SPIRITED DEBATE ON THE PEORIA OVERTURE.

Much Feeling Develops in the Discussion in the General Assembly.

EXPRESSION FROM STATED CLERK ROBERTS.

He Declares That He Is Ready to Abide by the Decision of the Majority—Final Action To-Day.

Discussion of the Peoria overture and the adoption of a resolution memorializing Congress on the subject of polygamy were the features of yesterday's session of the Presbyterian General Assembly.

Two hours were devoted to the Peoria overture at the morning session, the question finally being continued until this morning, when the discussion will be renewed. The memorial on polygamy was the first matter presented at the afternoon session, coming up on a report from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, on a representation from the South Florida Presbytery. It was adopted unanimously.

The resolution first thanks the National House of Representatives for the expulsion of Brigham H. Roberts of Utah, then asks that a constitutional amendment be presented to the people, declaring polygamy a crime, and directs the stated clerk of the assembly to transmit the memorial to President McKinley and both houses of Congress.

In presenting the report, Chairman Sample of the committee said that information had been procured during its consideration showing that polygamy not only had spread in Utah since it had been admitted to statehood, despite the statute adopted in conformity with pledges on which statehood was procured, but that it had overspread Idaho, which State never had passed the anti-polygamy law required as a condition of her admission to the Union, and that the evil had penetrated to adjoining States, until it fast was becoming as powerful as in its original stronghold.

Denounced by Doctor Radcliffe.

The debate on the Peoria overture developed as much feeling yesterday as attended the discussion of revision of creed on Tuesday and Wednesday. The feeling is due principally to the fact that the proposition for a change in the manner of naming standing committees, which gave rise to the overture, was the result of covert charges that too much influence was exerted by the stated clerk on the moderator in the selection of committees. This charge has been replied to several times on behalf of the stated clerk, and documentary evidence exists seemingly refuting it, but the matter has reached a stage where only a vote of the assembly can settle the question of the appointment of committees.

Chairman Wallace Radcliffe of Washington, D. C., of the committee to which was referred the controversy last year, opened the debate yesterday morning, resuming his argument against the overture, which was interrupted by the early adjournment of last Saturday. In supporting the report of his committee, Doctor Radcliffe became even more earnest and scathing in some of his remarks than when he spoke last week, although frequently lapsing into a humorous vein, which blunted the edge of his sarcasm and turned the resentment felt by some of his opponents to laughter.

Doctor Radcliffe especially was vehement in his denunciation of the Peoria overture as a plan full of politics and involving the reconstruction of the assembly on the basis of political districts. His accusation was based on the fact that the overture seeks to divide the church into twenty-two sections, each to nominate one member of each standing committee. The majority report of the committee, defended by Doctor Radcliffe, provides merely for the appointment by the moderator of a committee of twenty-one to advise him on the appointment of standing committees, no two members to be selected from one synod.

Doctor Cornelison Replies.

An address of one hour was made in reply to Doctor Radcliffe by the Reverend Doctor Isaac A. Cornelison of Peoria, Ill., whose minority report in the committee recommended the adoption of the Peoria overture. Doctor Cornelison declared that even the suspicion that a clerk of the assembly had influenced the selection of committees was an evil in the church and justified the adoption of the Peoria overture. His principal point was that the question of the comparative ability of one man or of twenty-one men to select standing committees aggregating a membership of 350 admitted of no argument. At the end of an hour, Doctor Cornelison was interrupted by a call for the order of the day, the motion being supplemented by another commissioner to afford Doctor Cornelison fifteen minutes longer, after which the vote was to be taken. To this Doctor Herrick Johnson of Chicago objected with considerable feeling.

"I call for justice in connection with a question of such importance," declared Doctor Johnson. "Much time has been given the other side and equal consideration should be shown us. I understand that Colonel Rice desires to speak on this subject."

On this demand the amendment was lost, and a motion was adopted suspending the discussion until this morning, when Doctor Cornelison will resume. At the afternoon session, however, this vote was reconsidered and it was ordered that Doctor Cornelison be limited to fifteen minutes this morning, and Colonel James M. Rice of Peoria be allowed fifteen minutes also.

At the morning session, Governor James L. Mount of Indiana occupied a seat on the platform directly behind Moderator Dickey. When introduced, just after the prayer service, he made a short address to the assembly, expressing his appreciation of the fact that he had been called to St. Louis by "the church he loved" to preside at the meeting at the Odeon in the evening.

The time remaining at the morning session after the discussion on the Peoria overture was devoted to the presentation by the Reverend Doctor George P. Pentecost of New York, chairman of the Committee on Board of Publication, of the committee's annual report. After reading the report, Doctor Pentecost spoke at some length on the work of the board and results accomplished. He was followed by the Reverend Doctor E. R. Craven, secretary of the board, who spoke until the hour for recess.

Invited to Meet in Philadelphia.

