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Central Presbyterian.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

The Volos Church.

(In Greece.)

BY REV. S. R. HOUSTON, D. D.

There remains a debt of two hundred dollars burdening this mission church, notwithstanding the cordial and liberal sentiment manifested toward it by many friends of Greece. The agent, in the effort for its liquidation, would appeal once more to those who look upon the "world, as the field" assigned them for Christian benevolence, to consider the special claims of this particular portion of that field.

Aside from the great spiritual destination of the region in which this church edifice has been erected, there are some interesting facts, calculated to excite attention and secure liberal aid from the truly benevolent.

This church is in Thessaly, once distinguished among the provinces of classic Greece for the fertility of its soil and the general prosperity of its people. The lapse of ages has not deprived it of this latter distinction, though it is still the most fertile section of that whole region of country. Its deliverance from Turkish despotism, from Mohammedan rule, and introduction into the domain of Christian Greece, with religious liberty, secured to it by some of the most powerful governments of the world, have given it a special distinction at the present time.

The city is situated on a bay which, in beauty and grandeur, compares well with the Bay of Naples. It is the seaport of Thessaly, and is growing rapidly, extending semi-circularly around the spacious port, overlooked by Olympus, Pelion and Ossa. Some twenty-four villages dot the hills on its immediate surroundings.

The situation of the church is a beautiful one, on the third of the three streets which run parallel with the sea, just back of the centre of the town.

A good, substantial, stone building has been erected on a very desirable lot, seating some two hundred and fifty or three hundred auditors, very comfortably, with three large windows on either side. There is also a basement, divided into separate rooms, suitable for Sabbath school and other purposes.

The church was commenced in the year 1878, after the brethren had been favorably received in Bible and Colporteur work, as well as that of preaching the Gospel; and after a special visit made to the place (for the purpose of determining the question of permanent location) had been most cordially received by the natives. Considerable aid for building had been obtained by Dr. Kalopothakes, in England; but, owing to untoward circumstances, the cost of the work greatly exceeded the expected amount. It was put into the hands of trustees, as the property of the Greek Evangelical Church, and to be so held by them, as not to be transferable to any other mission than that of the Southern Presbyterian Church of America.

The work began before that persecution was excited in Volos, in which Miss I. M. Leyburn was the chief sufferer, and sustained herself so resolutely and so successfully. It was ascertained, however, that the persecution was instigated more by the prospect that this new sect, in building such a house, would thereby establish "a faction" than from any other cause. It proved a decided gain, in the end, both to the mission and the cause of evangelical Christianity in Greece. It eventuated, through the judicious and persevering efforts of Rev. Messrs. Kalopothakes and Sampson, in the introduction of that supplementary clause to the decisions of the Berlin Conference, promising entire religious freedom to any Greek territory that might be ceded to Greece, and the third article of the Greece-Turkish treaty, quoted by the subscriber in a former appeal.

At present the Volos church is really entitled to more rights and privileges than the Greek Evangelical church at Athens, and in view of the favorable position of the city, its magnificent harbor, increasing prosperity, and its relation to

Epirus, Macedonia and other regions, it is deserving of the most favorable regard.

We are glad to learn that Dr. Kalopothakes now enjoys comfortable health. We have received from him a copy of his translation of "Hodge's Outlines of Theology," just out of the press, £100 having been contributed by the Turkish Aid Society, of London, toward the publication of it. It distinguishes him as one of the greatest benefactors of the Hellenes.

East Hanover Presbytery.

East Hanover Presbytery met in Grace Street church, Richmond, on Wednesday, April 5th, and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. R. R. Howison, from 2 Cor. v: 20.

Rev. James P. Smith was elected Moderator, and Rev. B. Henderson and Dr. G. W. Pollard, temporary Clerks.

The following commissioners to the General Assembly were elected: Ministers—Rev. Wm. Brown, D. D., and Rev. W. T. Richardson, D. D.; alternates, Rev. T. T. Jones and Rev. Geo. D. Armstrong, D. D. Ruling Elders—Charles F. Collier of Petersburg, and R. W. Santos of Norfolk; alternates—W. D. Reynolds and H. V. Niemyer.

The Directory for Worship received careful attention. Some important, and many minor amendments were proposed.

The pastoral relation between Rev. Wm. N. Scott and the Third church, Richmond, was dissolved, notwithstanding strong opposition on the part of the church; and Mr. Scott was dismissed to Brazos Presbytery, Texas, with a view to his taking charge of the church in Galveston, to which he had received a call.

