

The Sabbath Recorder.

New York, March 22, 1849.

PENNSYLVANIA SUNDAY LAW—INCONSISTENCIES.

In one of our exchanges, we find a labored attempt to show that the Legislature of Pennsylvania was inconsistent in passing an act to exempt the Seventh-day Baptists of that State from the penalties of the Sunday Law...

The inconsistencies and contradictions developed in connection with this Sunday Law of Pennsylvania, are indeed numerous and noteworthy. In the first place, the enactment of the law involved an inconsistency, inasmuch as the Constitution of the State, which the law-makers had sworn to maintain, guaranteed liberty of conscience to every citizen...

This state of things continued for a long time, until a set of rowdies, who had been informed against and punished for wantonly disturbing a religious meeting, determined to get revenge by turning informers against a peaceable community of Sabbath-keepers for working on Sunday...

But passing these inconsistencies, together with numerous others which were developed in the course of the early trials, just look at the inconsistencies connected with the final decision of the case before the Supreme Court of the State. On that bench sat judges of widely different religious views...

Peace Society, have recently united in a course of measures which has resulted in organizing a new committee, to be called, THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR A CONGRESS OF NATIONS. The Committee is to be a permanent body, and when once constituted is to fill its own vacancies, amenable only to the public.

SUNDAY IN NEW JERSEY.

During the recent session of the Legislature of New Jersey, a bill was originated and passed by the House, to prohibit the running of any railroad car or locomotive on Sunday, "except in cases of clear necessity or mercy, or for the purpose of carrying the mails..."

THE GOVERNMENT'S SACREDNESS OF SUNDAY!

To the Editor of the Sabbath Recorder:—It is generally assumed by Sunday coercionists, that Sunday (the heathen sun-worship-day) is an Institution of our Government—that its sacredness is recognized and established by our Organic Law.

Well, let us test their own principles by putting their own acts together, and see how it comes out. Some time since, I took up my pen to indite some strictures on the doleful homily of a lachrymose editor in reference to General Taylor's Inauguration, who entertained horrible forebodings of the desecration of the "Christian Sabbath..."

Had the Constitution required the Inauguration to take place on the fourth day of March, there can be no question but that Zachary Taylor would have assumed the reigns of government on that day. Whatever may be his private views on the subject of the sacredness of the first day of the week, he never regarded it in his official duties...

While, therefore, the Constitution does not require the Inauguration to take place on that day, yet it certainly presumes that the President Elect will assume the Chief Magistracy at the time, without regard to day, and not leave the country without a government...

tion. On the contrary, the American Congress has frequently stultified the presumption—namely, actually nullified the assumed sacredness of the first day of the week, by sitting in regular session, and transacting regular business, on that day...

Some of these Sunday folks are as queer philosophers as they are Christians. They first change the day of the Sabbath, from the seventh to the first; then they change the commencement and the ending of the day, at pleasure. The Bible ordains the seventh day as the holy rest-day, and specifies, "from even to even shall ye celebrate your Sabbaths..."

But, to hasten to a close, it has frequently been claimed, that the Constitutions of the Union and of the States, recognize Sunday as an institution of the Government, from the circumstance of that day being excepted in the ten days given to the Executive to retain Bills for his signature or his veto.

But I have no more space to trace the devious course of the advocates for the sacredness of the first day of the week. They do, truly, "strain out a gnat, and swallow a camel!"

UNION OF SOCIETIES.—There are in this country three regularly-organized Societies, the ostensible object of which is to promote the conversion of Roman Catholics. Two of them—the American Protestant Society, and the Christian Alliance—adopted a plan of co-operation in May last, which has since been acted upon.

CHURCH NAMES.—We were interested and amused, the other day, in looking over a list of Episcopal Churches, and noticing particularly the names by which they are designated. The names most commonly selected are those of the Apostles; and hence we have, all over the country, churches known as St. Mark's, St. Luke's, St. John's, St. Peter's, St. Paul's, and St. Bartholomew's.

