

OUR RELIGIOUS COLUMN.

The One Thing Needful. "I remember," says the Rev. George Burder, "I got a good trade, will one say—but lost my soul; I got friends, but God is mine enemy; I got pleasure, but now I am in pain; I got the world, but alas, I am now in hell, too poor, too helpless to obtain a drop of water to cool my parched tongue."

SUMMARY OF GENERAL CHURCH NEWS.

FRIENDS. —The Society of Friends has been reported to be dying out, but according to their official statement, this does not appear to be the case. At the just ending yearly meeting of the Orthodox body in this city, it was reported that their numbers had increased by 1,300 during the past year, and there are signs of renewed activity and vigor in the body which give promise of a long life-tenure.

—The United Presbyterian Assembly pronounced, at its late meeting, in favor of allowing a marriage with a deceased wife's sister, notwithstanding one of the laws of the Church forbids a widow's marriage with her deceased husband's brother.

—The Scotch Presbyterian Assemblies have been holding their annual meetings. The United Presbyterians expressed their general satisfaction with Mr. Crockett's Disestablishment bill, and protested against the grants proposed for Maynooth College and for the Irish Presbyterians as exorbitant and objectionable.

—The number of graduates from theological institutions this year was 401. They were distributed among the different denominations as follows:—Presbyterian, 23; Allegheny, 14; Chicago, 14; Union, 37; Auburn, 14; Lane, 9.

—Rev. Henry B. Smith, D. D., says the Evangelist, as at last advices, in the south of France, slowly recovering from the prostration induced by many years of exhausting labor.

—A correspondent of the Evangelist thus describes the success that has attended the labors of Rev. J. B. Dunn, of the Beech Street Church, New York:—"Church income raised from \$1900 to \$6000 in a year, the membership increased by one hundred and eighty, an empty house now filled in the aisles with camp-stools, and \$30,000 raised to sweep off an old debt in a day!"

—The largest Methodist salary paid in New England is \$2500 and a house-let to the pastor of Vermont Street Church, Boston. The largest membership, 648, with 48 probationers, is that of St. Paul's Church, Lowell.

—Several of the Methodist bishops, including Bishops Morris, Simpson, and Kingsley, have declared for lay representation. The elections held thus far indicate that it will pass by a large vote. The Methodist Episcopal Church is 1463 for it to 598 against. The Chicago Advocate has reports of 1792 votes for and 228 against the measure. The Pittsburg Advocate has reports of 1871 for to 458 against it. About three-fourths of the members stay away from the Convention.

—Rev. Dr. George Peck, who has been in the Methodist ministry for nearly fifty-three years, and as an efficient "Presiding Elder" of the Wyoming Conference, celebrated his golden wedding on June 10, in Scranton, Pa.

—The Sabbath School of the Memorial Baptist Church, northeast corner Broad and Master streets, celebrated their first jubilee meeting on Thursday evening last. The chapel was tastefully decorated. Over the pulpit, suspended from an arch, was an elegant bell of the choicest flowers. The school, as well as the church, is in the most flourishing condition.

—The American Baptist Home Mission Society received, some time since, a promise from the officers of the Union Pacific Railroad of lands on which to locate missions on the line of the road. In pursuance of that arrangement, a committee of the Home Mission Society, consisting of the Rev. Dr. E. E. L. Taylor, Secretary of the Society, and the Rev. Dr. A. P. Mason, of Boston, Mass., the District Secretary of New England, and the Rev. Dr. J. H. Taylor, of Brooklyn, a member of the Board, and the Rev. Dr. A. P. Mason, of Boston, Mass., the District Secretary of New England, and the Rev. Dr. J. H. Taylor, of Brooklyn, where they will take the Union Pacific Railroad for California.

—Rev. Samuel Nott, who, at one time, for twenty years was pastor of the church in Wareham, Conn., died on the 1st at the residence of his son in Hartford, at the age of eighty-one. He was graduated at Union College in 1808, and was a member of the second class at the Andover Theological Seminary (1810); was ordained 6th of February, 1812, and went out with Gordon Hall, Andover, N. H., Samuel Nowell, and Luther Rice, as the first company of missionaries sent out by the American Board. He was classmate at Andover with Drs. Gardner Spring and R. S. Storrs.