Peyton H. Hoge, son of the late eminent and beloved Wm. J. Hoge, D. D., and Francis W. T. Pitman were licensed as probationers for the gospel ministry. The last named expects to be sent to the foreign missionary field in the fall.

A standing rule was adopted that each minister of the Presbytery be annually assigned to several days' service, not exceeding a week, in some country church.

One evening was devoted to the consideration of Domestic Missions, and great interest was awakened in the subject, resulting directly in contributions and pledges, providing for the greater part of a deficiency of \$850 in the appropriations of the Committee of Missions.

On an overture from the General Assembly, proposing a change in chap. xii, sec. 3, Book of Discipline, the Presbytery adopted the following paper:

In regard to the overture sent down by the General Assembly, the Presbytery of East Hanover gives an answer unanimously in the affirmative. They beg leave at the same time to represent to the Assembly that the terms of said overture do not suitably and accurately express the object intended. They therefore beg leave to recommend that if the overture is approved by a majority of the Presbyteries it would be better to have it recorded in something like the following form, viz:

"This provision shall in like manner apply to the case of ruling elders and deacons, upon a reference to the session of the church with which they are connected."

Narratives and statistical reports were received from 27 of the 30 churches of the Presbytery. The three not reported have little more than a nominal existence. The reports on Systematic Benevolence show that 21 churches took up all the seven collections ordered by the Assembly. The entire contributions to congregational and benevolent work reported, amount to \$56,853.

All the records of the church sessions were approved without exception. The same committee of revision has been continued for a number of years.

Matthew B. Porter, Jr., of Powhatan, applied to be taken under care of the Presbytery as a candidate for the ministry. His examination was sustained as satisfactory, and, in accordance with a standing rule of the Presbytery, final action on the request was deferred to the next stated meeting.

The Second church, Norfolk, was authorized to prosecute a call before the Nashville Presbytery for the pastoral services of the Rev. E. O. Frierson.

The pastor and elders of the Second church, Richmond, were appointed a committee to organize a church in the chapel belonging to said church.

The Rev. William N. Scott, on the last day of the meeting, took leave of the Presbytery, when Dr. Read led the Presbytery in prayer for a blessing upon him and his future charge, and the following paper offered by Dr. Preston, was adopted:

The Rev. W. N. Scott having taken leave of the Presbytery, preparatory to his removal to the Presbytery to which he has been dismissed; therefore,

Resolved, That it is with unusual regret that we part with one who for years has done faithful and successful work in our midst; that we bear cheerful testimony to the untiring industry with which brother Scott has prosecuted his labors, to the success with which it has pleased the Head of the Church to crown his work, and to the warm affection in which he is held by every member of this Presbytery. We cordially commend him to the Presbytery of Brazos, and pray that the benediction of the Holy Spirit may abide with him and with his household.

A committee was appointed to visit the Chesapeake Presbytery, now without officers in consequence of removals, and hold a congregational meeting for the election of one or more Elders.

The General Assembly was overtured to revise its forms for reports from Presbyteries and Sessions.

The Presbytery, on the recommendation of its Executive Committee of Domestic Missions, re-

sumed its former relations to the General Assembly's Committee of Home Missions.

Licentiate Hugh Calvin Smith was ordained as an Evangelist. He will preach as stated supply in the Old Street church, Petersburg, where he had been previously laboring. This church presented a call for his pastoral services, which the Presbytery did not put in his hands, because of uncertainty as to his support.

The next stated meeting was appointed to be held at Amelia C. H., on the 20th of September, 1882, at 12 M.

The Presbytery of Winchester

Met in the Loudoun Street church, March 29th, at 7:30 P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. J. L. Sherrard, from Gal. vi: 14.

Present—23 Ministers and 21 Ruling Elders. Rev. A. B. Carrington, was chosen Moderator; Rev. A. S. Moffett and Elder S. L. Elournoy, temporary Clerks.

Rev. J. A. Scott, Jr., was dismissed to the Presbytery of Roanoke.

Mr. A. Gibson Link, a member of the Elk Branch church, was received under care of Presbytery as a candidate for the ministry.

A call from the Harper's Ferry church for the pastoral services of Licentiate W. D. White, was placed in his hands; and at his request permission was granted him to retain it until the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

Rev. C. W. Hollis obtained leave to resign the pastoral charge of the Strasburg church, in order to accept a call from the White Post church, for one half his time. This call was placed in his hands, and arrangements were made for his installation the latter part of April.

Rev. J. L. Sherrard declined the call from the Petersburg church, Grant county, and obtained permission to labor at discretion until the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

A request from the church at Hancock, Md., asking the concurrence of Presbytery in a petition to Synod to be transferred to the Presbytery of Maryland, was not granted.

