there is "a time," as well as for dancing.

There is still another difficulty in the text, which just now occurs to me. What *kind* of dancing does the text intend? for it is certainly a matter of no small consequence to "a true Christian," to dance in a scriptural manner, as well as at the scriptural time.

Now, to avoid mistakes on a point of such importance, I have consulted every passage in the Bible which speaks of dancing; the most important of which permit me to submit to your inspection.

Exod. 15: 20. Judges 11: 34. Judges 21: 21. 2 Sam. 6: 14 and 20. 1 Sam. 18: 6. Psalm 149: 3. Psalm 30: 11. Exod. 32: 19. Jer. 31: 4. Matt. 11: 17. Luke 15: 25. Eccles. 3: 4. Matt. 14: 6. Job 21: 7: 11, 13–15.

From these passages it will sufficiently appear,

1. That dancing was a religious act, both of the true and also of idol worship.

2. That it was practised exclusively on joyful occasions, such as national festivals or great victories.

3. That it was performed by maidens only.

4. That it was performed usually in the daytime, in the open air, in highways, fields, or groves.

5. That men who perverted dancing from a sacred use to purposes of amusement, were deemed infamous.

6. That no instances of dancing are found upon record in the Bible, in which the two sexes united in the exercise, either as an act of worship or amusement.

7. That there is no instance upon record of social dancing for amusement, except that of the "vain fellows," devoid of shame; of the irreligious families described by Job, which produced increased impiety, and ended in destruction; and of Herodias, which terminated in the rash vow of Herod, and the murder of John the Baptist.

Special Notice.

THOSE of our Subscribers in the Western Counties who are in arrears for the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER are respectfully informed, that the Rev. Dr. Tupper has kindly consented to call on some, on his way to the Convention at Yarmouth, and has been furnished with their accounts for that purpose.

We shall be glad if all who have not yet sent in their subscription for the past year will hand the amounts due, to him, or forward the same to our office, without delay.

We need not refer to the peculiar circumstances in which we are at present placed as a reason for urging attention to this request; the demand made upon us every week, for the expenses of the paper, can be met only by the payments of our subscribers.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 26, 1857.

THE extracts we have given from the Boston Missionary Magazine for the present month, relative to the progress of the great work of evangelization which is going on among the Karens, will be found well worthy of perusal. They are from the pen of Dr. Mason, one of the earliest, most judicious and most laborious of the missionaries in Burmah, he having just returned to his great life's work, after a couple of years sojourn in America. What has been going on on the banks of the Irrawaddy during that time, while our Churches here have, with desponding hearts, been wading through the turbulent waters of divided and embarrassed councils, and the surmises and recriminations of offended brethren, has indeed presented a strange and striking contrast. It is a work of sovreign grace carried on almost irrespective of human means, which, for its extent and efficiency, has scarce a parrallel in the history of the Christian Church. One of the most certain evidences of the real character of the great spiritual renovation that is going on in Burmah, is the recognition, by the native converts, of the duty of sustaining and diffusing that gospel which has saved themselves. The example they have set for some years past in this matter, may well shame thousands of professing disciples in these our own countries, where that Gospel has been our heritage for generations past. The time is doubtless not far distant, when the stream of Christian benevolence which, through the rich goodness of God has been followed with such abundant fruits in Burmah during the last forty years, may be happily directed to the cultivation of some other barren field, and the Burmans and the Karens shall send their willing aid to help on the triumphs of salvation amid the tens of millions of Japan or the hundreds of millions of China. As Mr. Mason remarks, the general bulk of the Burman people are still "steeped in ignorance;" but it is quite impossible but that very shortly the Christian doctrines which are working such a rapid change in the heathen mind, will also have their proper effect in temporal matters, and will inaugurate an entirely new state of things in all the arts and improvements of civilized life. We trust the news of the marvellous success of the Burman Mission that is thus being brought to the ears of our churches in America, may operate as it ought upon their zeal and their liberality, and especially that every "root of bitterness," which has lately so unhappily sprung up to mar their efforts and relax their zeal in the cause of Missions, may be forever eradicated.

We may well regret that we in these Provinces are doing so little, in comparison with the means we possess, to aid in the evangelization of the myriads of our fallen race, still lying in darkness and the shadow of death. Our duty in this respect is evident, and it is also certain that hundreds of Christian hearts among us are yearning with earnest desires to be engaged in promoting such glorious results as are becoming manifest, not only in Burmah, but in many other portions of the heathen world.

