

are now confined within the legitimate issues of the Charter, for a time exceeded; the funds slowly but steadily improve. True, we have additional failures to record—Da Costa, in the West India trade, for £350,000; Kieser, in the German trade, for £50,000; the large firm of Hoffman; one in the hop trade, for £20,000; H. Cox & Co., for £61,000; four firms in the iron trade; the Northumberland & Durham District Bank (which, however, has a proprietary well able to meet all claims). Foreign exports ceasing for a time in many trades, necessitates restricted production, which in turn cripples native and hand-to-mouth industry: but the spring, it is thought, will see exports revive, as discrimination shall evince safe markets, and that will again bring prosperity to manufactures. Failures will still occur; but even alarmists have not had their fears realized to much extent; many firms, awhile suspected, have stood their ground; and provision has been partly made against contingencies.

The tide has turned. On Saturday last the Bank received £100,000, and on Monday £36,000, in gold. Half a million is daily expected from Australia, and some goodly parcels from Mexico and America. £600,000 will go out by next steamer to India and China; and this is, in itself, a proof of stability. The Bank of France has reduced its rate of discount. Here, the still high rate cripples those who, from spare capital, are obliged to discount; or prevents speculation from being entered on, through the loss in thus obtaining ready money. The manufacturing districts especially suffer; and as the operation of financial tightness goes lower down, smaller traders will suffer.

Viewed from this point of view, we are very distressed, and things are very bad; but viewed from a national point of view, as I regard it, everything is improving. A panic closes purse-strings that have only fear of what may occur, not what has occurred; and as reasonable hope of amendment increases, these strings are, and will be, relaxed.

Therefore, though we have distress and restriction, we have only what has occurred before, in far worse circumstances, and shall recover in time. A panic is like a thunder storm: the one purifies the atmosphere from noxious congregations, overturns instable structures, and proves the solidity of genuine erections: the other hurls away rotten schemes and bubble speculations, blows away men of straw, and, while leaving ruin behind in some directions, also leaves a secure basis and a more palpably genuine market. The panic was, and for awhile men trembled; the panic passed, and men are beginning to breathe and work again. Much remains, to remedy, build up, and recover; but that which is gone by was a far greater trial.

Hamburg, however, appears to have had of late a most ruinous over-speculation trade with America; and, now that the crash has come, suffers severely. Commercial houses are failing on every side; even the best paper was no longer negotiable; and stoppages created astonishment and dismay. This may probably bring on us fresh trouble, in the houses connected with that trade. The last day or two has checked the healthy tone of our money market which I have dilated on above; but the depression will, it is expected, be but temporary. Two failures are announced to-day, in the German houses, here.

FUNNY AMBASSADORS.

"The Kings of the East have sent presents" to us. Two kings of Siam, who lovingly divide between them that government which often makes rival kings cut one another up, have sent Ambassadors to Queen Victoria, laden with all sorts of presents glittering with diamonds and precious stones. These were arranged round the reception room of the Palace, when the Ambassadors were presented. In Eastern fashion, they and their suite fell flat on their faces; and thence crawled, on hands and knees, to "the Presence." It is of no use giving their names, for it requires ten minutes to pronounce them, and as long to remember—of no use describing those gorgeous presents—of no use repeating the flowery adulatory address they gave, and the "gracious answer" vouchsafed. Enough, that they had luncheon afterward, and now are known to all, by illustrations in the papers, of their crawling adroitness.

But the Ambassadors must see "the lions" of this wonderful country, and accordingly they went to Exeter Hall to hear the Sacred Harmonic Society's magnificent concert. Imagine the disgust of all-to-be-respected Mr. Costa, the Conductor, when, on turning round during the performance, he witnessed the Ambassadors fighting cheroots in the sacred precincts of Exeter Hall itself! Communications were respectfully made to them, that smoking formed no part of

the entertainment; and they obligingly offered to use "a cellar," if handy, where they might indulge without interruption in that weed which Byron says is

"Magnificent in Stamboul,  
Glorious in the Strand."

However, not to disturb the coals, in the desired cellar, the Society consented to allow their offices, below the Hall, to be fumigated. There, accordingly, the august representatives of their Siamese Majesties adjourned, gathered in a circle, and discussed we know not what. Doubtless, however, Mendelssohn, Mozart, and Handel, were all at a discount; for, while music may have "charms to soothe the savage breast," the Siamese preferred another narcotic—to wit, tobacco.

Mr. Gough, on Monday last, lectured to an overflowing audience at the same place, on the evils of baneful stimuli. Perhaps the fumes had been dissipated—perhaps he was too polite to mention it; but at all events, anti-tobaccoites and anti-alcohol-imbibers may rest satisfied that, in some degree, Exeter Hall thus vindicated itself from the character of a Cigar Divan, and may retain its orthodox celebrity.

LOUIS NAPOLEON AND HIS LACQUEYS.

Great is Napoleon the Third—contagious is the prestige of purple and fine linen, enthroned above closed mouths, servile hypocrisy, and smothered curses.

