

Religious Telescope.

CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1847.

That Verdict.

On another page will be found some pointed, and perhaps appropriate remarks, from Br. Vardaman, touching the publication in the Telescope of the Verdict of a Committee on the case of a Brother for volunteering to go to war. The article was received and published in our absence, and was not seen by us for some weeks afterwards. The verdict contains one glaring inconsistency, besides those referred to by Br. Vardaman. It states that the Br. was charged with immorality by the Annual Conference, and then states, "the charge was not sustained for want of evidence to prove that it was immoral to go into such a war." The committee was not appointed to say whether the act was immoral or not; the An. Con. had decided that; but to ascertain whether or not he was guilty of the act charged against him, to suspend or acquit, according as he gave satisfaction by repentance or otherwise, and then to report to the next session of A. Con. So we understand it. The matter is important at this time, as it involves a principle to which the public mind is becoming awake; viz., the right or wrong of the war. This question must be met and answered before the Gospel can triumph throughout the earth.

It may be interesting to our readers to know in what light our neighbors view the matter now before us. What follows is from the true Wesleyan.

Singular Church Trial.

The following from the Religious Telescope explains itself. We had supposed that our "United Brethren in Christ" were opposed to war, but this indicates otherwise. If war be morally wrong, then it must be morally wrong to volunteer for such war. If, therefore, they hold the Mexican war to be immoral, the act of volunteering would be an immorality *ipso facto*, and no other proof could be needed.

A Verdict.

Bro. EDWARDS:—
Please publish the following:
Nashville, Ia., Sept. 13th, 1847.
Be it remembered, that on the above-named day, the Committee to whom was referred the case of P. C. Parker, met at the town of Nashville, and after a mature and deliberate examination of the ministerial, religious, and moral character of said Brother P. C. Parker, would beg leave to report as follows:

Whereas the last Annual Conference charged the above-named Brother with public immorality for volunteering in the Mexican war, we the Committee, find the charges not sustained for the want of evidence to prove that it was immoral to go into such a war; and further, we find the above-named brother has, and now does sustain an excellent character, and is very useful to our Church as a minister; whereunto we do subscribe our names.

CHARLES M' CARTY,
JOHN SMITH,
M. M. CROW,
Committee.

Br. N. Altman,

The Publishing Agent of this Office, arrived at home last Friday. Although partially recovered from his late illness, he is not yet able to discharge the duties of his office in full.

Brother H. Kumler, in behalf of himself and others, requests us to change our publication day back to Wednesday. Give us a little time and perhaps we may. When the Telegraph is completed here the circumstances that called for the former change will be removed.

"Physician, Heal Thyself."

We have heard of "Satan reproving sin," and of infidels giving lessons on virtue and righteousness, but the following paragraph, which we clip from the Boonsboro "Odd Fellow," exhibits the most wonderful consistency we have seen lately:

"In passing through Ellicott's Mills on Sabbath last, on our return from the City, we discovered to our utter astonishment, hands busily engaged at work in digging and carting dirt, stone, &c. Such a flagrant outrage upon the Sabbath should be severely punished."

The question with us is, how much less "flagrant an outrage on the Sabbath" was it for the editor of the Odd Fellow to return home from the city, a distance of above fifty miles,

on God's day, than for others to labor at carting, digging, &c. The Bible as plainly forbids traveling on secular business, or to save time on the Sabbath, as it does digging and carting, else we are ignorant of its first principles. The commonness of the sin of Sabbath traveling alters not the law of God. Had our Brother of the Press been spending the day of rest at Ellicott's Mills in devotional exercises, as required by the Bible, then his reproof would have been consistent and well-timed.

Literary Notice.

A Descriptive and Historical Account of Hydraulic and other Machines for raising Water, Ancient and Modern; with observations on various subjects connected with the Mechanic Arts. The above is in part the title of a work by Thomas Eubank, the second and revised edition of which is now in course of publication in eight parts or numbers, by Greely & McElrath, New York, and sold at 25 cts. per No. From a glance at the table of contents and the number before us, we consider it one of the most important and interesting scientific works of the age. It is richly illustrated with engravings, and contains much to benefit and interest the philosopher, the artist, the mechanic and farmer.

The *Temperance Sun*, of this place, is discontinued for want of support.

No news from Mexico worth publishing up to the time of going to press.

For the Religious Telescope.

BR. EDWARDS:—

In answer to your request, made some time since, I will give you the decision touching the subject of slavery, as I find it in the Discipline published immediately after the Gen. Con. of 1827. It is the oldest Discipline I can get hold of at this time.