PURSUING the thoughts we gave in a late number, respecting Religion as necessary by way of preparation for the full enjoyment of life, as it is for the anticipation of death; we may further remark that the tendency of the latter being the predominant feeling, is to separate us from the efforts we make here in the service of Christ, or, to make us feel that our period of existence here being so short, we have but a limited connection with sublunary things; and that therefore we may be comparatively indifferent about earthly matters. If, however, we entertain the sentiment, which we think the more correct one, that we shall still be conscious of the course of events in this world, especially those with which we have ourselves been connected, we shall have a far more enlarged idea of the christian life, and shall not be acting so much under an impression that we have but a short time to live, as, that by engaging in the service of Christ we are continually adding to the sources of joy in our future years of this life, as well as through all the ages of this world. With what dignity does this invest the study of Church history and Christian biography. To reflect that those who have been witnesses for the truth and have sealed their testimony with their blood, are still observant of the progress of the Kingdom of Christ, and interested in the efforts of those at present engaged in conflicting with the powers of darkness, or the trials of this world. With what a host of worthies does this associate the believer. Well might the apostle bring forward this as a motive for perseverance in Heb. xii. 1, 22, 23.

GREAT dissatisfaction has existed for some time past, both in Canada and England, on account of the exclusive rights possessed by the great Hudson's Bay Fur Company, over the immense extent of territory stretching from Lake Superior to the Polar Ocean on the north, and to the Pacific on the west, including the large and valuable possession, called Vancouver's Island. The Company have long held all those territories under a lease from the British Government, which has been renewed from time to time, and will again expire about the year 1860, but as the Company are considered as having certain rights, their Charter will no doubt be renewed under some modified form. As their object has been to make money from their monoply of furs, the Company have done little to colonize the country. many parts of which are highly fertile and fit for emigration. They have been accused, perhaps justly, of discouraging it. The Red River Settlement, to the westward of Lake Winnipeg, is in fact the only Colony within the millions of square miles which they nominally occupy The Canadian Government have lately delegated a gentleman, Judge Draper, to proceed to England to represent the claims of Canada to the Home Government on this highly important matter, and to prevent an unrestricted renewal of their Charter to the Hudson's Bay Company. We are glad to see by the latest English papers, that a large and influential Committee of the House of Commons, to whom the matter has been referred, have returned a full and careful report on the subject, recommending that large portions of the territory should be conceded to the Canadian Government for the purposes of Emigration, and proposing a mutual adjustment and division of the country between Canada and the Hudson's Bay Company, through the Home Authorities. The settlement of the question will open an illimitable field for Emigration, both East and West of the Rocky Mountains.

OUR ACADEMIES.—WE are pleased to hear that the Academy at Horton "has opened with an encouraging number of pupils and with the prospect of a large increase in September."

Rev. Isaiah Wallace has commenced his labours at the Fredericton Baptist Seminary, N. B.

These Institutions are deservedly enjoying the confidence of the community in the two Provinces. How valuable are the treasures to be obtained there! It may be said of them as of wisdom and understanding, "The merchandize of them is better than the merchandize of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold."

It affords us pleasure to hear of the safe arrival of the Rev. C. Spurden in England.

Rev. E. N. Harris of St. John N. B., in a letter to the *Visitor*, proposes to devote the Foreign Mission Funds to the sustaining of three Chaplains for Seamen—one at Halifax N. S.—one at St. John, N. B., and one at St. Johns' Newfoundland. However desirable such appointments would be, we very much question whether such an appropriation would be in accordance with the intention of the donors.

The letter on the N. S. Baptist Missionary Society on another page, cannot fail to make a deep impression on every christian heart. The facts there exhibited are a loud call for help upon the Society lately formed. We trust the urgency of the case will bring forth a general response, and that the opportunity which will shortly be afforded will secure a large addition to the number of contributions and members.

A Telegraphic Despatch from New York gives us London dates to the 12th inst.

Later despatches from London seem to confirm the news of the fall of Delhi, although some slight uncertainty still attaches to the intelligence. It is stated that General Barnard assaulted the city on the 12th of June, which after an obstinate resistance was taken, and 7000 of the mutineers put to the sword—other accounts state 30,000 and that the English suffered considerable loss. We have given such items as contain the most exact accounts. Our own Steamer, now hourly expected, will bring us fuller and more authentic particulars. The papers are filled with numerous instances of the most brutal atrocity perpetrated by the mutineers upon the English residents at Delhi and other places. The insurrection appears to wear a much more serious aspect than was at first apprehended. Great numbers of troops are being sent off daily to India, and the Militia are to be again embodied, no doubt for the purpose of doing garrison duty in and out of the Kingdom, when the regular troops are withdrawn. The mutiny would appear to be still confined to the Bengal Army. That army is now wholly disorganized. A great panic prevailed throughout Bengal, but if Delhi has really fallen, as there seems not much doubt is the case, we may trust that the worst is over, and that the Europeans being thoroughly awakened to the extent of the danger, and the troops of all the Presidencies concentrated upon the mutinous districts, the strength of the rebels will be broken, and ere now the country relieved of danger.

