

PACIFIC CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

"GO YE, THEREFORE, TEACH ALL NATIONS."

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Correspondence.

Washington Letter.

(REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE.)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4, 1879.

There are many signs on the streets about the hotels and in and around the public buildings that indicate the approach of the congressional session. Some Members of Congress and Senators are already in the city seeing to the interests of their wards in the Departments or looking for winter quarters for themselves and families. Some of our statesmen actually bring their wives with them when they are elected to Congress, they all ought to do it. Some wives also bring their statesmen with them when they come here. I have known some who appeared to regard themselves as the representatives of their district and who doubtless regretted that they did not take congressional possibilities into consideration when they were married. If they had done this they might have chosen more brilliant husbands. To offset this "might have been," there are statesmen who are ashamed of their wives when they are brought into contrast with the sparkling, witty, Worth-costumed spouses of millionaires and bankrupts who flock to this Capitol every winter.

The statesman, wife and daughter who come fresh from their district and attempt to compete in the fashionable world of Washington on a salary of \$5,000 a year and perquisites will learn something during the season. Their home prestige will not follow or avail them here. Members of Congress are common in more senses than one at the National Capital, and unless their sisters, and cousins, and aunts, are chaperoned by Mammon they will be eclipsed by many, but especially by the ladies of the Army and Navy. The ladies of the Supreme Court and Cabinet are stars of considerable magnitude, but as eclipses they pale before the rank and effulgent hauteur of those whose husbands and fathers have been educated at government expense at West Point or Annapolis.

The National Capital is just having a fore-taste of the winter season. A few weeks ago some citizens decided that Washington was a fit place for a National Fair. Yesterday the National Fair as it is called was inaugurated by a short address from Mr. Hayes, and a procession, of four miles, in which the various trades and handicrafts of Washington were represented, marched to the fair grounds. It would appear from this procession that the principal occupations of Washington are brewing, tailoring, dairying, and butchering, but the great industry of the National Capital, office-holding was not represented.

The brewers made by far the finest display, their wagons were the most numerous, their horses the largest, fattest, and most splendidly comparisoned. As for the fair, looked at as an exhibition, the less said about it the better. The fairs that are held at Pittsburg, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and many other cities are so immeasurably superior to this as to make comparison ridiculous.

All indications foretell an unusually interesting session. Washington during the coming winter will be the base of operations for both political parties in the inauguration of the most exciting presidential campaign in American history. The recent preliminary engagements in Maine, Ohio, Iowa, and California have slain aspirants, and defined issues, but there is much that is still unsettled both as relates to measures and to men. The Government Departments are draped in black for Mr. Chandler. With many Western Republicans he was the favorite candidate for the Presidency, and with a majority perhaps, he was thought to be the most valuable candidate for the vice—Presidency.

Iowa and Missouri Splinters.

We did get to speak in Birmingham, but not in any of the churches. The reason assigned in one case, "It would not do to let in a bear to whip out a lion." Another said, "It would not do to let one heretic drive out another," and all other excuses might be fully comprehended in these.

We occupied about four hours time in three speeches, in which we presented, as all do not admit, the only arguments that meets the Adventist position. It is too lengthy to go into detail, but substantially the same as has been recently before the readers of this paper.

We did not in any way abuse our Adventist friends, we went to answer their arguments and to make such in favor of our own position and practice on the first day of the week as the thing will never be able to refute. This required no abuse. We abused no one; but those men who sit in judgment on our orthodoxy found that they were not more secure than a man who lives in a very thin glass house.

We attended the M. E. Sunday school, and also morning service; the pastor is Rev. J. Hunter, the same who refused us the Methodist church at Cincinnati, Iowa, three years ago. We had not met him since, and to our surprise he insisted upon our teaching the Bible class and occupying a seat in the pulpit during his discourse, which we did, meditating part of the time on the contrast in consistency. His text was Acts xix. 2, and he sought to establish the need of spiritual influence to apply the truths of Scripture to the human understanding, and then informed the audience that these disciples whom Paul found at Ephesus had been baptized by John the Baptist. This mistake assured us that if his own theory of spiritual influence was true, that it was not directing him to commit such blunders in interpreting the Scriptures. We expect to go again some time and see what they do.