In 1852, this great Ruler of gagged France, confiscated the property of the Orleans family. There was a "Procurer of the Court of Cassation," by name Dupin, who was executor of the late King. He threw up office on that confiscation, with words of scorn at the act. The man is wealthy: one foot is in the grave—a brilliant past sufficed to reflect on during his old age. But lo! he emerges, eats dirt, assumes the livery of that despot whom he derided; and, harnessed and shackled to the Imperial car, his nose at the grindstone, chinks the wage of degradation in 30,000 francs a year, to drown the contemptuous scorn which hails his becoming a senator of France, and the resumption of that very office thrown up five years ago.

The Legislative Chamber of France met this last week—not, as of old, to utter the words of freedom and honest patriotism, but to shout like serfs at the name of him who called them together only "because, by the constitution, they must meet within six months of their election. That done, they are now adjourned till Jan. 18." Such is France, under the "golden bees." France, without a press, with her senators mere creatures of an all-absorbing despotism, with the glorious traditions abnegated, and with a prostitution of the sacred names of liberty and justice.

M. Dupin is senator—what he is beside, men may not say, although they think, in France; but England wonders at and scorns him.

YOUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Acadia Lyceum.

MR. EDITOR.

A communication signed "A Baptist," appeared in the *Colonist* of the 17th inst. We have no desire to censure or to justify the writer, for his reference to the past, but we do ask Baptists to notice what appears to be his egregious errors. His surprise, "at seeing it announced in the *Christian Messenger* that the Hon. Joseph Howe was to lecture at the College Lyceum," must have been paralyzing! That his perception is most exceedingly acute, no one will doubt, when it is known that the name of an institution called "The College Lyceum," cannot be found in the *Christian Messenger*. If he has designedly changed the word "Acadia" into "College," to blind the public, and leave the impression that the Institution to which he refers, is under the direction of the Governors or Faculty of Acadia College, we are prepared to inform him that he has failed to accomplish his end. This misnomer might have been considered as an inadvertency, had he not, in his enthusiasm cast off the cloak—"A Baptist," which he so piously assumed. How perverted must be his judgment if he expects to deceive Baptists with such reasonings as the following: "I feel compelled to enter my protest against this, to use the very mildest terms, most ill-advised and imprudent proceeding:—at a time, too, when the financial exigencies of the body, render the maintenance of union amongst themselves essential to their well-being." Are the above his strong desires for union among the Baptists? Expressions of love for union are ever pleasant to Baptists and find a ready response in every Christian heart. But when mingled, as in the present instance, with such

gross absurdities and malignant insinuations, they destroy all credence, and expose more plainly the mind in which they originated. It is too great a tax on public credulity to believe that a man is a friend of union when he takes so much pains to sow discord. To crown the climax of his absurdities, he says he trusts that the agent of the denomination will be prepared to state whether the Governors of the College or an "imported stranger" should be held responsible for this act. Has his rage burned up his reason? Shall not the agent be instructed to state whether the Governors of the College or the President of the United States "should be held responsible?" How he expects that an "imported stranger" could have control of the Acadia Lyceum is inexplicable to us in these western provinces.

Can it be that he refers to the Chairman of the Faculty, as an "imported stranger," who has no sympathies with the past, but whose ambition to place himself at the head of our institutions renders him oblivious to every consideration but what may advance his own interests? If so, every Baptist who knows the history of the Rev. Dr. Cramp since he came to this Province, must feel a holy indignation at an insinuation so unfounded, so unchristian, so base. Baptists well remember with what indefatigable zeal and energy that Rev. gentleman, after the death of his colleague, Prof. Chipman, prosecuted his almost hopeless labours, until the projected endowment of the College was secured. Such Baptists must feel highly indignant to see a man whom they esteem, so basely insulted. This writer talks of "gratuitous insult to the entire Baptist denomination of this Province" while he degrades himself beneath the dignity of a Baptist, by his unchristian attacks.

If he wishes to know the opinion of a real Baptist, he may learn it from the following extract from an address delivered by the Hon. J. W. Johnston, on presenting Dr. Cramp for installation as President of Acadia College, "I deem it unnecessary to comment upon the fitness of the Rev. and learned gentleman for the office which he is called upon this day formally to assume. The acknowledged talents of Dr. Cramp, and his well known acquirements as a scholar and a theologian attest the wisdom of the appointment made by the Governors of Acadia College and offer the surest pledge that the interests of this Institution, whose welfare lies so near our hearts, will be promoted by the selection they have made. And, Sir, may we not accept it as a high augury of the future prosperity of Acadia College that, her foundations having been at the first laid by such wise master-builders as the Rev'd. Doctors Crawley and Prior, and her earliest progress watched over, and led towards maturity, through unnumbered difficulties, under the fostering care of men of their piety, talents, and attainments, the directing and completing the superstructure should be committed to one so well entitled as the President elect to be their successor,—now that her foundations have extended themselves into our sister Colonies and the Baptist bodies of the three Provinces, like kindred columns, support the edifice. From his talents, energy, and learning, and the able assistance of his Rev'd and learned colleague, whose devoted and effective labours in the cause are so well appreciated, the friends of Acadia College may encourage the fondest expectations of seeing their hopes realised."

