THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Old and New School Assemblies.

Final Adjournment of the New School.

A VIOLENT PHILIPPIC AGAINST ENGLAND.

Easy Divorces and Infanticide Condemned.

THE FINANCES OF THE CHURCH.

THE OLD SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.

Tenth Day.

The Assembly met at nine A. M. After the usual devotional exercises the business opened by the reading of the minutes, which were approved. The nominations to fill vacancies on the different Boards of the Church were closed. Mr. Cartter offered the following, which was passed:—

Resolved, That the churches under our care be requested to take up a collection on the first Sabbath of October to defray the expenses of the delegates to the meeting at Pittsburg in November.

Resolved, The Assembly recommends to all the ministers in our connection that they deposit copies of their occasional publications, including historical discourses, theological essays, &c., in the libraries of our several theological seminaries, and also in the library of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

A protest to the plan of union was presented and read. It was suggested that it be referred to a special committee, but on Dr. Musgrave insisting that it required no answer, no action, the protest was received and tabled. It reads:—

The undersigned respectfully requests that the following protest be entered upon the minutes of this Assembly:—

I do not protest against an organic union of the two branches of our Church, but against the plan of reunion approved and adopted by this Assembly, and for the following reasons:—

First—This plan requires us to ignore doctrinal and other differences between the two branches of our Church which our General Assemblies have recognized and condemned.

Second—It recognizes the individuality of the two branches of our Church as existing and continuing to exist subsequently to the proposed reunion.

Third—It provides for the meeting of a General Assembly in the year 1870, and that said General Assembly shall be unconstitutionally organized.

Fourth—It recognizes the Moderator of the present New School General Assembly to be the only legally constituted Moderator of the 1st General Assembly of 1870, and as being the sole possessor of the Moderatorship of the present Old School and New School General Assemblies, by conceding his right to open, and providing that he shall open said General Assembly of 1870 with the only form of opening authorized by the constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

I respectfully protest, also, against the hasty action of this Assembly concerning the said plan of union, which plan I was constrained to accept or reject in its entirety, without being allowed sufficient time for its due consideration.

It is because I desire the formation of an organic union of the two branches of our Church—a union upon such a basis as would render it peaceful and permanent—that I submit most respectfully, this protest to the judgment of this assembly of churches. CHARLES C. CONVERSE.

Rev. Dr. SAMUEL IRENÆUS PRIME, Secretary to the American Branch of the Evangelical Alliance, was then called upon and delivered an address, in which he spoke of the first organization of the alliance in London in 1846, and its rapid extention throughout the world. The object was simply to oppose Romanism, Ritualism and Infidelity. These were threatening to conquer this country, and the speaker stated that by means of legislation the Catholics had secured $200,000 annually for their schools. At the conclusion of his remarks, Rev. Dr. John Hall, of New York, offered the following, which was adopted:—

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

1. That this Assembly has heard with great satisfaction that the Evangelical Alliance of the United States has invited a conference of evangelical Christians in this country, to meet in the city of New York in the ensuing autumn, and a general conference of evangelical Christians in all the earth, to assemble in the same city of New York, in the autumn of 1870; and it will unite its prayers with those of Christ's people everywhere, that the Holy Spirit may guide their counsels and lead to wise results for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

2. That the principles of the Protestant Reformation, identified as they are with the progress of religious liberty, education and Christianity in the earth, are increasingly precious in our eyes, and we call upon our ministers and people to watch with jealous care the efforts of Romanism in the United States, and by the employment of all suitable means to resist the insidious attempts of Roman Catholics to obtain undue influence in this country.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures made a series of reports, which were put to a vote of the house and adopted. When the report in regard to the "injurious decision of the United States Circuit Court" was up, some believed it improper to make any such references, but the report was finally carried. One, in regard to the election of elders, called forth some discussion as to what was actually decided in the appeal case of Hynes against the Synod of Illinois, and, to give the house an opportunity to settle that question, the matter was placed upon the docket.

The report in regard to praying in a sitting posture and also about "responsive reading of the Bible," was docketed to be taken up hereafter for discussion and vote. The following were the principal reports worth mentioning:—

OVERTURE NO. 58—Your committee would simply say, that while we do not think it advisable for this General Assembly to recommend (as asked in the memorial) that a collection be taken up in all our churches, yet we do regard the claims of the church of Annapolis as worthy of the sympathy and prayers of God's people, and would thus far recommend it to the kind regards of our churches.

OVERTURE NO. 61.—In response to this memorial your committee recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following minute:—

The General Assembly, having, by its action at Albany in 1866, recognized the Southern Presbyterian Church, formerly in connection with this body, as a distinct and separate ecclesiastical organization, sustaining to the Church represented by this body the same relations as other Presbyterian Churches in our land, and directing that its ministers and members be placed on the same footing as the ministers and members of such other Presbyterian bodies not in ecclesiastical connection with us, thus opening the way for the reception of ministers and members from that body into our own upon the same terms and conditions as ministers and members from other Presbyterian bodies are received; and as the six presbyteries in Kentucky which were independent at the time the memorial was adopted are now in formal connection with the Southern Assembly the members of those bodies are, of course, embraced in the provisions of the Assembly's action of 1862 above referred to, so that the views of the memorialists as expressed in the first and third items of the memorial have already been met by the Assembly as fully as is practicable.

