

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

London, Nov. 20, 1857.

(Concluded from our last.)

MR. EDITOR,

A NEW DISEASE.

The Board of Health explain, in a recent circular, what has puzzled and annoyed many, of late. Throat and bronchial affections have been exceedingly rife; but in many cases, until serious symptoms set in, the old stereotyped domestic remedies were applied, as for ordinary sore throat. As has been usual from time immemorial, doctors have disagreed on the cause of such extensively spread disease: one section affirming, with that positive infallibility which disciples of Galen imagine belongs of right to their edicts, that at certain seasons bronchial affections are epidemic, but without displaying novel features; an opposite section affirming as strongly that it is a new disease in England, though well known on the Continent. Of course, too, it has a professional name smacking of Greek and Latin, to awe the vulgar—"diphtherite"—and is described as "a dangerous febrile disease, with destructive inflammation in the mucous membrane of the throat, and especially marked by formation there of an adhesive or croupy false membrane, which conceals the inflamed surface; and belongs (not, as in true croup, to the respiratory passages, but) especially to the pharynx and fauces."

After such a learned description, we ought to know something of it; but all will be content, in this instance, with theory, instead of personal experience. Should it go, like most other British affairs, to Nova Scotia, and medicine vendors there be as alive as here, you, Mr. Proprietor, may have your columns filled with marvellous cures of that as of other diseases, by compounds only 1s. 1/4d. per box, and bearing the signature of the original discoverer, to prove genuineness.

THE "GREAT EASTERN" (OR "LEVIATHAN," SHIP.

Mr. Burnel, the engineer, appears to be irritated at the failure, in launching this mighty monster of the deep.

There will be a third attempt soon; and it is confidently hoped that will triumph over every obstacle. The deep and elaborate knowledge which could bring to its present state such a gigantic creation may fairly be relied on to successfully finish the grand work. And then, as the first steamer and the first locomotive, fulfilling their operations, cast to the winds all the prophecies of evil against them, so will the huge Leviathan float in her majesty over ocean's waves, a monument of the skill and resources of Englishmen in this 19th Century of wonders. But another wonder follows,

TELEGRAPH POSTAGE.

Hitherto, the chief drawback on the electric telegraph's operations has been, the necessarily limited announcements made by it. Mr. Boggs, an eminent electrician, has discovered a means by which details in full can be arranged by symbols on bands passing between electric cylinders, and so transmitted to the other end of the electric wire instantaneously. Clerks will, as it were, "set up" the message, in brass nails, along the bands, and other clerks decypher it at the opposite terminus, soon as delivered. All the time required is in preparation and decyphering; distance, as now being merely nominal. It seems almost incredible to believe, as we are told, that by proper arrangement and sufficiency of clerks, the whole contents of the Times could be transmitted in two or three hours, and at evening the full particulars be known of what occurred on the same morning in a distant quarter of the globe! Your readers, Mr. Editor, may imagine, as well as I could tell, the vast changes which such an invention, if successful (as there appear good grounds for hoping), would cause.

The new word, describing messages sent by telegraph, "telegrams," has called forth first class men and wranglers to pour out a flood of attack and defence on the new word, and its claims to be included in our vocabulary. Your readers would not thank me for entering into the controversy, and possibly even your classic compositors would grumble at "setting up" the Greek alphas and omegas. I therefore only say, that the press has adopted the word, and common sense applauds its unique and graphic meaning. When rival Universities maintained a long battle on the relative pronunciations of "a-men" and "ab-men," we cannot wonder that they should draw pens and ink to the as-

sault on the grammatical propriety of this new word.

