

General Christian Missionary Convention.

THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

Read! Take Notice!! Read Carefully!!!

The thirty-first anniversary of the General Christian Missionary Convention will be held in the city of Louisville, Ky., beginning Thursday, Oct. 21, 1880, at 2 o'clock P. M., and continuing over the Lord's day following.

The church in Louisville is not only "willing but anxious" to entertain those who go to attend its sessions. The invitation is most cordially given and as gratefully accepted.

We expect to have an unusually interesting and profitable meeting. No pains will be spared to make it so. The Foreign Christian Missionary Society and the Christian Woman's Board of Missions will meet at the same place and at the same general time. Their official announcements will appear soon.

We would like to see full delegations present from every State. Addresses will be delivered by President T. P. Haley, of Missouri; J. W. McGarvey, of Kentucky; A. B. Chamberlain, of New York; D. R. Van Buskirk, of Illinois; and J. Z. Tyler, of Virginia.

In some respects the work of the General Society has been, this year, more than usually satisfactory. Our missionaries have done exceedingly well under the circumstances. One of them in the nine months closing July 1st, reports 244 sermons, and 139 additions, of which 67 were baptized. Another reports for six months 116 sermons, and 42 additions, of which 17 were baptized. Our society has done more or less work in Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Oregon, Montana, Dakota, Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia, and other States.

The receipts into our treasury have not been large; they ought to have been far greater, considering the general prosperity, and fruitfulness of the year. We have worked quietly and yet hopefully for the success of the missions committed to our care. We have rejoiced at the success attending individual effort everywhere; we have rejoiced in the victories of our foreign missionaries, and in the success of the Christian Women's Board of Mission. Our society is a co-worker with them all.

In view of the wideness of our field of operations, the Board feels justified, in order that the financial obligations of the society may all be adjusted before the General Convention in Louisville, in making a direct and special appeal for money to all our churches, and to all individuals who regard our work with favor. None are asked to contribute but those who can and will do so with a cheerful spirit, for it is the "cheerful giver" whom God loves.

We, therefore, ask a collection from all our churches; to be taken on the first or second Sunday in October, for the General Christian Missionary Convention.

We, also, ask contributions from individuals to our treasury. Individual or church contributions may be sent at any time, even before the time specified above. Contributions of money are always in order. Address all contributions to F. M. Green, 180 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Finally, we ask you to attend the meeting at Louisville. Come and hear the Report of the Board, and enjoy the addresses, and the society of brethren who meet to take counsel together.

Bring an offering for the Lord.
By order of the Board,

F. M. GREEN, Cor. Sec.

"Landlady," said he, "the coffee is not settled." "No," said she, "but it comes as near it as your last month's board-bill does;" and that man never spoke again during the meal.

Are we Departing.

That is, we Churches of Christ in California. If so, how far have we gone, and how far are we liable to go. Has the destine power of denominationalism carried us away from the track of the current reformation.

That, we have, in some degree gone away, cannot be denied. Many of us have adopted a sectarian standard of instruction for our Sunday schools, and one that was never instituted to voice forth boldly the doctrine of Christ, so as to teach our schools the Gospel plan of salvation.

An eminent Presbyterian minister in this State, writing in defense of the International Series of Lesson Papers, says, the committee only contracted to furnish a seven years course of lessons upon the Bible, in order from Genesis to Revelations, and they were not organized to teach any special lessons, or to give emphasis to any particular doctrine, all of which is true, and is in striking contrast with our teaching as a people. Our teachers never pass from Genesis to Revelations in that order. As a people, we teach, and emphasize the particular doctrine of Christ, and teach special lessons concerning it. Now, the sectarian world don't want any schools taught these special lessons, and hence they suppress them, and that part of the Bible that contains them, and all this in the interest of a common sectarianism. In the inceptive stages of any apostasy, errors and defections come in almost imperceptibly, and alternate with that which is good, and true; and when winked at, and unrebuked, soon become a dangerous and manifest departure from that faith which was once delivered to the saints. The purity of our plea demands that we rebuke every spirit of insubordination to the truth of the Gospel.

There are other signs of a departure manifest. Bro. Hining's tract on "Preachers' Institutes," under the head of "Departures," tells the truth in a fareable manner. Two men were sent from England to America, by Mr. Wesley, to superintend Methodist interest here. When they came, one of them said to the other, "Let us ordain each other bishops, you ordain me and I will ordain you, and then we will both be bishops." Afterward, they begged that their names might be entered on the conference journal as "bishops," saying, it meant the same thing as superintendents, and could be changed by any subsequent session of conference, if it gives offense to any one. But once on the journal, the Rubicon was crossed, and Episcopal prerogatives assumed, and the way paved for one of the mightiest and most sublimated ecclesiastical hierarchies of modern times. It is only a step from democracy to prelacy. Just let some trouble arise in a Church of Christ, in the administration of church discipline, and then just let that church agree to send off for a committee of from three to five preachers to settle the matter by their judicial findings in the case, and the step from church sovereignty to prelacy is taken.

