete. With such a view, however, it must be a decided contradiction to say that there are three persons in the Godhead or that there are two persons in Christ. In Theology, according to our view, the "Person" means nothing more than the centre of self-consciousness, the "I" which may make itself the object of its own reflections. It is of course connected with nature; but is nevertheless to be distinguished from it as the directing centre of the whole being. If, for example, we look upon a man while asleep, we see nature active in all her functions. The blood circulates, the lungs breathe, and the mind dreams; but the "I," the directing centre of all these activities is wanting. This man while asleep may be said to be without Personality. This centre, this "I," of which we speak, connects the body and soul and directs all their energies through consciousness; and this union of personal consciousness cannot be destroyed either by its own elements, or by the reception of new ones. Just as it is impossible to conceive of a circle without a centre, so we can have no idea of consciousness without personality. For this reason we find that the union of personal consciousness remains, no matter how great the changes which must be undergone. When we compare a man in his old age with what he was in infancy we find no similarity; yet he is the same person now that he was then. So too after his tenement of clay has crumbled to the dust and his spirit returned to God who gave it, the union of his personal consciousness is still preserved. By taking this view of the term under consideration, it certainly cannot be unreasonable to suppose that the Divine Personality could adopt (or rather receive into itself) human nature. The humanity of our Saviour however is not without personality, but the personality of the man is that of Christ.

III. Were the union not personal, then the difficulties in the way of the sinner's salvation would not be removed. Were the union of Deity with humanity like that of two liquids, which flowing into each other form a third whose properties differ entirely from the former two, no reconciliation between God and man could be effected: The being thus formed would neither be God nor man: his nature would be heterogeneous to both. Such a being to say the least must be a creature; and no creature is at his own disposal, but is subject to the laws of God; and consequently cannot become our righteousness, much less a sacrifice for our sins: He could not intercede for us in heaven, nor could we approach him "boldly" in prayer. Were the union between the man Jesus and the eternal Son of God merely moral: such as subsisted between God and Moses, for example, no reconciliation could still be effected. The value of atonement would thus still depend upon the suffer-

ings of a creature. But how then could the storms of Jehovah's wrath be staid—the thunders of his broken law be hushed—and the mouth of the yawning pit be closed. But admit a personal union, then all these difficulties vanish. Then we understand the scriptures when they say that, "God purchased the church with his own blood" (Acts. 20, 28); and that "the Lord of glory was crucified" (1 Cor. 2, 8.) By this union the distance between God and our guilt was annihilated. The heavens and the earth meet: through Christ we now hold communion with the Deity.—This is our true dignity. Just as iron is refined by fire (which elements remain distinct as to their nature when the one pervades the other) so the dignity of human nature is ennobled by its personal union with the divine. And just as the atmosphere is illumined by the light of the sun pervading it, so human nature is now elevated to the region of divine light.

K.

## THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

CHAMBERSBURG, DECEMBER 23, 1840.

## To Correspondents.

We are compelled to lay over several communications, which we had marked for insertion in our paper of this week. They shall appear shortly.

While on this subject, we will take the occasion to express our acknowledgements to our new correspondents, who have favored us with many valuable communications. We are pleased to find, that many of those who have abilities for usefulness in this way, are disposed to employ them. We hope many others will do the same. Why should the "Weekly Messenger" not have four or five columns of original communications every week throughout the whole year? And how much interest would it not add to its columns!

## The Centenary Hymn.

This hymn, which was published in last week's paper, by Mrs. Peirson, (well known to our readers as "Lydia Jane"), is generally well received.—Our correspondent "J. W. N." passes an encomium upon it, which we think it justly deserves—and an acknowledgement from him would not be given on very slight grounds.

## The Education Scheme—\$5 plan.

Our idea has all along been, that the \$5. plan to the Education cause for five years to come, should be considered in the light of a Centenary gift, now that the first payment just becomes due with the beginning of the Centenary year. It is so understood generally—and hence we hope, that there will be no more halting on the subject. "J. W. N." has a few remarks on this point, to which we direct the reader, only adding, that with him, we sincerely desire to see the scheme completed forthwith. Fifteen or twenty youthful (or other) subscribers more, and it is done. Shall it not be completed by January, 1841? Who says—Yes?

The second No. of "Schlatter's Journal," by our correspondent "N. R." came too late to be inserted in the present number.

## The Centenary effort should be General.

The success of efforts for the accomplishment of any particular object, is determined, in a great measure, by the manner in which they are put forth. From the want of attention to this important fact, many a good cause is made to suffer prodigiously, notwithstanding many and powerful efforts in its behalf are continually made by its friends. There is such a thing as laboring hard and yet accomplishing but little; and also, on the other hand, of laboring comparatively little, and yet accomplishing much. These different results depend altogether upon the manner in which the labor is applied. The same amount of effort can be made to effect much or little, according to the advantage or disadvantage to which it has been employed. Skill then and effort, properly combined, are essential to success in every enterprise, and whenever these are untiedly employed in a good cause, they cannot fail, under the blessing of God, of producing the most glorious results.

The above remarks have suggested themselves to us, whilst reflecting upon the probable success of the Centenary enterprise upon which the German Reformed Church has recently embarked. We entertain no fears as to the final result; nor do we apprehend that powerful and vigorous effort will be wanting on the part of the friends of the Church. The most favorable anticipations in this respect are confidently indulged. At the same time however, we are fully aware that in order to realize all that is expected and desired, it is necessary not only that much effort be put forth, but also that that effort be properly directed. If there is any thing that will occasion a disappointment of our expectations, it must originate from a deficiency with respect to the latter particular. The Church is more than equal to the task which she has marked out for herself, and it can be expected with certainty, that her friends will be active in endeavoring to promote the specific object in view; and lest there should be any deficiency in the respect adverted to, we feel ourselves called upon to hold up the subject, in every such light, as will be likely to exert some influence towards preventing this result.

The particular point to which we wish the above reflections to be applied, and which we desire to present a little more specifically, is the necessity of making the effort in behalf of the Centenary enterprise as general as possible. The acceptance in which we employ the term general, comprehends in it much. We will endeavor to explain what we mean. The idea which we wish to convey is, that the efforts in behalf of the Centenary enterprise should not be confined to any particular portion or even portions of the Church; or to any particular class of individuals. It should extend throughout every portion of the Church and to every class of persons, and should be a specific object at which we aim to bring about this mode of operation.