Our Scientific triumphs, as well as others, have to be earned by vigilant perseverance; and as much energy and mental stamina is required to overcome difficulties, as to primarily originate a scheme. Thus, the Clock Tower of the new Houses of Parliament, gorgeous in its gilded summit, and elegant in its delicate but elaborate architecture, seemed all complete. Big Ben reposed in suggestive quiescence at its foot, save when aroused by an enormous hammer (for a clapper) applied to his stout sides. The quarter-hour bells (which are nearly as large as the famous great bells of St. Paul's and Lincoln) were ready: so was the clock: all appeared complete. But, on one experimental day, suddenly Ben's sonorous note changed, and his anxious attendants found, to their dismay, a crack, through the whole side, which rendered him so much waste metal and no more. Examination shows that the proper proportions in the metal have been violated—the "waist" of the bell being 5 1/2 inches thick instead of 4 1/2. This greater thickness caused a heavier hammer to be used than the clapper calculated for; and, striking the bell where less force was expected, the fracture arose. There is nothing left but to recast the whole. It is to be done in three months, and the metal will require "a fortnight" before becoming properly cold. The diameter is to be reduced to 9 feet, and greater care taken to preserve proportion. The cost will be £600.

It is fortunate that the accident occurred at the base instead of summit of the Tower. With the gigantic clock beneath it, and all the appertinances of its lofty elevation settled, it would have been most serious to remove. The clock is, amid clocks, what the Leviathan is among ships and Ben among bells. With four illuminated faces, and quarter-hour bells, it may, when finished, be added to our list of marvels.

One eminent manufacturer is just now awakening attention to watch-work as a means of employ for women; and, shut out as they now appear to be, from many sources of income, this may be of good service, if free from the objections which are practically found in the diversion of female attention from domestic to trade pursuits.

EXETER HALL SERVICES.

The Rev. —. Edouart is rector of the parish in which Exeter Hall is situate; and, by some law, his consent is, I believe, necessary, for religious services to be legally held by Churchmen in the parish. On that ground, and an assumption that the Churches in the neighbourhood have their congregations lessened by the Exeter-hall services, he has forbidden them. The Hall is closed, for a time; but Lord Shaftesbury and others on the Hall Committee will try the legal question, and act on the result in such a way as to secure the repetition of these services—so valuable, appropriate, and, in the Church, what is rarely exhibited—an earnest, practical devotion to the enforcement of evangelical religion.

We all know the fable of the dog in the manger: so is it of the churches over which Mr. Edouart presides by law. Plenty of room is there, always, in those chilly corners and out-of-the-way places where only poverty may go, fearless of beadledom and its inherent petty tyranny. Still more room will there be, this coming winter, in those mortification cells. In Exeter Hall, on the contrary, are light, warmth, and charity. But there shall not the sinner go to be counselled, according to Edouart. His prosy diatribes and stale aphorisms woo not the artisan's ear: therefore shall no others try.

St. Paul (who, of course, is but a few removes from his successor Edouart) said he was willing to become "all things to all men," for the sake of his vocation. Surely the succession has degenerated, since Edouart is but one thing to all men—and that one thing very like a stumbling-block and an opposing wall, instead of an aid to, the gospel:

Echo answers, in our Established Churches, where worship-murmurs should fill the air. Who can wonder, when such as Edouart are the ministrators, and when the ban is hurled against "Christ's poor," who would flock to whosoever their poverty may be no chilling barrier, and their souls fed with suitable food?

True, Edouartism is no new thing. But, with the Evangelic Alliance at Berlin—and with a Wesleyan minister offering prayer in Lambeth's episcopal halls—one had almost thought that spirit extinct. Its re-manifestation has aroused far more than was intended. Public volition, thus arrested, asks—Who stops the way? and as it will be replied, most probably, "Only Edouart." Why, the result may be guessed.

ROYALTY AND DEATH.

The ex-Royal Family of France, at Claremont, has lost one of its members—the Duchess De Nemours' daughter-in-law to the late Louis Philippe, and wife of his son the Duke de Nemours. Since the revolution which lost to that family the throne of France, they have lived in quiet retirement at Claremont, and their reverses have done much to enlist for them public sympathy.

