

Correspondence.

ORGANIC CHURCH UNION.

By Robert F. Sample, D. D.

The subject of organic union is receiving much attention in all parts of our once undivided Presbyterian Church.

For example, there are ministers in the Southern Assembly who believe, though without sufficient evidence, that there is a doctrinal disintegration going steadily on in the Northern Church.

Again, it is urged by some of the representative ministers of the South, that the Northern Church has become secularized, and fails to recognize the Headship of Christ.

Further, stimulated in our action by the Christlike expressions of the Southern Assembly in 1872, in which were prophecies of good to them and us, our brethren, throwing the mantle of charity over many things in the past which had not been fully interpreted, and frankly admitting that they had often misapprehended our spirit and misjudged our action in the late unhappy years, our Assembly made like confession, and according the higher honor to the Assembly which had anticipated our declarations, assured them of our unabated confidence and affection.

But there are some difficulties in the way of Reunion which could readily be removed, whilst there are others of grave importance which may delay the desirable consummation.

Then reference is made to the differences in Form of Government and Rules of Discipline. We do not find that these involve any principle which might not be readily adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties concerned.

But there is a race question which is serious. The Methodist Episcopal Church, which led the Abolition movement in the North, has been unable to effect organic union with the Church South, because of divergent views respecting the ecclesiastical status of the Freedmen.

Our Southern Church ordains colored young men to preach to their race, but insists on organizing them into separate Presbyteries.

There are many in the South—leaders of thought and conspicuous ecclesiastical, representatives of a prevailing sentiment—who declare that "The Southern man who would seat a negro man at the table or by the fireside with his wife and daughters, would be the subject of deserved contempt and scorn."

North Carolina Presbyterian has so announced. The white man in any city of the South who disregards this social law in the least particular, is ostracized at once.

Will the General Assembly of the North consent to reunion on such a basis? Shall we eliminate from our Presbyteries the colored element, and establish, or order to be established, a distinct church for the colored race?

There are many reasons in favor of the union of the two branches of our beloved Church. It is necessary to the greatest efficiency in our work among the Freedmen. We are unable to enter fields of promise because of the existing division.

Further, the disappearance of old dividing walls, the correction of misapprehensions, and the magnifying of the fundamental, saving truths of the Gospel.

SEVERAL CRITICISMS.

Mr. Editor: Please allow me space to ask a few short and easy questions" of Dr. Patton, for whom I have long had a great deal of respect and high regard.

Again: "Ministers are ordained by Presbytery; ruling elders are not." Are not ministers sometimes ordained by a committee of Presbytery? Is not the minister of a particular church authorized by Presbytery to ordain elders? Is not, then, the minister virtually a committee of Presbytery?

Again: "Ministers are required to have a liberal education, and are rigidly examined in theology before they are ordained; this is not true of ruling elders." Is this essential? Is it universally required? Does not the Doctor know ministers who are not thoroughly versed in theology?

they not sometimes elect a minister that is not competent? Again: "Ministers are supposed to have a divine call to preach the Gospel, and usually give up all secular business; this cannot be of ruling elders." Who talked ruling elders to their work? Is refusal to work, a sign of fitness for moderator of Presbytery?

But take a case that occurred in New York State when the writer was a boy. A minister is moderator of Session, and rules an elder to be "out of order;" the elder appeals from the decision, and is sustained by unanimous vote of Session.

A WORD MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOLS. By Rev. John Waugh. It was a wise remark of the stiff theologian, Dr. Emmons, that in addressing an audience, a man must have something to say, and then say it; and a writer for THE NEW-YORK EVANGELIST should clearly and succinctly state his issue, and leave it to the intelligent readers.

At the time of the Conquest, what is now known as Mexico was inhabited by a large number of diverse Indian tribes or nations.

We have not space to relate at length the story of Aztec conquest, which culminated in an empire that extended to the Gulf and the heart of modern Central America, and reached as far north as the present Zacatecas.

After the Conquest, familiar to all through the pages of Prescott, the Spaniards came to Mexico in increasing numbers, the more influential receiving large estates.

MEXICO.

By Rev. Hubert W. Brown.

It is not perhaps too much to say that Mexico and Peru are the two names which dispute the first place of romantic interest in the early history of the New World.

As we dwell upon the Mexico of bygone centuries, we make involuntary comparisons. We seek what great advantage the nineteenth century has brought to Mexico, so far as the vast majority of her benighted population are concerned.

from 4000 to 8000 feet in elevation. This is broken up into many valleys, by the numerous mountain ranges which cross and recross in all directions.

The means of travel here are the railroad, diligence, private coach, and the horse. In many sections, over the steep mountain trails, the last is the only feasible method, and here the mule and donkey are used as freight carriers.

The population of the entire country is given as between 9,000,000 and 10,000,000. About 5,000,000 are said to be Indians; 3,000,000 Mexicans, mixed white and Indian; creoles or Spanish Mexicans, 1,500,000; Spaniards, 50,000; other Europeans and Americans, 100,000.