Such was the eulogium pronounced upon the Rev'd. Gentleman soon after the commencement of his connection with the College, and who will say that he has not, by his arduous labours and deep interest for the denomination, fully realised those high expectations?

Yours very truly,  
A TRUE BAPTIST.

"Missions" to Pictou.

"Our Baptist brethren are very fond of trying their hand at "Missions to Pictou," but the stiff necked Presbyterians in that cold county do not seem to appreciate this kindness in a suitable degree. No indeed! The Baptist "Missions" have only 45 professed Baptists to sustain them in the whole county. What a wicked county! What stubborn people those Kirkenen, Free Churchmen and Seceders must be! The Rev. J. STEVENS, Baptist Missionary to Pictou, characterizes that county as a "region of spiritual darkness and dull formalism." The reverend gentleman has visited it lately and is in a much better position to pronounce upon its condition than we are; we therefore merely note for the information of the Presbyterians there that this is the judgment of a stranger with regard to them. Perhaps Mr. STEVENS'S opinion is founded to a considerable extent on the fact that they did not relish going into and under the water at his bidding. This is only a surmise of our own which we throw out with much diffidence.

We know that our own natural man would be very loth to go through the ordeal Mr. STEVENS would recommend. At any rate the "heathen in Pictou" do not seem to have entertained a very high opinion of Mr. Stevens or his peculiar doctrine and his opinion of them is quoted above; so there appears to be no love lost between them. The Presbyterians of Pictou cannot be too grateful to the Baptist Home Missionary Board for its kindness, and we would suggest that the best return they could make is to send a Missionary forthwith to the Baptists in Horton."—*Presbyterian Witness*.

As my name is mentioned on the above, and as this is the first time that I have had the honour of being complimented by the Editor of the *Presbyterian Witness*, that gentleman's tender feelings might possibly be wounded should I neglect to express my gratitude for his favour. I would however inform my friend that he has given me rather more credit than I have merited. If he will review the letter from which he has made his quotation, he will find that I was not considerate enough to even mention the name of Presbyterian. I would also inform him that there are five Protestant denominations in the County of Pictou exclusive of the Presbyterians, and yet no one of them except the Baptist is mentioned in the letter to which reference has been made. The surmise thrown out by my respected friend certainly evinces great depth of thought: such a profound sentiment should not have been thrown out with diffidence. As one error however frequently leads to another, it is no marvel that one so infatuated as to believe in going into and under the water should have formed an erroneous opinion of the people in Pictou. Perhaps our learned friend will have the kindness to help the unfortunate Baptist Missionary out of his dilemma, and prevent a repetition of the blunder by enlightening his mind in regard to the better way. Will that gentleman please point out in the next number of his faithful *Witness*, the book, chapter and verse in Scripture where infant sprinkling is mentioned, and his obedient servant will on the reception of this favour renounce forever his singular idea of going into and under the water and become a sprinkler forthwith.

If my benefactor is grieved on account of the opinion which he asserts was formed of me and my peculiar doctrine by the people of Pictou, I would just say for his comfort that I am perfectly willing to bear the whole burden myself. Should this suggestion of our friend to the Presbyterians of Pictou meet their approval and be carried into effect, we shall hail the event with pleasure and give the Missionary a cordial welcome.

JAMES STEVENS.

The following are extracts of a letter received from an esteemed brother at LIVERPOOL, a few days ago:—

"I have weekly expected, welcomed, read and enjoyed the *Christian Messenger* for many years past, so that I begin to feel myself quite its debtor, and look for it often much more anxiously than for my dinner.

"I suppose Bro. Thomson has been or soon will be among you to test your feelings on College matters. I hope he may meet a warm reception. He is a warm hearted Christian, a faithful and affectionate Agent. May the Lord incline the people's hearts to aid him in his very arduous work.

"I cannot say anything very cheering as to our religious prospects here at present. I think we have some who do pray for 'the prosperity of Zion.' We trust the Lord will hear and answer in his own good time."

Colonial and Foreign.

Canada.

There was a large gathering of the unemployed in Quebec, on Monday, the 24th inst. Col. Gagy, who attempted to pacify the crowd, was chased into the Court House the doors of which, being closed after him, were beat down. The mob were then dispersed by the police, but afterwards an unsuccessful attempt was made to rob some flour stores in the lower town.

LONDON, G. W., Dec. 19.—At a dance in a house of ill-fame in this city last night, a party of rowdies forced their way into the house, when a butcher named Harning, fired several times into the crowd with a revolver shooting Hugh Wilson, son of John Wilson, member of the Provincial Parliament for this city, and also Messrs. Sweetman, Stevens, Nerrick, Coates, and two other men and a woman. Wilson has since died of his wounds. The others are supposed to be not dangerously wounded. Harding has not yet been arrested.

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—At the Parliamentary elections which have taken place five constituencies have returned ministerial candidates.

The Canada press have made some amusement for their readers by the change which has lately taken place in the Cabinet. The *Toronto Globe* asks, "Was any thing like this ever known before. Eleven lawyers and one auctioneer—the last no doubt intended to knock down the

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