In reference to the second suggestion of the memorial, the General Assembly contents itself with saying that chapter xxxi, article vi, of the Confession of Faith is a law of the Church and binding upon all its jurisdictions.

OVERTURE NO. 46.—By Book of Discipline, chapter x, section 8, the Presbytery has power to visit particular churches for the purpose of inquiring into their state, and redressing the evils that may have arisen in them, and to order whatever pertains to their spiritual welfare without being requested by the session.

OVERTURE NO. 56.—The committee recommend that it be enjoined upon the sessions of our churches, on the removal of any members beyond the boundaries of their own organization, to furnish such members, whether in full communion, or members by baptism only, with testimonials of their standing; which testimonial it shall be the duty of such persons at once to present to some church of our connection, and the session shall earnestly counsel these members to transfer their relation immediately, if practicable, or at the earliest opportunity. Also that in case but a single organization of our order is within reach of the party so removed, the session having care of them shall transmit to that church session a copy of the testimonials foregoing; if more than one then the party may elect to which of them these shall be sent.

OVERTURE NO. 25.—No provision is made in the constitution for the calling or holding of *pro re nata* meetings of Synod.

OVERTURE NO. 25.—It appears in the case referred to in this overture that a minister having taken a qualified letter of dismission from his presbytery, was received by the presbytery to which he was dismissed upon the other testimonials.

It is the opinion of this Assembly—

1. That no presbytery has the right to grant qualified letters of dismission to any of its members.

2. That no presbytery can receive a minister except upon a letter of dismission from the presbytery to which he belongs.

3. That the action of the presbytery in the case referred to in receiving said minister being void, the proper course would have been to strike his name from the roll and notify the presbytery to which he belongs of his irregularity.

OVERTURE NO. 8.—When it is alleged that a minister has committed an offence in the bounds of a Presbytery of which he is not a member, the Presbytery in the bounds of which it is alleged the offence was committed has performed its entire duty in the premises when it notifies the Presbytery to which he belongs of the allegation and the grounds on which the allegation is based.

Rev. Dr. HORNBLOWER, of Paterson, then obtained the floor, and on behalf of the Committee on Theological Seminaries he made a very voluminous report upon the subject. The most interesting and, indeed, important part of this report are the passages referring to the troubles and dissensions between the directors of the Northwestern Theological Seminary at Chicago and Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick, who made a gift of $100,000 to the seminary and got well berated by the radical directors for being a democrat. This part of the report is given entire:—

NORTHWESTERN SEMINARY.

The Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary of the Northwest present their tenth annual report. Rev. William M. Blackburn, elected to the professorship of biblical and ecclesiastical history by the last General Assembly, accepted the appointment and was duly inaugurated into the office. The faculty of this seminary, therefore, is now full. Thirty-six students have been in attendance on the course of instruction during the term. Fourteen students have received certificates of graduation, one of whom is soon to join our mission in Japan. Eight hundred and seventy-eight volumes have been added to the libraries of the seminary, besides a complete set of the Princeton *Repository and Review*. The financial agent of the Board has rendered valuable services in collections in behalf of the seminary during the year.

Besides the regular report of the directors there has been placed in the hands of the committee a minority report, signed by three directors—C. A. Spring, Warren Norton and John M. Buchanan—who affirm that they were "members of the committee appointed by the Board of Directors to prepare the annual report to the General Assembly." These gentlemen express their dissent from the majority report of that committee. Some of their objections, however well taken against the report of that committee, do not lie against the report of the directors actually sent up to the Assembly, and we therefore are not called upon to consider them. In reference to other matters, the facts involved are not clearly before your committee, and we do not feel bound to go into a full examination of them, which would be long and tedious and not likely to result in permanent benefit to the seminary.

We feel constrained, however, to call the attention of the Assembly to two facts complained of by the minority to which no reference is made in the report of the directors to the Assembly.

1st.—It is well known to the Church at large that the most liberal benefactor of the seminary has declined to pay the last instalment of his proposed and promised endowment of four professorships. It is certainly strange that the directors have given the Assembly no information upon this important subject. It seems to us that they ought to have taken measures to settle this difficulty, and, if they have done so, to have informed the Assembly of the fact. This is a matter on which the honor of the Assembly is involved. There are pledges unredeemed, which it is the duty of this Assembly to secure for the benefit of the seminary under their care. Moreover, it has gone out to the world that in the management of the seminary too little deference has been paid to the wishes of its most liberal benefactor. Your committee is of the opinion that, whatever may be the legal rights of the case, there is a high moral and religious obligation resting on a beneficiary to consult the wishes of the benefactor; and this Assembly should insist that deference should be paid, in the present instance, to the known and declared views of the gentleman who has so largely endowed this institution, unless those views are manifestly opposed to the best interests of the institution and the expressed direction and appointment of the General Assembly.