"In Respect to Slavery,"

Resolved, That all slavery, in every sense of the word, be totally prohibited and in no way tolerated in our community. Should some be found in our society, or others desire to be admitted as members, who hold slaves, they can neither continue to be members, or be admitted as such, without they do personally manumit or set free such slaves, wherever the law of the state shall permit it, or submit the case to the Quarterly Conference, to be by them specified, what length of time such slave shall serve his master or other person, until the amount paid for him, or for raising him, be compensated to his master. But in no case shall a member of our society be permitted to sell a slave."

I think from what information I can get, the above was the first rule that was made by the Church on the subject of slavery. Yours in love,

J. J. GLOSSBRENNER.

The above is designed as an answer to a correspondent who wished to know the former position of the Church on this, to some, troublesome subject. This was, we presume, the first law among us in regard to slavery. The subsequent action of the Church certainly shows quite an advancement. Now, no man can have membership among us while he owns a slave; the preacher, or class, that receives a slaveholder into Church fellowship, under any circumstances, is to all intents, a violator of Discipline, and the conference that would suffer such an act is anti-United Brethren. May God forbid that our antislavery light should ever become darkness! Rather would we have our very name, as a Church, blotted out than to be so far lost to moral purity and right as to knowingly give countenance and support to the God-dishonoring and men-demoralizing system of American slavery. May the Church never live to take one retrograde step in antislavery principles.

For the Religious Telescope.

Minutes of the Scioto Annual Conference.

The Scioto Annual Conference of the United Brethren in Christ convened at Cynthian, Pike county, Ohio, on the 23rd of Oct., 1847. First session opened by reading the 3d chapter of Colossians, singing and prayer, and an appropriate address by Bishop Hanby.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—Wm. Hanby, Bishop; E. Vandemark, Chairman; J. C. Winter, Sec-

retary; A. Winter, Assistant Secretary; M. Roe, M. Ambrose, J. Kretzinger, D. Edwards, L. D. Ambrose, G. H. Bowers, J. Eckert, J. Bright, G. Hathaway, M. Bitler, Wm. W. Davis, B. Kearns, P. Brock, Jos. M. Spangler, Alex. Conklin, Jno. Felchlo, Wm. Samson, H. Jones, jr., P. C. Benedum, B. Gillespie, J. Winn, Wm. Lowery, A. Eby, Jno. Dewitt, Jno. Gold, L. Davis, C. Matheny, P. Appleman, G. M. Livingston, Z. Leatherwood.

ABSENTEES.—John Lehman, L. Cramer, H. M. Heicher, R. Hahn, N. Altman, E. Perkins, M. Searls, L. P. Allen, W. H. A. Trip, A. Miller, J. A. Lehman, J. M. Gomery, Jno. Kurtz, D. M. Glancy, Wm. Ambrose, J. Ebert, T. L. Forsythe, P. Lamb, J. H. Drake, E. C. Wright, J. S. Wright, W. Hastings, C. Sharp, R. Hastings, Wm. Fisher, W. Estep, G. Coler, J. Hutchens, E. Timmons, D. Davis, A. McNutt, J. Irvin, J. Smaltz, J. Krites, J. Frownfelter, R. Prat, J. Conn.

Conference proceeded by ballot, and elected E. Vandemark chairman, J. C. Winter secretary, and A. Winter assistant secretary.

Resolved, That we have prayer meeting in the Conference room, at 7 o'clock each day, during Conference.

The preachers were all strictly examined according to Discipline.

Q. Have any of the preachers died during the past year?

A. John Smaltz, Lewis Cramer, and Jehial Conn.

Q. Who are candidates for the ministry?

A. Jacob Roth and Charles E. Price. Washington Beatty, Sylvester Needum, and William Ferguson were received by transfer.

Q. Are any to be ordained to the office of Elder?

A. G. H. Bower and John Gold.

Q. Has reckoning been made with the traveling preachers?

A. This was done.

Q. Who are the Presiding Elders?

A. J. M. Gomery and Matthias Ambrose.

Q. Where are the preachers stationed this year?

ANSWER—

WESTERN DISTRICT.—M. AMBROSE P. E. Pickaway cir.—M. Bitler, J. Winn.

Walnut cir.—E. Vandemark.

Circleville sta.—H. Jones, jr.

Washington cir.—J. Bright.

Hillsboro cir.—J. M. Spangler.

Brush Creek cir.—J. C. Winter.

Scioto cir.—W. Sampson.

Furnace cir.—J. Fink.

Burlington cir.—A. Eby.

Raccoon cir.—P. Appleman.

Raccoon cir.—G. H. Bowers.

Bentonville miss.—B. Gillespie.

GERMAN DISTRICT.—N. ALTMAN, P. E. German cir.—John Felchlo.

