THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. VI. NO. 29.

RICHMOND, VA., JULY 20, 1861.

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sergery 19 to any partial K for 19 to 19 t

FOR THE CENTRAL PRESERVES

WHOLE NO. 290

Died Poor.

May Gool help us to be-faithful in our lotted one of fall part to make this people of fairing people, fairing, and people of fairing people, fairing, and the relations and disterts of life.

Frow the Certain Preservants.

For the Certain Preserva

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1861.

THE SEPARATION.

ny one who may examine the roll of our States had been full, there would have been considerable majority against the action ig reconciled to their absence.

at advice of the highest character, both lvil and military, from the North, was were entertained with great personal kindless by good people in Philadelphia.

Still it was a scene of mortification. We eed not repeat what was said in debate. parents, and shall cause them to be put to Rev. Dr. McInnis, the editor of the "True Vitness," (New Orleans,) and who was a in the dominant party.

fligies were hung up in front of the church fair popular ratification of secession!!!" nd in different parts of the city on which o entirely destitute of all principle and ing important information to the enemy. entirery destructs of the conse-entlemanly bearing and feeling. Those Northern brethren who voted with us saw quences involved in the state of affairs we his, and many said that they could not if he South left, remain in an Assembly with uch men, having, as they would then have, through the heart of the most loyal population of the most loyal population.

sembly might have been different had they be immediate and decisive, if sustained by all been present, it is highly probable that an adequate force, under an able commandall been present, it is highly probable that a decided majority of our whole church Tennessee, North Alabama, and the back or availed itself of the occasion, and the nessee." nelp of an accidental majority, to pass such a resolution in behalf of the "Confederate States," every son and daughter on her soil would have cause to blush, and hang their leads at such meanness.

But now, He whose ways and thoughts are higher far than ours, has permitted this hing. And we are not to view it as an event driven on against his control, and in every sense outside of his providence. The trial comes without our procuring: we trust we can "wash our hands in innocency," and appeal to the Head of the Church, with a good conscience, that this schism we have not sought: it is forced upon us.

Such being the state of the case we may co forth, if not without many parting pangs, yet with an unfaltering step. We shall not be a forsaken church. We are persuaded that "a great and effectual door is opened unto us." "Jehovah Jireh" _ "The Lord will provide."

EDGEWORTH FEMALE SEMINA. RY, GREENSBORO, N. C .- Our readers will n tice a new advertisement of this excellent school for the coming year. Besides its well known reputation as one of the best female schools in the South, its distance from "the seat of war" ought to secure for hope its halls will be well filled. Its re- cessionist) creature." cent catalogue, the twenty-first, shows the number of pupils to have been eighty nine. The Faculty consists of the principal, Richard Sterling, and eight competent teachers; and the country, to make him look himself devoted to physical, intellectual and reli- God permit."

LINCOLN'S MESSAGE. The best synopsis we have heard of this recent performance is as follows: It is intellectually mean; morally infamous; every argument is a sophism, and every assertion a lie.

DR. BRECKINRIDGE ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

This production is from the Danville Review, for June, and is by request of the author copied into the Louisville (Presbyterian) Herald, of June 28th, occupying more than six columns of fine print.

Whoever might wish to inflict the great-The vote on Dr. Spring's resolution was est injury upon the renowned author of this 54 yeas, against 66 nays. The number article, would busy himself in giving it the oining in the protest was 50, and of these widest possible circulation. We have no 5 were from the non-slaveholding States. space, and in truth no disposition to enter into any minute dissection of one of the Presbyteries will find that if the delegations most lamentable, and in some respects one the Assembly from the slaveholding of the most abominable pieces to which the present conflict has given birth. It would which is so offensive to us. We notice from least, could be have had wisdom and huhave been a great mercy, to the author at our Presbyteries were not all represented. manity enough left him to destroy its first And it may be admitted that, in some repects, it would have been desirable. But Breckinridge is henceforth to be numbered here are at least two good reasons for be- with that vast horde who are now urging on, what we believe, and assert, as in the One is, that to be present, must have presence of God, to be one of the most een an intense mortification to their feel. wicked wars which disgrace the civilization ngs. Let us pass by here the question of and Christianity of this, or any other age. ersonal safety; though we happen to know We mourn over the fact that one who has blood, should coolly urge on the Governiven decidedly against the propriety of our ment at Washington to the slaughter of his elegates making the venture. We are own kindred. Truly and sorrowfully is our lad however, that no evil of this kind reulted, and farther, that our commissioners junctures, often experienced in the history of the world: "Now the brother shall betray the brother to death and the father the son: and children shall rise up against their

