

The Week of Prayer, 1879.

The Circular of the Council of the Evangelical Alliance has been published, and, although it is somewhat early, we think it well to put its contents before our readers as soon as it comes into our hands, so that they may have time to give to the various subjects mature thought and consideration:—

SUNDAY, January 5th.—Sermons:—"The years of the right hand of the most high."—Psalm lxxvii., 10.

MONDAY, January 6th.—Praise:—Praise to God for his long-suffering kindness and mercy; for the goodness of His providence; and especially for salvation in Jesus Christ, and for the blessings enjoyed under the present dispensation of the Holy Ghost. Thanksgiving for the cessation of war and the peaceful settlement of European questions; also for the Divine blessing which has attended the international meetings and services held in the Salle Evangelique, the distribution of the Holy Scriptures, and other Christian work during the Universal Exhibition in Paris. Confession of unbelief and unfruitfulness. Ps. cxvii.; Ps. cvii. 33-43; Rom. xi. 33-36; Acts ii. 14-21; Ps. xlv. 6-11; Dan. ix. 3-10.

TUESDAY, January 7th.—Prayer:—For the power of the Holy Spirit to rest upon and operate in the Church of God everywhere, so that the disciples may be led into all the truth; that errors in doctrine and corruption of Scriptural worship may be stayed; that faith and hope, brotherly kindness and charity may be increased; and that the general tone of spiritual life may be elevated in communion with the Lord. Intercession for believers who are afflicted. John xviii. 36-38; John xvi. 14; 2 Tim. iii. 15; Rom. xii. 9-18; Eph. i. 15-23; Ps. xxxiv. 17-19.

WEDNESDAY, January 8th.—Prayer:—For the energetic operation of the Holy Spirit in the world at large, convicting men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and bringing those who are merely nominal Christians under the quickening and transforming power of the Truth. Also for Christian families; for the training of the young in the fear of the Lord, that they may be kept from error and evil, and especially that the grace of God may be upon them. John xvi. 7-14; Gen. xviii. 17-19; Col. iii. 16-24; Prov. xxii. 6; 1 Chron. iv. 9-10.

THURSDAY, January 9th.—Prayer:—For the effusion of the Holy Ghost "upon all flesh;" for the continuance of peace; for the establishment of righteous government; for the spread of enlightenment, goodwill, and love of justice among all nations, and for their conversion to Christ; for the removal of intemperance and other social evils; special prayer for the nation, its Sovereign, and all in authority. Is. xi. 1-10; Prov. xiv. 14-27; Is. lxi.; Gal. v. 19-26; 1 Tim. ii. 1-4.

FRIDAY, January 10th.—Prayer:—For the blessing of the Spirit of God to accompany evangelistic and missionary labors, and render them fruitful to Christ; for the turning of all Israel to the Lord; for the growth and stability of the young churches gathered from heathen communities; for the revival of Bible Christianity in Eastern lands; for the preaching of the Gospel among all nations, and for "cheerful giving" on the part of those who go not themselves to this work. Matt. xxviii. 19-20; Rom. xi. 26; Acts xi. 19-30; Matt. xxiv. 14; Phil. iv. 10-19.

SATURDAY, January 11th.—Prayer:—For those who preside over the Churches of the Saints, and for all who are called to preach and to teach; for the due observance of the Lord's day; for the wise guidance of biblical translators and critics; for successful resistance to secularism and infidelity; and for the Divine blessing to accompany and follow the General Conference of Christians of various nations to be held this year in Switzerland. Eph. vi. 18-19; Is. lviii. 13-14; 2 Tim. ii. 15-19.

SUNDAY, January 12th.—Sermons:—Looking for "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. i. 7; and Matt. xxiv. 42-51.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger. United States Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 15, 1878.

Senator Hill's recent letter to his constituents has taken the whole political world by surprise, being the first utterance of his against President Hayes or any of his actions. It is considered a sure indication that a strong effort will be made in the coming Congress to unseat Hayes and place Thurman in the Presidency. Even Senator Hill's political enemies regard him as honest, and they know he never acts without judgment and much fore-thought, therefore when he comes out with such open anti-administration utterances as his letter contains, politicians of both parties are put upon the alert. He has from the first upheld the President, even when Blaine and Conkling were attacking

him. It was only in June that Hill said, "I do not believe that President Hayes was in any manner connected with or responsible for the frauds or irregularities. On the contrary, I consider him an honest, pure and upright man. If anybody attempts to inaugurate a revolution, the ex rebels will put it down. We will not allow it." And now, but four months later, he says President Hayes is as bad a man as President Johnson would have been had he given John Wilkes Booth a seat in his Cabinet. In that case, he says, Johnson would have been a greater criminal than Booth, and Hayes is a greater criminal than the rascals who placed him in office.

