

# PACIFIC CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

"GO YE, THEREFORE, TEACH ALL NATIONS."

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## Pacific CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

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## Correspondence.

### Our Washington Letter.

(FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.)

WASHINGTON, June 14, 1879.

We begin to hear more and more of plans for summer wanderings, though as yet the city has not lost as much of its fleeting population as is often the case at this time of year. All of the Congressional families who did not intend to remain until the adjournment, whenever that might be went long ago. Those Spartan wives of whom I have written you who have determined to uphold their husbands to the last gasp are still here and evince no weakening of their purpose to remain, although we had a few days ago weather hot enough to wilt the most stalwart of back-bones. Cooler weather has now set in, and except when the sun is shining in the middle of the day, out-of-door exercise is pleasant at all times. The evenings have been dreams of beauty, with the moon and her potent rival Venus making the heavens a tempting study even for those least given to star-gazing. According to our pleasant provincial custom, we sit out of doors much at this time of the year, those who have no gardens sitting on the door-steps and even on the sidewalks. The White House wears the look of a good old-fashioned country place, for its doors and windows stand wide open these bright evenings, and from the street one can see directly through the lighted halls and Blue Parlor to the southern porticoes, just outside where the family usually assemble, it being the coolest part. Here any visitors who chose to call are made welcome and sit either in the pretty oval Blue Room or on the porch, embowered now in the fragrance of wild honeysuckle. No other family which has lived in the White House has made as much use and given outsiders as free access to all the rooms as the present incumbents. The White House flowers, too, find their way to innumerable houses now. Mrs. Hayes usually has a store of bouquets which she distributes to her visitors every evening, and every day flowers to the sick and to others who appreciate them.

Mr. Hayes' plans for the summer have been somewhat disarranged by the protracted session of Congress. He will spend the whole of July and August in Washington at the Soldier's Home, considering that more comfortable than any extended tour during the heated term. Several invitations for the present month will have to be declined owing to Congress being in session. He had long ago promised to be present at the Princeton college commencement, but was prevented.

The re-union of the Army of the Potomac at Albany next week would have been graced by his presence if Congress had agreed to adjourn on the 17th. He also desires to attend the Yale commencement in the subsequent week if Congress adjourns in time. Ohio will receive her favorite son on September 1st for a months visit. He will visit Fremont and jaunt through the state, but will make no extended tour this year.

If view of the developments today, the prospect of an early adjournment is not so favorable. There will be more debate on the appropriation bills in the Senate than was anticipated a day or two ago. The democratic Senators, however, came to an understanding during their caucus conference this morning to push the appropriation bills with diligence and vigor. They are willing to allow a reasonable time for debate, but they do not intend to send more than two days in disposing of any one of the bills. If this programme is adhered to Congress may be able to adjourn Friday or Saturday of next week. Should the silver men however, succeed in overdoing the Senate finance committee and taking from it the Warner silver bill, and bringing that measure before the Senate as they are still intending to do, adjournment will probably be postponed beyond next week. They are now making an effort to persuade the committee to reconsider its recent action in postponing the further consideration of the bill until next session, and are pressing Senators Bayard and Kernan to allow the bill to be reported either adversely or without reconsideration. What success they may have remains to be seen. If a majority of the Senate should vote to discharge the committee from further consideration of the Warner bill, there appears to be but little doubt that Senator Bayard would peremptorily resign the chairmanship of the committee.

The lengthy investigations of the grand jury as to the broken German American Bank came to an end this morning. Several days ago presentments were agreed upon and furnished the District attorney, and the intervening time has been occupied in preparing indictments there on. These indictments, five in number, were brought into court soon after noon today. They effect several well-known gentlemen whose reputation has heretofore stood high, and some of whom have been especially trusted and honored in the community. The parties indicted are Mr. John Hity who was long the leading partner of an avenue firm and representative of all Swiss interests in the District. Mr. Wm. F. Mattingly, a leading member of the Washington bar long the special attorney of financial companies, etc. He is still the receiver appointed by the Equity Court to take charge of and settle up the affairs of the Washington City (Rupp's) Savings Bank which failed some years ago. C. E. Prentiss is the cashier of the bank, who is charged with perjury in addition to other crimes. R. R. Donaldson is a well-known dentist and bank director.