death." Dr. Breckinridge does not hesitate to asmember of that body, makes this statement sert that all over the South a reign of terror concerning the gentlemanly conduct of some and persecution is followed up by those who have separated from the North. He seems "They held caucus after caucus, made the to agree perfectly with Lincoln in his denost inflammatory speeches, declaring that clarations concerning the strength of the he Assembly should make a deliverance if Secession feeling in the South. "In not one had to do it at the point of the bayonet. of those States has there been a true and

With all his might he urges on the Govwere written, 'Death to clerical traitors.'
We do not know that any of the members ernment of Lincoln to put down the rebelf the Assembly had a hand in this, yet it lion, and, in the versatility of a universal as in accordance with the spirit many of genius, turns General, pointing out a plan, hem breathed. The great majority of the which certainly he ought not to withhold Northwest desired the South to leave, hop-ng then they could effect a union with the ew School and get full control of our intitutions and property. We never saw men, rofessing Christianity, who seemed to be We venture to publish it at the risk of giv-

en. They proved themselves to be true to of the inland secession country; whereby brinciple and the interest of our church at the General Government may lead an army heavy sacrifice, and against a pressure that was tremendous, and one which only those who were there can fully appreciate." The other reason for not grieving over sippi and Alabama in front, and in West he absence of our Southern brethren is this: Tennessee on the right. The mountain rehere would probably have been two divis-ons in the church instead of one. Had Dr. Casis is receiviliant been defeated the de-trates into Georgia, Alabama, and North Spring's resolutions been defeated, the de- and South Carolina. Two hundred miles larations were abundant that a part of the wide from East to West, and double as long North would be sene at a separate organiza- this remarkable region, flanked everywhere ion, in a short time, was almost inevitable. by mountain ranges, run precisely in the considerations of expediency would have ensured it, though we should, in that case, march of ten or fifteen days from the Ohio have been spared much of the pain attend- river, through Western Virginia, would ing our present severance. Upon the whole place a force in the mountains of East Tenhen, we are not without some good reason nessee, cutting the line of the railroad which for acquiescing in the course our affairs have sippi river at Memphis. The effects of such aken. We neither blame our brethren from a torward movement, invited by the conduct the South who went, nor those who remain- of Virginia, and indicated by the highest dat home. The action of the General As- military and political considerations-would

would at this day repudiate the resolutions parts of Georgia and the Carolinas, may of Dr. Spring. But the elements of a di- see-in the hints that we have ventured to vision were violently at work in a portion of throw out-that they are not out of the he Northern church, and a separation, in reach of succor. We believe that ten some form or other, was probably unavoidable. It may be best as it happened. True, in such an expedition, for such an object the conduct of the majority must stand forth and it may be confidently added, ten thou to their everlasting shame. Had the Gene- sand more from Western Virginia, and ten al Assembly met in the South, and the lat- thousand who would join them in East Ten-

The small operation here pointed out with characteristic self-assurance, would be the business of marching thirty thousand men, at distances of from one to five hundred miles, through a country consisting, for the most part, of unbroken forests, stupendous hills and mountains, with passes like Thernophylæ every few miles; and moreover, through a population-after passing a little South-loyal to Virginia and the Confederate States.