And then again, for illustration, let us suppose that a number of ambitious preachers, say seven in number, (as that is supposed to be a perfect number), should assume to give control and direction to the general interests of the Churches of Christ in any State or Territory; and let us suppose that one of the most conspicuous ones should assume the leadership of the self-constituted committee of seven, and should aver that they would ruin all the interests of the churches, provided it gave no offense to the brethren. But, says one, what interests of a general character could they control. Well, suppose that they were to assume to be invested with the powers of Timothy and Titus, and should set up the claim that they were evangelists clothed with supreme executive ordination powers,

and were not responsible to any local church, and could run conventions, state meetings, &c., would not such a state of things be a departure, even if assumed on the condition that it gave no offense to the brethren, how long would it be before some ensign, or regalia of office would follow, say seven red caps, and the seventh with a red feather in it. The mild names of committee, and president, or chairman, are not the less objectionable, unless they are made by the eighty constituted authority of the churches. We do not say that any such assumption of power exists, but we think that it is well enough for us to provoke thought upon the subject, from the fact that there is no danger from any outside pressure, or even persecution, but the great danger is of dissensions in our own camp. Abuses and departures from Gospel truth are more apt to come when a spirit of worldliness and a lapsed state of spirituality prevails in the churches.

Yours respectfully,

PROCESS VERBAL PRO MEMORIA.

Dr. J. G. Holland.

BY CHARLES E. BOLTON.

Thirty years of intense literary labor have given Dr. Holland, the editor of Scribner's, a wearied look, yet you would not think him to be sixty years of age. He is a tall man, of fine physique, courtly, yet affable in manners, and an excellent conversationalist. His sympathetic heart beats as warmly for the common people as when I first heard him lecture in New England, several years ago. Few people are more cheerful and bright in conversation, few have worked harder, and few have won greater success.

Born in Hampshire county, Mass., within a few miles of my father's home, it is, perhaps, all the more natural to admire the man who, struggling against odds, has excelled most of us in stimulating the people to pure living and mental growth. My boyish days were made better by his entertaining and inspiring "Max Manning" and "Timothy Titcomb Letters," "Gold Foil" and "Lessons in Life." All felt the sarcasm and wit of his pen, but few knew how heroically he had fought his way to the public ear.

Poverty had driven his father, Harrison Holland, from town to town in search of employment, till finally becoming much interested in developing silk machinery, he settled in Northampton. Young Holland had attended only the winter district schools, working through the summer in factories and elsewhere to assist in supporting the family. Now he zealously began to prepare for college at Northampton high school, but an active life exchanged suddenly for a sedentary one prostrated him with an illness so severe that for months he was helpless, and finally he abandoned the project.

At twenty-one he began the study of medicine, attending lectures at Pittsfield; and in 1844, graduating with honors, he settled in Springfield. Encouraged by his friends, he had early written verses, but he thought a profession would save him from the poverty that had pinched him from earliest childhood, and which so often attends literary people. His patients were plenty, but pay small, so he wrote, and his prose and poetry were accepted by local papers, and an occasional poem found its way into the *American Review* and *Knickerbocker*.

In 1847 he succeeded in keeping alive for six months a literary newspaper, the *Bay State Courier*. The courageous, if baffled, readjust their armor and are never conscious of defeat. It is always easier to go forward to victories with stirring music than to keep step to a minor strain in an unwilling retreat.

In 1848 he taught a private school in Richmond, Va. for three months, when he was notified of his election

as Superintendent of Public Schools, in Vicksburg. He crossed the Alleghenies in mid-winter, lost his trunk, but clung to his young wife; and, after a tiresome passage, by several boats on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, came to his new field of labor with no little reluctance.

However, hard work for more than twelve months brought order out of chaos, and the public school system was thoroughly organized under a new law of the State. Dr. Holland was a firm believer in corporal punishment, and he says he thinks he has whipped more rebels than any man in America.

Having returned to Springfield, the death of the assistant-editor of the *Republican* made an opening; and one day, passing the late Samuel Bowles in the doorway of the newspaper building, he said to himself, "There is the place I want." Mr. Bowles, seeing him, said to himself, "There is the man I want." Soon negotiations were closed. His salary was \$480 for the first year, and \$700 for the second. At its close, becoming discontented, Mr. Bowles sold him a quarter interest for \$3,500, for which Dr. Holland gave

his notes. For the next five years Mr. Bowles and the schoolmaster did all the work, writing all sorts of matter. There was no army of reporters then.

Dr. Holland had little love for politics, so he sought in all ways to benefit the people by discussing social, moral and religious subjects. He endeavored also to interest his readers in the deeds of their forefathers; writing a hundred sketches of town history, all of which first appeared in the columns of the *Republican*, and afterwards were published in two volumes, entitled, "History of Western Massachusetts." This drudgery forced him to search the collections of every antiquary in the Connecticut valley, also Harvard and many other libraries. As his boyhood experiences furnished material in part for his novels, "Arthur Bonnicastle" and "Miss Gilbert's Career," so colonial records supplied facts for "Bay-Path."