Just before the morning session adjourned a telegram from John Wanamaker of Philadelphia and the Presbyterian churches of that city was read inviting the assembly to meet in Philadelphia next year. A selection will be made on the last day of the session, which probably will be to-morrow. It seems to be generally conceded that the next session will be held in Philadelphia.

Besides the memorial on polygamy, the assembly at the afternoon session adopted a resolution on motion of Permanent Clerk Noble, asking the people of California to vote for the amendment to the Constitution of that State exempting church property from taxation. The assembly listened to an address on the subject from the Reverend Doctor R. H. Bovard of San Francisco, who had been attending the Methodist General Conference at Chicago, and who stated that a similar resolution had been adopted by that body. A resolution commending the Presbyterian Historical Society was adopted, after which the report of the Committee on Benevolence was submitted by Doctor Noble, Doctor H. H. Hubbard of New York addressing the assembly on the report. The report of the Committee on Aid for Colleges was presented by Doctor W. G. Craig of Iowa, chairman, and that of the Committee on the Board for the Election of Churches, by the Reverend Doctor William H. Clark of Kansas, chairman; this closing the afternoon session.

MORNING SESSION.

Following the usual half-hour devotional services, the assembly passed to the consideration of the order of the day, which was the Peoria overture, and the first speaker was the Reverend Doctor Radcliffe, chairman of the majority report on the overture. The doctor took the position that the minority report was by no means republican in character, and declared that it was a species of ecclesiastical populism. Further, that it was a blow at the personal character and ability of those whom the church had called to the highest honor in her gift, and alleged that those thus called were not stupid men or schemers.

It was also urged that the minority report proposed a plan for the selection of the standing committees, which was cumbrous and difficult to understand and even more difficult to put in operation. He said it reminded him of the confusion that followed the complex system of car fare in a certain city, and which was put in the following form: "A pink trip slip for a three-cent fare, blue trip slip for a four-cent fare, a white trip slip for a five-cent fare, and a green trip slip for a six-cent fare, punch, brother, punch with care, punch in the presence of the passenger." In his application to the overture in question, the doctor stated it thus: "An odd trip slip for an odd story, an even trip slip for even mindstare, vote, brother, vote with care, vote in the presence of the commissioners." Roars of laughter followed this sally.

Another argument urged against the minority report was that it was pronounced political in its tendencies; that it provided substantially for election districts, twenty-two in number, and that this would give more opportunity for electioneering than was possible on the present plan or that proposed by the majority report. The speaker suggested that the Illinois Synod should put the proposed system in operation and submit its practical workings.

Reference was also made to the fact that certain presbyteries had instructed their delegates how to vote in the matter of the overture in question, and the statement was made that such instructions were in no sense binding. The doctor closed with an eloquent appeal for the purity of Presbyterian polity, and said he would rather see the whole thing tabled than to see the minority report adopted.

For the Minority Report.

The second speaker on the overture was the Reverend Doctor Cornelison, who stood for the minority report. He said, in substance, that the church had progressed in many other ways, and he could see no good reason for its not progressing in the matter of selection of the standing committees. He agreed with Doctor Radcliffe as to the great work accomplished by the church in the past under the present system, but demurred to the statement that a change, such as contemplated in the overture, was fraught with grave issues. The doctor alleged that all such fears were nothing but a scare.

Passing to the discussion of the merits of the minority report, Doctor Cornelison declared that it was designed to correct certain evils that had crept in under the present system as to the appointment of standing committees in that it put the check upon the stated clerk and moderator. It was alleged that the supposed abuses of power under the present system were due largely to the fact that the moderator in his selection was necessarily limited by his personal knowledge, and his dependence upon that of the stated clerk. He declared that the whole tenor and force of the overture was to give wider geographical scope to the appointment of the standing committees, and so reduce partiality to a minimum.

In the midst of Doctor Cornelison's address, the order of the day arrived and an attempt was made to extend the time, but did not prevail. It was decided to fix 10 o'clock to-day as the hour for final discussion and vote, and subsequently Doctor Cornelison and Colonel James Rice were accorded fifteen minutes each for closing the discussion.

Board of Publication.

The assembly then passed to the consideration of the report of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, which was in brief as follows:

There are now on file in the department forty-five urgent applications for more men; North Dakota calls for three, Montana for two, Oregon for three, California for three, Arkansas for one and Florida for one; Texas calls for one, at one missionary, Alabama and Mississippi, both of which are now served by one man, call for three, Idaho and New Mexico, to neither of which has been sent a single laborer, each calls for one. Similar calls are on file from other States better supplied.

The board has it in contemplation to commission immediately three new men, and additional appointments will be made as rapidly as the prospect of increased contributions will justify such action.

The contributions during the year from churches, Sabbath schools and individuals amounted to $99,923.64—an increase of $6,369.64 over those of last year. This increase was due to increased contributions from the part of churches of $4,836.17, from Sabbath schools of $1,276.75, and of individuals of $256.72.

