

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Prince Edward Island Mission.

DEAR BRETHREN,

I arrived here in company with Brother Shaw on the Lord's day succeeding the Association, and preached in Town the same evening, unlooked for by any, a report being in circulation that I was dead. We proceeded to North River on Monday, visited from house to house, preached Tuesday evening at North River, Wednesday evening at Dog River, Thursday evening at West River, Friday evening in the same place, and visiting the people in their own houses. Brother Shaw praying and expounding in Gaelic, your missionary in English. Returned to North River, Church Meeting, on Saturday. I preached at the North River, to a crowded house, and administered the Lord's Supper, to a goodly number. Brother McLeod preached in Gaelic to a very large audience at West River, Brother Shaw followed with an English sermon. Brother Burnett preached at Dog River, at 5, p.m. The ordinance of Christian Baptism was administered by Brother Shaw, on the same Lord's day.

I preached in Town in the evening to a good congregation, and administered the Lord's Supper to the Church, visited all the families on Monday, and preached at St. Peter's Road in the evening. The fields are white already to the harvest. It is only for us to enter with souls animated by the Holy Ghost, and being decided as to our principles, and the Baptist cause will revive on this Island. Brother Shaw is almost the only pastor on the Island, and labourers are badly needed. I am looking with anxiety for Brother McKean, my co-missionary. When he comes we can encompass more ground. The aspects at North River are encouraging. The church is getting into working order, and the brethren in town are beginning to look up from their despondency. We want the Holy Spirit in our hearts, both ministers and people, to do good. May the Saviour baptize us afresh in that influence.

I have just heard that Brother McKean is on the Island. We shall note down our doings here from time to time. He will send you the next communication.

I remain yours, in Christ Jesus,
W. HALL.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Rev. Dr. Cramp.

MONTREAL, July 16th, 1857.

DEAR BROTHER,

Although I can hardly imagine that your readers will feel much interest in my movements, your request for information cannot be denied.

It is unnecessary to give you the particulars of our journey. I will only say that the Steamer Eastern State is exceedingly well managed, and that the Captain and all the attendants are unremitting in their endeavours to promote the comfort of the passengers. We reached Boston on Thursday evening, the 2nd inst., and Montreal on the following Saturday night.

This city is greatly improved. New buildings are going up in every direction, and as they are all of stone, an impression of massiveness is produced in the mind, and one ceases to wonder that the epithet "eternal" should be applied to a city so constructed. Many spacious blocks of warehouses have been recently built in the mercantile district. At the "West End" numerous private residences are in course of erection; new streets have been opened; and two Cathedrals, the Anglican and the Roman, are in a state of progress. The former will be 187 feet long, and the height of the tower and spire will be 234 feet. The latter will be a copy of St. Peter's at Rome; the length will be 330 feet, and the cross on the top of the dome will be 230 feet from the ground. A Theological College, on the ground of the Priests' Farm, forming three sides of a quadrangle, will afford ample accommodation for a large number of students. The stone used for this building is of basaltic character, and is unusually durable. The Unitarian church has been taken down, in order to be re-built on an enlarged scale, on the same site. Thomas Molon, Esq., is about to build a College, bearing his own name, partly for the instruction of the poorer classes, and partly for the preparation of young men for the ministry in the Countess of Huntingden's Connexion.

The Water Work's Reservoir, on the McTavish property, is a splendid thing. It is excavated out of the solid rock. Situated on the side of the mountain, it is at such an elevation above the buildings of the city, that in case of fire a power-

ful jet of water can be at once applied by opening a plug and attaching a hose.

But the Victoria Bridge is the *chef d'oeuvre*. It will be truly a magnificent affair, far surpassing any thing yet attempted. Including the approaches, it will be upwards of two miles long. There will be twenty-four stone piers, on which the bridge (an iron tubular one, like the "Britannia") will rest. Seven of them are finished. The work is of the most substantial kind. The distance between the two central piers will be 400 feet, and there will be a gradual ascent from each side to the centre, so that vessels will pass under the bridge. The whole is constructed with a special view to the peculiarities of the place, and neither the strong current nor the powerful action of the ice will produce any effect on it.