Every Classis should perform a prominent

and distinctive part as such. The same course should be pursued by every charge; yea every individual congregation should assume for itself its own portion of the work, and manifest a proper zeal and spirit in performing it. Every distinctive body in the Church, however small it may be, should have its specific share in the great enterprise. Thus should the work be general, as it respects the field of operation. But it ought not to stop here.—Every class of persons ought to be engaged in it. No minister should fail to perform his part. Every member of our church-councils should be "up and doing." Every member of the Church, and every friend of the cause, should participate in the labor. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, should all lend their assistance. None whatsoever should be passed by.

This is the kind of effort, which we should like to see put forth, in prosecuting the enterprise before us. It has every thing to recommend it to special attention. Were it to be adopted and prosecuted with vigour, under the smiles of a kind Providence, our enterprise cannot fail. It must be crowned with the most abundant success.

We are aware that some particular fields possess in themselves a greater amount of importance than others; but none are without some value and influence; and even that of the smallest account is of too much consequence to be lost. And besides, minor and less important portions of the Church should be permitted to share in the blessed influences, which the particular operations connected with this great enterprise are calculated to exert, as well as those of a larger size and greater account. It is desirable, also, to secure as many donations of a large amount as possible, and it is to be hoped that many such will be received. But at the same time, we should not fail to gather up the "mites." These, in the end, when collected and combined, may and often do constitute a greater amount, than what is obtained in larger sums. To accomplish the great object in view, so far as the endowment of our institutions is concerned, every thing that can be obtained will be needed.

The Methodists realized vast sums of money for different benevolent purposes from their Centenary effort, more in proportion to their strength and ability, than we have marked out for ourselves. Whilst they obtained many large subscriptions, the greater portion of the amount raised, was made up by small contributions. The effort which they put forth, was of that general character, which we are recommending, and is characteristic of them in all their operations. The true secret of their success is given in that pithy and apposite remark of one of their own number, "all at it, and always at it." This same truth is corroborated by the experience of all benevolent institutions. A very small portion of the vast amount that is annually received by the most prominent Missionary associations, Education societies, &c., is obtained in large donations. The greater amount is made up of contributions small in themselves. Yet in the aggregate, they constitute very considerable sums. In like manner, we may expect, in case the same course of procedure is adopted, to realize as great an amount from donations small in themselves, as from those of a larger order.

## Advent of Christ.

In a few days Christmas will be ushered in, and the Christian world reminded of the birth of Christ, the "Son of the highest." Uncertain as is the precise birth-day of the Saviour of mankind, we may all, nevertheless, unite our hearts in joyful commemoration of the glorious event on that day, which, by common consent, has been fixed upon by the Church for generations past, as the Day-star on this our dark and sin-laden world.

It is the birth-day of the Christian's hope.—When all within him is dark and drear—when sin and Satan assault—when the world frowns upon him, he looks to Bethlehem's plains, and listens to the joyful proclamation of the angels: "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people"—it is the "Savior," even "CHRIST THE LORD"—the Christian's Lord and Redeemer, whose birth occasioned these welcome notes, sung by heavenly messengers on earth. And shall Christians not rejoice "in hope of the glory of God," now revealed and by them believed?

It also reveals the Love of God to sinners in its brightest developments, and here that development began. Here it first shone on earth. Here its dawn commenced, which terminated on the Cross. Here the "Star of Bethlehem" arose—that star, which still guides to eternal rest.

Rejoice, then, Christian, on this blest—this auspicious day. Angels bid thee rejoice. Rejoice, however, "in the Lord"—not in and with the "world." Let it be the hallowed, elevated and pure joy; such, as will make thee more like angels—like the glorified spirits—more like GOD HIMSELF.

## Information wanted.

Lewis Hotel recently of Cedar Creek, Frederick county, Va., the P. Master informs us, has removed to the West. As he owes \$5 for the Messenger, we will be glad, if some friend of the Establishment, will inform us of his residence.

Levi Riman, Joseph Dotson, and Ephraim Rinker, formerly of Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah county, Va., have also, the P. Master informed us some time ago, removed. We wrote immediately soliciting information with regard to their present residence, but have thus far ascertained nothing. The first owes us \$8, the second \$5, and the third \$4. We shall be glad to hear from them.

We so frequently receive information from Post Masters of the removal of subscribers, who owe us from 4 to 10 or 12 dollars, that we feel ourselves obliged to resort to the present method of ascertaining their residence.

and of obtaining from them our just dues.—Persons who act thus dishonestly, though it may be in some instances through sheer negligence, deserve to be exposed, so that others may be prevented from being imposed upon in a similar manner. Our present course is painful to us, but it is the only remedy we have left.

## The new Cabinet.

The New York Com. Advertiser asserts upon authentic information, that the office of Secretary of State has been tendered to Daniel Webster, and that of Attorney General, to Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky. It is also asserted, that Mr. Ewing will be appointed Postmaster General, altho' doubts are entertained of his acceptance.

"Historical Sketch of the Ger. Reformed Church, &c." This sketch will be read with interest by all our ministers and people. See second page.

## "Brownlee's Letters on Baptism."

We have frequently been requested by correspondents in different sections of the State, to publish these Essays in pamphlet form, if permission to do so could be obtained from the Rev. Author.—Several gentlemen have lately expressed their willingness, to defray the expenses of a limited edition themselves; and as the consent of Dr. Brownlee has now been obtained, we are willing to publish an Edition in the course of a month or two. As the Essays are not yet complete (the Defence of Infant Baptism not having yet been delivered) we are not prepared to say with any degree of precision, what the size or the cost of the work will be—but presume, that the latter will not exceed from 25 to 37½ cents a copy.

Persons wishing any number of copies, will do well to let us know soon, as we do not intend to strike off a much larger edition than may be wanted at once. Persons at a distance, enclosing a round sum, shall receive the full amount in books, besides a discount to those who order by the dozen or hundred.

From the oft-repeated enquiry for the numbers of the "Weekly Messenger" containing these Essays, as well as from direct commendations by others, we have no doubt, that this little work will take exceedingly well. The fact that it says much with few words—and that it contains the substance of all that can, perhaps, be said on the subject, will necessarily render it acceptable to hundreds, who would not think of reading a large Octavo Volume.

## "The Christian World."

The December number of this periodical has been lying on our table for several weeks past, but amid the mass of duties which crowd upon us, it was left unnoticed. We cannot even now say, that we have perused the various articles which it contains—but this we can say, that it is filled with a pleasing variety, and that it lacks nothing in appearance from the two former numbers.

The following is the table of contents in the present number:—

## BIBLE CHRISTIANITY.

Farther Excerpts from Chillingworth. De Moribus. By Rev. Augustus Webster.

