

## Selected.

## PENNSYLVANIA STATE CONVENTION.

We copy the following from the *Millennial Harbinger* of December, 1857. It will be seen that we are following the examples of such men as Campbell, Church and Pendleton. We hope a reading of this will cause the churches to take a greater interest in our home mission work and that they will give more liberally to its support. J. S. F.

The Convention of the Churches of Christ in Western Pennsylvania was held in Allegheny City commencing on Thursday, September 10th. Several days were pleasantly and profitably spent in considering the best "ways and means" for the advancement of the cause of our divine Redeemer throughout the state. The convention was favored with the presence and counsel of our beloved brethren Campbell, Church and Pendleton, who contributed much to the interest and edification of the brethren by their lucid and spirit-stirring addresses. The convention was organized by the appointment of Bro. H. B. Goe as President; Wm. J. Lynn, Vice-President; and Bateman Goe and Levi Norton, Secretaries. The following preamble and resolutions, after considerable discussion, were then unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, the church of Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the pillar and support of the truth, the divinely appointed means for the conversion of sinners, and the perfection of the saints. And Whereas, The Lord Jesus, when He ascended up on high, richly endowed her with those spiritual gifts which were eventually calculated to bring her into the unity of the faith and knowledge of her glorious Redeemer. And,

Whereas, The church is now in possession of all the light and truth imparted by those who were thus inspired and commissioned to bring her up to that stand of perfection in knowledge and practice by which alone she can accomplish the glorious purpose of her mission to the world. And

Whereas, we confidently believe that we are in faith and practice followers of those churches which were planted and nurtured by the Apostles, Prophets, and Evangelists of our Lord Jesus Christ, and, inasmuch as it was their glory and their joy to sound out the word of the Lord, and sustain by their prayers, contributions, and influence those engaged in this heavenly work; therefore

Resolved, That the church of Christ, in this age of the world, is solemnly bound by the commission given to the Apostles of the Lord Jesus as well as by the examples of the primitive churches, to proclaim the gospel throughout the world, or to every creature.

Resolved, That for the church to neglect or abandon this glorious enterprise is to be recreant to the authority of her Lord and Redeemer, and in so doing, she will inevitably incur the same woe, which rested upon an inspired apostle if he failed to perform the duty assigned him in the great commission.

Resolved, That we earnestly and zealously cooperate in our prayers and fellowship in the gospel with all those ministers of the word who are engaged in the home mission, and those about to depart to foreign lands, and that we stir up all the holy brethren throughout the State to liberally sustain them, by their contributions, in the glorious work to which they have devoted their lives.

Resolved, That Bro. Thomas Farley, of Allegheny City, James D. Davis and H. Bateman Goe, of Connellsville, be appointed as a State Business Central Committee, whose duty it shall be, first, To open a correspondence with all the churches in the State, urging upon them the absolute necessity of liberally contributing to the support of preachers visiting each congregation and laboring in destitute places throughout the State. Second, That they be authorized to employ and direct the labors of faithful missionaries of the cross in announcing the glad tidings of salvation to perishing sinners, and building up the blessed cause of our common Lord and Redeemer. Third, That they require of the preachers thus employed monthly reports of their labors, and that a quarterly report be prepared and published by them in the *Harbinger* and *Age*. Fourth, That they prepare an address to the churches of Pennsylvania, setting forth the importance of a scriptural organization, and the imperative necessity of raising up and sustaining faithful pastors in the church of Christ. Fifth, That the first money received by said committee be appropriated to the payment of the balance now due to

the preachers who have been in the employ of the Missionary Board.

Resolved, That the secretary be appointed, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the committee, collect and report information for its action, and to keep up a constant conference with all agents and evangelists employed by the committee, and generally to superintend and report upon their faithfulness and labors.

Resolved, That a faithful account of all expenses incurred by the action of the corresponding secretary in the discharge of the duty prescribed above, shall be kept by the secretary, and that the same shall be paid out of the funds collected.

Resolved, That the committee be authorized to employ an agent, or agents, to solicit and procure funds for the accomplishment of the work of missions throughout the State.

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches in Pennsylvania to raise a fund of ten thousand dollars to be invested in safe securities, for the education of suitable persons for the work of the ministry, and that the agent appointed by the executive committee be authorized to solicit subscriptions to said fund.

Resolved, That there be an annual meeting of all the churches in the State of Pennsylvania, alternately east and west, in order to sustain and energize one another in the glorious work in which we are engaged.

Resolved, That all further action in regard to carrying out the resolutions passed as above, be conferred upon the executive committee.