Upon reading the scheme of conques bove laid down, as well as various other emarkable things in this article, one could not withhold a full assent to a very candid remark with which Dr. B. set out, but which he seems almost instantly to have forgotten-namely, that he was "ignorant of all the future, and imperfectly informed con-

cerning passing events." One might well surmise that, as the Dr. must by this time have almost finished the modest task which some years ago he assigned to himself of "recasting THE Theology of the Nineteenth Century," he is now prepared to illustrate still farther the sublime dominion of the Prince of Peace, by marching down to the quarters of his brother Thornwell, as well as the abodes of his numerous kindred, and after the manner of it a larger patronage next session, and we Beecher, "Shoot the gospel into every (se-

Before setting out on this pious mission, may we request of him the small favor of waiting a week. It is a duty to the church and the course of study embraces five years, fairly in the face. "And this will we do, if

> our Southern exchanges fail to reach us in proposed. The Presbyteries and Synods will good season, some are ten days behind sill present most useful channels through time. A month ago we placed on our list, which the benefactions of our churches may as cit zens of Virginia. Therefore, by mutual consent, the Southern Field and Fire-side, Auguste, Ga., and the Christian vised for the whole.
>
> as cit zens of Virginia. Therefore,
>
> 1. R solved. That the church of Roanoke express the opinion that the time has come

OUR SICK SOLDIERS.

both in health and sickness. The appeal for be readily adjusted.

aid from Culpeper C. H., was nobly re- With these remarks, submitted in no other tributions acknowledged. It may seem in- it may concern. vidious to name any, when so many are doing well, but certainly the ladies of Peterswill recollect, that among the famous resovered the co-operation of our sister churches in Virginia and throughout the South, be earthou excellest them all." Their boxes go 1st of July as a day of fasting and prayer, In connection with this paper is a comforth not singly, but by the half dozen. How for God's blessing on the Federal Rulers, munication from N. C. Reid, Esq., from this good work spreads by example!

The good begun by thee, shall onward flow In many a branching stream, and wider grow. So it should increase. The need will be continually increasing, and we hope the ladies will not "grow weary in well doing," but remember they shall "reap, if they faint not;" reap a generous reward from approv-

It would seem that just now, the hospitals urged." in the vicinity of our own city are requiring the attention of the ladies of Richmond, and this meeting says. we hope to hear that they are receiving it in abundant measure.

An excellent chaplain at Pensacola, gives the tents of some of their sick soldiers, sent tious majority." by loving friends at home, and ready for use, when they were well enough to eat them. With great disloyalty to their own tained by the whole army, the patients resolved, "that, in the way of contriving comforts for a sick man, one lady a thousand

on his way to the Cherokee Indians. Venerable in the chaplain alludes, in a touching manner to the religious services in camp, and among the sick, and to the prayers of God's

We entreat our readers to think of the prayers of God's

We entreat our readers to think of the prayers of God's

We entreat our readers to think of the ground. people in their behalf.

gallant soldiery in prayer. Let the besacrifice they have laid upon the altar of their country's freedom, and that the victim is laid low in a soil that only in the spirit of a large-hearted patriotism he could call his father-land. The whole broad area of the good land that God has given us is home to the soldier, as long as He has a strong arm to lift in its defence, and the blood flows in sacrifice they have laid upon the altar of bow the neck to Abolitionism. full current through his brave heart; but when he is dying, then the word narrows count of the secession proclivity of the Chocits meaning to the limits assigned it by the taw Council, Mr. Lincoln informed the

A CONVENTION.

The communications this week from a unanimity in the South on the main ques- count of the disturbed state of things in how shall we organize a new Assembly? Arkansas and Missouri.

Arkansas and Missouri.

Mr. Reid, Mr. Byington Mr. Hotchkin, ries at the autumnal meetings. (which will afford another, that we may well afford myse f, with our families, tegether with our fellowing manner:

1 respectfully suggest that the Presbyte-ries at the autumnal meetings. (which will soon begin to occur.) take action in the myse f, with our families, tegether with our fellowing manner:

Our wish is to give place mostly to others, and let as many as can do so contribute their views to the common stock upon this their views to the common stock upon this affairs among themselves, and also between

1. This Convention would bear to our Southern people the first protest against the Cherokees. action of the General Assembly.