## CONNECTIONS OF CHRISTIANITY.

Education.—The Foundations of Society, by Rev. Augustus Webster. Government.—Democracy and religion, Blackwood's Magazine. Literature.—Democracy and Poetry, Blackwood's Magazine.

## Christianity and Fiction.

Poetry.—Christianity and Poetry. "The Grave." London Quarterly. Art.—Christianity and Art. London Quarterly. Philosophy.—Christianity and Pantheism, —Carlisle. London Quarterly.

## MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

Literary Notices.—Literary Amaranth, by N. C. Brooks, Esq. Life of Milne, by Robert Philip. The Listener, by Caroline Fry.—Sermons, by Rev. H. Blunt. Voice of the Jews.—Anon. The Absent Mother, by Mrs. E. H. Evans. Miseries of War, from American Quarterly Register. Editorial.—Reply to the "Emancipator." Religious Intelligence.—Monthly Record of all Churches.

## A Query.

"Messrs. Editors:—In the Messenger of October 21, one of your correspondents makes use of the term "quackery;" the meaning of which has puzzled several of your subscribers a little. Will the writer of the communication in which that term is employed be so good as to add a word of explanation? I fear that some have construed it in a way not intended, perhaps, by the writer." F.

## Unkindness.

If a traveller, in a dark night, were to knock at the door, who would refuse him admittance? Yet the Savior comes to the sinner's heart, and knocks until his head is wet with dew, and his locks with the drops of the night, but the door is barred against him! And yet this heavenly visitor comes with the richest of gifts—comes to offer him the heir-ship of an incorruptible inheritance—comes to grant him everlasting life.

Sinners, turn, why will you die? God your maker asks you why.

## From the Christian Mirror.

## The land of the Reformers.

The regions where Zuinglius and Calvin prayed and labored, seem to be overrun by a very dry and lifeless religion. The sovereign council of the Canton of Vaud have abolished the ancient and pious confession of the Swiss churches, and promulgated a law which, in fact, suppresses every church of the establishment, and considers the ministers and pastors in no other light than as civil officers, charged by law to teach and preach the doctrines which the law prescribes. Even the temples of God are desecrated. For the very building where the Conference of the Reformation was held, the descendants of the Reformers of the 16th century yielded themselves to the most licentious mockery and profanation. These and other facts are stated in a letter received by Mr. Kirk from Dr. Malan of Geneva, who solicits the aid of American Christians in that country, to save from "quenching the spark which is left."

## Messrs. Editors:

Much is said now-a-days, in our paper on the subject of the proposed Centenary. Well, if you have no objections, I will say a little something too. With regard to raising funds for the permanent endowment of our Institutions, much has been well and ably written. On that subject therefore I shall not dwell.

We are told in our Circular, that one object in holding said celebration is, "That the Church may thus be made better acquainted with itself." Very well. Pope says, "Know thou thyself," and the wisdom of the remark has fully entered into the experience of every rightly cultivated mind. Let us, then, as a Church, know ourselves. But how can we, "except some man teach us?" Would it not be well therefore, for some one qualified for the undertaking, (and doubtless we have many such) to furnish us with a succinct history of our Church from its earliest existence as a separate organization, down to the present time. Nay, from the ever memorable era in which the first blow was struck for the defence of that truth we yet preach, by the immortal, "the Apostolic Reformer of Switzerland," who fought doubly armed—with the "sword of the spirit," and a sword of steel, and fell doubly covered—covered with his own blood and covered with glory. Such a history would perhaps, be of service even to Ministers, and if accompanied with some remarks by way of comment, might afford much valuable matter for the pulpit.

Subjects and texts might also be pointed out, the discussion of which would tend greatly to enhance the interest of our Centenary sermons. Reasons might also be urged why the members of the Church should contribute, and contribute cheerfully, to the aid of those Institutions, which are thus, as it were, cast forth to sink or swim upon her liberality. I have thus endeavored briefly to point out what I humbly conceive to be the best mode of furthering the great enterprise in which every member of the Church is, and of right ought to be fairly enlisted. Each should feel that his honor or disgrace, if not guilt, is associated with its completion or failure. And if the above remarks meet with approbation, the hope is fondly cherished, that whatever is done may be done speedily. Subjects suggested to the mind ought to be given early, so as to afford time for mature reflection.

Suffer me to remark in conclusion, that I have often thought a little history of the Holy-days, through the medium of the Messenger, might be acceptable to many of your readers. The reasons why they are observed as festivals, the object at which we should aim in their observance; suitable texts, &c., &c. Let it be borne in mind, that in order successfully to push forward any enterprise, or rightly to observe any Institution, correct information is indispensably requisite. Give us light, therefore, and if the cause be good, and our hearts right with God, we shall soon arrive at a temperature sufficiently warm, to command all our energies, and enable us to "quit ourselves like men." D. C.

Lexington, Dec. 4th, 1840.

**REMARKS ON THE ABOVE.**—We are pleased to see the spirit of inquiry, which the above communication manifests. It shows, that the Centenary spirit has already reached North Carolina, and we presume will soon blaze and burn all around, especially after our brethren there shall "arrive at a temperature sufficiently warm." The physical temperature around us, just now, (Saturday morning, 6 o'clock,) is quite "sufficiently" cold—the thermometer being nearly down to zero. And if the keen, biting North-Eastern blast should have reached the far South ere this reaches them, we hope our friends there will have received some of the "light and heat" which we and our correspondents have, for the last few weeks, been trying to send out. One of our correspondents has been giving subjects to a minister, and the next will perhaps, be texts, from which to preach on the Centenary effort. In regard to the History of the Church—that too, has been taken hold of in some of the late numbers of our paper; something is added in this week's paper, and more may be expected.

In reference to the *Holy-days*, we have not now time to say much. Our correspondent, we presume, is aware, that the Ref. Church does not, like some other Churches, consider the observance of any religious Festival—be it Christmas, Easter, or any one else—as of Divine obligation. But being, by common consent, set apart as *Holy-days*, the majority of her ministers, if not all, endeavor to improve these seasons to religious purposes. This we think is perfectly right. Why may we not collect together, for instance, on Christmas-day, and improve the glorious remembrance of a Savior's birth? Why not give an opportunity to the thousands in our towns and cities and neighborhoods, to spend at least part of a day in the Sanctuary of God, when many of them at least, would otherwise spend the whole day in idleness and perhaps folly and sin? Very frequently, too, such days are chosen to hold missionary and other benevolent anniversaries in the congregation. Those ministers who wish to improve such festivals in a religious way among their people, cannot be at a loss what texts to choose, because any text having reference to the advent of the Savior will furnish matter suitable to the occasion—the proclamation of his birth by the Angels—the prophecy of Isaiah (chap. 9: 6, et seq.) and innumerable passages, afford an abundance of it. This festival being just now at hand, we have alluded to it, rather than to any other. We hope some of our correspondents will hereafter take up this subject—or in default thereof, we will. In regard to the Centenary, we suppose our correspondent will also, in due time, receive all the information he desires.