The late Duchess died suddenly and unexpectedly. Her accouchment had taken place eleven days before, and she was progressing to convalescence—had looked forward, with an invalid's hope, to leaving her sick chamber—had risen, was partaking of some refreshment, and rejoicing in the smiles of the babe, for whom she had suffered all—when, with a sudden exclamation, she passed from life to death. Post-mortem examination proved that "a clot of blood had been carried into the pulmonary artery," and caused immediate dissolution. Such an event is said to be of very rare occurrence.

The Duchess de Nemours was a daughter of the Grand Duke Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and was consequently cousin of her Majesty and the Prince Consort. Her Royal Highness was born in 1822, and married in 1840 the Duke de Nemours, by whom she has had four children—the Count d'Eu, the Duc d'Alencon, the Princess Marguerite, and, after an interval of eleven years, the infant whose birth has preceded by only a few days the untimely decease of its illustrious mother.

The Queen and Prince Consort are said to have been profoundly affected at the solemn occurrence. Court mourning was ordered, to commence on the 19th Nov., and continue till the 3rd December.

The remains were arranged as customary with persons of high rank, and Catholics. Cardinal Wiseman performed the "prayers for the dead," and also conducted service at the interment, which was in a Roman Catholic Chapel at Weybridge; but the remains will be afterward placed in a tomb near that of his late Majesty Louis Philippe.

YOUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

Religious Intelligence.

In a note just received from Rev. Dr. Tupper, he says, in reference to the "Swedish Mission,"

"One dollar has been forwarded to me for that Mission, to aid in supporting a Colporteur, should the requisite sum be made up. The anonymous donor states, that his means are quite limited. It is very desirable that an interest should be excited in this good work, and the necessary amount be raised speedily. The extraordinary success attending the efforts put forth, affords great encouragement.

Ever yours, in Christ,  
C. TUPPER."

SWEDEN.

REMARKABLE PROGRESS OF THE GOSPEL.

The following account of the remarkable work of grace in Sweden will gratify many of our readers. The persecutions endured by our brethren call for our prayers on their behalf.

The Rev. Andreas Wiberg, Superintendent of Colportage in that Kingdom, on behalf of the American Baptist Publication Society, has recently sent on an exceedingly interesting Report, from which we extract the following:—

ORDINATION AND BAPTISM.—"An occasion of special interest occurred on the 21st of May, while confined to my sick chamber. Some applicants for baptism had come in from the country, one of whom, a military man, possessed of good preaching talents, had for some time past been holding religious meetings at his house, and has since been set apart to the work of the ministry. This brother was very anxious to receive baptism, and go back to administer it to others who, with him, had been waiting for some time to follow the command of their Saviour. But, as there was no one in Stockholm at this time able to administer the ordinance, and as some brethren had also been waiting for ordination, the Church resolved to set apart to the work of the ministry, three of our Colporteur Brethren, two of whom had been students in our Colporteur School for six months, and a third, a Dalecarlian, had been for some time engaged in disseminating the truths of the Gospel among his own people. Though unable to rise from my bed, the Lord gave me strength for the performance of the official duties of the occasion, and the presence of the Lord was evidently felt among us. After the Ordinance and a solemn season of prayer, one of the ordained brethren proceeded immediately to a secluded spot some distance from the city and baptized the waiting applicants. To me it was a precious season, and I hope it will greatly contribute to the advancement of the Redeemer's cause in our midst."

A BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN SWEDEN.—"Having seen the importance, and felt the necessity, of forming an Association of all the Baptist

Churches in Sweden to meet annually in Stockholm, I wrote circulars to the several Churches, inviting them to send one or more delegates each, to attend a meeting to be held in Stockholm on the 13th of June. This meeting was held and continued several days. Twenty-two ministering brethren and many others were present. Some of the accounts given of the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom were exceedingly interesting, especially of the rise and progress of Baptist sentiments in Skåne, the most southern province in Sweden.