The prospect is encouraging, but a much larger increase of contributions during the coming year will be necessary to enable the board to supply the new laborers. It is for the church to say by its contributions whether or not that demand shall be fully met.

The editorial department issued during the year fourteen new publications, including the School Hymnal, the last of the series of hymnals; and revised editions of "What is Presbyterian Law?" by the Reverend J. Aspinwall Hodge, D. D., and "The Government, Discipline and Worship of the Presbyterian Church," by the same.

Reprints of 291 former publications have also been issued. The number of periodicals published was twelve—eight lesson helps and four illustrated papers.

Edward, the most advanced of our illustrated papers has achieved remarkable success. Three years ago it was doubled in size without increase in price and it at once advanced in popularity, which advance has been uninterruptedly continued. The number of copies printed in 1898 was 2,598,624; in 1899 it was 3,539,522, and in the year covered by this report it reached 4,356,648.

The business department closed the year with net profits amounting to $13,634.17, of which two-thirds, or $9,089.45, was passed over to the Sabbath school and missionary department in accordance with the order of the General Assembly, and $8,333.39 was added to capital, increasing it to $126,390.15.

It is with great regret that the announcement is made that the stock from which the free library grants are supplied is now exhausted, and that, consequently, the offer of such libraries is necessarily withdrawn.

Progress of the Work.

The Reverend Doctor George P. Pentecost, chairman of the special committee of the foregoing report, took the platform and made an extended address, calling attention in detail as to the progress of the work of the board in the past year. He specially emphasized the fact that other denominations were coming to it for plates in the publication of their young people's paper. Referring to what is commonly termed "dead literature," such as the standards of the church, he said the Confession of Faith was about the liveliest bit of literature published by them to-day.

The Reverend Doctor Elijah R. Craven, secretary of the board, made the next address, emphasizing the growth of the work in the last year. An amendment to the report of the committee requesting the reduction of the price of the new hymnals, if practicable, was introduced, when the report as a whole was adopted. The morning session closed with the appointment of a special Judicial Commission on the George H. Spalding case, and the announcement of special meetings.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session of the assembly was opened at 2:30 o'clock, the Reverend Doctor W. K. Hall of New York leading the devotional services. The first business was a reconsideration of the action taken at the morning session on the Peoria overture for the purpose of fixing a time for a vote. It was decided that the vote should be taken to-day and fifteen minutes each should be allowed the Reverend Doctor R. H. Cornelison and Colonel James M. Rice to present their views. At this time the Reverend Doctor Robert Fleming Sample, chairman of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, was granted leave to make a report on certain overtures considered by his committee.

It was recommended that no action be taken on an overture amending certain regulations in the examination of candidates for the ministry, because action had already been taken by the General Assembly.

An overture from the Presbytery of South Florida, asking for an amendment to the Federal Constitution making polygamy a crime, was favorably reported.

Doctor Sample stated that investigation disclosed the fact that polygamy was increasing in Utah and Idaho, and that its baneful influence was extending to neighboring States and territories. Though the law under which Utah was admitted to statehood made polygamy a crime, public sentiment in the States was opposed to the law and it was not enforced.

After careful consideration the committee was of the opinion that the only way to eradicate the evil was to make it a crime so the federal courts could take it in hand, and to that end the assembly was directed to memorialize Congress.

Taxation of Church Property.

Doctor W. R. Noble, the permanent clerk, of Redlands, Cal., then submitted a resolution asking the assembly to petition the legislature of California to exempt church property from taxation. Doctor Noble stated that to do this an amendment to the Constitution of the State would be necessary. He asked that permission be given to the Reverend Doctor R. H. Bovard, a Methodist minister of California, to address the assembly on the subject. Permission was granted.

Doctor Bovard said: "My time is too limited to write any portion of my address relative to the subject of the resolution, but I cannot overlook the opportunity of telling you how the Methodist General Conference in Chicago was delighted and thrilled with the greeting extended to that body yesterday by the magnetic and eloquent minister of your church, whom you sent to us, the Reverend Doctor S. J. Nicolls of St. Louis."

Doctor Bovard then said that the taxation of church properties in California, almost amounted to prohibition. Last year more than $50,000 in taxes was paid to the State by the churches. No other State in the Union taxed church property. And it was exempt in India, Korea, China and all other lands. He hoped the assembly would pass the resolution and thus aid in raising this burden from those who labored in the cause of religion. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Doctor Frances A. Horton of Philadelphia introduced a resolution commending the work of the Presbyterian Historical Society. It was adopted.

The order of the day was then taken up, the report of the Committee on Benevolence, Doctor W. R. Noble of California, chairman of the board, presenting the report, which showed that in the last year better work had been accomplished than in any previous one, yet there was much room for improvement. Some churches had failed to contribute to any of the several beneficient funds of the church and a large number had failed to contribute to all. The report maintained that the ideal would not be realized until every church contributed something to every fund and every member of the church did likewise.