Second—It appears that the directors have displaced three of the trustees, "who from the beginning have acted as guardians of the treasury fund," and that this removal of three of their number has led or will inevitably lead to the resignation of other members of the Board of Trustees. The trustees whose services to the seminary will thus be lost are gentlemen of high "social and financial position, who have themselves contributed eight-ninths of the permanent fund of the institution, besides liberal and frequent donations to the contingent fund." Of these facts, so important in the history of the seminary, the report of the directors makes no mention, and your committee are of opinion, if the facts are as reported by the minority, that the interests of the seminary require the immediate restoration of the trustees displaced to their former positions in the Board of Trustees, which they have so long and faithfully filled to the entire satisfaction of the Assembly.

The committee recommend the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Assembly do request the three trustees recently appointed by the Board of Directors to resign, and that in that case the directors are ordered to reinstate the three trustees who have been recently removed, and they do advise the Trustees who have tendered their resignations to withdraw the same.

Resolved, That the Board of trustees are earnestly exhorted to co-operate with the directors in sustaining the institution and in seeking the things which make for peace. The committee recommend that the report of the directors (that is the report called the majority report), and the report of the trustees of this seminary, &c., be printed in the appendix to the minutes.

The reverend gentleman stated that the report was adopted unanimously, except that part relating to the Northwestern Seminary, upon which the vote in committee was 10 to 2.

Rev. H. G. SPAFFORD read a minority report, the reading of which was interrupted by a point of order that the statements contained in it have no reference to the subject referred to the committee.

Senator DRAKE insisted that no point of order can be made, as the minority, by leave of the house, have the right to present their views as they see fit.

Judge SKINNER believed the report to be utterly out of order, as it touches upon subjects wholly foreign to the matter referred to the committee.

The MODERATOR decided Mr. Spafford to be in order, and that gentleman continued.

When the report had been read Senator DRAKE said that this question of the Northwestern Theological Seminary may probably give rise to exasperated debate. Some discussion arose whether the Senator was in order, and a vote was taken allowing him to proceed. He closed by stating that as the facts are controverted he moved for the appointment of a special committee to investigate the matter at Chicago and report to the Assembly in November next.

Judge JOHN B. SKINNER made a somewhat violent and rather personal attack on the minority report and its author, who, he said, was steeped to his elbows in this very controversy.

Rev. J. B. STEWART, one of the signers of the minority report, defended it against Judge Skinner's attack and claimed it as a right to be heard. He acted as he did from his own knowledge, which came to him outside of the papers referred to the committee, and as a man of conscience he was bound to act as he did.

Rev. Dr. HORNBLOWER defended the majority of the committee, who extended a general invitation to all who had any information to communicate upon the subject of the seminaries. He would not submit to the appointment of a special committee in a manner so as to reflect upon the standing committee as if they had not fully discharged their duty.

Senator DRAKE disclaimed all idea of casting the slightest reproach upon the committee.

Rev. Dr. JOHN HALL moved that only so much of the minority report be considered as traverses the majority report, and he pointed the house to the gravity of the proceedings.

Dr. HALE, of Rochester, moved to lay Senator Drake's motion for a select committee on the table. Several votes were taken, the nays being evidently in a majority, when a division was called for and decided by a two-thirds majority against laying on the table.

Mr. HENRY DAY, one of the majority of the committee, believed it monstrous that the matter should have been thrust before the Assembly by the minority, and they would insist that the House either adopt or reject the majority report.

Dr. HALE moved to amend the motion of Senator Drake so that the special committee be appointed after the adoption of either the majority or minority report, and another member moved to recommit.

Rev. Mr. PHRANOR was not prepared to adopt either; the quarrel has filled the Church with disgust and the Assembly was not prepared to settle it now and here.

Rev. Dr. ANDERSON hoped that the special committee would be raised as moved.

Rev. Dr. SAMUEL MILLER wished all other business to be postponed until this matter is disposed of, as it is a matter of importance on which every member of the house wished to speak.

Rev. J. H. MORRON came to the rescue of the minority. He entered into the discussion reluctantly, but the matter is of such importance, and it has excited such intense feeling throughout the West, that he felt bound to defend the action of the minority.

Rev. Mr. SHOCKLEY hoped for Mr. Drake's motion to pass as the best way to dispose of the matter.