"In this province less than two years ago a student and candidate for the ministry in the State Church, by the name of PER NYMANSON, began to consider the subject of believer's baptism, and having become convinced of the truth as held by our denomination, he imparted his views to several others, three of whom had been laboring some time to extend the Redeemer's kingdom by holding meetings and expounding the word of God. The names of these three brethren are HANNER LINDEGREN and SVENSON. This last one came to Stockholm last fall, and entered our Colporteur School. I baptized him in November. In the winter he was ordained, and in March he returned to Skåne. Immediately on his return, he was permitted to baptize his two strongly attached friends, Hanner and Lindegren, the latter was afterwards ordained to the work of the ministry. The labours of Brother Svenson have since been greatly blessed. In the course of a few weeks he had baptized two hundred believers, and Brother Lindegren about one hundred. Thus in the province of Skåne, from the beginning of April to the beginning of June, about three hundred believers have been baptized and formed into six churches!

"From the statistical accounts received at the Association, we find that the number of Baptists in Sweden, up to the beginning of June, amounted to one thousand four hundred and thirty, with twenty-nine churches!"

Let the reader bear in mind, that it will not be two years until the 7th of next November, since Brother Wiberg landed at Stockholm. Then there was but one church and a few members, now there is an Association of twenty-nine Churches and fourteen hundred and thirty members! We may well say, 'This is the Lord's doings, and it is marvelous in our eyes.'

PERSECUTIONS.—"While we are permitted to rejoice in the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom in this country, Satan is raging mightily and instigating the enemies of the truth to throw as many obstacles in the way as possible. This is especially the case in Skåne. There the authorities seize upon the Baptist preachers and imprison them whenever they are found without the limits of their own parish—a course never pursued before in this country. Six of our Colporteur brethren have at various times been confined in the Cell-prison of Christianstar, and some of them treated very harshly. One of them, a blind Colporteur, by the name of Niles Hokanson was confined in this Cell-prison for eight days for circulating religious books and tracts. After his release an iron chain was attached to one of his ankles. It was intended that this chain should be fastened around both ankles, but he was allowed the privilege of walking and carrying one end of it in his hand. After this, he was driven on a prisoner-car to another station where new irons were placed upon him. In this condition, he was sent to his home and compelled to pay a considerable sum to the authorities, which they claimed for their trouble in bringing him home! As he had no money of his own, they took that which he had received from book-sales, and also a watch he wore, but which was not his own."

"SVEN SVENSON, received on one occasion the following treatment. After having been stripped of all his clothing, they washed his whole body in cold water, cut his hair close to the head, severely buffeted him, clothed him in a prisoner's dress and threw him into a cold damp cell. In giving an account of it he says, 'When the door of the dark cell was suddenly closed upon me, I was almost as suddenly on my knees, imploring Jesus my Saviour to be with me, and to let me see light in His light. Being thinly clad, I was seized with severe chills, and old Adam began to rebel; but calling to mind that all we have better than hell is by the grace of God, all became peace and light and joy.'

"SAS PER PERSON, in a recent report to me says, 'during this quarter I have received a portion of the reward promised in the Scriptures, which is, persecution. I stand daily in danger of being killed. Some malicious persons have conspired to kill me at the first good opportunity.'

Let fervent prayer be offered for these dear brethren so wickedly persecuted.

RESULTS.—Since the beginning of the present year, Four hundred and sixty-nine hopeful converts have been baptized: Six brethren have been ordained to the Gospel Ministry; six churches have been constituted, and three Sunday Schools have been organized.

A MODEL ASSOCIATION.—The Carrollton Baptist Association, in Illinois, expended one thousand dollars, during the past year, on their field, and had five ministers engaged all or a portion of the time, in preaching to the destitute. This fund was contributed by the churches without any special agency work; it was sent up to their domestic mission board, quarterly. The Association harmonizes with the General Association, and cordially invites its Agents into their midst to receive all the brethren may choose to give towards sending the gospel to destitute portions of the State, but so far as their own territory is concerned, they take the entire oversight of it. How much good might be accomplished if each Baptist Association would imitate the zeal and liberality of the Carrollton Association.