The reports of the several executive committees indicated progress in the work committed to them.

A committee, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Finley, Woodworth and G. W. White, was appointed to revise our Form of Report on the "State of Religion," ascertain what changes may be thought advisable in the questions proposed, and report to the next stated meeting.

All pastors and stated supplies were directed to read from their pulpits the resolution of Synod, (p. 107, bottom of page) on the increase of candidates for the ministry, accompanying the reading by statements on the subject, or by a sermon at the discretion of the minister.

In view of several delinquencies brought to the notice of Presbytery, in the reports on the State of Religion, it was resolved, that a committee consisting of Judge J. D. Armstrong, chairman; Rev. G. W. Winley, and Elder F. W. Magruder, be appointed to prepare a pastoral letter to the elders and deacons, calling their attention to these delinquencies, and their duties in the premises; and to report at the next stated meeting of Presbytery.

It was further resolved, that at each stated spring meeting, a standing committee be appointed to examine the reports on the State of Religion, and recommend what action should be taken in reference to any delinquencies that may be found.

The order requiring each minister to preach on the proper observance of the Sabbath was extended till the fall meeting.

In regard to the proposed revision of the "Directory of Worship," it was resolved, "That the Presbytery of Winchester prefers the present which is transferred to the Revised Book of Discipline. But if a revision be determined upon, then this Presbytery recommends"—certain amendments, a list of which will be forwarded to the General Assembly.

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee of Evangelistic Work, the following supplies were appointed for the various fields:

For J. W. Walkup's field—Rev. H. M. White, D. D., and Rev. A. S. Moffett, each one week.

For the Alleghany field—Rev. Messrs. Charles Ghiselin, G. W. White, M. W. Woodworth, F. M. Woods, and J. S. Lefevre, each one week.

For the Petersburg, W. Va., field—Rev. Messrs. J. M. Clymer, R. H. Fleming, and P. D. Stephenson, each one week.

For the Strasburg vacancy—Rev. J. R. Graham, two Sabbaths, and Rev. E. L. Wilson, one Sabbath.

For Harper's Ferry—Rev. H. C. Brown, one Sabbath.

For the Luray field—Rev. A. C. Hopkins, one Sabbath.

Rev. J. A. Armstrong to preach one Sabbath at Keyser or Piedmont.

The overture, proposing a change in Book of Discipline Chapter XII, section 3, was answered in the affirmative at the fall meeting.

A resolution of sympathy with Ruling Elder Thomas S. Sangster, in his sickness, and commending him to the grace of God, was adopted.

Rev. J. R. Graham, D. D., and Rev. A. C. Hopkins, with Ruling Elders Felix B. Welton, of Moorefield, and James B. Russell, of Winchester, were chosen principal commissioners to next General Assembly, to meet at Atlanta, Georgia, the third Thursday of May. Alternates, Rev. G. W. Finley and Rev. H. C. Brown; with Ruling Elders Dr. H. C. Somerville, of White Post, and P. W. Magruder, of Woodstock.

Presbytery will hold its next stated meeting in Berkeley Spring church, September 20th, 1882, at 7:30 P. M.

Presbytery of Dallas

Met at McKinney, Texas, March 29th. Rev. W. George, D. D., of Fort Worth, Moderator, and Rev. E. S. Burwell, Stated Clerk.

Called.—Rev. J. C. Cowan to McKinney, Rev. C. S. M. See to Cleburne, Rev. R. E. Cooper to Hill county Home Mission work.

Rev. W. S. Johnson was dismissed to Memphis Presbytery.

Commissioners to the General Assembly—Rev. A. F. Smith, D. D., and elder P. H. Carter. Alternates—Rev. R. Logan and elder E. Keach.

The Presbytery of Mississippi

Has elected the following commissioners to the General Assembly: Principals, Rev. J. S. Shaw and ruling elder J. G. Spencer; alternates, Rev. C. A. Munroe and ruling elder John W. Henderson.

Overture from the Synod in reference to the division of the Synod, answered "Not at present." An overture from Presbyteries of Chesapeake and Atlanta, touching a change of chap. 12, sec. 3, Book of Discipline of Minutes of the Assembly of 1881, page 396, answered in the affirmative.

The next meeting of Presbytery will be held at Bensalem church.

Presbytery of Tombeckbee

Has just closed its stated spring meeting in Aberdeen, Miss. The attendance was quite small owing to the sickness of several of the ministers, and but few of the country churches were represented by Elders.