Rev. Mr. SHEETS predicted the strife last year as it had actually come. He stated then that by accepting that large gift from one man he would attempt to govern the seminary (meaning the $100,000 gift of Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick). The question now before them is one that will shake this Assembly and the Northwestern Seminary to its foundation, as the one-man power over the seminary is to be broken. Senator Drake's motion was carried, as follows:—

Inasmuch as it is apparent that matters of great moment pertaining to the interests of the Theological Seminary at Chicago are involved which cannot now be considered, and without now deciding anything pertaining to the subject, and with due deference to the reports presented by the majority and minority,

Resolved, That so much of the report of the majority as refers to the Theological Seminary of the Northwest and the report of the minority on the same subject be referred to a select committee of five, who shall consider all the matters therein set forth, and investigate the same and all other matters in controversy in regard to said seminary, and report upon the same at the adjourned session of this General Assembly in November, and that, in the meantime, the Directors, whose terms are now expiring, be continued in office until the end of that adjourned session, and that said committee have authority to send for persons and papers, and to examine witnesses, and to fill any vacancies that may occur in their body.

Mr. SPAFFORD made a personal explanation as to documents submitted to the committee by him, and the House adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

The session opened with prayer.

Rev. Dr. ROGERS, of New Jersey, moved the appointment of a select committee to propose amendments to the constitution of the Church, which was adopted. It was resolved that the adjourned session shall be held at the First Presbyterian church, at Pittsburg. A delegate asked whether, if he could not come to the adjourned session, his alternate would be admitted, which was decided in the negative.

Rev. Dr. C. K. IMBRIE, of Jersey City, submitted a report from the Committee on Systematic Beneficence, accompanied by a series of resolutions, which was received, and the latter ordered to be considered *seriatim*. The report gave a detailed account of the sums contributed to the several boards, amounting to less than a cent a day for each communicant. If it were one cent a day for each, the entire amount would be one-third more and a sum of nearly one million dollars per year. The whole amount received by all the boards is $652,567, an increase of $40,787 over the year before. This is about $2 58 for each communicant, or fourteen cents for each communicant over the contributions of last year. If each communicant would contribute a cent a day the whole amount received would have been $921,825. The report says that, unless a large increase is realized, the board will be bankrupt in five years or even in less time.

The first resolution gave rise to some debate. Mr. Candee, of Milwaukee, opened by stating that he doubted the propriety of repealing a rule which has been neglected by the churches. The assembly ought to enforce the rule, or at least censure the neglect of the churches. Elder Ezra M. Hunt, of Elizabethtown, spoke warmly of the necessity of making frequent collections, for to give for the spread of the Gospel is an act of worship as much as to pray. After some further conversation the resolution was passed. The whole series was gone through with, each being discussed and explained and several slightly amended. The question of raising money created quite a lively discussion, it being principally claimed that more money must be got. One of the reverend gentlemen said that the proposed plan would create difficulties in the churches. "Go among the Scotch-Irish of Pennsylvania and they won't stand it," while on the other hand it was asserted "the Lord loveth the cheerful giver." Another alleged that the fault lies further. There are Presbyterians who give and like to know what is done with their money, and one-quarter of the mission churches have not reported at all. He would ask the boards to make the missionaries come up to the rule and report to the board from which they get their bread and butter. One speaker considered the plan proposed in the resolutions reported by the committee as the first effort at establishing a practical system for the beneficent work of the Church.

The plan as adopted provides for yearly estimates by the secretaries of the several boards, to be submitted to the Assembly, by it to be apportioned among the Synods, by the Synods to be apportioned among the Presbyteries, and the latter to assess each church its relative proportion.

Rev. Dr. H. R. WILSON, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, introduced Rev. Mr. Cyr, representative of the Tract Society of Paris, France. Infidel France, he said, can do something; she gave $130,000 for Romish missions in America, and America gave $12,000 to aid the struggling churches in France. The great wealthy churches of America, however, do more for Protestantism in France than French Catholics do for their missions in America. There is a new era in France since the last exhibitions, when one hundred and fifty thousand French Catholics heard the Gospel preached, and even the Empress, though a very pious Catholic, gave a beautiful banner to the Protestant Sunday school of Paris, numbering four hundred children.

The MODERATOR inquired whether in appointing the select committee on the Chicago Seminary he is restricted to members of the Assembly or whether he may appoint others, which latter was voted by the house.