During our last meeting at Kirksville we had five by letter and one immersion added. The Sunday school is still working grandly; the State Normal is going on smoothly. We spent a pleasant hour and took tea with Schuyler Colfax, at President

Baldwin's. October 8th, Mr. Colfax lectured in Kirksville, on "A Lincoln." He was very hoarse, and his articulation in his naturally rapid speaking was very defective, and would not compare with his efforts here on the same subject three years ago. He is in Maine this week; he has delivered this lecture in 23 States, and never been absent from home but three Sundays in four years. Says he is "enjoying home so well that public life has no charms for him." Although he is a close observer of passing events in politics, and full of a victory for the Republican in Ohio and New York. From reports now before us he was correct on the former. Mr. Colfax is exceedingly pleasant and an entertaining host.

The Iowa election passed off yesterday with gratifying results to Republicans. That canvass was a spirited one, both local and general, and has been skillfully conducted. Iowa has many able speakers, and in the local canvass the young men have come to the front and fought bravely, and not a few have distinguished themselves for their shrewd wit, sound logic and brilliant oratory, outside of Iowa campaign orators, Logan of Illinois, Burrows of Michigan, and Blaine of Maine, have done valuable service to the Republican cause. The latter is Iowa's first choice for president.

We go on our missionary work to Poweshuck county, Iowa, to-morrow. We are expected to make our report to the Review. We shall be very busy for some time, and hope you will consider the future report in the Review of sufficient interest to transfer them to the readers of the MESSENGER.

S. H. HEDRIX.

Oct. 15, 1879.

Importance of Discipline.

If an army is drawn up in line of battle, and an important engagement is imminent, and some of the soldiers go to the rear, or to the enemy—then what? If one has that right, all have; and soon the commanders would have no army. All deserted—and even soldiers must, therefore, be disciplined not to take vengeance on the offender, but for the good of the army and the cause it defends. And such is an effort by a church, for a protracted meeting, when some of the members will not attend, and some even give aid and comfort to the enemy by talking discouragingly, and other cause. Should not such persons be held to a strict account as "enemies of the cross of Christ?"

Just here we have the reason for the failure of many good and wise efforts to promote the Gospel.

And John the Baptist and Jesus both taught that branches and trees that have no fruit, that were barren—though they have no bad fruit—should be cut off and burned. What then of those non-working church members?

The penalty for disregarding the Sabbath was death. No man could live and not observe it, if the law was enforced. And that Sabbath was a type, and surely was not more sacred or important than our Lord's day.

What, then, of those church members who will not assemble and worship on the Lord's day?

Besides being deserters, and barren branches, they disobey, they are rebels. For we are commanded not to neglect, or forsake the assembling

for worship.

Peter commanded Cornelius to be baptized, and he would have him a disobedient rebel had he refused, but not more clearly so than are these.

What, then, should be done with members

1. Who refuse to take part in an important battle, and discourage the meeting inaugurated by the bishops after due counsel?

2. Those who are properly barren, or fruitless trees, or branches?

3. With those who refuse to obey, are disobedient?

Disobedience is non-obedience, or failing to obey. Transgression is passing over law, or violating it—doing the opposite. And under the law "every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward."

The rule now generally is to discipline only the transgressors, and only a few of them; and to allow the disobedient to go free. So it was not anciently, so it was not intended to be.

One more question—Can we succeed while we fail to carry out the discipline recommended in the New Testament?

C. K.

The Campaign of 1880.

