

For the Christian Messenger.

Extract of Letter from Rev. E. W. Cunningham.

[It has caused us much sorrow to hear of the continued affliction of our excellent brother the Rev. R. W. Cunningham, and at the same time of having sickness in his family. We know well how to sympathize with him, and trust that he may, amidst his sorrows, have a large measure of those consolations of the gospel wherewith he has comforted others. The following extract of a letter from him will be read by many with painful interest. How refreshing to hear such warm expressions of attachment and harmony between pastor and people.]

"The state of my health as you have heard, has compelled me to resign my pastoral relation to the churches of Upper Hillsburgh and Digby Joggin. This step as may easily be imagined has cost some trial to myself, and perhaps to my valued brethren with whom I have lived in uninterrupted harmony since I came amongst them. I feel deeply interested in their welfare and that of their dear children, and long to see them favoured with a good minister—a man of pious heart and well furnished mind—who will be able to teach." The situation is truly a pleasant one—the people docile and kind,—and if Digby were to unite with them, a fair support for a minister might be relied on.

"Should this meet the eye of some good brother wishing a situation, he might do well to make a visit to the place."

Yours truly,

R. W. CUNNINGHAM.

Rose Cottage, Digby, Nov. 18th, 1856.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 19, 1856.

We would call the special attention of our readers to the highly interesting article on our first page, entitled "Recollections of Rome." We are glad to see No. 1 at its head, as promising the continuance of the subject in future numbers. The ready pen from which it originates will be recognized as having often contributed articles of a correspondent character to our pages. We esteem it of much value to the rising generation especially, to have among us those who can so ably describe and comment on objects which, although of worldwide celebrity, and well portrayed in numerous quarters, still derive a great additional interest from the vivid delineations of an eye-witness from among ourselves, enhanced in no small degree by the circumstance that the whole tenor of the articles breathe the spirit of truth and go to promote the interests of religion in the minds of the readers. We entirely agree with the writer that of all subjects within the range of historical comment, Rome affords the richest and most varied field of reflection, whether we regard her ancient or modern, her physical or her moral influences on the great masses of human beings that have passed over the stage of time. How soon the still powerful remnants of that influence are to vanish before the brighter lustre of Divine truth, in accordance with the pages of inspiration, none can as yet, we think, form any very accurate conjecture. Nevertheless, the period must arrive, and not a few of the "signs of the times" would seem to give notice of its approach.

STEPNEY COLLEGE, in the vicinity of London, has for many years been one of the principal Theological Seminaries in England, where young men have pursued their studies preparatory to their entrance on the duties of the Christian Ministry. Some of the most gifted and useful ministers of the Baptist Denomination have presided over it, not among the least so, the Rev. Dr. Angus, the now President, for some years Secretary of the English Baptist Foreign Mission. The locality, however, for some reasons, has been considered an unfavourable one. We are pleased to see from the extract published in our last, and the brief notice we now insert from the Freeman, that the site of the Institution has been changed to Regent's Park, one of the most beautiful and healthful parts of the great metropolis.

What is still more pleasing is to see those men who are most able and influential in the Denomination, such as Sir Morton Peto, Hon. B. W. Noel, Mr. Gurney and others, coming forward to establish the new foundation with their means or their advocacy. The Baptists in England are undoubtedly occupying a higher stand in religious, moral and literary influence than heretofore. Let us pray that the same gospel simplicity in preaching the doctrines of the cross, and the same unsparing devotion to the spiritual wants of those who most need its consolations, which so eminently distinguished

their forefathers in the ministry in the land of our common origin, may continue to bring down a blessing on the labours of our brethren in this as in every other matter pertaining to the Kingdom of God.

"Some of our readers may have learned from a paragraph in Tuesday's Times headed 'New Use of Holford House,' that this splendid building is now become the property of the Baptists, having been purchased by the Stepney College Committee. Eight thousand pounds is required to complete the purchase, and some noble contributions towards that sum already appear in the subscription list. Sir Morton Peto's name appears for £1,000, Mr. Kemps (the late treasurer,) for £650, Mr. Joseph Gurney's, the Treasurer, for £500, besides several for a hundred, fifty, or twenty pounds, making £5,000 promised already. We hope the meeting to-morrow will be well attended; for the house has but to be seen to induce all persons to do their utmost to free it from debt. The situation is one of the best possible so near London, and the accommodation such as could not have been provided by a new erection at several times the cost now incurred. The internal decorations are princely; some may think too magnificent; that, however, is easily enough remedied if wished. We can but congratulate our denomination on the acquisition of such a place. Let us all pray that 'the beauty of the Lord our God may rest upon it,' and that His Spirit may be its Shechinah, making the place of his rest glorious."