Similar resolutions as those adopted in the New School Assembly on answering the Pope's invitation were passed on motion of the Committee on Bills and Overtures. The following interesting paper was also reported from the same committee and passed:—

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, to whom was referred the paper relating to divorce and infanticide, beg leave to report that they recommend the adoption of the following:—

That it is with great pain we are constrained to admit the increasing prevalence in many parts of our country of unscriptural views of the marriage relation, in consequence of which the obligations of that relation are disregarded by many, and separations of husbands and wives, and divorces for slight and unwarrantable reasons, are becoming more frequent every year. Nor can we shut our eyes to the fact that the horrible crime of infanticide, especially in the form of the destruction by parents of their own offspring, before birth, also prevails to an alarming extent. The evils which these errors and crimes have already brought upon our country, and the worse evils which they threaten in the near future, make it imperative, as we believe, that the whole power of the ministry of the Church of Jesus Christ should be put forth in maintenance of truth and of virtue in regard to these things. Many causes have operated to produce a corruption of the public morals so deplorable; prominent among which may be mentioned the facility with which divorces may be obtained in some of the States, constant promulgation of false ideas of marriage and its duties by means of books, lectures, &c., and the distribution through the mails of impure publications; but an influence not less powerful than any of these is the growing devotion to fashion and luxury of this age and the idea which practically obtains to so great an extent that pleasure, instead of the glory of God and the enjoyment of His favor, is the great object of life. It is therefore the duty of the Church of Christ to oppose in every practical way these and all other corrupting agencies and tendencies, and we especially urge upon all ministers of the Gospel, the duty of giving instruction to the people of their respective charges as to the Scriptural doctrine concerning the marriage relation. We warn them against joining in wedlock any who may have been divorced upon other than Scriptural grounds. We also enjoin upon church sessions the exercise of due discipline in the cases of those members who may be guilty of violating the law of Christ in this particular. This Assembly regards the destruction by parents of their own offspring before birth with abhorrence as a crime against God and against Nature; and, as the frequency of such murders can no longer be concealed, we hereby warn those who are guilty of this crime that except they repent they cannot inherit eternal life. We also exhort those who have been called to preach the Gospel, and all who love purity and the truth, and who would avert the just judgment of Almighty God from the nation, that they be no longer silent or tolerant of these things but that they endeavor by all proper means to stay the flood of impurity and cruelty. We call upon all to remember that marriage is honorable, not only in itself but in its ends. Therefore those who seek to avoid the responsibility and cares connected with the bringing up of children not only deprive themselves of one of the greatest blessings of life and fly in the face of God's decrees, but do violence to their own natures, and will be found out of their sins even in this world.

It was suggested that the paper be sent officially to every church in the country, and that every minister be requested to read it publicly to his congregation, but Senator Francis, of Pennsylvania, protested earnestly against this in the name of the country churches and the proposition was voted down.

After some minor matters were disposed of the Assembly adjourned for the day, with prayer by the Moderator.

THE NEW SCHOOL ASSEMBLY.

Tenth Day.

The tenth day's session of the New School Presbyterian General Assembly was opened as usual yesterday morning with prayer.

After some unimportant motions had been passed upon Judge STRONG said he wished to explain some doubts which were entertained about the constitution of the Pittsburg Assembly. That Assembly should be as full as possible, because the attendance was of special importance on account of the matters that were to be decided by that gathering. The Pittsburg Assembly was merely an adjournment of this Assembly, and the same commissioners who were here present, and not their alternates, would constitute it. It was made a rule at the General Assembly of 1827 that the roll once made up could not be altered.

After some discussion the matter was referred to a special committee.

A report was read and adopted which recommended the appointment of corresponding delegates to the various religious bodies.

Rev. Dr. POOR then proceeded to urge on the Assembly the necessity of maintaining more liberally the German Theological Seminary at Newark, N. J., which has been but recently started.

After remarks by several other gentlemen, who spoke of Americanizing the German population as well as all the other foreign elements, the report was adopted.

The order of the day, namely—a resolution sent in by the Old School on Saturday, having reference to the preservation of a lasting peace between England and America, was then taken up.

Judge FOOTE said it would be a burning shame to have these two great Protestant nations involved in war. When he remembered that there was a large number in England who sympathized with the rebellion in this country, and also that there was a large number in this country who sympathized with rebellion in other countries, he thought it right that they should offer up prayers for the prevention of that turbulent spirit. He said, "Let us have peace."

Dr. SUNDERLAND, of Washington, said it appeared that a paper was passed last week by the other Assembly and sent here to be passed. He did not object to the resolution simply because it might seem to be meddling with those things outside of their legitimate scope and sphere. It appeared on the face of the resolution that they allowed the American government was as much to blame as that of Great Britain, and they should be cautious in putting it before the world in that aspect. He believed that in the present state of the world war sometimes is a direful necessity, and it must be gone through with. With reference to this country and Great Britain, he said that while the American people were drunk with the wine of slavery the rods of God's wrath were laid upon them, and he believed now, as we had taken our dose, England ought to have hers. He believed it would serve England greatly to get a good drubbing from some one. Who does not know that in all the history of the past England has been the greatest robber and land pirate in the world? Who does not know that she exhibited the greatest cruelty in her own rebellion in India, where she blew the unfortunate Sepoys from the mouths of her guns? And look at Ireland. There she stands to-day a living monument of the greatest tyranny and oppression ever perpetrated in the civilized world. We are appealed to by our own greatness, by our great living and noble dead, not to permit this bitterness and controversy to exist between the two countries. It is my honest conviction that if anything should happen to impair this country to-day nine-tenths of the English people would help it on and be glad of our misfortunes. Where was our Nelson when the Alabama was fitted out in an English port and sent out on the broad seas to prey like a wolf on our commerce? If England shall never be willing to do us justice—shall never take away that sense of injury which every loyal man in America feels, and if we are not disposed to make her do us justice by force, there is one thing that is certain, that the reason why England did not recognize the South was that one fine morning the Monitor appeared in Hampton Roads, and from that hour we heard no more of Southern recognition. When we have our own affairs properly settled let the aristocracy of England tremble. We will make war on England. We will avenge ourselves. Though it may not be a war of blood it will be a war of principles and ideas, and will scatter the aristocracy of England, which had always been the breakwater to progress and freedom, to the four winds of heaven.

