

war as a judgment from God for national sins; pledging their support to the Federal Government to establish the supremacy of law, and calling upon the people of God to aim to give a high moral and religious tone to the war, as one means of obviating the evils attendant upon such a conflict.

The New School Presbyterians, by a rising vote, adopted a series of resolutions of the same import, and set apart a day for prayer in behalf of the country.

The Old School Presbyterians fought the matter very closely. In the early part of the session the venerable Dr. Spring introduced a series of resolutions expressive of loyalty, which were at once laid on the table by a large vote. On the sixth day of the session he offered another series of resolutions to the following effect:—First the appointment of a day of fasting and prayer; and secondly, affirming the duty of ministers and churches doing their utmost to preserve the integrity of the United States. Dr. Thomas of Ohio, opened the discussion, affirming that the time had gone by for moving the previous question, and that the Assembly might as well discuss the subject, for discussed it must be. Thus opened one of the most animated and important debates the Assembly has had, since the cutting off of the ministers who formed the New School body. For six days the resolutions were warmly defended, and as warmly opposed; counter resolutions and amendments were introduced in rapid succession. At last the whole were referred to a special committee of nine members. Eight of the nine members presented a majority report, which only committed the Assembly to a declaration of its obligation so far as lay in its power, to maintain the Constitution of the United States in the exercise of its legitimate powers to preserve the Union unimpaired. Dr. Anderson offered as a minority report the resolutions of Dr. Spring. The presentation of these reports was followed by protests, and speeches and amendments till the hour for voting arrived, when the majority report was rejected. Ayes, 84; Nays, 129. Various verbal amendments were then made to Dr. Spring's resolutions which were adopted by a vote of 154 for, to 66 against. This decision was followed by notices of protests from Dr. Hodge, and a number of other ministers. To these protests an answer was prepared by the Assembly, showing that its action was simply a declaration of Christian duty towards the government under which they lived, and that such action cannot be uncalled for or unnecessary, "when thousands of Presbyterians are likely to be seduced from their allegiance by the machinations of wicked men; when our national prosperity is overclouded; when every material interest is in jeopardy, and every spiritual energy paralyzed; when armed rebellion joins issue with armed authority on battle fields, where tens of thousands must perish; and when it remains a question whether our national life survives the conflict, or whether our sun sets in anarchy and blood." Thus ended this important and exciting debate, which will probably result in the secession of Southern synods from the Church.

During the Session, on the reading of the records of the South Carolina Synod, the whole discussion of the Slavery question appeared inevitable, and to stave this off, the whole amendments before the Assembly were laid on the table.—*Montreal Witness.*

The Fragment Basket.

TRUE WISDOM.—Science has made rapid advances; but it has not yet learned how to soothe a troubled conscience, or to lift the burden of remorse from an aching heart. Thousands of years ago, in one of the most ancient of books, the question was asked: Where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding? And in many works that have been written since, men have tried in one way or another to answer it. The thoughtful patriarch who proposed it, sought in vain from all the wisdom and knowledge of his time for a reply that would give peace to his restless spirit. And if we turn to the more mature science of our own day, and repeat the question: "Whence then cometh