The Christian Advocate concludes an article in this wholesome strain: It is ever to be remembered that the reputation of the Church is only the sum of the reputations of its individual members.

It will be four years in May next when the largest and ablest deliberative Convention ever held among American Baptists, brought unity and peace to a great denomination on questions which had tortured it with divisions through a generation.

The Baptist Weekly says that Dr. Parkhurst recently preached a sermon which contained a good many plain truths. Here is what he said on aesthetic (2) art: "There are things printed, and things photographed and painted, that are full of illicit suggestion, and these things are on every side, and our youth are daily walking in the midst of them."

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We believe these views are just, and that the peril to moral decency which they describe, is most threatening. There may be more demonstrative and gross forms of indecency, but there are no more certain causes of indecency than the most immoral specimens of art which are palmed off as aesthetic productions, to be admired for their fidelity and beauty.

right when he says that a taste cultivated in this direction shows that chastity is not, even by those from whom it is most, held in absolute reverence, and that there is no confusion so coarse and licentious into which such a beginning will not in time easily, naturally, not to say necessarily, degenerate.

from 4000 to 8000 feet in elevation. This is broken up into many valleys, by the numerous mountain ranges which cross and recross in all directions.

The climate of the plateau or tierra templada, is moderate and Spring-like during most of the year. Under the direct rays of the sun, however, the heat is always intense and even scorching.

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The Religious Press.

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The Examiner extols the wisdom of certain measures of moderation, and which were brought about by dint of much effort and forbearance on the part of its denominational leaders:

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The Christian Union thus essays to set forth the antagonizing views of two of our Temperance leaders:

The real issue between the two opinions represented by these gentlemen appears to us tolerably simple, though often obscured. The Third Party Prohibitionists believe that there is but one remedy for intemperance—the absolute prohibition of the liquor traffic in all its forms.

Some of them drink their wine and beer with their dinner; others they do not, but desire to rely upon reason and moral sentiment, not upon the policeman's club and the penitentiary, to prevent their neighbor from drinking.

The Jewish Messenger remarks on the proposed change in the marriage laws of this State, assuring its readers that they are so slight (this at the suggestion of the Jewish Ministers' Conference) that no fears need be apprehended. It adds:

The publicity was to be regretted, but the evil had reached proportions which could no longer be overlooked. And if the check to be introduced shall succeed in diminishing the number of reverend frauds, it will be sufficient victory for the State.

The Independent is sure that the year has begun well for Prohibition:

Five State Legislatures have voted to submit to the voters a referendum on a constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicants as a beverage, and the question is still pending in other States.

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The Intelligencer is not friendly to "scare-crows," at least outside of cornfields. It says: Some time since a professor in a Theological Seminary very solemnly declared that it was his duty "to protest against the horrible idology which deliberately asserts that God is creating men by thousands of millions and sending them into endless perdition for not doing what they are for every reason incapable to do."

All the world is but as one orphanage, so long as its children know not God, their Father, and all wisdom and knowledge is only more bewildering darkness so long as they have not taught them the fear of the Lord—not to be taken out of the world in monastic sorrow, but to be kept from its evil in shepherd's peace.—Buskin.

SALD I NOT SO!

Sald I not so, tho' would sin no more? Witness, my God, I did! Yet I am run again upon the score: My faults cannot be hid.

FISHERS OF MEN.

A short Sermon by Pastor William E. Terrett. Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.—Matt. iv. 19.

Christ's hope was that when men saw that He loved them well enough to die for them, they would give Him their hearts. This hope has not been disappointed.

We shall have His power when we learn His love. In the work of winning souls, the best intentions and the wisest methods are of little value without love.

DESTRUCTION OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH.

The Bible says the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire, from the Lord out of heaven, and He overthrew those cities and all the plain.

THE POWER OF CHARACTER.

The best way to do good, is to be good, some one has said. We cannot do good and be evil. There are those who seem to try.

THE POWER OF VISION.

In order that we may be successful in Christ's service, it is not only necessary that we should want to win souls for Him, we must know how. Jesus will teach us how.

TWO LIVES.

Two funerals took place in New York on the same day a few weeks ago. One was that of the son of a wealthy lawyer, the descendant of scholarly, refined ancestors.

presented the dreariest waste they had ever looked upon, and against awe-stricken emotions and unfeeling despair, they had to fight, as they prepared to spend the night on their only camping-ground (p. 269).

A FRESH ARGUMENT FOR TEMPERANCE.

The arguments against the use of intoxicating drinks are many and most weighty: the waste of property, the injury to health, the desolation of homes, the neglect and cruelty to wives and children, the misery and crime to which it leads, and the shortening of life, which it so often ends in the horrors of delirium tremens.

A CHILD'S TRUST.

A little blind child rested in a loving father's arms, and her face was calm and happy. For she never knew alarms; she felt the love so strong and kind that girded her about.