H. B. GOE, *President.*

WM. J. LYNN, *Vice-President.*

H. BATEMAN GOE, } *Secretaries.*

LEVI NORTON, }

## HIS MOTHER'S BIBLE.

The visitor in Westminster Abbey is shown a chair which impresses him but little until he learns something of its history. Carved rudely of oak, clumsy in its distribution of weight, and ungraceful in its lines, without artistic finish or elegant carving, the most one notices regarding it is that beneath the rude seat is a still ruder stone, a rough boulder such as might be lifted into a farmer's wagon to be later dumped into the "creek." But when he learns that in this chair the kings of England have been crowned for an unknown period, and that in generations still before, this ruder stone was itself the coronation chair, without its drappings of cloth of gold, it is to the beholder the throne of a mighty kingdom and venerable by association with English power and Anglo-Saxon liberties.

A few days ago the honored citizen of this republic, chosen for the second time to its highest executive office, according to the custom of the land and the laws of the state, took the solemn oath of loyalty and fidelity. But that which made the occasion noticeable was the fact that President Cleveland chose to be sworn in as president on his mother's Bible. Nobody who knew the circumstances could but augur well for the administration to follow. It reminds us all of that inauguration not so many years ago, when after this oath as chief executive of one of the greatest nations of earth, President Garfield turned him round, and, before delivering his first message, kissed the mother that bore him, as she sat beside him on the platform. Presidents who in the supreme moments of their lives honor the love and piety of those that gave them being, will never bring disgrace to their high office.

Happy is the man whose childhood has been such that it is forever associated in his own mind with thoughts of his mother's devotion. It is said that no race ever had such beautiful women as the family of Israel, because each daughter of Jacob realized that she might be in the line of the Messiah. What would it add to the dignity and worth of American womanhood, could each fair daughter of our land remember that her sons may rise up in places of power to call her blessed, and to feel the benediction of her life still potent in their exercise of sovereignty.

Looking back to the days of the war, we doubt if there ever was an army that carried in the knapsack so many Mothers' Bibles; and there never was an army of harder fighters. How many a lad was saved from something worse than bullets by that talisman. The household is to be pitied which does not contain within it as better than the teraphim of Rachel the mother's Bible.—*Interior.*

Any pastor who has influence enough with his church to be of any service to them in any other line of Christian work can, if he is so disposed, secure the adoption of some plan of benevolence that will be helpful to the church and to missions. It is not that the churches, even the smallest and the poorest, as a rule, are not willing to contribute to these causes that so large a number give nothing, but it is because they are not informed as to the necessity and the opportunity. If the pastor is himself interested and informed, he will find a way to interest and inform his people.—*The Advance.*

## News of the Churches.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

Two of our families have been called to mourn the loss of loved ones this month. Sister Finlay died after a short illness on the 7th of March, and the infant of Bro. Robert Reed on the 18th. We do not sorrow as those without hope. We know the promises of God are sure, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." Sister Finlay will be missed very much, as she was one of the most faithful, always interested and never absent without a good reason.

We had a pleasant visit from Bro. Sinclair, of St. Thomas, Ont., on Sunday, the 19th.

Wm. and Allan Gates, who spent the winter in St. John, have gone to the eastern part of New Brunswick. We are sorry to lose them; they have attended all our meetings regularly and helped to make them interesting. We found them ready to help in every good work.

The church was crowded on the evening of the 22nd to witness the marriage of Sister Minnie Magee to Mr. Saunders. Bro. Stewart performed the ceremony, after which the happy couple took the train for their home in Lowell, Mass. A large number went to the depot to see them off. They have the best wishes and congratulations of all. So we lose another active worker by removal; but Sister Minnie will work wherever she may be, being deeply interested in the cause of the Master.

The interest in Portland continues good. Good audiences come to hear Bro. Stewart preach. The attendance at the Sunday-school averaged fifty during March. On the last Sunday in March there was an attendance of sixty-two, eight of whom were new scholars. A young lady, from the Sunday-school was baptized on the 24th. This is a source of joy to see our mission bearing fruit so soon.

We began our quarterly on the first Lord's day in March, and so far three have made the good confession. The attendance and interest in the meetings have been good. We hoped to see more turning to the Lord, but over this we have no control. Bro. Stewart has done all he could to persuade them to turn; and we feel sure the seed sown will bear fruit in the future.

The Endeavor Society has made a handsome present to the church of 100 reference Bibles for the pews. This is a wise gift and just what was needed. At the annual we were short of Bibles, only having about 125 in the house. Of course many brought their Bibles with them, and there was about one book for every two that came. Now, unless we have a great crowd, we will have a Bible for every one that comes. Let other Endeavorers go and do likewise.