[Editors.]

For the Weekly Messenger.

Messrs. Editors:

I am much pleased with the idea, that the Church is provided, in good time, with a suitable Hymn for the use of the Centenary. I had feared, that the wish expressed in relation to this point, would either not be answered at all, or answered in a way which might not satisfy the demands of good taste. Mrs. Peirson, it seems to me, has conferred a great favor on the Church at large, by meeting so happily as she has done the requisitions of the case. She has given us a good hymn, of proper length, touching the proper points, breathing the right spirit for such an occasion, without affectation or effort,

and worthy in all respects of being sung in the most cultivated as well as in the plainest of our congregations. I trust its power will be felt by thousands of hearts, kindling within them a generous enthusiasm for the German name, and stirring them up to a large and liberal zeal in favor of the interests with which it is at this time especially connected. If we can get other hymns as good, it will be all very well. A dozen of them would do us no harm.

Why is it, that the \$5. plan, in favor of benevolent education, moves so heavily? In the midst of the large ideas and calculations which are now entertained in every direction, it seems almost reproachful to have that defective list of pledges starting one in the face every week. It is so small a matter, that a single week might seem to be enough for carrying it through. I imagine, that many persons must have become a little close for the present, under the idea of husbanding all their strength for a grand effort on the Centenary. They will do nothing just now, because they wish to do something shortly that shall tell towards the \$100,000, which is to be secured next year. But it should be remembered, that the subscriptions in this "Plan to raise \$500 a year for five years," all belong to the Centenary effort, and must be counted in with its results as a matter of course. Every subscriber pledges, under this form, \$25 to the Centenary, & is entitled to credit so far in the report of what shall be done in the congregation, to which he or she may belong. If the individual should do still more at the Centenary meeting, it must be added to this pledge, so that credit shall be had for the whole.

Now, under this view, it might be hoped that the \$5. plan under consideration, would be sufficiently provided for, if it were left only to our children, to see it through. It should be counted the privilege and right of the youngest no less than of older persons, to give, during the Centenary; & there are hundreds of them, who would be delighted to take shares in this *juvenile* concern, if they only had the opportunity.

By the way, are not all subscriptions and pledges heretofore given towards benevolent interests, but not yet due, to be counted in our Centenary contributions? Some churches, during the past year, have subscribed handsomely towards the College or Seminary. They are ready now no doubt, to do a great deal more. But I take it for granted, that what they already stand pledged for, will go along with what they shall do additionally, in the general report of their action. It is only in this way, that a fair representation can be had of the actual liberality of different sections of the Church.

J. W. N.

For the Weekly Messenger.

## What is the Centenary?

"Father, what is the Centenary?" asked Mary Traxler, as she sat by the table, looking up from the newspaper she was reading by candle light.

"Centenary! why what paper have you come across, Mary?" inquired her father, who sat warming his fingers by the store, having just come in from disposing of his horses for the night, as he had been absent with them the whole day at the mill.

"It is called the Weekly Messenger," she said, "and I think it must have been dropped by Squire Schlosser, for I found it on the floor immediately after he had called with us a few minutes, on his way home from town; and I have been reading it ever since, but it is mostly all about the Centenary, and I cannot make out what that means. I never heard the name before. Father, what is the Centenary?"

"Mary," cried her father a little sternly, "I fear you are growing too fond of politics. I do not want you to read such stuff, but for ladies to be taken up with such matters is all wrong. You had better go out and help your mother to twist the dough-nuts."

The fact is, Mr. Traxler hardly knew the meaning of the word Centenary himself, and his sternness towards his daughter was assumed rather to hide his own ignorance than from any displeasure towards herself. As soon, therefore, as she had gone to assist her mother in the kitchen, he took up the paper and pored over it the whole evening, but with all his reading, he was unable to make out the meaning of the word. He discovered, however, that in mentioning politics he had missed the mark, inasmuch as the Centenary seemed not to be a political, but a religious celebration. Still he could not, for his life, make out its time, place, nor occasion.

Mr. Traxler was a farmer of considerable substance, and well acquainted with matters and things in general. Indeed he was often consulted by some of his neighbors on law questions; and it was generally supposed that, in the course of years, he would run as a candidate for the Legislature. Even at home, his wife and daughter had a high opinion of his acquirements; and, therefore, it would never have done for him to have confessed before them his ignorance of the word Centenary. I might remark, by the way, that his name should properly be written and pronounced *Drechsler*, but it had suffered something in its letters, in being accommodated to the English. Certainly wrongfully, for proper names are not to be altered or translated; & German appellations especially loose mouth of their import and become light by being Anglicized. Thus *Zimmerman* strikes the ear of taste more pleasant than *Carpenter*; and, in the present case, *Drechsler* than *Traxler*; which last is, however, better than if it were wholly metamorphosed into *Turner*.

The next morning, after breakfast, Mr. Traxler took occasion to walk over to Squire Schlosser's for the ostensible purpose of returning the newspaper and borrowing some bags, but, in reality to learn the meaning of the word. He cared not, however, to seem curious on the subject, or even to let his neighbor know his wish, but after having conversed on various topics, as if he thought had just struck him, he remarked:

"By the way, Squire, how do you feel disposed towards the Centenary?"

"The Centenary!" replied the Squire, "I feel disposed to fall into the measure heartily. It is an event we should all take occasion to celebrate, as we shall never have another opportunity. I feel extremely happy, Mr. Traxler, in being thus allowed to rise up with a whole denomination of Christians, who though scattered through this and other States, have resolved with one voice, to express their gratitude to God for their prosperity. I rejoice that I have lived to see the day; and I think we should all engage, heart and hand, in the jubilee."

"I think so too, Squire," responded Mr. Traxler, "I think the Church should have her rejoicings as well as political parties theirs. We should certainly have processions through the day and illuminations at night. I feel myself disposed to burn a tar barrel or two on the occasion. But where is this convention to be held?"

"Convention and tar barrels!" cried the Squire, "why, neighbor, you have certainly

mistaken the matter. You seem to be not aware of the real nature of the jubilee."

