

The Sabbath Recorder.

New York, January 28, 1847.

CONSCIENTIOUSNESS OF RAILROAD COMPANIES.

Several months ago, notice was given that the Sunday train on the Railroad between New York and Philadelphia would soon be discontinued. An obstacle to this arrangement, however, was found in the contract with the Post Office Department, which required that the mail should be carried on every day of the week.

This all looks very pious and praiseworthy. Indeed, if we could really believe that it resulted from a conscientious conviction of the sinfulness of running cars on Sunday, we should have not a word to say in opposition, but would rather give it our sanction, notwithstanding we can see nothing in the Bible to encourage such convictions.

The Reading Railroad, if we mistake not, was one of the first to close its business on Sunday; and when it did so, the circumstance was trumpeted throughout the country as a triumph of the "Sabbath Reformers."

Another of the "Sabbath-keeping Railroads" is that which extends across Long Island. This Company has never been in the habit of running cars on Sunday, and of course it was natural to expect that it would be slow to commence such an unpopular and wicked practice.

There is a railroad in New Jersey, upon which we frequently have occasion to travel, and on which a Sunday train would sometimes be a great convenience. But this road is too conscientious to carry passengers on Sunday.

These things are not said to encourage traveling on Sunday. On the contrary, we are heartily in favor of giving every man the privilege of resting or working on any and every day he pleases, and particularly when his pleasure is regulated by his conscience.

PETITIONS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS.

DEBUTTER, Jan. 20, 1847.

To the Editor of the Sabbath Recorder:—

In my former communication, I presented the views of the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Central Association upon the subject of petitions for equal rights, and perhaps said enough to explain what was deemed necessary for the occasion.

Owing to the influence of popular custom, laws have been enacted which not merely protect the observers of Sunday from interruption, but savor much of a religious establishment, probably without remonstrance, or even a knowledge at the time that others would be effected by them; while, on account of the unpopularity of our profession, it is difficult to obtain a hearing.

In all great objects, we should be careful that the means do not defeat the end. One thing done at a time, and done properly, is a triumph; but a dozen things attempted at one effort, which fails, is the ruin perhaps of the enterprise.

Yours, &c., JOHN MAXSON.

HOW TO OBTAIN A SENSE OF PARDON.

Many Christians complain of a want of evidence as to the forgiveness of their sins. This may arise from two causes. It may be from not clearly understanding the doctrine of the Scriptures, or from a low state of religion in the soul.

A guilty, weak and helpless worm, On thy kind arms I fall; Be thou my strength and righteousness, My Jesus and my all—

and gives evidence by his conduct that this is his real experience, his sins are pardoned, and he is justified in the sight of God. Some people talk as if they expected God to speak to them in an audible voice, or as if they thought some kind of inspiration was to be experienced, before they could claim the blessing of pardon as theirs.

difficult, then, for a man to know whether he looks to Christ alone for salvation? Is it hard to know whether the fruits of faith in Christ are produced in his soul and life? Cannot he tell whether he loves God supremely or not, and his people because they bear his likeness?

SALEM, N. J., Jan. 11, 1847.

MISSIONS IN HINDOSTAN AND CHINA.

The Missionary Herald for January contains an article surveying the missions of the American Board. The following extracts from it will interest every friend of the missionary cause:—

BOMBAY.—Few missionary fields hold out greater encouragements than the Maharatta country. Its inhabitants, compared with the Hindoos generally, are an intelligent, independent, noble race.

The labors of this mission in preaching and by means of education and the press, have been much as in former years. Only one person has been admitted to the church during the year.

AHMEDNUGUR.—The spirit of inquiry appears to be spreading more and more in the Deccan, and the missionaries are bringing their influence to bear more directly and effectually on the mass of heathenism around them.

Decisive progress has been made in breaking the influence of caste in the churches; and there begins to be a prospect of establishing small native churches and the ordinances of the gospel in villages scattered through the country.

MADRAS.—The statistics furnished by the mission are incomplete. The educational efforts of the mission are supposed to have been similar to those of preceding years.

The issues of the press, of every sort, amounted to nearly 27,000,000 pages last year; and they have been upwards of 90,000,000 of pages from the beginning.

An anti-Christian society was some time ago organized at Madras, which by means of a newspaper, tracts, lectures and agents, is exerting considerable influence, especially in the interior.

MADURA.—The results of the past year have been as favorable as could have been reasonably anticipated. Five missionaries and one assistant missionary, with their native helpers, have had the care of seven infant native churches, more than twice that number of stated congregations, the mission seminary, five boarding schools, and ninety free schools, embracing, in all, nearly four thousand pupils; besides touring and distributing Scriptures and tracts in forty nominally Christian villages that look to them for instruction, and in various other parts of the Madura district.

CANTON.—The brethren at Hongkong have all removed to Canton, and the former is not now reckoned among our stations. The population of Canton is about a million, affording, of course, a vast field for missionary labor.

Doctor Parker's labors at the hospital have been continued with the same success as in former years. Much attention has been paid to the spiritual interests of the patients, partly by oral exhibitions of the truth, partly by means of tracts and books.