A VOICE—Mr. Moderator, I hope we are not going to settle all the affairs of Europe to-day.

The MODERATOR ruled that Dr. Sunderland was in order, and after a few minor remarks in a more moderate vein, the speaker concluded.

Rev. Dr. FORD differed with Dr. Sunderland as to the means of curing England. He wanted to deliver England over to God to rectify her. He would rather trust God to do it than our cannon.

Rev. Mr. WAUGH inveighed against the speech of Dr. Sunderland and said he would be very sorry to see that speech published in the newspapers.

Dr. BOOTH moved the indefinite postponement of the resolution.

The motion was reconsidered and carried.

Dr. MAXWELL, from the Committee on the Evangelical National Council, to be held in this city next October for the purpose of trying to effect a unity between all the Churches, read a report on the subject, which was adopted.

The Assembly here took its usual recess until half-past two o'clock.

Afternoon Session.

On reassembling an opening prayer was offered and the business before the house was resumed.

After the adoption of some reports previously read and discussed (and given in the HERALD at the time) Rev. Dr. ADAMS moved that the Assembly proceed to the election of trustees of the Presbyterian House and trustees and auditors of the Church Erection Fund.

The following gentlemen were duly elected by ballot to these positions:—

Trustees of the Presbyterian House—John C. Farr, Charles S Warts, M. D.; Rev. Daniel March, D. D.; Rev. Wm. T. Eva, Rev. Thomas J. Shepherd, D. D.

Trustees of the Church Erection Fund—Rev. J. Few Smith, D. D., Rev. Samuel R. Burchard, D. D., and Mr. F. G. Burnham, for the full term of three years, and Rev. Norman Seaver, D. D., for two years, in place of Rev. Arthur Mitchell, resigned.

Auditors of the Church Erection Fund—Mr. Joseph F. Joy, Mr. Joseph W. Lester and Mr. Fredwell Ketchum.

A lengthy debate here followed in reference to the question of adopting the suggestions set forth in the report of Rev. Dr. Fowler, the delegate appointed to visit the Presbyterian Assemblies of Scotland and Ireland in relation to changing the Church government in this country so as to conform to that of Scotland and Ireland. [The report has already appeared in the HERALD.] On motion of Dr. Adams the whole subject was recommitted to the committee from whom it was reported.

After the transaction of some unimportant business

The subject of the theatre, the opera, the dance and card playing was referred to a special committee, with instructions to report to the Assembly in Pittsburg.

A resolution was passed to the effect that the first Sabbath in January be set aside as a day of prayer for the conversion of the world.

On motion of Dr. ADAMS the Presbytery of South Carolina was attached to the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

Rev. Dr. HUMPHREY read a resolution tendering the thanks of the Assembly to the people of New York for their hospitality; also to the conductors of the daily press for their faithful records of the proceedings, &c. Carried.

The mover of the resolution then went on to pass a farewell eulogy on the greatness of New York.

Rev. Dr. PRENTISS then made a few remarks, commencing by saying he was happy to feel that the Assembly was going away from New York with the idea in their minds that they had been blessed instead of "blasted." (alluding to the blasting of rocks in the vicinity during the session of the Assembly). In behalf of the churches and his brethren of New York he thanked the Assembly for their presence.

The final roll call was then read, and after appropriate prayers the Assembly adjourned *sine die*.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Board of Aldermen.

This Board met yesterday afternoon, according to call, with the President, Alderman Coman, in the chair. A large amount of routine business was disposed of after which resolutions were adopted as follows:—To rearrange the election districts of the Twenty-first ward; to renumber Bleecker street and abolish the use of particular names of portions of the street, such as Leroy place; to pave Thirty-fifth street, from Broadway to the Ninth avenue, and Thirty-sixth street, from Sixth avenue to Ninth avenue, with Belgian pavement; to regulate, set curbs, &c., in a number of streets. The Board adjourned to Monday.

Board of Assistant Aldermen.

The Board met yesterday afternoon, the President, Mr. Monaghan, presiding.

THE NEW POST OFFICE.

A resolution to appoint a joint committee to confer with the Commissioners in regard to changing the site for a new Post Office was presented and laid over.