The few facts and the very sensible observations of Bro. Isaiah Wallace on the Missionary and pastoral wants of our people in the Western and Southern Counties of this Province, which appear in another column, will call forth the earnest wishes and we trust also the prompt endeavours of our Churches, to supply the deficiency. We have heard it remarked that the Baptists are better pioneers than they are permanent occupiers. There may possibly be some truth in the observation—for we know there are instances both in these Provinces, but especially in the United States, where flourishing interests commenced and carried on for some time by the Baptists, have been superseded by the efforts of other Bodies. We believe there is a rich mine of Christian love in the hearts of our people, which only needs to be rightly appealed to, to furnish a supply for all these wants. All our past history proves that there is something which the Baptists of Nova Scotia value far higher than their gold and their silver. The picture presented in Brother Wallace's letter, furnishes ample occasion for calling such a feeling into active operation. Much of the evil we are aware results from the want of a better system of missionary management. Are we to remain without it much longer?

Australian Mission.

We regret that we were unable to state, last week, all we desired respecting some remarks in the Christian Visitor of the 5th inst., on an anonymous letter from one of our ministerial brethren, on the 22nd ult. He referred principally to the destitution of the churches in the Eastern section of the province, and shewed the paramount claim it had to more distant parts of the world. Brother Wallace's own letter in another column, although written in a somewhat different style, says the same thing in substance with regard to the destitution of the churches in the West and South. We accept, however, the wise counsels of our contemporary, to "choose rather the things that make for peace;" but shall feel ourselves still bound to use our best judgment on the admission of well-written communications on any of the affairs of the Denomination, believing as we do that the cause of truth and righteousness will be promoted by free inquiry. Our good brother would, we doubt not, be well pleased for us to express our willingness to endorse his own views on this subject. As, however, there are brethren in New Brunswick, as well as in Nova Scotia, quite competent to hold and express an opinion whose communications we are not quite prepared to suppress, we beg to be allowed to pursue our own course and shall not complain of the same being done by others.

We still complain, however, of the hasty arrangements made for the visit of our excellent brother Wallace to the churches in Nova Scotia, and think it unfair towards them, and in doing so we feel that we are more effectually serving the cause of the Mission than those who would fain make themselves appear its most ardent supporters. The disappointment experienced by several congregations who would have been glad to hear Brother W., has, we fear, done permanent injury to the cause.

It will be seen that our London Correspondent has given us a full and very interesting compendium of European affairs

and politics. He is particularly hard on Louis Napoleon—perhaps with some justice. We fear it is, like People, like Prince. It is certain however, that with whatever violence he finally achieved his present power and station, he was invited to it by as free a suffrage of opinion as was ever obtained in France. The truth is that the nation is demoralized, as well as profoundly ignorant of the first principles of Constitutional self-government. Their highest view of liberty is mere physical or rather sensual enjoyment without the trouble of steady industry or mutual forbearance. This may seem very strange when the French are certainly an industrious, and in most respects, what are esteemed a highly civilized and intellectual people. But unhappily Infidelity is widely prevalent, perhaps almost universal, among the higher and middle classes, and superstition and gross ignorance nearly universal among the lower. Until the whole moral state of the nation is renovated, little need be hoped for France. Nothing probably but a stringent despotism will keep them in order.

THE Steamer Europa arrived at New York on Thursday last, and brings news of some importance, shewing that but little confidence is felt in the permanence of present alliances with the continental powers.

The Paris *Moniteur* has exhibited dissatisfaction at the liberty taken by the British press in commenting on the position of France and its Emperor. The following paragraph has somewhat of a threatening aspect:—

"Various organs of the English press have for some time past, been in the habit of diffusing calumnies against the French Government, which are the more odious as they are concealed under the anonymous mask, and allow no other answer than contempt. We understand the respect which the liberty of the press receives in England; and in thus noticing its errors, we confine ourselves to appealing to the good sense and good faith of the English people to warn them against the danger of a system which, by destroying confidence between the two Governments, would tend to disunite two nations, whose alliance is the best guarantee of the peace of the world."

In reference to this the *Times* assumes a bold tone and reviews the position of the two countries and the danger England is in by its alliance with a country where the press is gagged and fettered, and allowed only to express what is agreeable to its present rulers. We have only space for a short extract or two.

The *Moniteur*, speaks of danger to the alliance. Well! we will speak out of the dangers to that alliance. There is danger to the alliance, but that danger proceeds, not from the just and honest strictures of the English press on public men whose characters are public Property, but from the conduct of some who, raised suddenly to high office, seem inclined to enter on a career at once fatal to France and false to England. Those are the worst enemies of the French and English alliance who can see in government no higher aim than their own interest, and so become careless of the welfare of the nation and the trust confided to them.

We are not ignorant—we do not profess to be ignorant—of the colossal fortunes that have been realized within the last few years by men who till then were plunged into the depths of indigence.

We have also observed with pain that the government of France has conducted its operations in many respects ostentatiously in defiance of ascertained and recognized principles of political economy, and thus provoke a collapse, which, come when it may, cannot fail to be injurious to the government, calamitous to France and deeply prejudicial to this country. We detest the restrictions on personal liberty in France. We abhor her whole system of passports and its attendant annoyances. It is idle to tell us that the free discussion of these things is inconsistent with the alliance between France and England. It is because we are allies—allies to an extent which no merely political act can make us—allies in commerce as well as in arms, because France cannot suffer without inflicting corresponding sufferings on England—that we now claim to exercise the right to discuss measures and men in which we as well as she are deeply interested.