But is not the answer to this sufficient, when it is remembered that there is a mistake in the fact assumed? Every one of our Commissioners not only voted, but joined also in a most solemn and able protest lis better to trust in the Lord than to put much promptness as the circumstances also in a most solemn and able protest against that action. And there its testi- confidence in princes. Yours truly, mony now stands for us before the world.

If this is not enough, we may ask the question, which is likely to weigh heavier in the scales of public judgment, an expression given out by a comparatively small assembly, convened almost in a hurry, and delegated (supposing it thus) by a few called meetings of Presbyteries, thinly attended; the Presbyteries, from our congregations, and then concentrated in the greater conthat the Presbyteries begin to meet about separation" of the Northern and Southern

our schemes of benevolence, &c.

It must be admitted that some general arrangements should be made as soon as it termine their political obligations as bind termine their political obligations as bind can be done to good purpose. But we are ing to support the government of the United unable to see how any special good is to be States: Our Exchanges.—A large number of accomplished in these matters in the way ar Southern exchanges fail to reach us in proposed. The Presbyteries and Synods will Assembly unnecessary, imprudent, done in

Advocate. Nashville, Tenn. Our paper has We may safely predict that after a little for the prompt separation of the Preshytebeen sent regularly, but we have not re- comparison of views in our newspapers, rian churches, in the Confederate States, ceived a number of either. How is this? there will be no difficulty in securing a from their connection with the General Asgeneral unity of action as to time and place,
whether it be for a general Convention on Whether it be for a general Convention, or mation of another Assembly, as the supremending to know that the ladies, for a meeting of the General Assembly. If preme Judicatory of the Church within our

spended to, and was followed by similar calls spirit than that which seeks the best means for Yorktown, Portsmonth and Winchester; for a good end, and with sincere deference to the fall session of Presbytery next ensuand from all these places we see large con- to others, we leave the matter to all whom ing, to advocate and vote for the policy

burg may be entitled to the commendation, lutions of Dr. Spring, adopted by the Gen-"Many daughters have done virtuously, but eral Assembly, the first one set apart the and Congress soon to assemble. We learn which we make the following extracts: from the N. Y. Times, that after Dr. Spring's These resolutions, though not as speedy

ing consciences, the thanks of our brave and invited his colleague to make the contion of an occesiastical connection, withsoldiers, and the blessing of God on our cluding prayer, that D. . Hoge did not com- out the previous "request" and consent of

OUR INDIAN MISSIONS.

sex, but perfectly sure they would be sus- ter which we can connect with the subject how a delegated power can be an original of religion were when Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury power or source of power, it is not easy to imagine. It might be said, with as much spent some days at the house of our father, propriety, that the rays of light and heat Rev. Samuel Brown, of Rockbridge, Va. miles off, is worth a score of men at his el-lt was about the year 1816 when he was source of light and heat instead of the sun on his way to the Cherokee Indians. Venerities It is not an original, but a derived

myself, but I regard it as a kind interposition of Providence in our behalf. On aclittle child-it is only large enough for one choctaw delegation that they could get no more money. In consequence of this all the schools have been suspended before the usual time. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, and

to take a little necessary time for consulting about the best way for effecting it. It will be observed that by some no Convention at all is thought needfal. Others think it is one carnest desire to place our selves under the care of a Southern board, if one should be formed. We are in strait, and appoint commissioners to attend, say is, and of these, a part propose it should be if one should be formed. We are in strait. and appoint commissioners to attend, say held almost at once, and before the Stated ened circumstances. Our communication meetings of our Presbyteries. This latter with New York is almost entirely cut off General Assembly. We can dispose of no drafts, and so much has been paid to Texas for breadstuffs that the Presbytery will agree to adopt the us. If it is decided in the negative, the there is almost no money in the country. Prochete or which a majority of the others may be held over for more delibera- Add to this the stoppage of the annuities Presbytenes may have intimated a preferand the school funds, and you will see that ence.