GAS LAMPS AND TELEGRAPH POLES IN THE PARK.

The Board concurred with the Aldermen in directing the Street Commissioner to have the gas lamps from Centre street to the lower end of the Park removed, and also to confer with the the telegraph companies owning poles in that locality so as to have them placed on the inside of the easterly railing of the Park.

BELGIAN PAVEMENTS.

The Croton Aqueduct Department was directed to have the following streets paved with Belgian pavement:—Harrison street, from Hudson to West; Lafayette place, from Great Jones street to Astor place; Franklin street, from West Broadway to West street; Attorney street, from Division to Houston; Fiftieth street, from Ninth to Tenth avenues.

DONATION.

The Comptroller was directed to draw his warrant in favor of the German Mission Association for the sum of $5,000.

The Board adjourned.

Board of Supervisors.

This Board met yesterday morning, pursuant to call, with Supervisor Tweed in the chair. As this was the first meeting since the passage and confirmation of the tax levy and the passage and approval of the ordinance, the bills from various departments were handed in and audited. The bill of the laborers and artisans engaged on the new Court House, which, owing to the wants of funds have been running on for some months, were audited and allowed. They amount to some $450,000. The bills of the armorers of the several regimental armories, amounting to $3,500, were ordered to be paid, as were also the quarterly bills for fees of the Sheriff, County Clerk and Coroners.

A large amount of personal taxes, alleged to have been erroneously assessed, were ordered, on report of the Committee on Annual Taxes, to be remitted. A resolution was adopted directing the Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments to assess the property of the New York Hospital, according to the law recently passed authorizing the assessment on all that part of the property not used for hospital purposes. The Board adjourned, to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.

This Board met yesterday morning, transacted a large amount of routine business, and adjourned, after adopting a resolution to attend the sale of the franchise for the Twenty-third Street Railroad on Wednesday, at the Governor's Room, City Hall.

IRISH EMIGRATION.

Action of the Knights of St. Patrick—A National Convention Proposed.

A special meeting of the Knights of St. Patrick was held in St. Louis last Friday evening. The President read a circular issued from Chicago inclosing the resolutions of the Central Committee of the various Irish societies of that city, to which was entrusted the consideration of the proposed National Irish Emigration Convention. The resolutions refer to the diversity of opinion in reference to the selection of Chicago as the place for holding the convention for the promotion of Irish emigrant societies, and as all should have the success of this important movement at heart, the Chicago Central Committee resolve that each State and Territory be requested to select two persons as members of a central committee, who shall meet in Cincinnati, at the Burnett House, at twelve M., on the second day of June, for the purpose of appointing the time and place for holding the said convention, apportion the representation and arrange the preliminaries of the same. Having given the contents of the circular, the president stated that the subject was open for discussion and the election of delegates to Cincinnati.

After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted:—

That a committee of three, of whom the president shall be chairman, shall be appointed, with power to select two delegates to represent the Knights of St. Patrick in Cincinnati, at the preliminary meeting which is to draw up a plan for a national convention to consider the question of Irish immigration.

BASE BALL NOTES.

To-day the Mutuals and Irvingtons play their return game at the Union grounds, Brooklyn, E. D. The Mutuals, feeling well primed after their recent trip down East, intend to "lay out" the Irvingtons. The young Jerseymen, however, have been practising and will do their utmost to prevent the demolition with which they are threatened being carried into effect. As there is every probability of fine weather there is, consequently, a certainty of a good game.

To-morrow the Socials and Spartas will finish their ballistic dispute at Hoboken.

On Thursday the Eckfords go up to St. John's College, at Fordham.

On Friday the Mutuals and the Young Orientals of New York will play on the Union grounds.

On Saturday the Mutuals and Eckfords will meet for the first time this season; and as this will be the first game between professional clubs in this vicinity a tough encounter may be looked for.

A social game of base ball was played yesterday between the Atlantics and Haymakers, on the new grounds of the latter, in Troy, which resulted in a tie, the score standing 19 to 19. The game was hotly contested all through. An immense and excited crowd was present. The weather was very warm but pleasant.

ANOTHER OUTRAGE ON AN AMERICAN VESSEL.

NEW YORK, May 29, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

The American brig Morancy sailed from New York on the 3d of April, bound for the ports of Laguayra and Porto Cabello. She arrived at the latter port at sundown on the 2d of May. On entering the mouth of the harbor the sails were nearly all taken in and we were preparing to anchor, when a shot was fired from the fort, followed immediately by a second. The first shot did not touch us, but the second passed through the bulwarks of the vessel and within a few feet of where I was standing. Upon going ashore and inquiring the reason why my vessel was fired into I received no satisfaction, and upon representing the particulars to the American Consul he informed me they ought to be inquired into, and wished me to represent the case to our government upon my arrival here, as he could obtain no satisfaction or redress from the Venezuelan government.

