

I returned this morning from a visit to one of our little churches, about forty miles up the river. There are six disciples there. I went up for the purpose of administering the Lord's Supper, which they had not received for a long time previous. Here I experienced one of those sad chilling discouragements, which the Missionary abroad more perhaps than the Pastor at home, must be prepared for. One of the disciples, baptized more than twenty years ago, and who has been until now a man of power in the mission, has fallen into gross sin. He seemed a pillar in the church, and now, alas! how fallen! From his high situation as the first native official in the Commissioner's Court he might exert a wide-spread influence for good, as an humble earnest disciple of Christ. The temptation, the short ineffectual struggle, the ruinous fall! and now, shorn of his influence for doing good, his example is a shame and a stumbling block. He seems really humbled and penitent, and I can not doubt that he is really a converted man. But it is hard to take up with so little when there was promise of so much. I learned on my return this morning that the old man mentioned above had come down during my absence. Mr. Thomas baptised him and he went back to his place rejoicing. Another man, a relative, accompanied him, and also requested baptism, or rather he had been received for baptism some time before, but not finding me at home he concluded to return and be baptised when I came back. These men afford us peculiar satisfaction. Having learned the commands of Christ, they come to us from a distance, voluntarily to obey them. Unlike them are a number of interesting inquirers, men and women here in the city. Though apparently most sincere and giving very satisfactory evidence of conversion, still they continue to defer baptism, one waiting for the other, until I have quite tired of speaking to them, and shall now leave the matter to be settled by their own consciences.

Mr. Ingalls, stationed at Rangoon, and one of the oldest missionaries in the country has just died, leaving a vacancy which it will be difficult indeed to fill. While thus the ranks are being thinned, where are the reserves and the recruits?

I must now, in much haste, conclude, having only one more remark to make, namely, that your paper comes to us only pretty regularly, and we have never seen several No's.

Ever most sincerely yours,
ARTHUR R. R. CRAWLEY.

[If Brother Crawley will let us know in his next the numbers of the C. Messenger which have not reached him, we shall be happy to obtain copies and send them on again.—ED. C. M.]

NOTICE.

Those of our Subscribers who commence from the beginning of the year and have not yet forwarded their subscriptions, will bear in mind that the time for payments in advance expired with the past month. Some few have probably found the time pass more rapidly than they thought, and have unintentionally omitted to make their payments.

A proper regard to our present and future liabilities, and a desire to avoid the injurious consequences of having a large amount of arrearages on our books, has induced us to make the following offer before sending on accounts.—

Any such subscriber who can get a new subscriber to hand him ten shillings for one year from date, may send us a one pound note—ten shillings for himself instead of twelve and six pence—and we will send to him and to every such new subscriber a copy of Caird's Sermon preached before the Queen, (48 pages) by return of post. This offer to continue till the end of July.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 9, 1856.

THERE are in the last numbers of the Freeman some excellent Articles on the Preaching of the Gospel. Their length and other circumstances do not admit of their being transferred to our pages or we would willingly have furnished them to our readers. The main propositions, however, which they lay down and undertake to prove are, first, "that the exigencies of our day demand a provision for the preaching of the Gospel beyond that which is afforded in connection with ordinary public worship, and secondly, that the task belongs to the Churches in their ecclesiastical capacity, as

a part of their mission to the world." Neither of these positions will, we suppose, be disputed, yet it is very certain that the Churches of no evangelical section of Christianity have as yet appeared to be sufficiently alive to the momentous duty resulting from such a state of facts. There are several heads under which we might consider the matter before us and the various modes by which the Gospel might be most effectually imparted to the world: such as individual instruction and research, as in the Bible Class and Sabbath School—Public or general enforcement of its great truths, as from the Pulpit, and lastly a still more public means of disseminating the saving truths of Revelation, by going out as it were into the highways and hedges and compelling the unregenerate to come in. We will for the present confine our observations to the last of these methods. It is abundantly evident that something better calculated to reach every class of the community than the ministrations of the pulpit is absolutely necessary, if we would arrest the attention of the thousands who are without, and whose social position seems, under the existing economy of Gospel means to have wholly excluded them from the influence of any religious denomination. The Roman Catholics, who are, as all must confess, wise in their generation, have seized on many of the leading features of a Gospel church and adjusted them to their own purposes. Thus in every age of their history a large portion of their ministry have had the duty assigned them, of visiting and preaching to those who would otherwise have none to care for them. For this sole object have various orders of Friars (Brethren) Franciscans, Dominicans, and numerous others been instituted, whose office it was to visit and minister to every class of society and exercise what was called a spiritual supervision over them. To such means may undoubtedly be traced much of the vast influence they have obtained and still enjoy over those who acknowledge their claims.