Another Indian Chief has been here to see the "Great Father" and his Cabinet advisers. He is Manitowab, the spirit-seer, Chief of the Chippewas, and was accompanied by the Catholic missionary to that tribe, who acted as counsellor and interpreter. Manitowab is about fifty, tall, and not very civilized looking notwithstanding his "store clothes." He wore a checkered coat and tall hat in which was stuck a bright feather. He came here at the request of his tribe to ask for Government aid to set them up in farming, and support them till they can support themselves. They are Minnesota Indians, and the Minnesota Congressmen intend to strongly urge upon Congress next winter the same things for which Manitowab is asking. The President received the Chief in his usual pleasant manner, and he afterwards expressed himself as well pleased with the President's manner to him as well as that of Sec'y Schurz, but made no secret of his dislike of the Indian Commissioner, who he said treated him gruffly.

Capt. Eads received from the U. S. Treasury last week \$500,000 advance payment for his Mississippi jetty works. This payment was ordered by the last Congress to enable Capt. Eads to pursue his work, and Attorney-General Devans recently decided that the money could go to nothing else, therefore Capt. Eads's creditors, who have been pestering him of late, can have none of it.

The work on the jetties will be resumed as soon as the yellow fever disappears from that section, which happy event is now a matter of daily expectation. For frost never fails to kill the fever germs, and it is seldom later than this that the first frosts appear in Mississippi. This region has already been visited by two or three slight frosts, though for the most part the weather has been quite like summer.

MERRILL.

Letter from Paris.

No. 25.

(Correspondence of the Christian Messenger.)

PARIS ON A RAINY DAY—THE FIACRES AND OMNIBUSES—ANECDOTE ABOUT AN AMERICAN—UP IN A BALLOON—WHAT ONE SEES AND FEELS 600 METRES UP IN THE AIR—A PAYING INVESTMENT IN HARD TIMES—THE ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR STREETS AND DWELLINGS, ETC., ETC.

HOTEL DU LOUVRE, PARIS, } Oct. 5, 1878.

Delightful as Paris is, without doubt, on a clear, bright day, when the sun is shining and the fountains on the Place de la Concorde seem to be charged with diamonds instead of water, yet I know of no city that looks so dull and dismal when it rains. London has its fogs; but one expects them there—would be disappointed, in fact, if it were not foggy, as if we had missed a part of the show—but, somehow or other, fogs and rain do not assimilate with the Paris atmosphere, and the gay and glittering butterflies which people its busy streets look dismal enough when the rain is pouring down on a dreary October afternoon, like to-day. The famous painting by Edouard Detaille, "Le Regiment qui passe," which was exhibited at the salon of '75, and is now owned by the Corcoran Gallery at Washington, I believe, is an excellent delineation of a rainy day in Paris, from the forlorn look of the poodle dog that trudges in front of the soldiers to the dreary aspect of Porte St. Martin in the foreground. The omnibuses loaded with umbrellas, the dripping policemen, the yellow mud in the street, the clammy-looking houses—all this makes up a perfect tout ensemble which no one who has seen Paris on a rainy day can fail to appreciate.

It is on such days as these that the fiacres, or Paris hacks, make their richest harvest. According to official reports there are not less than twelve thousand of these vehicles in constant use in Paris; they may be readily known by the red waistcoat and shining hat of the driver, and by the little wooden sign on his seat, which indicates whether his vehicle is to let or not. If this sign is turned so as to show the word *loué*, then the fiacre is engaged; if not, it is open to engagement, at the very moderate rate of two francs (forty cents) an hour, or thirty cents for a trip, or *course* as the French call it, any place within the walls of the city. The omnibuses, of course, are well patronized, and it is next to impossible to get a seat in one except at the terminal stations, every one showing the sign of *Complet*, which means, simply translated, no room. And that reminds me of an anecdote, oft-told here, yet doubtless new to most of your readers. An American who had just arrived from the mother country was startled at finding all the street cars and omnibuses showing this sign. He wanted to go to a hotel, but found every omnibus crowded, and the passengers apparently all going in the same direction, viz: to a place called "Complet." "What a popular place that must be," he thought, "that even here in Paris everybody crowds there; and, strange to say, the Guide Books say nothing about it!" It was some time before he found the meaning of this mystic word and learned that every omnibus has seats, outside and inside, for only a certain number of people; and when these are all filled, the conductor shows the sign "Complet" forward and aft, and cannot be induced to stop to pick up more passengers on any part of his route. All the whistling, hollalaing, swearing, and shaking of umbrellas in Christendom would not induce him to do it!

