

thousand dollars. A wealthy up-town church this is, but rich also in good works. It is a reservoir from which proceed continually those streams that make glad the waste and barren places of the land. Dr. Adams has reached the period of sixty years, nearly forty of which he has spent in the active duties of the Christian ministry. His vigor and energy, his efficiency as a pastor, seem in no respect to be enfeebled. As an accomplished gentleman, a devoted friend and pastor, a persuasive and effective preacher, he has no rival. The great central idea of his preaching is the Cross. The great aim of the pastor is to exalt the Savior who died on Calvary for man, and lead sinners to trust in the merits of his death.

LXIV.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT AND THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MR. BENNETT'S EARLY LIFE. — EMBARKS FOR AMERICA. — HIS NEW YORK CAREER. — CAREER AS A JOURNALIST. — NEW YORK HERALD. — THE NEW HERALD BUILDING. — INSIDE VIEW. — THE COUNCIL. — MR. BENNETT AT HOME. — HIS FAMILY. — MR. BENNETT AND THE FRENCH MISSION. — PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

MR. BENNETT'S EARLY LIFE.

MR. BENNETT was born in the year 1800, at New Mill, Keith, in Banffshire, Scotland. He was reared under the shadow of Gordon Castle. His parents were Roman Catholics, and he was trained in their religion. Every Saturday night the family assembled to hear the Scriptures read, and to engage in worship according to the custom so touchingly described by Burns. An uncle, for whom Mr. Bennett was named, was a Presbyterian clergyman. James was kept at school till he was fifteen years of age. He then entered a Roman Catholic Seminary at Aberdeen, his parents intending him for the ministry. On the banks of the Dee he pursued his studies for three years. He then threw up his collegiate course, and abandoned his ecclesiastical career. He pursued the classics with great enthusiasm. Fifty

years after he recalled his studies of Virgil on the banks of the Dee. Burns was his favorite poet. He read with zest the novels of Walter Scott. But he was charmed with the Memoirs of Franklin, written by himself, and he felt a great longing to visit America, the home of Franklin. He early exhibited marked talent, with great shrewdness, dashed with manliness. He heard Chalmers often, and never failed to acknowledge his indebtedness to that great man for the influence he exerted over his life. Of his own family he has written, "Bishops, priests, deacons, robbers, and all sorts of persons, were in my family. They were bright in ideas, and saucy enough in all conscience."

EMBARKS FOR AMERICA.

It was a sudden impulse that induced Mr. Bennett to embark for this country. He met a companion in the street one day, who informed him that he was going to America. Bennett expressed a desire to see the place where Franklin was born, and resolved to embark with his friend. He sailed on the 6th of April, 1819, and landed at Halifax. At Portland he opened a school as teacher, but it was not of choice that he taught. He soon moved on towards Boston. He was charmed with all he saw in the city and vicinity. He hunted up every memorial of Franklin that could be found. He examined all the relics of the Revolution, and visited the places made memorable in our struggle with Great Britain. But he was poor, and well nigh discouraged. He walked the Common without money, hungry, and without friends. In his darkest hour he found a New York shilling, and from that hour his fortunes began to

mend. He obtained a position with Wells and Lilly, in Boston, as proof-reader. Here he displayed his ability as a writer, both in poetry and prose.

HIS NEW YORK CAREER.

Mr. Bennett came to New York in 1822. He immediately connected himself with the press, for which he had a decided taste. He was not dainty in his work. He took anything that came along. He was industrious, sober, frugal, of great tact, and displayed marked ability. He soon obtained a position on the Charleston Courier as translator of Spanish-American papers. He prepared other articles for the Courier, many of which were in verse. His style was sharp, racy, and energetic. On returning to New York he proposed to open a permanent commercial school on Ann Street, near Nassau, and issued his prospectus. The plan was not consummated. But he gave a course of lectures on political economy in the North Dutch Church.

CAREER AS A JOURNALIST.

Mr. Bennett, in 1825, became proprietor of the New York Courier by purchase. It was a Sunday paper, but was not a success. As a reporter and writer he was connected with several journals. In 1826 he became associate editor of the National Advocate, a Democratic paper. The next year the Advocate espoused the cause of John Quincy Adams, while Mr. Bennett was a warm partisan of Jackson. Leaving the Advocate, Mr. Bennett became associate editor of the Inquirer, conducted by M. M. Noah. He was also a member of Tammany Society, and a warm partisan.