their views to the common stock upon this the Choctaws and some of their neighbors. who'e subject which the church must speedi- which render their situation difficult and

to conclude very briefly the remarks begun in session and it is expected that to-day each Presbytery. When all the autumna they will pass a secession ordinance. Albert It would prolong the discussion beyond McCullough are commissioners on the part certained, what time and place suit the maall suitable bounds to review at large the of the Confederate States to make treaties jurity of Presbyteries. many reasons assigned for this proposal. - with the Indians west of Arkansas, and they 1 teems to me that no time earlier than Those which seem most relied on are two, are authorized to assume all the responsi- December 4 h, can well be considered bilities of the Federal Government towards - as the autumnal meetings will not al these people. They are now among the have occurred before the mouth of Novem

We consider this Indian territory as in a which meet in November. perilous position. We know not what a day I submit this plan, believing that the may bring forth. The federal troops have bulk of the Presbyteries feel very little been removed from the forts west of us. concern as to time and place, so that we They have gone to Kansas, and when rein- take action in an orderly and solemn manforced may return. The Lord is our refige. ner. as the exigency demands, and with as

P. S.—The ordinance of secession has passed, I believe almost unanimously.

C. KINGSBURY.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN.

At a meeting of the congregation of or on the other hand, the voice of the whole (minister, elders, and people) Roanoke church, gathered first, and regularly into church, he'd at the church, on the 7th day vocations at our Synodical meetings? Is it ed, directing the session of the church to presumptuous to say that the question car- memorialize the Presbytery to take decisive ries its answer with it? Aud we only add and speedy action on the subject of "promp as soon as it is possible to get this Conven-Whereas, The General Assembly of the 2. It is urged that a Convention is need- Presbyterian Church, in the late United ful to make arrangements for prosecuting States of America, has taken such action a its recent meeting in Philadelphia, as to construe the du y of all members of the

> the exercise of usurped power, and in dero gation of our honor, and our deare t right

express the opinion that the time has come

bytery of Roanoke to this effect, desiring peedy and decisive action by that body, above mentioned.
3. Resolved, That notice of the action of

nestly requested in this method of address

sermon on that day, a meeting was held by as could be desired, must commend themthe gentlemen of the church, cordially ap- selves to all, in this, that they consign the proving the sentiments of the discourse, and morement in this matter, to the members of requesting a copy for publication.

"It was noticeable that when, at the conclusion of the discourse, Dr. Spring turned clusion of the discourse, Dr. Spring turned and invited his colleague to make the conclusion of the discourse or make the conc ply with the request, although it was twice urged."

The Charleston Courier in a notice of the previous request and consent of the people of the "particular churches."

Delegates in Presbytery may act on the usual business that comes before them, with out request or immediate instruction from "All honor to Dr. Wm. J. Hoge, and re- their constituents, but they possess no powpentance and a better mind to Dr. Spring, er to create or destroy a church tie, withwho is too old a man to leave entirely the out the consent and request of the people. Gospel of t'e Grace of God for the gospel Pre bytery has not even the power of divi an amusing account of the chickens, tied in of the mob and a local, accidental and licen- ding a congregation, and erecting each portion into a separate church government, without a motion from and "request" of the parties.

Some contend that the Presbyteries are The first impressions of a special characthe sources of all power in the Church; but

condition of such men as Kingsbury and The idea of power at the North, both in "The children of God throughout the land Byington. Every feeling of honor, and re- Church and State is-that the General Asdo well in remembering the souls of our ligion cries out to the South-"These dear sembly and General Government are coeval. gallant soldiery in prayer. Let the bereaved at home, too, be remembered, to
whom are borne the tidings, however glowhom are borne the tidings, however glosion must be supported." Our churches
irresponsible majority; to be perpetuated
irresponsible majority; to be perpetuated rious to the patriot still heavy to the pa- know how they were vilified and cast off by by force, aided by each other, and that rent or the wife, that God has accepted the the North, simply because they would not State and Church governments are subordinate-hence to them, the idea of seces-