The Baptist Church in this city is not in as flourishing a state as could be desired. There have been sundry divisions and withdrawals, in which I will only observe that separation for insufficient causes is most mischievous in its results. Our friends here have suffered severely from it. The pastor (Rev. J. N. Williams) being absent on a visit to the States, I am called on to fill his place for a short time. But though the church is feeble, there is a commendable manifestation of activity. A large Sunday School is in operation, connected with which are two libraries, containing about 900 volumes. It is under the care of an excellent staff of teachers. I trust that the difficulties which have hindered the progress of the church will ere long be removed, and that the Baptists will take a higher position in Montreal.

The progress of education is very encouraging. McGill College is now fully organised, and well officered; the number of students has greatly increased and is still increasing. Mr. Dawson, the Principal, is held in high esteem. The High School was attended last Term by about 250 pupils. I was present at the examination of some of the classes, during the three days devoted to that purpose, and could not but admire the thoroughness of the instruction communicated. The boys had not only gained an extensive knowledge of words, their derivations and uses, but also of things: in replying to questions they did not merely repeat what they had learned, but thought out the proper answers. Last Tuesday was the annual distribution of prizes. Sir William Eyre, Commander of the Forces, and Administrator of the government during the absence of the Governor General, presided on the occasion, and gave the prizes to the happy recipients. After the distribution, he offered some excellent remarks. He was followed by the Hon. Mr. Chauveau, the Superintendent of Education, Mr. Justice Day, and other gentlemen. Although the thermometer was at 96° in the shade, there was a numerous assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, and the meeting was one of the deepest interest.

On Wednesday the Teachers studying in the Normal School were examined, Mr. Chauveau presiding. Mr. Dawson is Principal of this Institution as well as of McGill College. The examination was very creditable. There are three Normal Schools in this Province; one Protestant and one Roman Catholic, at Montreal; and one at Quebec, which is also Roman Catholic. Mr. Dawson, of course, presides over the Protestant Institution.

Let this suffice for the present. A week or two hence I shall probably write again.

Yours truly,
J. M. CRAMP.

For the Christian Messenger.

London Correspondence.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

London, July 17, 1857.

MR. EDITOR,

Perhaps the following lines may be enough explanation for the absence of a letter from me by the last mail. It is a somewhat unusual announcement for a special correspondent; but as, in speaking recently of royal marriages, I described myself as a bachelor, some of your fair readers may like to know that their humble scrivener is now better taken care of, and consequently, that his letters may be invested with that greater authority which a Benedict is supposed to be invested with:—

On Thursday, July 9, at the Congregational Chapel, Stockton, Durham, the "Special Correspondent" of *The Christian Messenger*, to MARY DAVISON, fifth daughter of the late Mr. James Newbegin, of Norwich, and sister of the late William Newbegin, Baptist Missionary to Africa.

I have before stated, that the Prince of Prussia is the acknowledged suitor of the Princess Royal; and another royal suitor, from Holland, comes, it

is whispered, to propose a future union for the Princess Alice. I give the report with all diffidence; and, from personal present experience, can only loyally and heartily wish all our Princes and Princesses that felicity which, in lieu of describing, I must beg your readers to imagine. In some places it is usual to send Editors a piece of cake, with a wedding notice; but distance prevents, Mr. Editor, my paying you such compliments, and proper regard for the dignity of your columns forbids further mention. But, as scandal says that ladies look first at the Marriage Notices in newspapers, and as I would especially interest that gentle portion of your readers—why, the above has been written. With an apology to your more lordly reader, and a respectful bow in my new capacity, I proceed to notice

MUTINY AND WAR IN INDIA.