As is rightly observed in the article from which we first quoted, the large Platform Meetings, and great public assemblies of Religious Bodies have to some extent been made the means of announcing the great truths of the Gospel to an extent hitherto unknown, except in the rare instances of a few such men as Whitfield and Wesley. It is also a good sign of the times and of the desire to meet and supply the great want to which we refer, that among various Evangelical bodies in England the necessity of Open-air preaching is lately becoming much more obvious, and is beginning to be recognized as a stated and most appropriate instrumentality for conveying the truth to those who would otherwise never hear it.

Whatever of zeal there may exist among individuals in any church, or earnestness for the salvation of souls, we fear it is a fact that cannot be controverted, that no church of any name, taken as a collective body of believers, have any thing like a clear and adequate sense of the duty which rests on them as regards carrying out the great mission entrusted to them by their Divine Master. It is a duty which no one member can delegate to another. Individually and collectively it concerns them one and all to strive in season and out of season for the enlargement of Christ's Kingdom. As a Royal Priesthood they are each one a Preacher of God's word—if not in word yet in deed—for the Christian life is often the most effectual preaching. But in their church capacity they should ever be devising "liberal things." The world should know that in this character they were alive also, and their movement should be one of unwearied aggression on the world without, or it will signify little what name they bear. The subject we treat of is one of growing importance, in proportion as the moral and spiritual wants of great classes of Society are ever increasing and daily becoming better known. It is intimately connected with all our missionary operations, whether at home or abroad—it bears pointedly on the action and influence of our churches on every surrounding community, and its being rightly understood and felt is what can alone give expansion to our views and success to our efforts in the cause of Christ. It is evident that the existence and the operations of a church in these modern days have been far too much connected with their assembling together in one certain locality and perhaps even identified in some measure with the building in which they worship.

No doubt a church must have a place and stated times wherein to meet and hear the word of life and renew their strength in attendance on the ordinances of God's house, but it should only be as a kind of storehouse for supplying their spiritual wants from whence they might go forth into the world at large and combat in their Master's cause. The present is an age of progression and it would be pleasant to see that the church was not behind the world in devising means and executing measures, the objects of which are as far beyond all worldly considerations as time is of less value than eternity. But we must stop for the present and renew our subject hereafter.

THE communication just received from brother Arthur Crawley in Burmah is highly interesting, as shewing the career of usefulness which he is evidently commencing in the great missionary operations of that land of spiritual promise. His safety and prosperity will rest on many hearts in his native land, while they entreat a blessing on his labours and sufferings for the salvation of souls within the wide range of his missionary charge. We cannot help lamenting that with the abundant means we ourselves possess in very many respects, to aid in the great cause of Foreign Missions, we still seem so insensible to its claims. That such insensibility is only in appearance we are well aware. That the progress of this heavenly enterprise possesses a strong hold on the best Christian affections of large numbers of our people we have not a doubt, and knowing such to be the case, very many of us are looking anxiously for some step to be taken which may give those feelings a practical form. Might not a Committee, limited in number, and composed of some of our most experienced and judicious men, be nominated at the ensuing Convention at St. John, to take the earliest possible steps to set our missionary machinery at work. Were this done, we can scarcely doubt but that before another year had elapsed there would be found one or more in the Provinces who would be willing to say "Here am I, send me." The moment two of our youthful Evangelists shall be found to make this response, there are thousands who are eager to say, Amen, and to show by their acts how deeply the Foreign Mission is resting on their souls.

WE complete in our present number a series of Extracts from the Christian Cabinet, entitled "Paris as it is." We think our young readers especially must have been gratified with the mass of information to be gathered from those papers. In nothing does the present age bear a stronger contrast to that which is past, than in the wonderful facility with which knowledge of every kind is brought home to the doors and the understandings of the young in every class and rank of society. We can well remember when one who had visited Paris, and was able to relate something of its ways and wonders, would have been looked on as almost a prodigy, and a deference bestowed on his superior acquirements which it is now difficult to appreciate. But where is now the boy or girl of fifteen in Nova Scotia, to whom it would not be almost a disgrace, with the multifarious means of knowledge which the age affords, not to possess information on a thousand topics, of which their grandfathers had not the slightest idea. Such articles as those now referred to, scattered in the daily or the periodical press, through tens of thousands of the domestic circles and the firesides of Nova Scotia, must leave our youth inexorable should they neglect so valuable a blessing. Next to vital religious character and knowledge, stands sound intellectual attainment—in proportion as these shall be combined, will be the respectability and influence of the rising generation.