—Mr. S. V. McDuffie was ordained at Crawfordsville, Iowa, May 25. A church of nineteen members has just been formed at Cheyenne, on the Pacific Railroad, under the auspices of the Home Missionary Society. Cheyenne is an important point. It has been the capital of Wyoming, has the railroad shops of a division, has the Denver Branch, Fort Russell, with 1200 soldiers, and 5000 population.

—The parish of the Holy Trinity, in New York has just closed its fifth year. It supports, says the Protestant Churchman, five mission chapels more than any other parish in the city, and several beds in St. Luke's Hospital and Home for the incurables, mothers' meetings, sewing schools, employment societies, and other connected charities. There are more than 1300 teachers and scholars connected with the Sunday School department, whose missionary contributions for the past five years have amounted to \$8577. The church school numbers about 400 children and teachers. In money, during this period, \$248,401 have been contributed.

—On the 23rd ult. the Zion Church was consecrated in Fonda, N. Y., by Bishop Doane. An extensive religious interest, under Episcopal influence amounting to a revival, is reported in the Lexington (Va.) Military Institute.

—The report of the committee of the Episcopal Convention of Virginia on the subject of innovations is very severe against all High Church innovations. The Convention of Connecticut met last week. A plan of life insurance was laid before the convention, by which the parish should by an annual payment of \$30 insure the rector's life for \$2000. Bishop Williams confirmed 1107 candidates last year.

—The Rhode Island Episcopal Convention voted to pay the fees of the counsel which prosecuted Rev. J. P. Hubbard, his church not being required to contribute. The motion to pay Mr. Hubbard's counsel was defeated.

—The Episcopal Convention of Ohio on June 3d thanked Bishop Melvaine for his letter on the Prayer Book. The Evangelicals were in a majority, and successfully urged the advisability of revision of the Prayer book. An Episcopal minister at Lafayette, Indiana, has been publicly censured by his assistant bishop for attending the Black Crook. His church, the wealthiest in the State, sustains him.

secular priest has been condemned to an ordinary jail, instead of being confined to a religious house, as the Concordist stipulated.

—A great Catholic meeting took place in the Church of Innsbruck last week. Count Manzano, the Imperial delegate, endeavored to prevent it, but was driven from the assembly, and was obliged to ask the protection of the gendarmes, having used expressions insulting to the Church and the Holy Father. The Tyrolese are the true sons of their fathers of the year '9 and worthy fellow-countrymen of Andreas Hofer. The object of the meeting was to protest against the secular schools which the Government is attempting to force on the Tyrol. At Prague the Minister of Public Instruction has issued a circular blaming the authorities of the University for having permitted an address to the Pope on his jubilee.

—A new house of worship was dedicated at Kinderhook, New York, May 13. The First Church of Albany has contributed, during the last six years, for benevolent and congregational purposes, \$134,776, being an average of \$22,463 per year. Additions to the church 282, making the whole number of members 737. The Sunday School contains 800 pupils and teachers, and the libraries 1500 volumes. The pastor, Rev. Rufus W. Clark, D. D., has been granted leave of absence for four months to visit Europe; and he sailed for Glasgow the 29th ultimo.

—We cut the following paragraph from the New York Tribune of last Tuesday morning. It is one of the signs of the times, and indicates an enterprise and vigor which we doubt not, will yield a large and beneficent result:—"The American Baptist Home Mission Society received, some time since, a promise from the officers of the Union Pacific Railroad of lands on which to locate missions on the line of the road."

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BOARDMAN'S SECOND ANNUAL EXCURSION TO ATLANTIC CITY, From Saturday Afternoon, June 23, to Monday, June 28, 1869.

THE LEHIGH UNIVERSITY, SOUTH BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA. Applicants for admission on SEPTEMBER 1, 1869, will be examined on MONDAY, June 21, or on FRIDAY, August 27. Apply to HENRY COPPER, LL. D., President.

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