SUNDAY LEGISLATION FOR NEW YORK STATE.—In the Legislature of New York, on the 11th of March, a resolution providing that no collector on the canals shall issue clearances on the first day of the week, and that no collector, inspector, or lock-tender, shall be required to perform official duty on that day, came up.

TROUBLES OF A CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION.—After considerable flourish, the steam propeller Hartford left New York for San Francisco on the 16th of February, with a complement of passengers. On the 16th of March, the steamer Trent arrived at New York from Bermuda, bringing sixteen of the Hartford's passengers.

FOR CALIFORNIA.—The steamship Crescent City sailed from New York for Chagres last week with three hundred and forty-seven passengers bound for California. Among them was Rev. Flavel S. Mines, who goes out to establish an Episcopal Church at San Francisco, under the auspices of several churches in this city.

ANOTHER SOUTHERN ADDRESS.—Several Members of Congress from Kentucky and Georgia, who did not subscribe to the Calhoun manifesto, have issued an address to the South on the subject of Slavery. They speak largely of the political power of the abolition movement, and represent it as threatening a dissolution of the Union.

RENOUNCING PORK.—It is said that the Shakers have recently renounced pork-eating, founding their antipathy on that passage of Scripture where it is related that Satan entered into the herd of swine when he was cast out of the possessed man.

BAPTISM OF A PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER.—The Rev. Mr. Anderson, late a minister of the Scotch Free Church, and highly esteemed in that body, having renounced Infant Baptism, was immersed at Aberdeen, a short time ago, by the Rev. W. Innes (now Dr. Innes) of Edinburgh.

DE RUYTER INSTITUTE.—In the recent distribution of the Literature Fund, De Ruyter Institute received \$343 02 to be applied to the payment of teachers, and \$245 to be applied to the purchase of Library and Apparatus.

RELIGIOUS INTEREST.—A letter from Bro. J. R. Irish, of De Ruyter, dated March 9, says: "We are enjoying precious social meetings, and some new witnesses are testifying for Jesus."

BIBLES IN CANADA.—The Montreal Herald says that the Romish clergy, with but two exceptions in all the province, are opposed to the circulation of the Bible; and of the Romish people, not one house in a thousand has the Bible, except where it has been given by Protestants.

DOINGS AT WASHINGTON.—The Called Session of the Senate continues. The most difficult question before them last week related to the eligibility of General Shields, Senator elect from Illinois. The case was first referred to a Committee, who reported adversely to the claim of the General, and after considering the subject several days, the Senate finally resolved, "That the election of James Shields to be a Senator of the United States is void, he not having been a citizen of the United States the number of years required as a qualification to be a Senator of the United States..."

The number of office-seekers at Washington is said to be very large, and many of them are likely to be disappointed. The new administration has determined, it is said, to make few or no appointments at present, except in cases where commissions have expired, or are about to expire. Among the appointments made we notice the following: Palmer V. Kellogg, of Utica, to be Marshall of the United States for the Northern District of New York; Charles Hudson, Naval Officer at Boston, Mass.; Archibald Williams, United States Attorney for the District of Illinois; Surveyors of Customs—Wm. P. Green, Providence, R. I.; G. Howland, Tiverton, R. I.; J. H. Cross, Pawtucket, R. I.

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY AND HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.—A writer for one of the N. Y. papers, says that this Institution, which was opened on the 13th of December last, in the handsome edifice erected under the superintendence of its managers, in 30th street, N. Y., now contains about 80 inmates in all. The average, per month, is about 70, very few of whom remain for a longer period than two or three months. There are constant applications for admission, and as the number for whom the Institution succeeds in finding places, is about equal to that which they receive, the increase does not overrun the capacity of the building. The good thus accomplished, in furnishing employment to friendless and destitute females, and in giving shelter and instruction to forsaken children, has repaid tenfold the labors of those by whom the Institution was established.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP.—An interesting question has recently been raised at the U. S. Department. A State, which will probably give rise to much discussion. In its broadest form, the question is this—Has the Federal Government a legal right to deny to any citizen of a sovereign State of this Confederacy the character and privileges of a citizen of the United States? The question arose on an application in due form to the State Department for passports for certain citizens of New York who chanced to be born with black skins, and who had their complexion been white, would have unquestionably been entitled to and received passports.