During the sessions of Congress, Mr. Bennett was at the Capital, writing for his paper; and while at that post a fusion was effected between the Courier and Inquirer. He continued in his position as associate editor and Washington letter-writer till 1832. Mr. Bennett sustained General Jackson in his war on the United States Bank. The Courier and Inquirer, under Mr. Webb, sustained the Bank. This difference led Mr. Bennett to leave the concern. He wrote much for the press, and his peculiarly cutting and slashing style made his articles very effective. He studied the New York press very closely. He felt that it was not what the age demanded, and resolved to establish a paper that should express his idea of a metropolitan journal. He had no capital, no rich friends to back him,—nothing but his ability, pluck, and indomitable resolution.

NEW YORK HERALD.

On the 6th day of May, 1835, the New York Herald was issued from No. 20 Wall Street. It was a small penny sheet. Mr. Bennett was editor, reporter, and correspondent. He collected the city news, and wrote the money articles. He resolved to make the financial feature of his paper a marked one. He owed nothing to the Stock Board. If he was poor, he was not in debt. He did not dabble in stocks. He had no interest in the bulls or bears. He did not care whether stocks rose or fell. He could slash into the bankers and stock-jobbers as he pleased. He worked hard. He rose early, was temperate and frugal, and seemed to live only for his paper. He was his own compositor and errand boy, collected his own news, mailed his papers,

kept his accounts, and thus laid the foundation of that great success that has made his name as familiar on the Thames and Danube as it is on the Hudson.

THE NEW HERALD BUILDING.

Opposite the Astor, on the site of the old Museum, stands the marble palace known as the Herald Building. It is the most complete newspaper establishment in the world. The little, dingy, story-and-a-half brick building, standing back from the street up a court, and known in London as the "Times Printing Office," would not be used for a third-rate American paper. Before the Herald buildings were completed, and while Mr. Bennett was making a savage assault on the National Banks, he was waited upon by the president of one of the banks, who said to him, "Mr. Bennett, we know that you are at great expense in erecting this building, besides carrying on your immense business. If you want any accommodation you can have it at our banks." Mr. Bennett replied, "Before I purchased the land, or began to build, I had on deposit two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in the Chemical Bank. There is not a dollar due on the Herald buildings that I cannot pay. I would pay off the mortgage to-morrow if the owner would allow me to. When the building is open I shall not owe one dollar to any man, if I am allowed to pay. I owe nothing that I cannot discharge in an hour. I have not touched one dollar of the money on deposit in the bank, and while that remains I need no accommodation."

INSIDE VIEW.

The Herald building has two stories below the sidewalk, in which are located two engines of thirty-five horse power each, ready for action at a moment's notice. If one fails, the other will strike off the edition. Three huge Hoe's presses throw off twenty-six sheets at once. The presses run from twelve at night till seven in the morning to print the daily issue. The edition varies from three to five hundred thousand. The engine and press rooms are kept in perfect order. The proprietor makes constant visits to every part of the establishment, and allows no confusion or untidiness. The first story is the Herald office, fitted with the neatness and system of a bank. Every department has a responsible head. On the third floor the paper is edited. It has a force of twelve editors, thirty-five reporters, and five hundred men in all. The principal room is the council room. It faces St. Paul's on Broadway. It is elegantly furnished with black walnut furniture. The chairs are carved, and, with the lounge, are handsomely covered with maroon leather. A long table, around which twelve persons can sit, runs the length of the room. A bronze bust of Mr. Bennett stands on a pedestal at one end. The walls are adorned with portraits of young Bennett, Robert Burns, and favorite characters. Opening from this is a handsome library, filled with important books for reference. The editorial rooms, and rooms for reporters and writers, occupy the entire floor. A small winding stairway leads from the entrance on Ann Street to the editorial rooms. At the top of the stairs a colored gentleman

demands your business and your card. The visitor is ushered into a small reception-room, occupied almost entirely by an immense round table, files of papers, and a few chairs. If persons cannot sit they can stand. Visitors are seldom allowed in the editorial rooms. The parties whom they call to see meet them in the reception-room. The composition room is under the French roof, large, airy, and complete. Every issue of the Herald is electrotyped, and there is a room for that purpose in the building. A dummy lowers the form down to the press-room.

THE COUNCIL.

The Herald is edited. Nearly every other paper in the country is conducted by a journalist; that is, the editor writes his own leaders. The editor-in-chief of the Herald seldom writes an editorial. At twelve o'clock each day the editors meet in the council-room. If Mr. Bennett is in the city, he presides; if not, young James presides. A list of subjects is presented by Mr. Bennett, and these are discussed. If he wants any subject written upon, he gives out the heads in his dry, terse, grotesque way. If taken down just as he states them, they would be very effective, though comical. The subjects may be Phillips's last speech, the action of Congress, new move of the President, the situation abroad, or the last purchase of Mr. Seward. To each editor a subject is given, or one man is selected to write on a given matter. The editor decides what shall be written, dictates the points, orders such an article for such a day, and to be written in such a manner. Everything is decided by the editor before the