AUGUST.

—All things teach a Moral Lesson.  
—Rector: "Those pigs of yours are in a fine condition, Jarvis." Jarvis: "Yes, sir, they be. Ah, sir, if we was all on us on'y as fit to die as them are, we'd do!"

## Tent Life in Palestine.

Dear Bro. Errett:

I have thought several times that I would write you a few short letters from this land of promise, prophecy, and sacred memories, but was afraid I might possibly go over the track Bro. McGarvey would more ably describe, and therefore spend my time without either interesting or profiting your readers. However, the thought struck me that I might direct my pen to sketch briefly some facts and incidents, and jot down a few general observations as we journey on. This line of thought I have mentioned to Bro. McGarvey, and now hasten to present a few facts and figures about tent life.

We have now been in our tents nearly three weeks, and can, therefore, speak from experience—a short one 'tis true, but nevertheless a veritable experience, extending from Jerusalem to Jerash, thence to Callirhoe Hot Springs, and thence to this place. Twice have we crossed the Jordan, and river Jabbok, and several other streams, climbed innumerable mountains, and crossed some plains. Let us first look at the tent and necessary accompaniments.

From the outside you will see that they are what is called *twelve-cord tents*—that is, they are secured to pegs driven in the earth at equal distances by twelve cords attached to the tent. The sides of the tent are five feet six inches high, perpendicular; then the roof of the tent commences, by running up to a point in the center, and is securely attached to the center pole, which is twelve feet high. The pole is securely fixed in the ground, and is in the center of the tent. The size of the tent is thirteen feet in diameter. On the top of the tent outside, we have an extra white covering, to reflect the rays of the sun, while the inside is lined with a cloth covered with gaudy Turkish needle-work, in which Turkey red, yellow, blue, and white are intermingled, giving it a very lively and attractive appearance. Our furniture consists of one table, that does duty for washing table, dressing table, and writing table; basins and ewers, and water cups of metal, and water jug, silver-plated candlestick, two carpet campstools, two single iron bedsteads, with wool mattress, feather pillows and bedding, and Turkey carpets for the floor. Around the center pole of the tent is fixed a strap, with half a dozen brass hooks attached; this does good service for hanging our clothes upon. Thus, you see, we have quite a large and comfortable sleeping room. We have two tents like the one described, one occupied by Bros. McGarvey and Thomson, and the other by Bro. Taylor and myself. We have also one separate tent for dining purposes, and the cook has one for his use. The "canteen," or table outfit, is like the tents—first-class. The forks, spoons, handles of knives and dessert knives, with tea and coffee pot, are silver, and the breakfast, dinner and tea service are French china—a neat white and gold. The cooking utensils are all in keeping; and fortunately we have a good clean cook to use them. So that our little tent home is much more comfortable than many hotels—especially such as we find in this country. The bill of fare is liberal for this desert country, and is as follows: Breakfast—Mutton or chicken, fried potatoes (French fashion), light bread (as long as it

lasted—about a week—and then we got a dark Bedouin bread, and later a tough, unleavened bread), jam, coffee, and tea. Lunch—Cold mutton or chicken, bread (aforesaid), pickles, cheese, cold hard-boiled eggs, oranges, dates, raisins, and walnuts. This we generally (Lord's day excepted) take on a carpet spread under the shade of a tree, or the shadow of a rock, taking it in real picnic style, and with picnic appetite. Dinner—or rather supper, for we take it about 6 P. M.—soup, mutton, chicken, sometimes pigeons or quails—for they abound here—vegetables (various), pudding or custard, cheese, oranges, figs, dates, walnuts, coffee, and tea.

The whole establishment is carried by eight pack mules, three donkeys and two horses. We have also our dragoman, Assid Smart, who speaks and writes five languages; cook, two waiters, five muleteers, Sheik Fellah and his spear-bearer and attendant, and our four selves making quite a numerous company. Our horses are not the "Arab steeds" we read of in books of adventure and thrilling incidents, but veritable Arab steeds, that can climb a mountain as steep as a house roof, and descend a river bank or gorge that makes one feel giddy to look down into. Their pace, however, is keeping with their work—a walk of from two to three miles an hour—sometimes going at the rate of four miles an hour. The expedition with which our tents are taken down and packed and loaded is almost marvelous. While preparing for breakfast, everything that can be packed without inconvenience is packed, and while at breakfast our tents and furniture are all packed up, and in about half an hour we are on our line of march. I may here state, however, that it takes no time to remove the sleeping apartment of the muleteers and others. They, like Sheik Fellah, spread out a rug, and placing a stone for a pillow—Jacob like—they are soon in a sound sleep beneath the blue canopy of heaven.