THOMAS B. HILL, Master of brig Morancy.

THE DEATH PENALTY.

Execution of a Negro at Appomattox Court House, Va.

A negro named Adam Franklin was executed at Appomattox Court House, Va., on the 28th of May last, for the murder of another negro named Haxall Johnson. It appears that the felon and wife of the deceased had agreed upon getting him out of the way so that they could live together. The victim was waylaid and most brutally murdered, and soon afterward Franklin was arrested and made a confession of his crime. He met death with fortitude, admitting the justice of his punishment and expressing a hope for forgiveness from the Saviour. Quite a large crowd of persons attended the execution.

HUSBAND KILLING IN ILLINOIS.—A most startling tragedy occurred at Rockford on Wednesday. A woman named Dixon shot and killed her husband under the following circumstances:—Dixon and his wife had lived unhappily together for some time, when finally she left him, going to her father's house in the country. She returned a short time since, stopping at the house of a friend, and was confined with a child. Her husband made various attempts to see her after this event, for the purpose, it is supposed, of gaining possession of the child. It was finally arranged that he should visit her on a certain day. While in the chamber with her, standing by her bedside, with the baby in his arms and his back towards the bed, his wife, who had appeared perfectly calm, without emotion or excitement, suddenly rose, and drawing forth a concealed revolver fired two shots, one of which passed through him near the region of the heart, causing his death in about half an hour.—*Springfield (Ill.) Journal, May 29.*

SUBURBAN INTELLIGENCE.

NEW JERSEY.

Jersey City.

ALLEGED BIGAMY.—Edward Gillilan was brought before Recorder Martindale yesterday morning on the charge of having married the wife of Mr. John Gritman, of Jersey City, on the 19th of February last. The accused, it is alleged, has a wife and family, but had been on intimate terms with Mrs. Gritman for the past two years. The marriage which forms the basis of the complaint was performed in Hoboken by the Rev. Mr. Ellison. The Recorder fixed the bail at $2,000.

A MYSTERY.—SKELETONS EXHUMED.—One of the workmen engaged in excavating on Seventh street near Erie, yesterday morning, dug up three human skeletons, which had been in the earth, it is believed, about twenty years. The remains are those of adults, and as there was no burial ground in that place in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, the discovery has created no little sensation. The lots had been used for several years past by gardeners for the growth of flowers and herbs. Coroner Warren commenced an investigation yesterday, but no evidence was elicited to throw any light on this mystery. The problem is likely to defy research.

Hoboken.

BAREFACED THEFT OF A GOLD WATCH AND CHAIN.—While Dr. Steinman was standing at the bar of a restaurant in Washington street on Sunday night a Philadelphian, named James Brady, and three associates gathered closely around him and struck up a familiar conversation. After a few minutes had elapsed, the doctor, suspecting that all was not right, placed his hand over his vest pocket, when he discovered that his gold watch and chain were gone. He immediately thrust his hand into Brady's coat pocket and there found the missing articles. Brady started out, and ran down the street; but he was pursued, caught and brought before Recorder Pope, who committed him for trial.

Newark.

MASONIC.—Mr. William Silas Whitehead, a prominent lawyer of this city, formerly Grand Master of the State, was the recipient of an ovation from St. John's Lodge, at the elegantly fitted up rooms, on the corner of Bank and Broad streets, last evening, which was extended as a farewell souvenir preparatory to the departure for Europe of the honored gentleman. Mr. Whitehead is well known throughout the State, not alone for his forensic talent, but for his immense stature. He is not many inches short of seven feet high.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE ESSEX OYER AND TERMINER.—After quite a lengthy session the Oyer and Terminer of Essex county was adjourned for the term yesterday. In addition to the convicts already sentenced quite a number more were doled out their rewards yesterday. The most noticeable one was William Harrison, a respectably connected youth, who in an evil hour forged the name of a confectioner named Osborne. Harrison was sent to State Prison for a year. In the Quarter Sessions Jacob Labaugh, whose exploits in Belleville were the subject of attention in yesterday's HERALD, pleaded guilty to two charges of larceny and was remanded for sentence. Several hundred dollars' worth of the property alleged to have been stolen was recovered yesterday.

THE SUNDAY HORSE CAR QUESTION.—To-day the election ordered by the Common Council on the question *pro* and *con* of the running of horse cars on Sunday, takes place, provided it is not, as has been threatened, stopped by an injunction. The clergy of several of the churches, as well as many legal minds have declared that the holding of such an election is illegal and a usurpation of the Councilmanic authority. Be this as it may, the election will probably be held without let or hindrance, and it is likewise probable that the vote drawn out will be very light indeed. Considerable apathy has latterly been manifested in the matter. The friends of the measure will have to stir themselves, as the clergy and Young Men's Christian Association are in the field and will work hard in the opposition ranks.

Paterson.

VISITING FIREMEN.—Among the visitors expected this season by the Paterson F