C. States be organized?

Mr. Editor,-You invite contributions to your columns on the subject of the separation of the Presbyterian church in the United

the teachers, and Mr. Wiggius and family at Spencer, and Mr. Ainslie and all the archive are suggested by the white are suggested by the work of the whole surject. number of highly esteemed brethren will passports and are ready to leave; but it is past, or of the propriety or desirableness of is, so far as we can ascertain, such entire doubtful whether they can get away, on ac- separation, the practical question now is,

1. Presuming each Presbytery prepared

3. Let another resolution be adopted.

4. Let the Clerks of each Presbytery

rian, the Southern Presbyterian, and the True Witness-a copy of such proceedings, ly take in hand. On the particular point of an immediate Convention, we beg leave

The Choctaw National Council are now tabular form the time and place selected by and let the editors record in a convenient meetings shall have been held, it will thus Pike, E-q, of Little Rock, and Gen. Ben appear as clearly as can otherwise be as-

ber. There may be a few Presbyteries

low. As to the duties of such convention, I think they should be limited to the adoption of provisional arrangements of our enevolent schemes, and the organization f an Assembly to meet next spring, which will set in order a permanent government and take measures for preparing a constitu-

Fraternally yours, Union Seminary, July 15th, 1861. FOR THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN.

BETHEL, Augusta Co., Va., July 8th. v. Dr. Brown: My Dear Brother,-Through you, I dere to submit to my brethren of the Presterian church in the Confederate States humble opinion in regard to what is best onbel done in the present state of our turches. You have invited such communiations; and I am happy in saying, that our own views, so far as expressed, more early coincide with my own than any I

Then in the first place, I deprecate rash and basty action. A Convention to be held Richmond on the 24th inst., ought to be egarded as out of the question, both in repest to time and place. Our Presbyteries uld not now be convened in Virginia, here war is raging, calmly to consider any bject. And the subject of a new organ tion ought to be first thoroughly discusse our religious newspapers, so that befor e meet for action, we may have some ma-

have seen.

a General Assembly of our churches in the Confederate States must be formed, is, 1 Jacob W. Arnold, Rockbridge. Confederate States must be formed, is, I

suppose, placed beyond all doubt. The action of the last General Assembly has forced this course on us, in requiring us "TO STRENGTHEN, UPHOLD AND ENCOURAGE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT," which was to us then, and is now a foreign government; and moreover was then mustering vast forces to humiliate and subjugate us by a cruel warfare which she is now waging, and as we believe, without Constitutional or legal au-

thority.
President Buchanan, in his Message to Congress in December, 1860, says: "After much serious reflection I have arrived at the ment of the Federal Government," (That is, into submission, which is attempting to withdraw, or has actually withdrawn from the Confederace." Again he says: "Withthe Confederacy." Again he says: "Withunanimous opinion of the whole South.

couraging those who are waging this unconthe progress of this unnatural war must witen the breach into an impassible gulf.

regard the separation as an accomplished is the time and manner of organizing a General Assembly of our own. This is to my mind a painful but inevitable conclusion.

Now as to the time and manner. Our organization of Presbyteries and Synods is as ginian, worthy of an ancestry attached to perfect as ever it was. All our operations the soil of this old mother of States, ever can go on for the present just as well as if we had a General Assembly that would meet Yours very truly of course next Spring-no interests of the church are suffering from this cause.

No doubt we all regard ourselves as hold-

ing to the same Confession of Faith and Form of Government and Book of Discipline, and Directory for Worship as heretofore, with the single exception of acknowledging the authority and being represented in the "General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America," which is now under, what is to us, a foreign government.

But why should the Church incur the great labor and expense of a previous Convention, with only "advisory powers?"

We are familiar of late with Conventions kind are unknown to our Form of Govern-True, it is not prohibited to good men to dearest rights.' best interests of the church, at any time. Incident of the Battle at Bethel --are binding on their constituents.

out the labor and expense of a meeting of fore the wind !"

for many years past; and if any change in which, it acknowledges, find no warrant in

for their sanction.