Doctor William H. Hubbard of New York followed Doctor Noble and argued along the same lines. The report and recommendations of the committee were accepted.

Aid for Colleges.

The next order of business was the report of the Board of Aid for Colleges. Doctor Willis G. Craig, chairman of the committee, presented the report which showed that the receipts for 1899-00 had been $116,429, as against $101,706 the previous year.

The receipts from the churches, it was stated, are sadly inadequate to meet the needs of aided institutions. This fact forbids the board to assist other institutions perhaps as needed and as promising. Cities, presbyteries and synods beg such aid. Neglect now means future loss incalculable. The wisest good do a great additional work for the church with moderate additional income.

Receipts from legacies and individuals for property uses, especially for buildings and endowment, are so far below the demands of the situation as to forbid the progress and even to menace the permanence of institutions which have grown under church fostering care, and now need emancipation and endowment. Thousands of dollars given for such purposes are made by the College Board to bring many thousands more from local friends of institutions, and are secured forever to the church by mortgages on the property of the aided institutions.

The aided institutions number twenty-nine, and their net property is valued at $9,122,800. The total number of students is 8,272, of which 384 are college, 1,445 academic or preparatory, 321 students in classical studies. The number of church members is 1,260, the conversions during the year being 171 and the number intending to be ministers 171.

Doctor E. C. Ray of Chicago, secretary of the board, followed Doctor Craig. He made the earnest appeal for assistance to the board. Doctor Edward J. Hopkins of Kansas spoke of the Emporia College in that State, which, he said, was in dire need of $5,000. He said that Andrew Carnegie had offered them $25,000 for a library on condition that enough was raised to make it $50,000, from other sources. He said $5,000 was needed and unless we secure the gift would be lost. Doctor Herrick Johnson of Chicago also spoke on the subject and urged greater activity all along the line in this field of the church's work. The report was then submitted, and unanimously adopted.

Doctor William McKibbin of Cincinnati, chairman of the Judicial Committee, at this point filed reports on the following Appeal of J. G. Mason vs. the Synod of New Jersey; appeal dismissed.

The case of Herman Warmswalk, which has engaged several general assemblies, and has been pending in the New York Synod for a number of years, was ordered dropped and closed without further action.

Board of Church Erection.

Doctor W. H. Clark of Michigan was then recognized and submitted the report of the Board of Church Erection. The report was substantially as follows:

The year has been characterized by a marked advance in all departments of the work, a result unquestionably traceable to the improved business conditions of the country that have marked the last two years. If we may judge from the advance in the number of applications received from the report this year of the progress of the church will show that the number of new congregations organized is again enlarging. The marked feature of the present year is the increase in the number of applications for loans and to aid in church building, a sign of higher significance as indicating permanent growth and a stable ministry than the erection of homes for pastors' families, and the board therefore holds this feature of the work as of the highest and most encouraging significance. The number of applications to the general fund for grants of loans without interest was 168, asking in the aggregate for $80,[illegible]. This was an advance upon the previous year of 26 in number and $22,[illegible] in amount, or of nearly 22 per cent in number of churches and of 40 per cent in sum applied for. The means fund shows a still more decided advance in the demand, there being a total of 79 applications and of $25,[illegible] in amount, an increase over the previous year of 35 and $10,250, respectively, or a proportionate increase in number of 112 per cent and in amount of 109 per cent. It is also to be added that the record is an advance of more than 50 per cent upon the demand in this department of the future, as a previous year since the fund was instituted. In the case of the loan fund, while there are three more applications, the aggregate asked is $2,000 less than last year, the number being 14 and the amount $36,250. The total number of churches applying to the board is 242, as against 168 last year, and the amount aggregates $161,222, as against $114,574, an advance of more than 40 per cent. In the general fund departments the advance over last year has been marked, and is most encouraging.

Appropriations have been made to 141 different churches, aggregating in amount $8,[illegible], an increase of 22 in the number of churches and of $2,[illegible] in amount, or nearly 23 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. Of these churches 112 received grants only, and 17 loans only, while 15 were given both grants and loans; the total result being 127 grants, amounting to $68,467, and 32 loans, aggregating $14,224, or, as given above, $82,681; to 141 different churches. Appropriations have been made in 25 States and Territories, and among 35 different presbyteries. This year the largest demand has come from Minnesota, which has received 12 appropriations; Iowa and Michigan each 7, Nebraska 6, Kansas, Ohio, 8 and Colorado, Washington and Texas each 7. Loans have been made during the past year to 20 churches, to an aggregate amount of $[illegible], an advance upon last year of 4 churches, and $[illegible] in the sum of $66,000, and the largest part of it is constantly in use. During the past year loans have been made to 21 churches to the amount of $20,[illegible], and 2 grants amounting to $[illegible] to little congregations upon Indian reservations. To this are to be added 2 specials, amounting to $[illegible].