The missionaries have been diligent in making known the way of salvation, as they have had opportunity. It is not doubted that the fruit of these labors will hereafter appear. Doct. Ball has given instruction to a small school of boys, from ten to fourteen years of age.

REJECTION.

LINCOLN, Dec. 31st, 1846.

The ministers called to sit in council with the church in Lincoln on the case of Eld. Sebeus M. Burdick, met at the house of Bro. Benjamin Burdick, to consider the evidence adduced before the church and council.

Resolved, (unanimously) That we conceive that Eld. S. M. Burdick has forfeited his right to church membership, and that nothing but a full, frank, and humble confession of all the charges alleged and proved, should restore him to the fellowship of the church.

Resolved, (unanimously) That we conceive that Eld. S. M. Burdick, by the above-named conduct, has forfeited his ministerial office, to which he cannot be restored until by an upright course of conduct he has regained public confidence.

Resolved, (unanimously) That we advise the church to adopt the above resolutions, and forward them to the Sabbath Recorder for publication.

ELI S. BAILEY, Chair'n, JAMES BAILEY, Sec., S. B. CRANDALL, V. HULL, R. G. BURDICK, C. M. LEWIS, O. P. HULL, J. CLARK.

The Seventh-day Baptist Church in Lincoln having heard the evidence adduced, as also the reading of the resolutions of the council resolved to adopt them. In compliance with the request of the church and council, I forward to you the above, for publication in the Recorder.

Yours in Christian fellowship, B. S. BURDICK, Church Clerk.

SABBATH LECTURES.—Mr. Brown's ninth and last lecture upon the subject of the Sabbath, which was to have been delivered on Sunday evening last, was deferred for the purpose of attending the obsequies of Bro. Franklin W. Stillman at Plainfield, N. J.

FIRE IN THE JEWS' QUARTER.—According to the Austrian Gazette, Adrianople was on the night of the 24th August visited by a dreadful conflagration, which broke out in the Jewish quarter, and in a few hours, in spite of all endeavors to stop the progress of the furious element, reduced to ashes more than six hundred houses, six synagogues, and several provision magazines.

THE JEWS IN NUREMBERG.—The Voice of Jacob says: "Since the expulsion of the Jews (in 1409) from Nuremberg, they have been so rigidly excluded from the precincts of that town, as not even to be permitted to sleep there overnight.

JEWISH SCHOOLS IN RUSSIA.—From a report of the Russian Minister of Public Instruction, it appears that there were in Russia, at the close of the last year, 97 school commissions, which had licensed 10,000 Jewish teachers; and that, in order to support the schools to be instituted, two taxes had been imposed—one levied upon the Jewish printing offices, and the other upon the candles lighted by the Jews on Friday night, in celebration of the Sabbath.

MASSACRE OF THE NESTORIANS.—It appears from the accounts received by the Hibernian, that the hostility to the Christians in Turkey continues unabated, and that massacres are of frequent occurrence. Sixty-eight villages have been destroyed, and more than eight hundred persons put to death.

EDITORIAL SKIRMISHES.—The Rev. Luzerne Ray, in retiring from the editorial charge of the Religious Herald, speaks as follows:—

"I have been engaged in many controversies during my editorial course, and have borne my part in the exchange of some sharp words on various occasions, but I am not aware of ever having had the least bitterness of feeling toward those with whom I have differed. The life of an editor is in many respects not a pleasant one. He must either say nothing, and endure the universal verdict of stupidity, for the sake of offending nobody; or else speak his opinions frankly, and find himself hotly assailed by men with whom he would gladly be at peace.

MR. ONCKEN.—Dr. Baird, in his correspondence from Europe, in the N. Y. Evangelist, thus speaks of this apostle of truth and religious liberty in Germany:—

"One of the most valuable men in Hamburg is the Rev. Mr. Oncken, a Baptist minister, who a few years ago endured much persecution. Those days are now passed away, I hope forever. No man is doing more good than he, in this city. I have attended his meetings, and have been delighted to see how many persons have been brought to the knowledge of the truth by his labors. He will probably visit America next spring."

AN EXAMPLE TO RULERS.—Rev. Messrs. Fairbank and Wilder, with their wives, missionaries from this country to India, have just arrived at Bombay. Mr. F. says in a letter to the American Board:—

"Those who hold the highest offices of the government, interest themselves deeply in whatever pertains to the evangelization of the Hindoos; and they have received us with many wishes for our success, and in various ways have favored us. It is surely a cause of thankfulness, that the disposition of this Government towards American missionaries has undergone such a revolution, and that the natives can see among the rich and the rulers of the land, examples of Christian humility, devotedness, and zeal."

AN EDITOR'S POSITION.—The following is the language of the editor of the Michigan Christian Herald in view of the responsibilities of his position. With slight modifications, it might be adopted by many of his brethren:—

"A brief experience has discovered to us some of the trials and responsibilities of an editor, but we never felt their full force until called to exercise the supervision of a religious paper. All others are published for the world—to enlighten, amuse, instruct, or lead; but a Christian periodical is Christ's—and is to warn men of a judgment to come—to treat with immortal souls. Within the bounds of the Herald's circulation, there are more than ten thousand Baptists, whose influence should be exerted upon each other through its columns. It is the editor's duty to see that this is properly done. With what cautiousness and prayerfulness should this situation be approached. No less zeal and piety is required than for the sacred ministry."