Let the Presbyteries give their Commissions somewhat in the usual form, thus—

"The Presbytery of —— being met at ——

being met at ——

being met at ——

"Times for this idea, says when the Northern Se Se to be a Cor issianon on bahalf of thong this Presbytery, to constitute the General As- and South .- Banner of Peace. sembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Conembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America, to meet at [say, of Peace, publishes an able letter on this Augusta, Ga.] on the [say, the first Thurssubject, from Uriel Wright of St. Louis, Augusta, Ga.] on the [say, the first Thursday in May, A. D., 1862] Or wherever and whenever the said Assembly may happen to be organized and sit; to consult, vote and determine on all things that may come before that body, according to the principles and constitution of this church, and the word of God."-And to be conclude; and signed

I would have each Presbytery to send the number of delegates which it has been of late entitled to appoint.

Augusta, Ga., seems to me in every respect a suitable place. The first Thursday n May, would be a desirable change from the third Thursday, as a permanent change, in view of the Southern latitude of our meet-

At all events, let no meeting be called before the Fall meeting of our Presbyteries and Synods, when we can have ample opportunity for consultations, without extra expense and labor to the churches. And if the organization of our General Assembly be postponed till May next: God, in his mercy, may grant us a more peaceful time for our meeting.

I would have our churches to continue to make their regular collections for benevolent objects, to be expended in our own bounds, except what is devoted to Foreign Missions. Then if our General Assembly shall organize Boards, we will have some thing ready for their treasuries.

These views are submitted by no means ia the spirit of dictation, but as contributing my mite to form the public sentiment of the church I love, and for which I have long labored. Most Fraternally Yours, FRANCIS MCFARLAND.

FOR THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN.

Washington College.

Mr. Editor,-On the 26th of June, the Board of Trustees of this institution held their annual meeting. There was not the usual full attendance of the Board-owing, of course, to the state of the country. It was thought to be expedient, under existing circumstances, to postpone all consideration of the question of electing a President, until a future meeting to be called, whenever the way seems to be open for taking action upon that subject.

The Senior Class of the College, who had continued their studies, until a few days before they set off to join the army, were recommended by the Faculty for graduation They had been faithful students, and had stood satisfactory examinations on the whole vide for the forfeiture of the whole curriculum, except the studies of the last part of the estates of offenders, and for the few months. The Board, therefore, without payment of its proceeds in the public treasesitation, conferred the degree of 'Bach-

No evil can result from some delay. That elor of Arts" upon the class, consisting of

Randolph H. Blair, Williamsburg. John N. Lyle, Jr., Montgomery. *James S. Mackey, Rockbridge. Alexander S. Paxton, Rockbridge. *J. Woods Price, Pocahontas. *J. William Riely, Jefferson. David E. Ruff, Lexington. Joseph L. Sherrard, Hampshire. Wm. J. Thompson, Rockbridge. John C. Van Fossen, Augusta. J. Watson Woods, Buckingham.

It is an interesting fact, that all these young men, except two, were memoers of the Liberty Hall Volunteers, and had alconclusion that no such power has been delegated to Congress, or any other departwere conferred. Of the two excepted above, as he had before stated) "to coerce a State one is an officer in a company of Pocahontas into submission, which is attempting to Rangers, and the other is detained at home

out descending to parti ulars, it may be contains an interesting historical allusion, of safely asserted that the power to make war which many of your readers may not be against a State is at variance with the whole aware. This is not the first company sent spirit and intent of the Constitution." This is from high authority, and is, I think, the the rights and the soil of Virginia. When the fierce and bloody Tarleton, of Revolu-Now it seems to be impossible for us ever to act cordially and harmoniously with those who are strengthening, upholding and en- ing to penetrate even to the beautiful hills of West Augusta, Liberty Hall (now Washstitutional and illegal war against us. And ington College) sent forth its band of youthful soldiers, under command of the venerable and distinguished Graham, to dispute I have no doubt that all our Presbyteries the right of an invading foe to set his polluting foot upon their native soil. We have fact, and the only question for us to settle every reason to know that the spirit of Liberty Hall still pervades the breasts of