In looking over the entire work in this its aggressive aspect, and assuming as it seemed, we find that either as loans or grants, $[illegible] have been appropriated to 258 churches. Adding to these special gifts of $1,[illegible] to 18 churches, we have a total of $[illegible] and 276 churches.

Fifteen New Churches Every Day.

The Reverend Doctor Erskin N. White, secretary of the Board, also spoke on the report, urging its adoption. Among other things he said: "While much that is needed has not been done yet, a great deal has been accomplished. If any one claims the cause of religion is retrograding, just tell him that from 15 to 20 churches are being erected every day of the year and ask him if that looks like religion is waning."

The report of the committee was then unanimously adopted.

A resolution from the Presbytery of Athens, O., expressing regret at the death of the Reverend W. A. Echols and sympathy for his family, was read. It was also stated that Commissioner Jefferson R. Clayton, who had accompanied home the body of Doctor Echols, was dangerously ill. It was ordered that the resolution of sympathy from the Athens Presbytery and an expression of the deep sense of regret for the illness of Commissioner Clayton should be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings. At this point Doctor B. Stewart of Auburn, N. Y., offered prayer and the assembly adjourned to 10 o'clock this morning.

MASS MEETING AT ODEON.

In commemoration of the Ecumenical Conference on Foreign Missions, which was held in New York, a mass meeting was held at the Odeon last night under the auspices of the Presbyterian General Assembly and a number of the distinguished clergymen in attendance made addresses. Governor James A. Mount, LL. D., of Indiana, presided and made the principal speech of the evening. The other speakers were the Reverend Doctor Samuel J. Nicolls, the Reverend Doctor George P. Pentecost, Vice Moderator John H. Converse and the Reverend Doctor Charles A. Dickey, who is moderator of the assembly. Doctor Dickey's address was very pointed in regard to the bickerings about the Confession of Faith.

More than 2,000 men and women were in the theater and the boxes were all filled. The admittance was by card in order to minimize the risk of an influx of people. The Odeon chairs were placed for most of the commissioners in attendance at the assembly. The heat, however, caused some of them to seek refuge in the galleries, which were also filled.

Musical Conductor R. O. Bolt opened the devotional exercises by announcing the hymn "Onward, Christian Soldiers." The large assembly of people was supplied with hymn books, but joining with great fervor.

The next hymn was "I need thee every hour." The Reverend F. W. Speed, who presided over the devotional exercises, then introduced the Reverend Doctor Herrick Johnson of the McCormick Seminary in Chicago, who led in prayer. At the conclusion of Doctor Johnson's prayer the congregation sang, standing, "My heart looks up to thee."

Governor Mount's Address.

Doctor Speed then introduced Governor Mount of Indiana, as a dignified Christian who would be the chairman of the evening. As the Governor arose he was greeted with applause.

Governor Mount said that when the invitation to speak before this assembly came to him he could not quite see his way through all the demands on his time to accept, but as his feeling in the cause of missions and the service of the Master was strong, he gave expression to it by surmounting all difficulties and appearing.

"We stand," said Governor Mount, "on the threshold of the Twentieth Century. In the century that has passed we have seen how mind has triumphed over matter. Man has been able to make nature subservient to his will and has caused wonders to appear. The march of the army of Christ has kept apace with material things. At the beginning of the century the foreign missions were in their infancy. Since then the growth had been marvelous and was accelerated every year. There were now 10,000 missions organized in foreign lands, 13,000 missionaries engaged in preaching the gospel and thousands were daily assenting. Millions of converts were made and $17,000,000 was expended, which was supplemented by $2,000,000 from other sources."

"The prospect for the Twentieth Century is such as has never been known before during the Christian Era—both for religious and political life."

He then spoke of the impression the great convention at New York, which was being celebrated, made upon him. He praised the men who were present from all regions of the earth. He touched upon the interest the young people, and especially the Y. M. C. A., take in the mission work. As the church influence grew, thus the prosperity and success of the nation, he said, was made more secure. The Civil War was now a kindly memory, and he recited an instance of how his State had lately sent him on a mission to Texas to return a battle flag captured in the sixties. This gauges, he said, the love and confidence of the country. The great upheaval was God's work and he accomplished his good results. He passed judgment and rendered the verdict, and every man who was in the struggle was glad that there had been no arbitration, but that it had been fought to a finish.

The Nation's Gain.

To-day, he said, the nation shows an increase of $65,000,000,000 in wealth, $17,000,000,000 more than France, $25,000,000,000 more than Great Britain and an aggregate wealth equal to eight of the Kingdoms and States of Europe.

"The doors," he continued, "that are open to us are those islands in the East and South. We should enter honestly and with Christian interests, as demeans a great Christian nation."