The *Republican* grew to be worth nearly a quarter of a million dollars; and in 1867, tiring of newspaper work, Dr. Holland sold out his entire interest, that he might more fully devote his time strictly to literary pursuits. Over a hundred thousand copies of his poem "Bitter Sweet" and "Titcomb Letters" have been sold, and nearly as many more of "Kathrina." For some years he gave every season eighty or more lectures throughout the Northern states.

Poet could not wish for a lovelier home than he formerly owned at "Brightwood," just out of Springfield, overlooking the rich valley farms of the Connecticut river. After a time he traveled for two years with his family through Europe, but his whole trip was embittered by homesickness. Standing on a bridge in Geneva, he conceived the idea of *Scribner's Monthly*, one of the greatest literary successes of this century. In February last, 125,000 copies of the magazine were printed. The English edition of *Scribner's* has already reached 10,000 copies. The price in London is twenty-five cents, here thirty-five.

Dr. Holland spends his summers at "Bonnicastle," a beautiful home he purchased three months ago on one of the Thousand Islands in the St. Lawrence, and there entertains his many friends.—*Ec.*

The Burden of the Day.

BY E. R. CHAPLIN.

Father! take not away
The burden of the day,
But help me that I bear it
As Christ his burden bore,
When cross and thorn he wore,
And none with him could share it—
In his name, help! I pray.

I only ask for grace
To see that patient face,
And I my impatient one;
Ask that mine grow like his—
Sign of an inward peace
From trust in thee alone,
Unchanged by time or place.

The Study of Greek Imperiled.

Signs are not wanting that Greek stands in some jeopardy of being crowded out of our educational curriculum. It will soon, in all probability, be made an optional subject for passmen; and then, although it will retain its pride of place in the honor schools, the ultimate fate of Greek in England will be like that of Hebrew. Such a consummation is devoutly not to be wished, but it is inevitable. Latin stands in no such jeopardy. As an instrument for teaching grammar, and all that grammar implies, its days are practically unnumbered. It is also the master-key to Italian, French and Spanish, and there must always be something more or less dark in his own tongue to an Englishman who has no Latin. Greek can boast no such advantages, and has always been a luxury, so to speak, in the educational world, but Latin is a necessity.

It is needless to say that any change by which the study of either of these tongues can be rendered easier or more attractive deserves to be welcomed and adopted. Mr. Wyndham (a late

writer on the subject)—and he is backed by a good many scholars in his opinion—thinks that much might be done in that direction by pronouncing Latin as it is pronounced at Rome and Greek as it is pronounced in Athens. The first experiment has been recently tried and is, for all we know, still being tried. But Mr. Wyndham himself seems to admit that the trial has proved a failure. Yet it is hard to see how it could be made under more favorable conditions. The head masters of nearly all the most important schools in England adopted the syllabus issued by the Oxford and Cambridge Professors of Latin and sat about teaching their pupils to pronounce Latin like Italian.

It was said at the time when the reform began that the Gorton ladies vastly approved of it. Instead of saying *vicissim* as in the old and unregenerate days, they said "we-kiss-im." But the humorist was wrong; the ladies must have said of course "we-cheese-im."

It is not surprising that this experiment failed, especially as the English way of pronouncing Latin has, from an educational point of view, advantages of its own. Notably, it enables the student to mark much more clearly than the Italian does the difference between long and short vowels. Milton complained, as Mr. Wyndham reminds us, that "we Englishmen, being far northerly, do not open our mouths in the cold air wide enough to grace a southern tongue." Yet the Scots, in Milton's time as now, must have mouthed out their "oes and aes" like very Romans; and it is inconceivable that any English scholar could have quoted Virgil as Scott quotes him in "Waverley," "Moritur et moriens dulces reminiscitur Argos." In reply to Mr. Wyndham's appeal to English scholars to alter their pronunciation of Greek, we can give a very cheerful negative. How Greek is pronounced in the Athens of to-day does not settle the matter. It is demonstrably certain that it was not so pronounced in the Athens of Aristophanes and Demosthenes.—*St. James's Gazette.*

Divided.

ANOTHER ENDING THAN JEAN INGLOW'S.

"Ah, no, sweet poet, not this the ending:
The love of man ne'er rests in the past;
With thoughts of thee soon new love was
blending,
Grew, budded, and blossomed, and conquered at last.

"Dream not, dream not, with pale lips
that quiver,
He's thinking of thee as he walks afar;
I loved her once, but—widened the river—
And he wafts thee away with his evening cigar.

"Thou art but the ghost of a love departed—
He ne peut revenir, ces pauvres mort;
Remember, no man ever died broken-hearted;
Remember, les absents ont toujours tort!"

—Old Harper.