The *Moniteur* "warns the English people against the dangers of a system" (freedom of the press) "which, by destroying the confidence between the two governments, would tend to disunite the two nations." We answer we are warned already. We know what the freedom of the press cost us—we know what it is worth to us. It cost us some abatement of sympathy and cordiality from absolute and repressive governments. It is worth to us all that we are, all that we have been, all that we shall be. We see that the moment a government interferes with the liberty of the press it not merely deprives itself of the best guide to the feelings of the people, but also fixes itself with a new and dangerous responsibility for everything it permits to appear. From these dangers the British Government is at least exempt, and we shall require better proofs than we as yet possess of the benefits of repression before we consent to try the experiment.

Captain Bayfield, R. N., is promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral.

**New Books**  
Received from E. G. Fuller.  
HARPER'S MONTHLY for November commences with the "Massacre of St. Bartholomew," "Up and down among the Andes," &c., &c.  
DICKENS'S HOUSEHOLD WORDS for November is fully equal to its predecessors.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

The *St. John Morning Courier*, is suspended in consequence of the combination and strike of journeymen printers in that city.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT CANSO.—A man named Edward Wilkie, belong to Lnhave, was drowned in this Harbour on Wednesday the 5th inst. The vessel from which he was drowned was just returning from the North Bay, with the result of a fishing voyage. The wind being ahead, they anchored in this harbour to await a change. The unfortunate man was in the act of furling the jib, when his foot slipped, and he was precipitated into the water, and sunk immediately. The most active efforts were made to rescue him, but without success, until an hour had elapsed. And his spirit had taken its flight.

A Coroner's Inquest was held over his body, and a verdict returned in accordance with the above statements.

Deceased was a fine looking young man, we think not more than thirty years of age. He leaves a mother and other relations to mourn his untimely fate.—*Com. by J. C. Hurd.*

THE NEWFOUNDLAND TELEGRAPH is now open for business through its entire length, and has offices at the following places:—In Cape Bon in Port Hood, Baddeck, and Asphey Bay; in Newfoundland at Port au Basque, Grandy's Brook, White Bear Bay, Bay North, Conn, Long Harbour, Piper's Hole, Caribou, Harbor Grace, Arigus, St. John's, Ferrylands, and Trepassy.

BAZAAR AT MILTON.—The Bazaar held yesterday afternoon and evening at Temperance Hall, by the Ladies' Wesleyan Association, in aid of the Wesleyan Church at Milton, was very successful and creditably carried out, and must have given a satisfactory return.—*Liverpool Transcript.*

Mr. William Hays, who for a long period acted in the capacity of Warehouse-Locker has been appointed to the situation of Shipping Officer, vacanted by the decease of the late Mr. Robert Hodges. We are informed there were upwards of sixty applicants.—*Id.*

On Friday last, the steamer Experiment left this port for St. John N. B., to lay up repairs, and to wait the opening of the spring for the renewal of her customary trips. She is to be thoroughly overhauled, inspected and repaired.—*News.*

IMPROVEMENTS IN BRIDGETOWN.—A new Wharf has been lately erected in this village by Mr. Edward W. Foster, at the Creek Point. The frontage on the river is about 100 feet, and on the Creek something over 100 feet.—*Id.*

Mr. Abner Foster brought into this village yesterday, a carcass of pork, which weighed 413 lbs. nett. The hog was only 13 months old when slaughtered.—*Id.*

MONTREAL.—The Editor of the *Montreal Witness* writes cheerfully of his city:—"There is an intense energy about Montreal at present. The business streets are being paved in the most substantial manner; the avenues to the city and roads to the outskirts are graded and macadamized; handsome fountains are in progress of erection; trees are being planted rows of dwelling houses of an elegant and substantial description are going up in various quarters; a number of stores and warehouses of the largest, most substantial, and at the same time, most elegant kind are approaching completion. The great wharf for the Ocean Steamships, below the current, is finished; are the railway buildings on the westward of the city. Laborers, mechanics, manufacturers, merchants, in a word, all classes are working with all their might, and the result make their appearance with almost magical celerity. Nor in all this material advancement, are the pulpit, the press, the college, the school neglected."

A suit at law is now going on between publishers of Mrs. Stow's new work—Done in England, and parties in Canada, who have re-published it there, notwithstanding the copyright taken out in England.

CITY COUNCIL.—At a meeting of this body on Monday last, the Council decided on giving Mr. Brehm, Captain of the Watch, £2 per week Salary.

A motion to grant £100 extra to the Water Company, on condition that they supply 15 additional plugs, passed 11 to 6.—*M. Jour.*

United States.

A fleet of thirty metallic boats is being sent at Greenpoint, designed to aid the United States troops in their operations against the Indians Florida this winter, particularly in Everglades.

The underground railroad appears to be on a flourishing institution. A report of the All Vigilance Committee (colored) states that between the 12th of September, 1855, and 16th of July, 1856, a period of ten months, fugitive slaves passed through the city of All en route for Canada.