As he concluded Governor Mount introduced Doctor Dickey, the moderator. He said he found it difficult to get up emotion after six days of work in keeping the Presbyterians in the middle of the road, especially with their known proclivities for larking in fence corners. He declared he was glad to be there and he had been in the Ecumenical Conference at New York, as it was worth days and years of life to come under the exalting and inspiring influences of such a conference.

The men who were gathered there represented, fraternity, unity and the mission of Christ among all the Christians of the earth. And the purpose of the Presbyterian Church in unity, and he congratulated it for this. He said the constituents would stand shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart, and light on, not in the middle of the road, but in the middle of the Confession of Faith, and leave the extremes as a bone of contention to their enemies. He had no terms strong enough, he said, to condemn those who bicker and fight and stand for division. United Presbyterians are to come in and eventually there will be no North, nor South, nor East, nor West in Presbyterianism, but it will be the American Christianity. The church wants a common ground and no discord. If there is any one who does not understand it he should get out. The Confession of Faith, he declared, is big enough for everybody. Despite the mists caused by lack of fraternity and by discord, he (the speaker) could see the clear peak of unity and hoped his best.

Doctor Niccolls's Remarks.

Governor Mount then introduced Doctor Samuel J. Niccolls. Doctor Niccolls hoped that this was not an echo of the great conference in New York, as echoes leave nothing behind, and he wishes this assembly to leave something.

"That conference was one of the most impressive this country has ever witnessed," the speaker continued. "There was enthusiasm, loyalty, unity, earnestness, desire for cooperation, all in the name of the superior son. Previous sectarian connotation has passed away and does not echo often.

"There are in the church to-day persons who are misinformed and give troublesome credence to misinformation. To such it should be known that God gave all organized churches gospel for all men that is sufficient for all who lie, crawl, walk and creep, and it is broad enough for the entire world."

At the conclusion of Doctor Niccolls's address the audience sang the hymn, "Stand Up for Jesus."

Vice Moderator John H. Converse of Philadelphia made a short address. He likened the conference to the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria.

The Reverend Doctor George P. Pentecost of Yonkers, N. Y., was the last speaker.

"Wherever one finds a Norman castle in England, it indicates that William the Conqueror won a battle," said Doctor Pentecost, "and so, wherever you find a missionary bungalow in India, you know that Christianity is fighting a battle against heathen teachings. The fight must be successful, for spiritual triumphs mark material triumphs.

"There are more apostolic men in India who are like Paul than early Christianity ever had. There are in India 2,000,000 converts and 75,000 missionaries, and no table of statistics will tell of their heroism. It was Paton, the apostle of the Hebrides, who was cheered until it seemed like the roar of thunder at the great conference. He sat on the grave of his dead wife and child to restrain the cannibals from digging them up for their feast. Whoever is on the winning side is Christian, and India must be civilized through Christianity."

NOTES OF THE ASSEMBLY.

One of the most interesting Indian Commissioners to the assembly is Philip Minthorn of Pendleton, Ore., who, previous to his conversion, was known in his tribe as Cash Cash. He is a full-blooded Cayuse Indian, and is an honored elder of the Presbytery of East Oregon. His life gives the lie to the statement that the only good Indians are dead Indians. He was born in 1858, was trained in the Presbyterian Church, and remembers hearing his ancestors tell of the embassy to St. Louis in 1832 for the Bible, and the return of the sole survivors of the "Rabbit-Skin Leggers." He is the connecting link between the early and recent work of the Presbyterian Church among the Indians.

There are two Indian ministers in the assembly. The one is the Reverend Manuel De J. Sanchez, who is a delegate from Colorado. He was born in 1862, was converted and joined the Presbyterian church in 1877 and began studying for the ministry in 1880. In 1885 he entered the College of the Southwest, De Monte, Colo., graduating in 1893. Just prior to his graduation he received and accepted a call to the La Luz (Spanish) Presbyterian Church at Colorado Springs, Colo., and was ordained and installed that same year. In addition to his pastorate, he has supervision over the missionary work in the San Luis Valley, which includes seven Presbyterian churches.

The other Indian minister is the Reverend Manuel Madrid, who was born in the Los Valles, New Mexico, in 1864. He was educated in the public schools of the Territory, and subsequently attended the mission school at Las Vegas, N. M., and graduated from Biel Normal College in 1893. May 2 of this year he was ordained by the Presbytery of Santa Fe, and now has charge of five churches in Mora County, New Mexico.

The assembly's permanent Committee on Temperance has arranged a special mass meeting at the Washington and Compton Avenue Church this evening, and a choice programme has been arranged. There will be addresses by Doctor Herrick Johnson of Chicago, who will preside; the Reverend Doctor W. J. McKittrick, who will speak concerning the winerooms crusade; also by the Reverend Doctor J. K. Fowler of Iowa, H. P. Faris of Kansas City, and the Reverend Henry Gardner. It is understood that the "Manila scandal" will be ventilated.