"To confess the truth," he replied, "I am some-what ignorant of its nature. The fact is my time unoccupied by the farm, has been so wholly taken up with attending conventions, raising liberty poles, and hearing the speeches, that, with me, Church matters have been out of the question. We live in a republican government, you know, Squire, and every good citizen should read the papers and attend to politics, for the good of his country. But now, the struggle being over, I confess I feel my time hang a little heavy on my hands, and having more important matters to attend to, I feel inclined to hear something about the Centenary."

"More important matters!" cried the Squire, "and do you really set politics before religion? If you wish for party excitement, Mr. Traxler, I fear the Centenary will hardly satisfy you. Its influence is of a holier and happier sort. Political conventions may return, like Olympiads, every fourth year, and in individual States we may now expect them every year, but the Centenary comes only after a hundred years. The year 1841 has been set apart as the grand festival of the German Reformed Church on the completion of her first century in the United States. What occasion can be more important! But to fit ourselves for entering on it properly, we should cultivate a devotional spirit, and call to mind the many blessings which, in times past, have been showered on us and our fathers. To qualify ourselves for this too we should be made acquainted with the present state and history of the Church. We should, therefore, attend all the meetings, as many discourses will be delivered on the subject, and subscribe for the Messenger or Zeitschrift, as these will give us weekly information on her past history and present proceedings. To show his sincerity too, every member is about to bring forward his thank offering on the occasion. In illuminations and parades, much money is often expended for present gratification, without lasting benefit; but these contributions are to be devoted to the raising of a College edifice, and the endowment of our Theological Seminary at Mercersburg. The Egyptians raised pyramids for posterity to look at, but with no further advantage; but these Institutions are designed to educate our sons and pour abroad over the land a pious and educated ministry. Learning of itself is beneficial to a country, but when joined with religion, it forms the very life of our social system. But farther, Mr. Traxler, by giving, we benefit ourselves as well as others. Favors are not only the consequence of our good feeling, but the cause of better ones towards those on whom we have bestowed them. To be sure, we cannot confer favors on our Maker, as all we have is his, but when he permits us while making presents to others, to act in accordance with his wishes, it fills our hearts not only with benevolence towards them, but with love for him. It breaks up the sordid selfishness of our nature, and suffers our sympathies to go abroad and our piety to reach upward. It stirs up our philanthropy, and we are not ashamed any more to look a benevolent man in the face. Why, Mr. Traxler, since I have thought of giving for this object I feel a richer man by a great deal, than I even thought myself before. I would not now exchange the satisfaction I enjoy, in being about to do my duty and thus secure the approval of my conscience, for twice the amount of my contribution. It strikes me, Mr. Traxler, that in generations yet to come, our children, reaping the advantages of our celebration will look back with reverence on those who were actively engaged in it, and they will consider it the highest honor to be able to trace their ancestry to any whose name may be written in the Big Book of our Centenary."

"I fall in with your sentiments, Squire, exactly," responded Mr. Traxler, "and I think we should all give something handsome on the occasion. I make no doubt it would make us all feel happier. I would not hesitate to give even ten or twenty dollars myself."

"Ten or twenty dollars!" cried the Squire, "I believe we are each of us worth about twelve thousand dollars a piece, and considering the greatness of the object, the cause of gratitude I have for past blessings, and the easy terms of payment, I could not satisfy my conscience with giving less than five hundred dollars."

"It is a high sum, Squire, but you shall never outstrip me in benevolence. Whether in politics or religion, you shall always find Solomon Traxler doing his duty."

That night, at home, Mr. Traxler spoke so feelingly on the subject of the Centenary, and so highly of the Weekly Messenger, which he said his family should not be without for another week, that his wife and daughter thought they had never heard him express himself to better advantage; and Mary Traxler fancied it must have been owing to the aching of his fingers, on the evening before, that he had blamed her, while reading the Messenger, for being too fond of politics.

W. M. N.

## DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

**Distressing Accident.**—On Monday week, Mr. John H. Hickok, of Harrisburg (and late of this place) was in the act of stepping in the Rail Road car on the Harrisburg bridge, whilst the train was in motion, when he slipped, fell under the car, and had both his legs crushed. We understand, that amputation has been performed, and hopes of his recovery are entertained.

There have been forty Queens of England, from the Conquest to Victoria; thirty-five being Queens consort, and five Queens regent.

Seven of the required ten thousand dollars have been raised for the restoring of Brock's monument, which was villainously thrown down not long since.

Twenty thousand dollars have been lately raised for the aid of the Oglethorpe University of Ga.

It is thought that the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, is the largest of the kind in the world. The buildings form a hollow square, each 500 ft. long by 100 broad and are estimated to cost \$1,500,000.

The number of new buildings erected in Philadelphia, during the current year, for which permits were granted, is 379; besides which it is believed fifty have been erected without permits.

The Governor of N. C. recommends the establishment of an asylum for lunatics, of which there are according to returns, 240 in the state.

By the munificence of Peter C. Brooks, Esq. of Boston, an edition of Pierce's Geometry has been printed for the blind.

A monument is about to be erected to the memory of Copernicus, great astronomer, in his native place, in Thorn, Germany.

**THE MORMONS.**—This singular sect are determined not to be driven from the face of the earth. The recent terrible persecutions they have suffered at the lawless hands of the people of Utah, seem to have stimulated their exertions. They have recently purchased the steamboat Des Moines, formerly owned by the United States, and have put it in complete order, changing the name to that of their new city—Nauvoo. The boat will run from St. Louis to Nauvoo, Galena and Dubuque. The Mormon population of Nauvoo

is estimated, at the present time, at 3000, and 600 persons of the same name are said to be now on their way from England. *Duffalo Commercial.*

**Prevention of Steam Packet Collisions.**—The Trinity House Corporation has deemed it right to frame and promulgate the following rules, which, on communication with the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the elder brethren had been adopted in respect of Steam vessels in her Majesty's service.

Rule first.—When steam vessels on different courses must unavoidably or necessarily cross so near that by continuing their respective courses, there would be a collision, or collision, each vessel shall put her helm to port, so as always to pass on the larboard side of each other.

Rule second.—A steam vessel passing another in a narrow channel, must always leave the vessel she is passing on the larboard hand. This measure ought to be taken promulgated long ago; but it is an old saying and a true one, "better late than never," and it is to be hoped that the masters of steam vessels will speedily make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the regulations issued by the Trinity House Corporation. Had such regulations been in existence, there would be no collision of the Phoenix and Britannia steam packets, that serious and unfortunate catastrophe would have been avoided.