The anchored balloon in the courtyard of the Tuilleries is still doing a fair business, although the price for a trip 600 metres up in the air has not been reduced. As the aerial voyage lasts only about twenty minutes, the price charged (four dollars) seems rather high. I have made the ascent twice, once in fair weather and this forenoon in the rain, and found the last trip the most interesting. After we had got up about two hundred and fifty yards, we could see nothing at all under us, except a dark gray cloud; Paris was completely hidden in the rain, with the exception of the *Arc l'Etoile*, the outlines of which could be faintly traced through the underlying mist. Twice that height we had passed completely through the rain, and the sky looked bright and blue above us, although the sun was still hidden by higher clouds. The last hundred yards did not change the appearance of things, with the exception that one of our lady passengers got sea-sick—no rare occurrence when there is a little wind and the balloon sways to and fro like a ship in a heavy sea.

The effect of this balloon ascension on a clear day, when all the objects below are distinctly visible, and Paris, with its immense network of streets and boulevards, lies spread out like a map, is very peculiar. As the balloon, which will carry sixty-two passengers, gradually rises, the ground seems to sink below and the balloon itself with its occupants to remain stationary in space; it is the same optical illusion, but in reverse order, as that to which one is subject when, while sitting in a railroad car, not in motion, another train passes by, and it seems as if you were moving and the other train at a standstill. The immense buildings of the Tuilleries and Louvre gradually diminish in size; in a little while the triumphal arch on the Place du Carrousel looks no larger than a pea, and the pedestrians on the Place like ants crawling through it. At the extreme altitude of 600 metres all Paris seems to occupy only a few square yards, and the river Seine looks no wider than a thread. "If the rope should break, now?" one cannot help to think without a shudder, especially if it blows and there is a heavy strain on it. Well, in that event the balloon would go straight up like a kite, until the managing aeronaut could open the valve and, by letting the gas escape, cause the balloon to descend to *terra firma*. But, so far, no accident of that or any other kind has happened; and in fine weather

the balloon almost invariably takes up its full complement of passengers, among which are always a large number of ladies. On an average the balloon makes fifteen ascensions a day, and counting only thirty passengers for each trip, which is less than half its capacity, this makes 450, which, at twenty francs a head, is 9,000 francs, or \$1800 per day, so that it will be seen that this balloon business is a paying investment, notwithstanding the expense of running it.

So far the electric light has proved a grand success, which will cause its more general introduction here in December next. The electric lamps on the Avenue de l'Opera, Place de la Concorde, and in the Grand Hotel and Hotel du Louvre, burn without a flicker, and by the use of peculiarly constructed double globes with a violet tint, the brilliancy of the light, which has been heretofore, in a measure, one of the chief obstacles to its general use in public and private dwellings, has been greatly subdued. Though many times as bright as gas, one may look at these globes without aching eyes. The common gas street lamps look like mean yellow fallow dips in comparison with the subdued electric light, the effect of which, on the streets and places where it has been introduced is exactly like that of bright moonlight. Endymion himself might be deceived by the beauty of this modern Selene. Consequently stocks in the several companies which control this invention have gone up, and there is no lack of both English and American capitalists, who are diligently investigating this subject with a view to the introduction of the electric light in their respective countries.

LOUIS.

For the Christian Messenger.

From Georgia.

STONE MOUNTAIN, GA., } October 10, 1878.

The latest yellow fever reports show that the dreadful scourge continues to spread. In certain places, or localities, where it is making its appearance the wildest excitement prevails. In Chattanooga, Tenn., a city directly connected with Atlanta by railroad, the disease appears in epidemic form. No little consternation prevails among the people of the place, and serious apprehensions have been entertained in Atlanta, notwithstanding the latter place has boasted of its freedom from all malarial poisons thought to produce the disease. The disease, from accounts, is fast penetrating the interior of Mississippi, in rural sections, and very great distress prevails there. There are reports that in such sections, away from railroads and steamboat communication, the sick are left uncared for, and the dead remain unburied. Doubtless such reports are highly colored; but there may be some instances of the like. These sufferers are not without generous sympathisers. Thousands of dollars have been raised through the country, north and south, to render the afflicted all the needful aid possible.