The English Steamer which duly arrived last week with London dates to the 18th June, brings also the account of Mr. Cramp-ton's arrival and the action of the British Cabinet in consequence of his dismissal. The British Minister does not consider the refusal of the American Cabinet to recognize Mr. C. on account of personal objections to that gentleman, to be a sufficient cause for any interruption of friendly intercourse or for dismissing the American Minister in London. All prospect of serious difficulties on this head are therefore at an end. The Cabinet at Washington have

also authorized their Minister in London to arrange difficulties on the Central American question, or in case of being unable to do so, to refer to the arbitration of some friendly power.

The troops and fleet in the Colonies are to be largely reinforced, as will appear from our extracts. No doubt the unsettled state of the American questions had something to do with this, although as Great Britain will in all probability keep up much larger naval and military establishments than previous to the war just ended, a large portion of her forces, both sea and land, will necessarily be distributed in her Colonies both for convenience and cheapness of living.

The Canadian Legislature have not been going on very smoothly of late, although the new Ministry are sustained in the lower House, by a small majority. They have also agreed to give a further guarantee to the English Contractors of the Grand Trunk Railway to the extent of Two Millions. The Legislative Council have rejected the General Supply Bill on account of the appropriation of £50,000 being in it, granted for Public Buildings in Quebec, in prospect of its being made the permanent seat of Government, and respecting which the Legislative Council complains of not being consulted. This refusal if persisted in must of course throw the whole finances of the Province into great confusion.

The New Brunswick elections which are nearly terminated, are likely to give a majority, it is said, to the new administration. How large a one we do not yet learn. In such a case Governor Manners Sutton will of course be held politically justified in the course he has pursued.

General Williams, has arrived in England. He has been most warmly received and continues to be the great object of public attention, the nation at large as well as foreign Sovereigns, heaping eulogies and honours on him. He has, we understand, written out to friends here, that he expects shortly to visit the Province. As far as we can learn Gen. Williams's high military talents are enhanced by a most estimable private character.

Telegraph Despatch.

Merchants' Reading Room, July 7th, 1856.

A telegraphic despatch at the Merchants' Exchange yesterday announces the arrival at New York same date of the Collins' steamship Baltic, from Liverpool, G. B., with dates to June 25th.

Cotton market unchanged, demand moderate. Breadstuffs—market very firm. Wheat has advanced 2d. per bushel. Flour is 6d. per barrel dearer. Provisions without change—market dull. Money market reported easier. Consols for Money 94½ to 94.

The excitement on American affairs has subsided in England.

General Intelligence.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Halifax, June 27th, 1856.

APPOINTMENTS.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in Council, has been pleased to appoint Peter Bennett, Esq., to be the High Sheriff of the County of Annapolis, for the remainder of the current year of office for which the late Sheriff was appointed.

To be Justices of the Peace for the County of Victoria:—Alexander McKay, Big Baddeck; Donald McLean, Baddeck; Alexer. Cameron, Baddeck; Angus McLeod, S. Gut, St. Ann's; John McDonald, N. River, St. Ann's; Murdoch McKenzie, Bouladerie; John S. McNeil, N. side Grand Narrows; John G. McKinnon, Big Intervale, do.; Angus McDonald, S. side St. Patrick's Channel; Donald McLean, Washaback; John McLennan, Middle River.

To be one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Cape Breton—Wm. Murray, Junior, Esquire.

To be one of the Commissioners for taking Affidavits to hold to Bail, &c., in Queen's County—John Edgar, Esq.

H. M. S. Fulcan, (screw steamer,) Commander Bonyear, from Malta and Gibraltar, bound for Quebec, and having on board the 17th Regt. for the latter place, put into this port on Thursday evening. She has been out about 30 days, and ran short of coal and water. It is likely she will remain here three or four days.—Colonist.

H. M. Steamship Malacca, Commander Farguhars, arrived here on Saturday morning, in six days from Bermuda.

H. M. Steamship Basilisk, Com. Crofton, five days from Bermuda, arrived in this port on Monday.

The Cape Breton Election comes off on Tuesday the 15th inst.