A number of G. A. R. veterans held a meeting at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon, and several impromptu speeches were made. The meeting was largely of a social character. Ransom Post has extended the G. A. R. members of the assembly an invitation to meet at Howard's Hall, Thirtieth and Olive streets, to-morrow evening, and at the memorial service at the First Church Saturday evening.

The Benham Club of the Princeton Seminary held a dinner at the Terminal Hotel yesterday noon, and there were present the following assembly commissioners: The Reverend Messrs. Jessup of China, E. C. Jones of Erie, Pa.; Mr. Leslie of Colorado Springs, Robert Watson, Oxford, Pa.; Mr. McNair of Japan; Fred H. Jackson, Jersey City, N. J.; William C. McEwan, Pittsburg, Pa.; Richard Harlan, Rochester, N. Y.; D. R. Leland, St. Louis, and C. H. H. Branch of Collinsville, Ill.

CIVIL WAR VETERANS.

The commissioners and elders of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church who were engaged in the Civil War met last night at the Y. M. C. A. hall at Franklin and Grand avenues and organized an association to be known as the "Veterans of the Civil War." Colonel A. R. Gunn of Philadelphia presided and A. R. Walker of Syracuse, N. Y., was secretary. Speeches were made by the Reverend Doctor James A. Worcester of Philadelphia, General R. N. Adams of Minneapolis, Doctor J. P. Graham of Sangie, India, and H. B. Douglas of Mount Vernon, Ill.

The following is the list of commissioners and elders present:

E. H. Mitchell, Fifty-fourth Indiana Volunteers, Sidney, Ia.

George K. Graham, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Mahaing, Pa.

F. A. Young, Illinois.

D. H. Cassat, One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Hazelton, Ia.

J. P. Barber, Fourteenth Vermont Volunteers, Menlo, Ia.

A. R. Walker, Second New Hampshire Volunteers, East Syracuse, N. Y.

R. R. Hawley, Seventy-eighth and One Hundred and Fifteenth Indiana Volunteers, Edinburg, Ind.

E. H. Mitchell, Fifty-fourth Indiana Volunteers, Edinburg, Ind.

George R. Bartells, Fiftieth Illinois, Sidneys, Ia.

R. St. John, Saginaw, Mich.

R. L. Perkins, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, Saginaw, Mich.

Hugh Lamont, Seventy-sixth Illinois Volunteers, Vancouver, Wash.

J. A. Mantellur, Peper City, Ill.

Colonel A. R. Gunn, Philadelphia, Pa.

Jacob Rieble, Harolga, Pa.

M. M. Greendale, Eighty-first Indiana Volunteers, Elphurst, Cal.

J. G. Thenaker, Fiftieth Ohio Volunteers, Mount Pleasant, O.

H. B. Douglass, One Hundred and Seventieth Illinois Volunteers, Mount Vernon, Ill.

E. N. Barnett, One Hundred and Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers.

E. W. Eliot, Quartermaster Nineteenth Iowa Volunteers, Walla Walla, Wash.

Isaiah Conley, One Hundred and First Pennsylvania Volunteers, Schellsburg, Pa.

R. H. Martin, One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Ohio Volunteers.

Isaac O. Best, One Hundred and Twenty-first New York Volunteers, Mayfield, N. Y.

L. Piper, Mansville, O.

J. L. Burch, One Hundred and Sixty-first New York Volunteers, Sugar Hill, N. Y.

E. J. Esterbrook, Hammerton, N. J.

The Reverend George E. Bicknell, Syracuse, Kas.

The Reverend R. N. Adams, Commander Second Brigade, Fourth Division Fourteenth A. C., Minneapolis, Minn.

A. H. Reed, One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Bangor, Pa.

James A. Worden, Seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteers.

Henry H. Kahl, One Hundred and Twenty-first Ohio Volunteers, Brent Creek, Mich.

Samuel L. McAfee, Third Missouri Volunteers, Park College, Mo.

J. P. Brandt, One Hundred and Fourteenth Ohio Volunteers, St. Louis, Mo.

James M. Rice, Tenth Illinois Volunteers, Peoria, Ill.

J. P. Mitchell, Charleston, Ill.

David Redfield, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, Ardmore, I. T.

The Reverend C. W. Backus, Ninety-seventh New York Volunteers, Kansas City, Mo.

John T. Rice.

James Maine, One Hundred and Eleventh Illinois Volunteers, Oskaloosa, Kas.

J. F. Coy, First New York Dragoons, Independence, Ia.

Charles W. Johnson, Thornton, Ind.

O. W. Sturdevant, Forty-fourth New York Volunteers, Oneida, N. Y.

Brother Lycurgus Michlin, Fifty-third Ohio Volunteers, New Athens, O.

R. T. Jenkins, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, Beaumont, Cal.

J. P. Graham, S. M., One Hundred and Seventy-sixth Ohio Volunters, Sangie, India.

L. P. Strether, Tenth Indiana Light Artillery, Nowata, I. T.

The Reverend D. W. Carrat, One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Hazleton, Ia.