**Election of President and Vice President.**—To many of our readers the manner of electing President and Vice President, may be new. As this election is soon to take place, we describe the method as provided by the Constitution of the United States.

Each State, elects in such manner as the Legislature may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the State is entitled in Congress. Two of these electors in each State, are chosen by the people at large, to conform to the election of senators who are chosen by the Legislature of each state.

New York is entitled to the largest number of electors—which is forty-two. Next comes Pennsylvania, which has thirty-three, then Virginia, twenty-three, Ohio, twenty-one, Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina, twenty, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Georgia, and South Carolina, eleven each, Maine, and Maryland, ten each, Indiana, nine, Connecticut, and New Jersey, eight each, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Alabama, seven each, Illinois and Louisiana, five each, Rhode Island, Mississippi and Missouri, four each, and Delaware, Michigan and Arkansas, three each making in the whole, 234; necessary for a choice, 148.

The electors meet in their respective States (the Constitution does not specify the time) and vote for President and Vice President, and one whose name is not to be elected, shall be placed on the list of persons voted for as President and Vice President, and the number of votes for each, which list they are to sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the President of the Senate at Washington, who, in the presence of the Senate and House, all the certificates, to be elected, the candidate must have a majority of all the votes cast; and if no one has such a majority, the House is immediately to choose a President from the three candidates having the highest number of votes.—*Zion's Herald.*

**The Horrors of War.**—A Paris correspondent of the New York Commercial, advertising to the progress of events in Algiers, thus furnishes this frightful picture. A strong column of 5000 men marched to retake the garison of Miliana, and when they arrived they found that out of 1350 men who had been left there in June, 800 were dead, about 400 were sick and 57 on their way to the hospital. Of the 400 sick, the half were too ill to be removed, and the others were conveyed to the hospital, of Bouffarik. This destructive work was effected within four months. They were even in want of every necessary. The flour was spoiled and full of worms. They had no time to bury the dead. The bodies of the Jews whom the Arabs had thrown into them for that purpose on evacuating the city. There remained but eleven oxen, and the men had no quaranters for a month past. They could find no food but service to one term. The Revolution received its first and second reading, and was no one opposing—ordered to be printed.

Mr. Webster spoke for one hour on the subject of the President's Message. He objected chiefly to the two points, relating to a National Bank and a National Debt.

## AMERICA AND CHINA.

Mr. ADAMS introduced the following resolution. The House adjourned before it was considered.

**Resolved,** That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be communicated to this House, so far as may be compatible with the public interest, copies of all documents in the Department of State showing the origin of any political relations between the United States and the Empire of China; the first appointment of a consul to reside at or near Canton; whether such consul, or any other subsequently appointed, has ever been received or recognized in that capacity; and the present relations between the Government of the United States and that of the Celestial Empire.

## SUB-TREASURY BILL.

Mr. TILLINGHAST again presented the resolution offered by him on Thursday last, calling for information in relation to the operation of the Sub-Treasury Bill since it became a law.

Mr. VANDERPOPE, of N. Y. opposed the resolution—said that it would consume a great deal of time and do no sort of good. The member from Rhode Island, Mr. TILLINGHAST rejoined, and the merits of the Sub-Treasury bill were brought into the discussion.

Mr. DUNCAN, of Ohio, had something to say in reference to the bill, and declared that it was not the question at issue in the late election before the people.

Mr. MORGAN, of N. Y., raised an issue with the member from Ohio, and declared that it was the issue in the defeat of the member himself.

Mr. DUNCAN replied and in no very good temper; when to check any further feeling an adjournment was ordered for the day.

## U. S. SENATE.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Mr. WRIGHT rose, after the expiration of the morning business, in defence of the President's Message, and in reply to Mr. Webster. Mr. Wright said that he should endeavor to reply to the Senator in the same spirit of courtesy which that Senator had used.

In the lower House, Mr. Cooper, of Georgia, asked the question if a bill intended to abolish the office of Chaplain to Congress—rejected 140 to 21. A resolution referring to the same subject was offered and rejected with a feeling as strong in opposition.

Various other resolutions were offered, but none adopted of a contested character.

## DEATHS.

No business of importance was transacted today. The splendid new Chandelier in the Hall of the House fell down this morning, before the session commenced—this was very fortunate for the life and limbs of some who would doubtless have suffered by the falling of 7,500 lbs. of brass, 15 feet high.

## HYMENIAL.

**Married,** On Thursday last, by the Rev. B. S. Schock, Mr. Adam Esig, to Miss Mary McClary, both of Quincy township, Montgomery Co., Pa.

In Baltimore, on the 18th inst. by the Rev. E. Heiner, Mr. Andrew Wright, to Miss Mary Richmond.

On Monday evening last, by the Rev. Mr. Gleason, Mr. Henry Ralt, to Miss Rebecca Ann Thornton, of Chester county.

On Thursday last by the same, Mr. Henry Stiefner, of Mountjoy, to Miss Nancy Meyers, of Donnell.

Same day by the same, Mr. Henry Spelman, to Miss Susan Smith, of Fairbury.

Same day, by the same, Mr. George Hess, of East Donnell township, to Miss Barbara Heller, of Donnell township.

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## CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

Twenty-sixth Congress, Dec. 14th.

Mr. WRIGHT of N. Y. presented a memorial from New York in favor of a uniform law of Bankruptcy, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Wright also presented a memorial from the widow of Dr. Perine, massacred in Florida, praying a grant of land, relief, &c.

Mr. WHITE of Ind. presented a memorial in favor of the New Albany and Mount Carmel Rail Road, praying a grant of land, &c.

## REPEAL OF THE SUB-TREASURY.

Mr. CLAY, of Ky. presented a resolution declaring that the bill entitled an Act for the collection, safekeeping and disbursement of the public money, ought to be repealed. Mr. Clay, after submitting his resolution, said he should not call for the consideration of the resolution at the present time. It would be called up to-morrow and take precedence of other business, except resolutions of a similar character.