The proposed change of Rule of Discipline, Chap. XII, sec. 3, was unanimously adopted.

The committee on the Revised Directory of Worship, recommended its approval, after striking out the clause on page 8 in reference to the delivery of sermons without the use of the manuscript. The report was adopted unanimously.

Rev. A. B. Coit and elder J. J. Armistead were appointed commissioners to the General Assembly, and Rev. H. C. Smith and elder A. Ames, alternates.

The pastoral relation between Rev. H. W. Flinn and the churches of Okolona and West Point was dissolved, and a letter of dismission given to Rev. Mr. Flinn to the Presbytery of New Orleans, with a view to his accepting a call from the Handsboro' and Moss Point churches.

The Columbus church asked and obtained permission to prosecute a call before the Presbytery of Lexington for the pastoral services of the Rev. W. S. Plumer Bryan.

J. BARDWELL, S. Clerk.

Presbytery of Palmyra

Met at Memphis church, March 30. Opening sermon by the retiring Moderator, Rev. C. W. Humphrey.

Rev. J. M. Travis elected Moderator. The committee to organize a church at Athens, if the way be clear, reported a church organized at that point with nine members, of which eighteen were added by profession. Athens church was then ordered enrolled.

Zion's Hill was chosen as the next place of meeting.

Mr. C. F. Richmond, a member of Pleasant Hill church and student at Westminster, was introduced and examined on his religious experience and motive in seeking the gospel ministry, and was received under care of Presbytery.

Report of committee on Van Rensselaer Academy was read and the following resolutions substituted for it:

1st. Presbytery extends to Big Greek church its sympathy in its efforts to sustain an academy of higher grade within its bounds.

2d. That the members of this Presbytery encourage, as far as consistent with duty, this congregation in its enterprise.

Commissioners to Assembly of Ministers: Rev. T. B. Lunsford, principal; Rev. H. H. Barks, alternate; Elders J. A. Gallaher and T. B. Bashaw.

Rev. W. S. Trimble was granted permission to labor all his time in Clark county.

Permission was given Perry to employ Rev. C. W. Humphrey half his time.

Directory of worship approved, except that the burial service to be used when no minister was present, was totally disapproved.

The stated clerk was ordered to place the call of Palmyra church into the hands of Rev. E. L. Ferguson.

The General Assembly was overtured:

1st. To rescind its contract with the Presbyterian Publishing Company.

2d. To give the entire control of publication work to the Committee of Publication.

3d. To create a depository at St. Louis.

J. E. LATHAM, Temporary Clerk.

Presbytery of Holston

This body held its sessions in Morristown, Tenn., beginning on March 29th, and closing April 2nd. The attendance was large, there being about forty members present.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. J. B. Converse.

Rev. J. S. Anderson was elected Moderator, and P. L. Clime and R. F. Patterson were elected temporary clerks.

Rev. S. V. McCorkle, Presbytery of Holston, (Northern), Synod of Tennessee, and Rev. J. D. Thomas, Presbytery of Abingdon, were received as members of this Presbytery. A committee was appointed to install Mr. McCorkle pastor of the Rogersville church on the third Sabbath in April. Rev. J. B. Thomas has charge of the Rogersville Female College.

The organization of a church at Union Depot, consisting of twenty-two members, two elders, and two deacons, was reported to Presbytery under the name of Holston church.

Mr. M. W. Millard, who has been preaching for some months to the Mossy Creek, Rutledge, and Mt. Horeb churches was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry.

Rev. D. O. Byers, Johnsonsboro church, and Elder S. S. Massengill, Mossy Creek church, were elected commissioners to the General Assembly, and Rev. J. S. Anderson and R. F. Patterson were elected alternates.

The following overture to the General Assembly was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the General Assembly to meet in Atlanta, May 18th, 1882, be, and is hereby overtured to send a delegate or delegates to bear fraternal salutations to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, or to take such other steps as may be necessary to establish correspondence with that body.

Rev. G. A. Caldwell preached the Presbyterian sermon on the subject of Home Missions.

The Presbytery of St. Johns

Hold its spring sessions at Beresford, Florida. There were present five ministers and six ruling elders.

Rev. J. A. Kimmons, the retiring Moderator, preached the opening sermon.

Rev. W. G. F. Wallace was elected Moderator. The Presbytery admitted to its roll of churches three new ones, organized since the fall meeting. These churches are at San Mateo, Sanford, and Bartow.

Petitions from persons residing at Maitland, Tampa, and in Sumter county, praying for the organization of a church at each of these places, were presented and granted.

The outlook for steady and rapid growth of the Church in Florida is very encouraging.