Samuel Bailey, Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Danville, Pa.

George E. Bicknell, Fifth Tennessee Volunteers, Syracuse, Kas.

John H. Lee, One Hundred and Eighth United States Infantry, Benton Harbor, Mich.

L. S. Knicht, Eighty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Wooster, O.

John Eaton, Sixty-third C. S. I., Washington, D. C.

N. N. McCullough, Washington, D. C.

George F. Pentecost, Eighth Kentucky Cavalry, Yonkers, N. Y.

William J. Nevins, South Orange, N. J.

SUNDAY'S PULPIT ARRANGEMENTS.

Published one day in advance by request of the Pulpit Supply Committee of the assembly.

PRESBYTERIAN.

FIRST—Morning, the Reverend Doctor Charles A. Dickey, Philadelphia.

WASHINGTON AND COMPTON AVENUE—Morning, the Reverend Doctor William McKibben, Cincinnati; evening, the Reverend Doctor G. F. Pentecost.

SECOND—Morning, the Reverend Doctor W. L. McEwan, Pittsburg; evening, the Reverend Doctor Wallace Radcliffe, Washington, D. C.

CENTRAL—Morning, the Reverend Doctor T. Ralston Smith, New York; evening, the Reverend Doctor John Proctor Davis, Keene, O.

KIRKWOOD—Morning, the Reverend Doctor S. R. Ferguson, Iowa; evening, the Reverend Doctor R. R. Lyle, Colorado.

WEBSTER GROVES—Morning, the Reverend Doctor L. A. Crounder, New York; evening, Doctor Wilson Aull, Minnesota.

OAK HILL—Evening, the Reverend Doctor Frederick Jackson, Jersey City.

ROCK HILL—Morning and evening, the Reverend Doctor George S. Hays, Minnesota.

WEST—Morning, the Reverend Doctor C. C. Hall, New York; evening, the Reverend Doctor E. P. Cowan, Pittsburg.

CLIFTON HEIGHTS—Morning, the Reverend Doctor E. J. Brown, Kansas; evening, the Reverend Doctor Henry Sawyer, Oregon, Mo.

GRAND AVENUE—Morning, the Reverend Doctor J. M. Worrall, Danville, Ky.; evening, the Reverend Doctor William McKibben, Cincinnati.

LAFAYETTE PARK—Morning, the Reverend Doctor R. S. Holmes, Pittsburg; evening, the Reverend Doctor F. Von Krug, Kingston, Pa.

LUCAS AVENUE CUMBERLAND—Morning, the Reverend Doctor J. M. Worrall, Danville, Ky.; evening, the Reverend Doctor W. W. Faris, Florida.

FIRST UNITED—Morning, the Reverend Doctor T. E. Fetie, Lockesport; evening, the Reverend Doctor T. D. Scott, Middletown, O.

CARONDELET—Morning, the Reverend Doctor John Graham, Philadelphia; evening, the Reverend Doctor Morris Taylor, Cape May.

FIRST GERMAN—Morning, the Reverend Doctor A. H. Regel, Lenox, S. D.; evening, the Reverend Doctor R. A. Lawson, Delaware.

RAYMOND PLACE CUMBERLAND—Morning, the Reverend Doctor Robt. Mockadin, Kittanning, Pa.

SECOND GERMAN—The Reverend Doctor W. M. Logan, Maryland; evening, the Reverend Doctor E. C. Wolters, Iowa.

CURRY MEMORIAL—Morning, the Reverend Doctor E. P. Cowan, Pittsburg; evening, the Reverend Doctor E. J. Brown, Kansas.

SPARTA, ILL.—The Reverend Doctor J. N. B. Smith, Niagara Falls.

FRANK MEMORIAL—Morning, the Reverend Doctor C. A. Evans, Hoboken, N. J.; evening, the Reverend Doctor W. G. Hutchins, Brooklyn.

OAK AVENUE—Morning, the Reverend Doctor John Ewing, Dareytown, N. J.; evening, the Reverend Doctor E. S. Toensmeier, Coudersport, Pa.

WALNUT PARK—Morning, the Reverend Doctor E. A. Erfell, Connersville, Ind.

CUTE BRILLANTE—Morning, the Reverend Doctor R. C. Jones, Erie, Pa.; evening, the Reverend Doctor George Cummings, Mount Vernon, Ia.

COVENANT—Morning, the Reverend Doctor H. Sawer, Oregon, Mo.

EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.—Morning, the Reverend Doctor H. A. Stiles, Altoona, Pa.; evening, the Reverend Doctor J. A. Worden, Philadelphia.

COMPTON HILL—Evening, the Reverend Doctor S. McMilland, Pittsburg.

WAGONER PLACE UNITED Presbyterian—Morning, the Reverend