Our journeys are not reckoned by the mile, but by the number of hours taken to complete the journey: e. g. from Jerusalem to Jericho is six hours and not so many miles. We travel from seven to twelve hours a day; and one day we were over fourteen hours in the saddle, and traveled over a very rough road. All of us—men and horses—were glad to see camp that night, and sure enough rest was sweet to our weary limbs. The length of our journey largely depends upon a suitable camping place, which of necessity, must have good water for ourselves and horses. This, however, is not easily obtained in this country, hence we have to arrange accordingly. More anon.—HENRY S. EARL, in the Standard.

Ruins of old Jericho, Palestine, May 5.

### Iowa and Missouri Dots.

While Missouri was praying for rain, Iowa had enough and to spare, after several rains and with the ground too wet to plow. On the night of May 30th there was 3.18 in. rain fall, followed by steady rain the following nights; so crops are slightly injured, thereby, while in Missouri grass and small grain is cut short by dry weather, corn is very fine.

Our Sunday School Convention, at Toris, Mo., was quite successful. Our brethren were also well represented in the General Sunday School Convention recently held at Moberly, Mo.

Bro. Foy is conducting a meeting at Paris, Mo. The secular papers last week spoke favorably of Bro. Foy and the meeting, reporting ten additions.

Bro. G. A. Hoffman is evangelizing for the churches of Monroe county, Mo.

Bro. W. H. Williams, of Jamaica, is now visiting at Bethany, Mo., his former field of labor.

Bro. N. M. Browder, formerly editor of the *Gospel Star*, continues to work with the church at Bethany, and we hope his work there may become a fixture; and I would there were less changing of preachers, it is expensive and otherwise a detriment to all concerned. Step it.

This is the season of the year for the Sunday school picnics, and the average Americans look forward with patriotic anticipation to the coming Fourth, and the circus show, especially the show. Iowa made quite a demonstration on "Decoration day," and the speeches generally show that the union soldier is not forgotten.

Bro. J. R. Lucas and D. E. Ray, of the *Baptist Battleflag*, are booked for another debate, June 12th, to be held in Lewis county, Mo. As this is their sixth engagement they must understand each other pretty well, even if they do not agree. "Verily, doctors disagree." Let every one be a faithful servant of the truth, let the truth be in you, and shine out through you, it will aid others by giving strength to their faith and hope, and cause them to have an unbounded desire for your prosperity.

The truth is pure, we can not improve it; and we may make a mistake in our efforts to keep it pure. We need only to be faithful servants and the truth will not suffer.

Among the greatest evils that afflicted the past apostolic church came about in their efforts to keep the church pure, which they sought to accomplish by killing error; and when we see the extremes some brethren go to, to fight what they regard as innovation, we fear this is more dangerous than the so-called innovation itself. Keep the truth in our hearts be faithful, energetic workers; be cheerful, kind, and temperate, and many of the apparent evils will die they can not exist where truth has full play. Truth is the antidote for all the evils in us, and if kept in our hearts we shall prosper, our souls will be in health, because the truth is food to our souls, and will cause them to expand, and we will become large hearted, others will love the truth that operates so effectually through us. It is the positive power, we the channels through which it operates, directly upon us, and indirectly upon others. For these effects all praise and honor is due to truth and its author. Our great responsibilities therefore arise out of the sacredness of our work, as agents of the truth; and we should be careful to treat our brethren and strangers also, with kindness and act faithfully toward all, that we may "do well."

"Then scatter seeds of kindness" every where through life, and "we shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves" "in the reaping by and by."

S. H. HEDRIX.

Fairfield, Iowa, June 8, 1879.

—At Hammondsville, N. Y., on Easter Sunday, A. T. Clarke, pastor, organized a Union church of ten members representing six different denominations. This is the first regular church organization in the place. They adopt the "Apostles' creed."