This part of the country is again becoming the scene of some political agitation. There has been a great calm enjoyed for some while, and great contentment manifested under the administration of President Hayes, except the ebullitions of party tirade shown by certain journals whose highest ambition has been to keep the embers of civil discord aglow. But what now seems to agitate the service and forbode political excitement is of a different character to the precise coloring of parties hitherto. The "currency question" now comes to the front, with a strong disposition to cut loose from old party ties and form new alliances. The truth is, there seems to be a growing discontent with the Democratic organization as it is in the State. Charges of corruption, bribery, and undermining the rights of the common people have been freely made against those who do the "manipulating," "nominating," &c., in the ranks of that party; besides, it is a conclusion arrived at that all the bluster about reform a few years ago is only an electioneering scheme, the common laboring class of people must now do something in defence of their particular rights or they will be sacrificed. Hence, what is known as the National Greenback party is about to strongly develop itself in Georgia, and all that is perhaps particu-

larly wanting to insure large accessions to its ranks is a well defined State organization.

I have said this much about politics without any intention to discuss the particular merits or demerits of parties here, through the *Messenger*, but merely do so as a matter of news.

The planters are now busy gathering their crops. The grain crop is generally below average. During the month of July the corn was very seriously injured in consequence of dry weather and intense heat during that month. The cotton crop, if any difference, suffered more seriously. Many young forms shed off, and much of it opened prematurely—having very short lint. But what happened to the crop in this part of the State is no index of what the entire crop will be. Doubtless there will be a full average.

P. L. H.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Annapolis Co. Ministerial Conference

met at Bridgetown, Oct. 9th, 1878.

First session at 10 o'clock. The President being absent Rev. P. F. Murray was appointed Chairman. Rev. F. Beattie offered prayer.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

In the absence of brethren appointed to present papers, &c., Rev. T. A. Higgins gave the substance of a sermon from 1 Tim. i. 12, which was followed by an interesting discussion on points raised.

The following resolution was read and laid on the table by Rev. J. C. Bleakney:

"Resolved, That the thanks of this Ministerial Conference are due to Rev. J. Brown, of Paradise, for the able and scholarly manner in which he has exposed the misrepresentations contained in the Rev. D. D. Currie's Catechism, especially the clear and forcible manner in which he has exposed the said Rev. D. D. Currie's misrepresentations of the Lexicons, and that this Conference do hereby pledge themselves to assist as far as in their power to circulate the pamphlets containing said exposures."

Some discussion followed.

Adjourned to meet at half-past two.

Afternoon session, half-past 2. Prayer by Rev. J. Brown.

Rev. J. C. Bleakney's resolution was taken up discussed and passed unanimously.

This was followed by a general discussion of mission work in the county.

Rev. J. C. Bleakney gave some account of the state of things in Albany, Springfield, Dalhousie, &c.

Rev. W. H. Warren called attention to the necessity of the Ministerial Conference so enlarging the base of its operations as to become more fully an auxiliary to the Missionary Union.

Resolved, That Revs. W. H. Warren, J. C. Bleakney and J. Brown be a Committee to remodel the constitution so as to carry out Bro. Warren's views in this matter and report at next meeting.

A question as to the frequency of holding the meetings was referred to the same committee.

Resolved, That there be a public meeting in the evening and that Rev. F. Beattie preach a sermon;

That the next meeting be held at Paradise on the 1st Tuesday in Jan'y, 1879, at 10 o'clock;

That the brethren appointed at the Nictaux meeting to prepare papers, &c., be requested to furnish them for the next meeting, to be held at Paradise;

Also that each member of the Conference is expected to furnish something to make the meetings profitable.

That Rev. T. A. Higgins preach the sermon at the next Conference.

Evening session. Sermon by Rev. F. Beattie and addresses, &c.

For the Christian Messenger.

From Parrsboro'.

Dear Bro. Selden,—

A word or two from me in reference to Parrsboro' may not be without interest to you and the readers of the *Christian Messenger*.

We have lived in this pleasant village now about two years, very happily. The people are kind; the climate is exceedingly healthful; and the scenery of the village and vicinity more than usually beautiful. A more delightfully cool and invigorating air cannot be found anywhere than that breathed by the inhabitants of Parrsboro' Village and shore.

And yet disease and death find their way into our midst. We are just now