A recent leading article kindly spake of one of my letters as interesting, although devoid of warlike details. It has unfortunately been my province to speak much of such subjects; and this letter must continue the strain.

Your readers are already aware, that two regiments of native Sepoy soldiers in India mutinied: that the ringleaders were punished, and another disaffected regiment was disbanded. It now appears that the mutiny has spread further than was thought. The rebels took possession of Delhi, a fortified town, and indiscriminately massacred all the Europeans they could find. They then elected a King of Delhi and bade defiance to the government. Two days after the first butchery, upwards of 50 Europeans, of all ages and both sexes, were discovered in hiding places, and shared the same fate.

An eye-witness thus describes the events:—

"On the morning of the 11th of May a party of the 3rd Light Cavalry, variously stated at from 25 to 250, made their appearance at Delhi. They had come over from Meerut during the night and were evidently prepared to perpetrate the most awful crimes, as they were fully armed and apparently wild with rage and excitement. They entered the Calcutta gate without opposition from any of the police, and made their way directly towards Deriwagunge, shooting down in their progress all Europeans they met with. Among the first victims were Mr. Simon Fraser, the Governor-General's agent, Captain Douglas, his assistant, and Mr. R. Nixon, chief clerk in their office. Notice was immediately sent to the Brigadier, and a regiment, (the 54th N. N.) with two guns from De Tersiier's Battery was sent down. The 54th marched through the Cashmeregate in good order, but on the approach of some of the Sowars the Sepoys rushed suddenly to the side of the road, leaving their officers in the middle of the road, upon whom the troopers immediately came at a gallop, and one after another shot them down. The officers were, with the exception of Colonel Ripley, unarmed; the Colonel shot two of them before he fell, but with this exception, and one said to have been shot by Mr. Fraser, none fell. After butchering all the officers of the 54th, the troopers dismounted and went among the Sepoys of the 54th, shaking hands with them, and, it may be supposed, thanking them for their forbearance in not firing on the murderers of their officers. The 54th made some show of firing their muskets, but the shots went, of course, over the heads of the troopers, who had evidently full confidence in the reception they were to meet with. Their plans must have been well matured. Meanwhile the people of the city were collecting for mischief; several bungalows at Deriwagunge had been fired and as the day advanced the goojurs of the villages around Delhi became alive to the chances of loot, and were ready for action. The whole city was up in arms, every European residence was searched, the troopers declaring that they did not want property, but life, and when they retired the rabble rushed in and made a clean sweep from the punkahs to the floor mats.

"As soon as the extent of the outbreak was known, it became necessary for the residents to seek some place of safety, and most of them made their way to the Flagstaff Tower, where the gun is fired. A company of the 38th Native Infantry and two guns were stationed here, and a large party of ladies and gentlemen, including the Brigadier, Brigade-Major, &c., were here well-armed, with the intention of defending themselves against the troopers. About a quarter to four the magazine in the city exploded; a puff of white smoke and the report of a gun preceded the cloud of red dust which rose like a huge coronet into the air; the explosion that followed was not so great as might have been expected, but the effect was complete. It was soon known that the explosion was not accidental, but the gallant act of Lieut. Willoughby, Commissary of Ordnance, Delhi, and it is pleasing to be able to add that this brave young man escaped with a severe scorching. About 1,500 persons, rebels, are said to have been blown up with the magazine.

"On the appearance of the clouds of dust in the air the company of the 38th made a rush to their arms, which we piled near them. The object they had in view is not clearly defined, but it is supposed that they were influenced by a sudden desire to attack those within the tower. Soon after this the 38th took possession of two guns sent up to reinforce the party at the tower, and on this becoming known, the Brigadier advised all who could leave to do so, intending to follow when the rest had all departed. Convoys being in waiting most of the ladies got away, the gentlemen following on horseback; and thus a safe retreat was effected towards

Kurnaul for some time, while others branched off to Meerut. Many hairbreadth escapes have been related to the writer, ladies remaining eight and ten days in the jungle, trusting to the natives for protection, in several instances freely given, and it is gratifying to know that several persons supposed to have fallen victims are now safe at Meerut, Kurnaul, Umballa, or Simla.