The following report of the late convention of Liberalists, held at Cincinnati, on the 13th and 14th, will probably suggest to those persons who have been so enthusiastic in their old political ruts, that it is about time to give up the old lives and seek men of integrity for our offices of trust. It is very painful to see a Christian brother so intensely Democratic or Republican, that he will vote the party ticket regardless of the character or habits of those whose names are on it.

It should be remembered that D. M. Bennett, whose name is mentioned in the resolution as being "convicted of religious bigotry and languishing in the cell of a felon," is simply paying the penalty of violating a just law. He is nothing but a ranting "free-lover," and is now in prison for publishing and circulating through the United States mails obscene literature. His publications are of the most pernicious character, arguing that the marriage relation should be abolished, and that mankind should live like beasts. And so radical and obnoxious are his writings, that many of the leading Spiritualists and Infidels have become disgusted with him and have given expression to the most bitter denunciations of his doctrine and conduct. Yet they vote unanimously in adopting a resolution of sympathy for him, and follow the resolution with a political platform on which they want to place a president in 1880.

If you will notice, several of the planks embrace some of the most popular subjects of the day that they may catch the popular mass. Such subjects as, "Labor Reform," "Women should have equal compensation with men," "Tramp question," "Currency Reform," "Universal Education," "Anti corporation," "None Log Rolling," "Election frauds," "Persuasion clause," &c.

It reminds me of the California boy baiting for mountain trout; he takes a nice "fat fly," and covers a sharp beaded hook with it. Or the physician who covers his quinine pills with so much sugar that the children cry

for them. "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees."

J. D.

The resolutions referred to in the introduction to the above article are too long and thin to appear on our columns. They are made up of platitudes and popular hobbies, all of which are intended as sugar-coating for these two detestable pills:

"Universal, compulsory and secular education, fitting all children as they become citizens for their practical political and social duties in life."

"That good morals and habits can be better fostered by education, persuasion, industry and healthy amusement, rather than by force and governmental interference. In this view we favor the repeal of all Sabbath, Sumptuary, and Temperance laws, and demand that every phase of Government and State education should be secular in spirit and practice, and emancipated from all ecclesiastical or clerical control or influence."

That to this end this Convention adopt in substance the platform and principles of the National Liberal League."

The following is the resolution introduced by Col. Ingersoll and "unanimously adopted."

Resolved, That we express the deepest sympathy with D. M. Bennett and his family, for the reason that he has been convicted of religious bigotry and ignorant zeal, and has been imprisoned and is now languishing in the cell of a felon, when, in truth and in fact, he has committed no offense whatever against any law of this country.

Such sympathy—embraced in falsehood—for such a creature, could find expression only in hearts foul with iniquity and teeming with pollution. No wonder they want to drive the Bible from the schools and religion from the earth. The good sense of the people will rebuke their folly at the ballot-box.

Debate.

EDEN VALLEY, WHITMAN CO., W. T.,
Nov. 6, 1879.

Bro. Campbell:

By request, please announce through the P. C. MESSENGER that there will be a debate held at Farmington, Whitman county, W. T., commencing on Thursday before the third Lord's day in December, 1879, at 11 A. M., between Elder C. J. Wright, of the Church of Christ, and Elder D. G. Strong, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to continue over Lord's day.

The propositions for discussion are:

1. Resolved, That the Church of Christ was not organized until after his appearance on the earth.

2. That the only incontrovertible evidence of pardon is the word of God.

Eld. C. J. Wright affirms first and second.

3. Resolved, That sprinkling or pouring is Christian baptism.

4. That infant church membership is taught in the Bible.

Eld. D. G. Strong affirms third and fourth.

All are invited to be present during the discussion.

R. M. CALLISON.

—There is a great deal of unmapped country within us which would have to be taken into account in an explanation of our gusts and storms.

—Probabilities are as various as the faces to be seen at will in fretwork or paper hangings; every form is there, from Jupiter to Judy, if you only look with creative inclination.