





The Christian Advocate.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1868.

JAMES GWIN.—Rev. J. B. McFerrin contributes the Nashville Advocate an interesting paper on this pioneer preacher, one of the great lights of fifty years ago.

DR. RIVERS.—We regret to learn that President Rivers was recently thrown from his buggy, and that his arm and leg were broken.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS assembled at the Court-house, in this city, on Monday last, at 12 o'clock.

NEW PATENTS.—In the list of new patents for the week ending with the 20th, we find the following:

Louis Lefebvre, of New Orleans, La., for improvement in furnaces for evaporating sugar juices. Patented November 23, 1858.

Elizabeth Keagy, of Mineral Point, La., administratrix of the estate of Samuel Keagy, deceased, late of Mineral Point aforesaid, for improved centering chucks for lathes.

Florimond Dutchay, of Paris, France, for improved apparatus for reworking the waste steam of steam engines.

Wm. Emmett, of Galveston, Texas, for improvement in machines for polishing marble.

C. V. Littlepage, of Austin, Texas, for improvement in millstone dress.

NEW TERRITORIES.—The Senate Territorial Committee have agreed to report bills organizing the Territories of Nevada, Jefferson, Arizona and Dakota.

THE LECTURE ON CHARLES WESLEY, at Howard Hall, by Rev. Dr. Lathrop, Boston, in behalf of the Methodist Church in Wisconsin was a performance of unusual interest.

WHITE LABOR IN THE SOUTH.—Here is a just word spoken by Mr. Hunter in the Senate: "Nor is it true that the institution of slavery makes manual labor on the part of the whites despicable in the slaveholding States.

THEATRICALS DISCOVERED.—We read that two old pictures, which a New York gentleman took for a debt of five dollars a number of years ago, have been discovered to be two of Rembrandt's series of the Apostles, and they are to be sent to France for sale.

A FEW COLLEGE.—The Trustees of Columbia College are said to be considering the expediency of throwing it open, without restriction, to the free admission of students from every part of the United States.

THE WRITER OF A REVIEW OF MR. BANTAIN'S "EXTEMPORARY SPEAKING"—In the last number of our Quarterly—has some weighty remarks upon the "point that Florence the preacher from the man, marks him out for a peculiar work, separates him from the body of believers, and secures him special grace for a special task."

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THE PREACHER.

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At this point, says the reviewer, "the most of preachers fall into a capital error. Mind must be employed in preparing a sermon, and must do its best, but "a sermon can never be a product of intellect as intellect." It must have feeling wrought with its texture. It will not do, therefore, to pray before and after study.

It is worthy of remark that this devotional method, accompanied by any respectable degree of intellectual ability, makes the preacher successful, not only in the sermon itself, but in the end of the sermon, which is—the greatest amount of good to the greatest number. It was thus that Sumnerfield preached, and, therefore, thousands crowded to hear him.

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THE GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION.

In the South, and especially in Texas, the relation of the Government to Education is likely to become a question of the first importance. There are none to deny that the Government ought to foster Education, but how this should be done is a query which will for some time demand a satisfactory answer.

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ern the legislator; he avails himself of all the means conducive to his end, even when these means differ widely from each other."

As general views are our object in this article, we refer, next, to the maxim of Aristotle that an honest government must desire the diffusion of intelligence. We quote him as he is quoted by Hamilton: "A government ruling for the benefit of all, is, of its very nature, anxious for the education of all, not only because intelligence is in itself a good, and the condition of good, but even in order that its subjects may be able to appreciate the benefits of which itself is the source; whereas, a government ruling for the profit of its administrators, is naturally willing to debauch the mind and character of the governed, to the end that they may be disqualified to understand, to care for, and to assert their rights."

Observe, it is the "education of all" which such a government desires. Now, as the millions of the millionaires are not the model of citizen-wellbeing, so the leading statesmen by the few is not the education required by the many. A government based upon a written constitution and administered by written laws, should teach all its children to read—Reading is the centre of a common-school education.

THE INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION is a problem. Mathematics and the natural sciences are necessary for national ends. Should the nation look to the voluntary principle to supply it with engineers, navigators and qualified explorers? Not if it has a navy and an army, and sends out expeditions to extend its commerce. It is true that by creating the necessity for such learning, the government indirectly fosters its production—just as by building State-houses, and leaving walls and panels in a condition for the painter, it stimulates improvement in that art.

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THE CHANGE FROM GROSS VICE TO VIRTUE was frequently instantaneous. The boisterous and riotous have become quiet and orderly; quarrelsome families live in obedience and love, and squall habits have given place to cleanliness, and brutality of manners to refinement and gentleness.

BURNING ZEAL.

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THE MINUTES. The Book Editor sends us the Minutes of the Annual Conference of the M. E. Church for 1859.

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LETTER FROM THE AGENT. Mr. Editor:—I wrote you last from Nashville, which place I left in company with Sister Lambeth and her interesting little boy, from the China Mission; and in fifty-eight hours afterwards we passed from Jersey into this great city, weary and worn, having passed three nights in the cars.

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SIGNS AND WISDOM.

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SHORT PAPERS.

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POLYGAMY.

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TO THE DELEGATES AND PREACHERS.

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