## PUBLIC LANDS.

Mr. Clay also offered an important resolution in reference to the Public Lands, calling for information as to the amount sold for the last twelve years. The resolution was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clay accompanied the resolution with some remarks on the importance of the subject, and said that Mr. MERRICK, of Md. brought forward his joint resolution on the subject of the transfer of the Government Stock in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to the State of Maryland. It was read three times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Standing Committees were announced to the House as soon as the Journal was read. They are for the most part as they were at the 1st session of Congress. The following are the Chairmen:

On Elections.—Mr. Rives of Va.  
On Commerce.—Mr. Curtis of N. Y.  
On Post Offices.—Mr. McKay of N. C.  
On the District of Columbia.—Mr. Johnson of Md.  
On the Judiciary.—Mr. Schenck of Pa.  
On Manufactures.—Mr. Adams of Mass.  
On Agriculture.—Mr. Dennis of Md.  
On Indian Affairs.—Mr. Bell of Tenn.  
On Military Affairs.—Mr. Thompson of S. C.  
On Naval Affairs.—Mr. Thomas of Md.  
On Foreign Affairs.—Mr. Pickens of S. C.  
On Territories.—Mr. Pope of Ky.  
On Mileage.—Mr. Williams of Conn.  
On Ways and Means.—Mr. Jones of Va.  
On Roads and Canals.—Mr. Delo of Pa.  
On Invalid Pensions.—Mr. Williams of Ky.  
On Public Lands.—Mr. Morrow of Ohio.

## CHAPLAINS.

The Rev. G. C. Cookman was re-elected Chaplain to the Senate and the Rev. W. Braxton, of Virginia to the House of Representatives. The former is of the Methodist, and the latter of the Baptist persuasion.

## SUB-TREASURY BILL.

Mr. CLAY'S resolution proposing a repeal of the Sub-Treasury Bill came up as the special business of the day. A debate full of interest followed, which was participated in by Messrs. CLAY of Ky. WRIGHT of N. Y. CALHOUN of S. C. ANDERSON of Tenn. HUBBARD of N. H. and ALLEN of Ohio.

The Vice President, R. M. Johnson, appeared and took his seat.

## ONE PRESIDENTIAL TERM.

Mr. TALLMAGE, of N. Y. proposed an amendment to the Constitution, fixing the term of President to one term. The Resolution received its first and second reading, and was no one opposing—ordered to be printed.

Mr. Webster spoke for one hour on the subject of the President's Message. He objected chiefly to the two points, relating to a National Bank and a National Debt.

## AMERICA AND CHINA.

Mr. ADAMS introduced the following resolution. The House adjourned before it was considered.

**Resolved,** That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be communicated to this House, so far as may be compatible with the public interest, copies of all documents in the Department of State showing the origin of any political relations between the United States and the Empire of China; the first appointment of a consul to reside at or near Canton; whether such consul, or any other subsequently appointed, has ever been received or recognized in that capacity; and the present relations between the Government of the United States and that of the Celestial Empire.

## SUB-TREASURY BILL.

Mr. TILLINGHAST again presented the resolution offered by him on Thursday last, calling for information in relation to the operation of the Sub-Treasury Bill since it became a law.

Mr. VANDERPOPE, of N. Y. opposed the resolution—said that it would consume a great deal of time and do no sort of good. The member from Rhode Island, Mr. TILLINGHAST rejoined, and the merits of the Sub-Treasury bill were brought into the discussion.

Mr. DUNCAN, of Ohio, had something to say in reference to the bill, and declared that it was not the question at issue in the late election before the people.

Mr. MORGAN, of N. Y., raised an issue with the member from Ohio, and declared that it was the issue in the defeat of the member himself.

Mr. DUNCAN replied and in no very good temper; when to check any further feeling an adjournment was ordered for the day.

## U. S. SENATE.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Mr. WRIGHT rose, after the expiration of the morning business, in defence of the President's Message, and in reply to Mr. Webster. Mr

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

## MESSAGE.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY THE TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS, IN THEIR ANNUAL SESSION, SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Yellow Gables of the Senate, and House of Representatives:

Our devoted gratitude is due to the Supreme Being for having graciously continued to our beloved country, through the vicissitudes of another year, the invaluable blessings of health, plenty, and peace. From this favored land, we are generally exempted from the ravages of disease, or the labor of the husbandman more amply rewarded; and never before have our relations with other countries been placed on a more favorable basis than that which they happily occupy at this critical juncture in the affairs of the world. A rigid and persevering abstention from all interference with the domestic and political relations of other States, alike due to the genius and distinctive character of our Government and to the principles by which it is directed, a faithful observance, in the management of our foreign relations, of the practice of speaking plainly, dealing justly, and requiring truth and justice in return, as the best conservators of the peace of nations—a strict impartiality in our management of friendship, in the commercial privileges we concede, and in those we require from others—these, accompanied by a disposition as prompt to maintain, in every emergency, the rights of our country, as to be prompt to the invasion of those of others, have given to our country and Government a standing in the great family of nations, of which we have just cause to be proud, and the advantages which are experienced by our citizens throughout every portion of the earth to which their enterprising and adventurous spirit may carry them. Few, if any, remain insensible to the value of our friendship, or ignorant of the terms on which it can alone be preserved.

A series of questions of long standing, difficult in their adjustment, and important in their consequences in the rights of our citizens and the honor of our country were deeply involved, have, in the course of a few years, been referred to the consideration of the administration of my immediate predecessor, and had been brought to a satisfactory conclusion; and the most important of those remaining are, I am happy to believe, in a fair way of being speedily and satisfactorily adjusted.

With all the powers of the world our relations are those of honorable peace. Since your adjournment, nothing serious has occurred to interrupt or threaten the amicable relations which we are from principle, and above other hemispheres, have not cast their potent shadows upon our happy shores. Bound by no entangling alliances, yet linked by a common name and interest with the other nations of mankind, our aspirations after the maintenance of peace, in whose solid and civilizing triumphs all may participate with a generous emulation. Yet it behoves us to be prepared for any event, and to be always ready to maintain those just and honorable rights which are national intercourses, for which this Government has ever contended. In the shock of conflicting empire, it is only by assuming a resolute bearing, and clothing themselves with defensive armor, that neutral nations can maintain their independence.

The excitement which grew out of the territorial controversy between the United States and Great Britain, having, in a great measure, subsided, it is hoped, for a period, is approaching for its final settlement. Both Governments must now be convinced of the dangers with which the question is fraught; and it must be their desire, as it is their interest, that this perpetual cause of irritation should be removed as speedily as possible. In the course of my message you were informed that the proposition for a commission of exploration and survey promised by Great Britain had been received, and that a commission, including also a provision for the certain and final adjustment of the limit in dispute, had then been the British Government for its adjudication.