EASTERN DISTRICT.—J. MR. GOMERY, P. E. Winchester, cir.—P. Brock, Ferguson last six months.

Etna cir.—G. M. Livingston.

Etna sta.—I. Kretzinger.

Mt. Vernon miss.—G. Hathaway.

Amsterdam cir.—W. W. Davis.

Pleasant Run cir.—A. Konklin, B. H. Kearns.

Deavertown cir.—M. Roe.

Wolf Creek.—C. Price.

Chester cir.—R. Hahn.

Athens cir.—H. M. Heicher.

Logan cir.—D. Ambrose.

W. R. Griffith—Principal of O. University.

L. Davis—Gen. Agent of O. U.

J. G. Dewey—Traveling Agent of O. U.

D. Edwards—Ed. Religious Telescope.

D. Strickler—Ed. German Telescope.

N. Altman—P. Agt. Tel. Office.

Q. Where shall our next Conference be held?

A. At Pleasant Hill Meeting House, Fairfield co., O.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That Bishop Hanby deliver a temperance lecture, in the Conference room, on the evening of the 30th inst.

Resolved, That J. Kurtz have a transfer to any Conference in our Church he may choose.

On motion, A. Winter, M. Ambrose, and M. Bitler were appointed a committee to examine applicants for license to preach.

Resolved, That the appointment of Rev. L. Davis, made by the Trustees of Otterbein University, as General Agent of said school, be and is hereby acknowledged.

Resolved, That Isaac Kretsinger fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of L. Cramer, in the Missionary Board.

Resolved, That D. M. Glancy, R. Hastings, and J. Dewit be considered superannuated for one year.

Resolved, That all our traveling preachers, who may neglect to attend their A. Con., and fail to send a sufficient excuse, accompanied with a full report of their circuits, may in future expect the censure of this Conference.

Resolved, That the P. Agent's Report of the Office, as presented to Conference by the Editor, be published in the R. Telescope.

Resolved, That the petition from Virginia, praying to have the Jackson circuit attached to Va. A. C. be granted.

Resolved, That we, as a Conference, express our thanks to God, that he in his good providence has conducted the Religious Telescope Office to its present prosperity, as appears to us from the report of its Editor.

Resolved, That each preacher in charge collect missionary money at each regular appointment on his circuit or station, within the year.

Resolved, That Henry Jones, jr., and Michael Bitler write an expression of Conference touching the death of J. Smaltz, L. Cramer, and Jehial Conn.

Resolved, That this Conference consider the Sabbath School cause as being fully identified with the great interests of the Church, therefore we will do all in our power to promote the same, in any laudable way.

Resolved, That Conference advise each preacher in charge, to instruct his members to observe the duty of fasting as the Bible directs.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to furnish each P. E. with a list of the names of elders eligible to Gen. Con.

Resolved, That the P. Elders receive every eighth dollar of quarterage paid on the circuits and stations.

Resolved, That we express our thanks to the citizens of Cynthian and vicinity for their kindness to us during our stay among them.

J. C. WINTER, Sec.

To the Memory of the Deceased Members of the Scioto Annual Conference.

We, your Committee, upon whom was enjoined the duty of drawing up an expression of the feelings of Conference in reference to the deaths of our Brethren who were called from our ranks during the past year, report as follows:

1st. Father John Smaltz, who died July 1st, 1847, in the 71st year of his age, was a preacher in the Church about 35 years, and laboured successfully in the cause of Christ, lived to honor his profession, died triumphant, and is gone to the land of rest.

2d. Father Lewis Cramer died Sept. 17th, 1847, in his 69th year. He was one among the first of our German preachers who raised the standard of the Gospel in this Western country; for about 40 years he stood on the wall of Zion, where he proved himself to be a faithful watchman, but now he has gone from his labors below to his home in Heaven.

3d. Brother Jehial Conn, died August 28th, 1847, in the triumph of a living faith, leaving testimony behind, that he has gone to rest from his labors where "the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest."

We, as a Conference, feel the loss of those our dear Brethren, who have been called from our ranks to join the Church above, and deeply sympathize with their families left behind, and would most earnestly commend them to God, who is a "Father of the fatherless, and Judge of the widows," praying the Lord to take care of them, and us, and prepare us all for Heaven, through of Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ—Amen.

HENRY JONES, Jr.
MICHAEL BITLER.

Report of Rel. Telescope Office for 1846-7.

Money received from Oct. 26, 1846, to Oct. 22, 1847.

Balance in Treasury last year,	447 78
Received on Telescope,	3580 10
" Books,	1087 0
" German Telescope,	670 00
" Note against Wittichs,	212 00
" Old Job Type,	65 99
" Advertising, Jobs, &c.,	102 87
	8615 64