LITTLE SCOTCH GRANITE.

Burt and Johnnie Lee were delighted when their Scotch cousin came to live with them. He was little, but very bright and full of fun.

The Children at Home.

A little maid in a pale blue hood. In front of a large brick building stood a woman in a blue dress and bonnet, and she was looking at a small box in her hand.

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night over his studies. The other young men who worked with him, found companions and amusements in the evenings, but the little Japanese, with his gentle, preattending glance from side to side, hurried through the streets to his solitary room, his books, and his slates.

The incessant study and the loneliness were more than he could bear. One day the little man fell on the street, and when he recovered consciousness, looked about him with a piteous smile, talking in an unknown tongue.

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MEMPHIS: TOMBS OF SACRED BULLS.

How strange to think that where we are riding now, once great Memphis stood, the capital of Egypt for nearly a thousand years under the Shepherd Kings as well as later under other dynasties.

THE SUNDAY BREAKFAST ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA.

On a bleak, bitter cold Sunday morning, a bell ringing at an early hour fell unpleasantly on the ears of a young man aroused from sound slumber.

At the present day we go down a steep descent dug through yielding sand. At the bottom a massive door is unlocked and opened. The candle lighted and a flight of steps descended, the traveller stands in the tomb.

AS YOU WILL.

Do the work you have to do. As you do it if you know how, you may find something to do; and he handed him his card.

TWO CHILDREN.

Up among the Vermont hills live two children who do not like to get up early. So their mother said one day 'I will give you a cent apiece every morning you are down promptly to breakfast.'

THE BLUE JAY.

When he has more of any special dainty than he can eat at the moment, as meat, or bread and milk, he hides it at the back of his tray.

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Farmer's Department.

ABOUT RICH FARMERS.

The men who acquire the greatest amount of material, mental, and moral wealth in an honorable and legitimate way, are the world's best benefactors.

CULTIVATING DANDELIONS.

Dandelions are grown in March with glass alone, and are commonly grown in what is called a "double string."

ONE THING AND ANOTHER.

An effort is making to amend the milk law of Massachusetts so as to lower the standard for saleable milk.

In England the horns have been bred off of sheep, and the grades are more satisfactory in every way than the original stock.

A Kansas farmer is feeding some steers of 1885 that have never had any other grain than wheat bran.

The National Live-Stock Journal advises the owner of a cow to keep her dairies, to raise their own cows.

The manufacture of spurious California wines is said to be quite extensively carried on in this city.

In winter give 100 fowls in the morning six quarts of warm feed, at noon the same amount of what or oats, and in the evening all the corn.

A Western farmer advises to tie ears of corn together with husks, in some place where the grain can be saturated with coal smoke.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, voting recently on the most reliable roses, placed the General Jacquemont at the head.

The beautiful *Ampelopsis Virginia*, or Virginia Creeper, adds much by its brilliant color to the charm of our autumnal landscapes.

THE JAPANESE IVY.

The beautiful *Ampelopsis Virginia*, or Virginia Creeper, adds much by its brilliant color to the charm of our autumnal landscapes.

The great profits from sheep cannot be made by farmers who do everything in the grand wholesale way.

Joseph Hopkins recommends in the Weekly Tribune as "peaches that pay," and that will thrive almost everywhere.

The Household.

APPLE SAUCE.—A writer in The Country Gentleman thus specifies: When the first tart harvest apples begin to mellow in July, and a few are brought in, yet scarcely full grown.

APPLE CULTURE.

Prof. Bailey of the Michigan Agricultural College, says that the three most important points in a market apple are these: a hardy, vigorous tree, a good bearer, and a large red fruit.

Scientific and Useful.

STARTING FOR THE NORTH POLE.—Alexander McArthur, who has made a special study of Arctic explorations, has started for Selkirk with a load of provisions, about 1400 pounds.

MEMPHIS FOUND IN DAKOTA.—Five mummies were discovered in a cave in the Bad Lands of Dakota a few days ago.

HER HUSBAND MADE FUN OF IT.—Some people value remedies according to whether they are freighted with an abundance of manure to the taste.

HOW TO BUILD A HOUSE

A new book containing plans and specifications for 22 houses, all sizes, from 2 rooms up.

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Through Trains with Dining Cars, Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars, Modern Tourist Cars, Modern Excursion Cars.

Guaranteed Farm Mortgages

NEW YORK, N.Y. Capital, \$1,000,000. We want you! A live energetic man.

I CURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then let the disease of FITS, EPI-LEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS return.

Foreign.

ZELAND.—The Queen's authority has been extended over Eastern Zululand with the assent of the Zulus.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

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R. H. MACY & CO. SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO MAIL ORDERS. SPRING CATALOGUE WILL BE READY ABOUT MARCH 1, AND WILL BE MAILED ON RECEIPT OF 10 CENTS.

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Every body has at his price; some only in a few all good silk and good color.

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Various small advertisements and notices on the right margin.