NOBLE EXAMPLES.—The Corresponding Secretary of the American Baptist Home Missionary Society, in a letter which we find in the Baptist Register, mentions the following examples of well-directed liberality. May they excite many others to go and do likewise:—

"A short time ago a gentleman from New Jersey called at the Home Mission Rooms, and handed the Secretary his note for \$500, payable in quarterly installments, for the support of a missionary in the valley of the Mississippi; saying, that he was not wealthy, but wished to bestow a part of what God had given him in that way. He modestly declined having his name appear with the acknowledgment, and merely requested that when the entire amount is paid, it may be passed to the credit of the Convention of his State. The donation is designated for the support of a missionary in one of the most beautiful and promising villages of Wisconsin. One-fifth is paid. The balance is sure.

"About the same time a gentleman of this city informed the Secretary, that he was anxious to have a representative at the West, to preach the gospel; and if we had a missionary whose salary would not exceed his ability, he would gladly furnish the amount. The missionary was designated, and the amount necessary for his support for a year was advanced. This gentleman, also, is in only moderate circumstances, and has no wish to be known, but is desirous that his example may be imitated."

RATES OF POSTAGE.—Mr. Niles, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, has reported a bill in the Senate, which provides that after the first day of July next, the tariff of postage shall be as follows:—

"On all letters not weighing more than one-third of an ounce, five cents; if weighing more than one-third, and not exceeding one-half of an ounce, ten cents; and five cents for every additional half ounce or fraction thereof; but it shall not be lawful to deposit in any Post Office, to be conveyed in the mail, two or more letters, directed to different persons and enclosed in the same envelope or packet; and every person so offending shall forfeit the sum of ten dollars, to be recovered by action, one half for the use of the informant, and the other half for the use of the Post Office Department; and all newspapers conveyed in the mail shall be subject to postage; and newspapers not sent from the office of publication, and all handbills or circulars printed or lithographed, shall pay postage of three cents, to be paid when deposited in any post-office to be conveyed in the mails, anything in the act to which this is an amendment to the contrary notwithstanding; and the franking privilege of the members of the two Houses of Congress and the Delegates of Territories, in respect to letters addressed to them, shall be the same as it is in respect to letters written by them, and conveyed in the mail, and their right to frank documents printed by the order of either House of Congress, shall continue as long as their privilege to frank letters; and it shall be lawful for any mail carrier to transport newspapers out of the mail and not subject to postage, for sale or distribution to subscribers."

Rev. A. B. Smolnikar, formerly a Catholic priest, but now a self-declared apostle of a New Era of Universal Peace on Earth, writes from Cincinnati to give notice that a Convention of Christian friends of Universal Brotherhood and Peace is invited to meet at the Wesleyan meeting-house, Cortville, near Selma, P. O., Clark Co., Ohio (10 miles from Springfield, 13 from Xenia), on the 15th of April next, to be continued as long as shall be deemed advisable.

The American missionaries at the Gaboon have been preparing a grammar of the Pango language, which they consider one of the most perfect of which they have any knowledge. This language is spoken coastwise nearly 200 miles, and how far into the interior is unknown.

Gen... In the Senate... appointed... Mr. Sevier... Legislature... the claims on... lution was the... Treasury... rassed the op... whether it oug... pealed. The... or General of... of land to sell... enclosed for... the Committee... a bill placing... posal of the Pa... ico. The Am... amendments... ed officers in... moved to am... unteers also... after which the... vote of 26 to... the negative... ant resolutions... twenty-six abo... from Pennsylv... them was laid... offered to the... Chaplains for... modified so as... teen regiments... one thousand d... per day, and for... thing of genera... day. In the House... day, the bill to... sioned officers... teers, two dolla... hundred and six... An amendment... pay three dolla... On Tuesday the... regulars and vol... ferred to a Select... were received fr... together with a s... of the last year... communication... reply to the res... for the number... tered for service... terms of three... the number who... those who have... been discharged... were occupied... pensions, for the... and for various... select committee... to increase the... reported an ame... twice and refer... Whole. Leave... resolution declar... was not waged... that republic... jection was made... and a move in... rules, which was... vate bills were... into Committee... TWENTY-SEVEN... The steamship... Monday, the 25th... days. She had... tained over her... a supply of coal... lency the Govern... suite. The price of... The best quality... 72 shillings. The price of... bond, best quality... lings per barrel... The cotton... during the past... considerable bu... American beer... lent demand, and... in free, very stiff... It is said that... specie came out... Mr. O'Connell... be fast animating... age. A Paris paper... ment intends to... siderable deduc... Several... lately been... scilles. Rome has been... the distress is g... destroyed in ser... igated their hard... sonal exertions... The last messa... was received in... the sailing of the... by the whole pe... given to the pro... President's accoun... The condition... about the affec... the distress con... doing the work... country... ed and... and be... to be... towns.