DISTRESS AMONG THE JEWS.—The Orient relates the following particulars respecting the suffering condition of the Jews in Prussia Poland, in consequence of the late revolutionary movements: "The sanguinary contests of the past months, in which we had to mourn the loss of many Jewish lives, have been followed by a state of things which presses heavily on the Jewish community. The large number of Jews who live among the Poles, are now suffering from the deep-rooted hate which the latter continue to nourish. The Pole refuses to employ a Jew, either in country or town, and it is not surprising that, in consequence, great poverty prevails in many congregations."

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.—A newspaper, published in Malta by Dr. Desautics, formerly Dignity Professor at Rome, but now a devout Protestant minister, is widely circulated in Italy, presenting a popular system of Gospel truth in the Italian language. A monthly newspaper has also, recently, been issued among the long-persecuted Waldenses, probably the first thing of the kind ever seen in the Valleys of Piedmont; all the result of the changes of '48—the first pulsations of new born liberty in that long oppressed country. These are illustrations of the inseparable connection between the freedom of the newspaper press and the progress of religious liberty.

REVIVAL IN WISCONSIN.—A letter dated at Troy, Wisconsin, February 1, says: "We are in the midst of one of the greatest revivals ever witnessed in Wisconsin. God is with us by the powerful operations of His Spirit. The work commenced in our school district, and scarcely any are left, especially of the young. There have been some thirty or forty converts in our neighborhood."

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE OHIO PENITENTIARY.—Arrangements have recently been made for thoroughly lighting all the cells in the Ohio Penitentiary. The means employed are gas lights, placed in the area between the cells and the outer walls. Now every prisoner can spend his long evenings in reading, instead of being doomed to stare in total darkness. There is a library of several thousand volumes belonging to the prison.

INDIAN.—Yucatan had a... The come... Thousands... he had... them... great... commands... with a... a consider... some ann... notice... agents... A letter... upon... 11... ernment... which... 27 Indian... officers... The comm... 23d... speak... dians... O... after... gained... killing... 11... lost 25... soon... 24... on the... 31... Indians... On the 24... ber of... speak... consider... of the Ind...

HORROR... New York... ribbon... Bradford... 10... Ab... saw a bl... house of... neighbors... hasted... barn... time... Mr. Corb... the horro... of that... on, in... lying... scarcely... their lim... body of... his back... fire... As soon... were rem... her... house... neighbors... stunned... tied up... in the bar... The m... to have... of his inn... often thr... vious, al... went to O... tence that... ed his del... elty some... house... like a fer... with diffi... ly after h... the horri...

SHIP... have alter... Franklin... was on h... with a va... to \$60,000... cording... the time... Cape on... of the be... went ash... Smith and... drowned... remained... three... in no... Captain... instructi... reaching... One of th... to bail in... his future... to be four...

DEATH... Philadelphia... that por... Capt... V... the... the... hon... 7... The... cor... mad... con... minist... the... ed... of... 1... 2... 3... 4... 5... 6... 7... 8... 9... 10... 11... 12... 13... 14... 15... 16... 17... 18... 19... 20... 21... 22... 23... 24... 25... 26... 27... 28... 29... 30... 31... 32... 33... 34... 35... 36... 37... 38... 39... 40... 41... 42... 43... 44... 45... 46... 47... 48... 49... 50... 51... 52... 53... 54... 55... 56... 57... 58... 59... 60... 61... 62... 63... 64... 65... 66... 67... 68... 69... 70... 71... 72... 73... 74... 75... 76... 77... 78... 79... 80... 81... 82... 83... 84... 85... 86... 87... 88... 89... 90... 91... 92... 93... 94... 95... 96... 97... 98... 99... 100...