The answer of that Government, accompanied by additional proposals, has been received, and its terms, in my opinion, since your separation. These were promptly considered—such as were deemed correct in principle, and consistent with a due regard to the rights of the United States and of the State of Maine, concurred in; and the reasons for dissent from the residue, with additional suggestion on our part, communicated by the Secretary of State to Mr. Fox. That minister, not feeling himself sufficiently instructed upon the subject, has been engaged in discussion, felt it to be his duty to refer the matter to his own Government for its further decision. Having now been for some time under advisement, a speedy answer may be confidently expected. From the character of the proposals, and the service to be rendered by both parties to bring the matter to an early conclusion, I look with entire confidence to a prompt and satisfactory termination of the negotiation. Three countries are now engaged in the act of the last session, providing for the exploration and survey of the line which separates the States of Maine and New Hampshire from the British Provinces; they have been respectively employed in the progress was interrupted by the inclemency of the season, and will resume their labors as soon as practicable in the ensuing year. It is understood that their respective commissions will throw new light upon the subject in controversy, and serve to remove any erroneous impressions which may have been made elsewhere prejudicial to the rights of the United States. It was, among other reasons, with a view of preventing the warlike spirit which in our peculiar system of government, impedes and complicates negotiations involving the territorial rights of a State, that I thought it my duty, as you have been informed on a previous occasion, to propose to the Government, through its minister at Washington, to have the matter settled by the arbitration of the points of difference on the line of boundary from the entrance of Lake Superior to the most northwestern point of the State of Maine, and from thence to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in conformity with the seventh article of the treaty of Ghent. No answer has yet been returned to this proposition by the British Government.

With Austria, Prussia, Russia, and the remaining Powers of Europe, we have long maintained our relations on the basis of the most friendly character. With Belgium, a treaty of commerce and navigation, based upon liberal principles of reciprocity and equality of treatment, has been concluded, having been ratified by the Belgian Government will be duly laid before the Senate. It is a subject of congratulation that it provides for the satisfactory adjustment of a long standing question of controversy; and that the friendly and mutually advantageous intercourse between the two nations.

A messenger has been dispatched with the Honorable treaty to the Emperor of Russia, for ratification, the ratifications are to be exchanged. I am happy to announce to you that, after many delays and difficulties, a treaty of commerce and navigation between the United States and Portugal, was concluded and ratified by the Portuguese Government, and by the plenipotentiaries of the two Governments. Its stipulations are founded upon those principles of mutual liberality and advantage which the United States have always shown to be ready to concede to the friendly and mutually advantageous intercourse between the two nations.

Under the appropriation of the last session of Congress, an agent has been sent to the Republic of Colombia for the purpose of promoting the interests of our tobacco trade.

The commissioners appointed under the convention for the adjustment of claims on citizens of the United States upon Mexico, have met at Washington, in August last, the papers in the possession of the Government, relating to those claims, were communicated to the board. The claims not embraced by the convention, and the subject of negotiation between the two Governments, through the medium of our minister at Mexico.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of our relations with the different Governments of South America. I regret, however, to be obliged to inform you that the claims of our citizens upon the late Republic of Colombia have not yet been satisfied by the separate Governments into which it has been resolved.

The charge d'affaires of Brazil has expressed the intention of his Government not to prolong the treaty of 1828, it will cease to be obligatory upon either party on the 12th day of December, 1841, when the extensive commerce between the United States and that vast empire will no longer be regulated by express stipulations.

It affords me pleasure to communicate to you that the Government of Chili has entered into an agreement to indemnify the claims of our citizens in the case of the *Macdonald*, for American property seized in 1819; and to add, that information has also been received which justifies the hope of an early adjustment of the remaining claims upon that Government.

The commissioners appointed in pursuance of the convention between the United States and Texas, for marking the boundary between them, have, according to the last report received from our commission, surveyed and ascertained the position of the Sabine river, from its entrance into the Gulf of Mexico to the thirty-second degree of north latitude. The commission adjourned on the 16th of June last, to reassemble on the 1st day of November next, for establishing another degree of longitude with the western bank of the Sabine, and the meridian line thence to Red River. It is presumed that the work will be concluded in the present season.

The present sound condition of our finances, and the success with which our embarrassments in regard to them, at times apparently unsurmountable, have been

overcome, are matters upon which the people and Government of the United States may well congratulate themselves. An overflowing treasury, however it may be regarded as an evidence of public prosperity, is seldom conducive to the permanent welfare of a people. The experience of the United States is fully compatible with the salutary action of political institutions like those of the United States. Our straits for financial efficiency and independence have on the contrary, been found to consist in a more judicious management of our resources, unencumbered with debt; and, in this respect, the Federal Government occupies a singularly fortunate and truly enviable position.

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## WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 5, 1840.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## MARSHALL COLLEGE.

THE Summer Session of this Institution closes on Wednesday, 30th of September, the day of annual commencement. Winter Session will commence November 11th, and continue 24 weeks. Teachers of the College are desirous to receive into College, should present themselves sometime during the week of the commencement, and be prepared to enter on the 11th of November. The Professors being for the most part absent in vacations.

The Students of Marshall College are carefully instructed in all the branches of a liberal education, and frequent public exercises are held during the course to ascertain their advancement. Candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts must go through the whole course of Studies; but persons are admitted into the College, who are desirous of pursuing any recitations they are prepared for. The following are the instructors in the several departments:

President, and Professor of *Latin, Moral Philosophy, and of the German Language.*

Hon. Judge Thompson

Professor of Law.

Samuel W. Budd, Jr., A. M.,

Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

William M. Nevins, A. M.,

Professor of Ancient Languages and Belles Lettres.

Professor of Natural Science.

Andrew Young, A. B.,

Tutor in Languages.

It is expected that the Professorship of Natural Science will very shortly be filled.

The great care is taken to guard the morals of the Students all of whom reside in the College. Editors, unless satisfactory reasons are rendered for the indulgence of leaving in town. They are assembled for prayer every morning and evening, and are required to attend public worship in the Prayer Hall building. But those whose parents desire, may obtain permission to attend any of the other churches in town.

## EXPENSES.

	SUMMER SESSION.	WINTER SESSION.
Tuition	\$12 00	\$18 00
Board	12 00	18 00
Contingent Expenses	1 00	1 00
Board at \$15, 18 weeks	31 50	22 50
Washing (done in town)	1 00	1 00
	51 00	65 00

Those who board in College eat in common with the above is the steward's charge. Some who board in town pay a little more each week. Those who board in town are not required to furnish their own furniture, but are allowed to pay twelve and a half cents per week less. It is generally recommended to Students to furnish their own furniture, and to have it removed to the College as soon as they enter. The College dues are in all cases to be paid in advance, or within the first four weeks of the Session.

## PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.

This department is chiefly designed to fit Students for College, but young men who wish to pursue a course of study, or a partial course, are not excluded from its advantages. Their attendance is required for four weeks, in April and October