Virginia's noble youth. Capt. White, who commands our College boys, is well known as a thorough Vir-

J. L. CAMPBELL.

*The three thus indicated, received the Robinson med ds, for distinguished scholarship.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The spirit of our Soldiers -A noble youth, belonging to Capt. Pendleton's Art llery writes to his parents as follows:

"July 3rd .- I was in the battle yesterday, the whole of it. Shells and balls flew all around us, but most providentially, and almost miraculously, we escaped unhurt .-To-morrow we expect hot work, a general er gagement of the armies. We tried to do our duty, and I wil do my best to-morrow. in political affors, but they are armed with with a clear conscience, hoping for the applenary powers. But Conventions of any proval of the God of justice and of battles, and for the mercy of the Saviour of sinment, and I believe they form no part of ners. I may fall, but I know I am acting the Scriptural organization of the church. with your blessing, and in defence of our

But as the Presbyteries are the original re- "Our men found, in the pocket of an officer positories of ecclesiastical power, whatever who was killed, a diary, which it seems he they authorize their Commission rs to do had been keeping of the occurrences of they can do with authority, and their acts each day. His last entry was on the morndone in accordance with their instructions ing of the battle, and is as follows: Monday, June 10th, 1861. To-day we meet I would say then that I see no objection the Southerners in battle. We are told to our Presbyteries authorizing their Commissioners to meet and organize our General Assembly without the previous action of any Convention. There is no pre-requisite necessary, but the designation of the time and place, and surely that can be done without the labor and expense of a vertice.

A Warning to Congress .- The New I would have our Commissioners to the General Assembly clothed with all the powmust do will be to pass an act legalizing ers, no more and no less, than they have had the acts of Mr. Lincoln up to this time, our Constitution is deemed desirable, let it the Constitution. But the Times says that be regularly sent down to the Presbyteries Congress must look upon the present emer-

on the - day of -, doth hereby appoint people come to see that the Constitution is A-B-, Bishop of the Congregation, no longer sacred, there will be a worse war

Constitutional Liberty. -The Banner one of the brightest lawyers in America, and a strong Union man, as long as there was a Union. He says: "he feels that the profession

to which he belongs imposes upon him the special duty of holding up, in a 'reign of error,' those elementary truths of American liberty upon which national free government must exist, and it is a matter of pride to know, that, whenever order and liberty have been established in any country, the men of the bar have been foremost to expose and denounce encroachmets upon

After enumerating their grievances in Missouri, he sums up Lincoln's usurpations: "The President usurps the war powerconfided only to Congress. The President usurps the commercial power-confided only to Congress. The President usurps the power of appropriating the money of the United States—confided only to Congress. The President usurps the postal power confided only to Congress. The President usurps the judicial power-confided to the Courts of the United States; and he has added duplicity to usurpation, for he called out his army to aid the Courts and Marshals of the United States.

The Government of the United States is now at this moment a military mob, and if the President had been declared by the people a dictator, he could not exercise more arbitrary power than he has already assumed.

In the grand mirror of the United States, the world, for seventy years, has seen reflected the noble image of American liberty. The mirror is shivered into fragments, and the only hope left the patriot is, that each separate piece shall preserve, in little, the picture once seen in the unbroken glass.

The Character of the War .-- We now hear from no less authority than Secretary Chase that it is to be a war of plunder and confiscation. In his late report to Congress, we find the following passage:

It will not, perhaps, be thought out of place if the Secretary suggests here that the property of those engaged in insurrection, or in giving aid and comfort to the insurgents, may properly be made to contribute to the expenditures, made necessary by their criminal conduct. As a part of the punishment due to the guilt of involvng the nation in the calamities of civil war, and thereby bringing distress upon so many nnocent citizens, Congress ma justly pro-