

**ADDRESSES, INAUGURALS AND
CHARGES DELIVERED IN SELIN'S
GROVE, SNYDER CO., PA.
SEPTEMBER 1ST, AND NOVEMBER
24TH, 1858**

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VARIOUS

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NOVEMBER 24TH, 1858**

A D D R E S S E S,
I N A U G U R A L S A N D C H A R G E S,

D E L I V E R E D I N

S E L I N ' S G R O V E , S N Y D E R C O . , P A .

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I N C O N N E C T I O N W I T H L A Y I N G O F T H E C O R N E R S T O N E , A N D
T H E I N S T A L L A T I O N O F T H E P R O F E S S O R S O F T H E

E V A N G . L U T H E R A N M I S S I O N A R Y I N S T I T U T E ,

T O G E T H E R W I T H A N

A P P E A L

I N B E H A L F O F T H A T I N S T I T U T I O N .

B A L T I M O R E :
T . N E W T O N K U R T Z ,
N o . 1 5 1 W . P R A T T S T R E E T .
1 8 5 9 .

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Managers of the Evang. Lutheran Mission- ary Institute,	3
INAUGURAL, by Rev. Dr. Benjamin Kurtz, . . .	5
ADDRESS and CHARGE, by Rev. Dr. S. Sprecher, . . .	25
INAUGURAL ADDRESS, by Rev. Prof. H. Ziegler, . . .	73
CHARGE to Prof. H. Ziegler, by Rev. P. Rizer, . . .	89
APPEAL in behalf of the Missionary Institute, . . .	107
ADDRESS, by Rev. Prof. R. Weiser,	131
ADDRESS, by the Hon. Judge Jordan,	163
REMARKS, by Joseph Casey, Esq.,	175

EXTRACT

From the proceedings of the Board of Managers of the Evangelical Lutheran Missionary Institute,

At a meeting held in Selin's Grove, Pa., Nov. 25, 1858.

“Having been highly gratified with the addresses, inaugural and responsive, which were delivered on the 24th of November, 1858, on the occasion of the Inauguration of the Professors of Theology in the Missionary Institute of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; and as this was the expressed and manifest sentiment of many others who were present on the occasion, therefore

“*Resolved*, That the inaugural addresses of Rev. B. Kurtz, D. D., LL. D., and the Rev. H. Ziegler, A. M., together with the respective responsive addresses delivered by Rev. S. Sprecher, D. D., President of Wittenberg College, and Rev. P. Rizer, A. M., of New Berlin, Pa., and also the sermon delivered by Rev. M. J. Alleman,* of Hanover, Pa., on the same occasion, are regarded as exceedingly creditable to their authors.

* We regret that the Rev. Mr. Alleman declined furnishing a copy of his sermon.—*Publisher.*

Resolved, That such valuable documents are entitled to careful preservation in a permanent form, and will prove of immense importance in a historical point of view, and as testimonies to the design, character, and usefulness of our Missionary Institute; and that while we present our grateful acknowledgments to the authors, they be earnestly requested to forward them to the Board of Managers for publication; and that a committee be appointed to superintend the publication, Dr. Kurtz to be said committee; and that said publication be executed on the most favorable terms, (the price not to exceed thirty-seven and a half cents per copy,) in the form of a neat volume.

Resolved, That the addresses delivered at the laying of the corner-stone of the Institute, by Rev. R. Weiser, President of Central College, Iowa, Hon. Judge Jordan, of Sunbury, Pa., and Hon. Joseph Casey, of Harrisburg, Pa., and also the "APPEAL" by the Professors, prepared by resolution of the Board, be added to the preceding, and that they be published in the same volume."

INAUGURAL,
SETTING FORTH THE
DESIGN, NECESSITY AND ADAPTATION
OF THE
Ev. Lutheran Missionary Institute,
Located at Selin's Grove, Snyder Co., Pa.
Delivered Nov. 24, 1858,
AT HIS INSTALLATION, AS PROFESSOR IN SAID INSTITUTE,
By BENJAMIN KUIFZ,
SUPERINTENDENT, AND PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY, CHURCH HISTORY,
AND MENTAL PHILOSOPHY.

THIS is the day appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Ev. Lutheran Missionary Institute, for the installation of its Professors. In obedience to custom it becomes my duty, as Superintendent and one of the Professors, to introduce the solemnities of the occasion with an inaugural address.

It has occurred to me, that I cannot discharge this duty more appropriately, than by

setting before this numerous and enlightened audience :

THE DESIGN, NECESSITY, AND ADAPTATION OF
OUR MISSIONARY INSTITUTE.

L. THE DESIGN.

The *design*, as stated in the statutes of the Institute, is, "the education of pious and sound-minded men (irrespective of age or domestic ties,) for the office of the holy ministry in the Ev. Lutheran Church, including the mission field at home and abroad." The general object is accordingly the multiplication of faithful ministers of the Gospel for our Lutheran Zion and in the church of God in general. This noble end it aims at, in common with all our other theological seminaries. But it differs from them in regard to the age and condition in life of the men whom it hopes to educate for the ministry, as well as in reference to the course of study.

If an individual would qualify himself for the ministry, in accordance with the routine of study prescribed in our Colleges and Theological Seminaries, he must devote some *six or eight or more* years to the work of preparation, and incur an expense of about *two thousand dollars!* This is a tedious and expensive process, long before the completion of which the student's health is not unfrequently seriously impaired, and his pecuniary resources, as well

as those furnished by the church, (too sparingly, it must be conceded,) are entirely exhausted. And yet, we do not object to it in a single case in which youth, health and monetary ability conspire to recommend it. We greatly need *thoroughly educated* men—we *must* have them. While all our ministers should be qualified to expound the Scriptures wisely as well as popularly, a goodly portion ought to be profoundly learned—"so learned and skilfully polemical," says a distinguished divine, "that they can hunt the foxes of error and infidelity through all their shiftings and doublings, make them bolt out of all their burrows of sophistry, and quench all their *fox-fires* of delusion, the glimmer of darkness and the rotten wood of daylight."

But while we bear willing testimony to the vast importance of a highly educated ministry, we also believe that men may become eminently useful and effective in our profession, as well as highly respectable and influential in society, without passing through a course of *six*, or *eight*, or *ten* years' previous training, and consequently without involving themselves in the onerous expense attendant upon such a prolonged career of study. The force of this remark is strongly exemplified in prominent instances of our own church; it is still more strikingly illustrated in the history of the