"The escape of Sir T. Metcalfe was most providential. After being three days in Delhi, after the outbreak, he escaped into the jungles, hiding whenever he could, and at length, after ten days, found his way to Hansae.

"Several Europeans (said to number forty-eight) were taken to the palace, or perhaps went there for protection—these were taken care of by the King of Delhi; but the Sowars of the 3rd Cavalry, whose thirst for European blood had not been quenched, rested not till they were all given up to them, when they murdered them one by one in cool blood."

Flushed with success, the mutineers then had the temerity to issue from the city and fight the forces collecting to crush them. But attacked in front and flank, the mutineers were "doubled up and driven back with the loss of their 26 guns—part into a burning village which they themselves had fired, and where they perished miserably; part into the open plain, where they were sabred by the Dragoons. The pursuit was so sharp, that the gunners threw themselves off their horses, leaving the field-pieces standing in the road. Undaunted by this severe repulse, they returned to the attack on the following day, and were again defeated." Then the Brigadier commanding the government troops was reinforced; the loss on the first day was about forty killed and wounded, the loss on the second is unknown; and we have no further accounts of other assaults by the besieged. The heights around the town commanded, and all was in readiness for such an attack as would no doubt completely rout the insurgents.

General Anson, the Commander-in-Chief, waited some time, for artillery, before moving to the scene of conflict; but before reaching it, he was seized with cholera and died.

Disaffection, with the 9th Native regiment, began with the execution of a mutinous agent and spy found in their lines. He was a Brahmin; and on his death, they openly revolted, and marched off to swell the ranks at Delhi. Unlike others, however, they only politely dismissed their officers, without molestation; but they plundered and burnt at will, and drove the civilians before them.

About that time, the Native regiments at Agra, began to show symptoms of revolt. Two companies, sent to Muttra to bring down treasure, mutinied on their way back, murdered their officers, and then went off to Delhi.

A petty chief near Alyghar took occasion of the dismay and confusion to assert his own independence, turned out the government officers, burnt villages, exacted contributions, and set himself up as Sovereign. "His course was soon run. The magistrate of the district, with a few troopers and volunteer horse, watched an occasion to make a sudden swoop upon the pseudo-Sovereign, caught him, tried him at a drum-head court-martial, found him guilty of rebellion, and hung him on the spot. This put an end to mutiny in that locality.

At the large station of Cawnpore much agitation prevailed. The tone of feeling in the native soldiery appearing very suspicious, the Europeans took possession of a large barrack, allowing certain wards to the women and children. All the guns they were able to move were placed in position; the rest were spiked. The officers as was their duty, slept at their houses in the lines; and terrible was the anxiety of the wives at the barracks, till relieved by their re-appearance in safety the next morning. They were shortly afterwards reinforced, so as to be beyond danger of massacre, as at Delhi.

At Lucknow the native troops partly mutinied. About a half of two regiments, joined by some few others, and two troops of cavalry, deserted their colours and fled towards Satapure. The safety of that city and its residents was, however, guaranteed by a judicious arrangement of the European field-battery, and the bayonets of the Queen's 23rd regiment.

All the stations in Bengal were quiet at the last dates. The 70th, at Barrackpore, addressed the Governor-General by petition, expressing abhorrence of the mutineers, and requesting permission to march against them. Their request was granted.

"The Bengal troops at Nusseerabad, who had long been wavering, broke out into open mutiny on the evening of the 28th of May. The Bombay Lancers were weakened by detachments, and drew less than 250 sabres, but, faithful found among the faithless, faithful only they; they charged again and again the overwhelming numbers of the mutineers in the hope of capturing their guns. But, as may be supposed, their loyalty and courage were not rewarded by success, and they were forced to