The Presbytery took action relating to the cause of Domestic Missions, in which there is at present a very great interest in the State. The action is to the effect that the General Assembly permit some one from Florida to represent her claims before the Assembly on the night that is usually set apart for the consideration of the cause of Home Missions.

The amendment to the Book of Discipline, sent down by the Assembly to the Presbyteries, was adopted. The Revised Directory of Worship was also approved.

Rev. W. H. Dodge and elder Z. H. Mason, M. D. were elected commissioners to the Assembly. Rev. J. A. Kimmons and elder O. S. Wilson, M. D., alternates.

Rev. Edwin Cater was granted permission to labor out of the bounds of Presbytery till next meeting.

Revs. Gilbert Gordon, A. Enloe, and H. S. Yarger were granted permission to labor within the bounds of the Presbytery till the next meeting.

There will be an adjourned meeting at Palatka in a few weeks, to receive and install Dr. S. T. Wilson pastor over the church at that place.

The next regular meeting will be held in Leesburg, Friday, 7 1/2 P. M., before the third Sabbath in November.

STATED CLERK.

Presbytery of Florida

Met at Madison, Fla., April 5th, and was opened with an excellent sermon on the sanctity and benefits of the Sabbath, by the retiring Moderator, Rev. W. H. Crane.

Seven ministers and four elders were in attendance.

Rev. Duncan McDuffie, of Harmony Presbytery, S. Carolina, and Rev. J. Y. Allison, of Red River Presbytery, sat as corresponding members.

Rev. H. M. Anderson, our Evangelist, was elected Moderator, and elder W. M. McIntosh, temporary Clerk.

Rev. W. H. Crane and elder W. M. McIntosh were elected commissioners to the Assembly, with Rev. Dr. A. A. Duncan and elder A. A. Blackburn as alternates.

Presbytery adopted the proposed change, as sent down by the Assembly, to allow elders and deacons to retire from office, as with ministers.

Our committee on the Directory for Worship made a report, offering several verbal changes, which was adopted.

The Narratives from the various churches evinced progress; but indicated no special outpourings of the Holy Spirit. Nearly all, however, have had additions.

Our Home Mission report, including the Evangelistic Work, revealed the fact that a good foundation is being laid, which it is believed will soon bring forth much good fruit.

Live Oak was chosen for our next place of meeting, and the time was fixed for the Thursday before the second Sabbath in October at 11 A. M.

Rev. J. Y. Allison, pastor-elect of the Tallahassee church, was received, late in our sessions, on certificate and examination. He also accepted the call from Tallahassee.

W. J. McCORMICK, Stated Clerk.

Commissioners to the General Assembly.

Presbyteries. Ministers. Elders.

SYNOD OF GEORGIA.

Athens, C W Lane J W Lumpkin
Alt... J C Crow J B Estes
Florida, W H Crane W M McIntosh
Alt... A A Duncan A A Blackburn
St. Johns, W H Dodge Z H Mason
Alt... J A Kimmons O S Wilson

SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville, J W Pratt Wm Adair
Angus McDonald H W Park
Alt... A D McClure C M Milne
John Rule M Wakefield

SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

C. Mississippi, R B Morrow F Fairly
Alt... W A Alexander S M Shelton
Mississippi, J S Shaw J G Spencer
Alt... C A Munroe J W Henderson
Tombeckbee, A B Coit J J Armistead
Alt... H C Smith A Ames

SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Palmyra, T B Lunsford J A Gallaher
Alt... H B Barks T B Bashaw
Potosi, Jos A Graves Jos Hunter
Alt... A W Milster Jesse E Low

SYNOD OF NASHVILLE.

Holston, D O Byers S S Massengill
Alt... J S Anderson R F Patterson

SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Wilmington, R B McAlpine B F Hall
Alt... S Black A R Hicks

SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Harmony, H H DuBose L J McLaurin
Robert Bradley John McSwain
Alt... H G Gilland T M Gilland
W C Smith R J McCraight

SYNOD OF TEXAS.

Dallas, A P Smith P H Carter
Alt... R Logan E Keach

SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

E. Hanover, William Brown C F Collier
T T Richardson R W Santos
Alt... W T Jones W D Reynolds
G D Armstrong H V Niemyer
Winchester, J R Graham F B Welton
Alt... A C Hopkins Jas B Russell
H C Brown F W Magruder

—A beautiful American Episcopal church is now building in Paris, Dr. Morgan rector, to cost a fabulous amount. It is a little surprising to see masons' and carpenters' work going on Sunday just the same as on any other day.