No further news has transpired relative to the Chinese war, since the capture and destruction of the fleet of War Junks. This will have placed Canton wholly at the mercy of the British Fleet, and there is great room to hope that it will effectually pave the way for a successful issue of Lord Elgin's mission to the Chinese Government.

The Agamemnon and Niagara commenced laying the Telegraphic Cable from Valentia Bay in Ireland to Trinity Bay Newfoundland on the 7th inst. It was calculated that they would proceed at the rate of about four miles an hour, and that it would occupy a little over 16 days to reach Newfoundland. We may therefore hourly hope to hear of the attainment of this wonderful achievement of modern science. Much anxiety however is very naturally felt, lest some untoward accident may intervene, if not to prevent, at least to delay the accomplishment of this great object.

It is most satisfactory to hear that the crops wear the most promising appearance in almost every part of Canada and the United States. In most places the wheat harvest has already commenced.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

TELEGRAPH DESPATCH

NEW YORK, August 24.—Telegraph Fleet sailed evening of 7th. We have news to afternoon of 10th, when they were 300 miles out, and proceeding about five miles per hour. Messages constantly passing to the shore. They are now due at Fortune Bay.—*Tel. to Reading Room.*

THE RAILROAD.—We were agreeably surprised to hear a day or two since that the Railroad as far as Windsor will be ready for the first trip by the 1st of November.

THE EXPLOSION.—Nothing has transpired as yet to throw any light on the origin of this destruction. Several rumors have been started but nothing of a reliable nature has been discovered which affords a solution of the mystery. The suggestion we gave last week, that it occurred by some means from parties within, seems still the most probable.

Mr. Arthur Moren, son of James A. Moren, Esq., of this city, at a recent Edinburg University examination, obtained a prize for his knowledge in Botany.

The Committee of the Halifax Mechanic's Library propose holding their Exhibition of Fire Works on the evening of 8th of September, the Anniversary of the Fall of Sebastopol.

PIC-NIC.—The Yacht Club Pic-Nic came off on Thursday according to announcement. The day was most auspicious, accompanied with a fine breeze for sailing. McNab's Island was the scene of festivities. The party spent a delightful time. Sir Houston Stewart was present in the afternoon.—*Recorder.*

A man representing himself as Richard McGuire, is now in jail, charged with stealing $160 from Mr. John Connors, on the day of the last boat race. He left Halifax and went to Windsor, and while there Mr. James King, Coach proprietor, had him arrested on suspicion of being the man who had taken Connor's money, and brought to Halifax.

Prince Edward Island.

A Correspondent of the *Presbyterian Witness* writes:—

"To show how little dependence can be placed in mere names or parties, I have only to state that the Conservatives are here the advocates of Protestant rights, while the Liberals are arrayed against them. Protestants must seek for *men*, intelligent, sound-hearted high-spirited men, who care nothing for names or leaders, but everything for *truth* and *right*, who can neither be cajoled nor terrified, and send such to our Legislative Halls.

"The street preacher, to whom you lately referred, does not belong to the Baptist, but to the Bible Christian denomination. He played a strange part last winter. He wished to be regarded as an advocate of Protestant rights, and yet to defend the action of the Government. The Protestants, the few connected with himself excepted, withdrew their confidence, and he was allowed to make the best of the favour of Government officials. Although he had spoken in behalf of the Romanists, they would not permit him on that occasion to preach, and even grossly insulted their political friends who urged that he should have a hearing. Had it been any other Protestant minister it is very doubtful if the affair would have terminated as it did. Since that time he has preached unmolested, but in a different part of the city.

"Our communication with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick is vastly improved. We have now a swift-sailing and admirably fitted up Steamer, performing the most rapid and punctual passages."

The New Brunswick line of railroad from Shediac to Moncton, 17 miles, was passed over by the cars, for the first time on the 8th Inst. The opening was to take place on the 19th.

The *J. C. Morrison*, a very fine steamer, the property of the Northern Railway Company, and employed on Lake Simcoe, was burned early on Wednesday morning last. She was built some three years since at a cost of £65,000; was well found in every way—apparently every precaution to guard against accident, and yet she took fire and was consumed—no one knows how or where. She was insured.—*C. Messenger, C. W.*

United States.

The Army worm has made its appearance at Swedesboro and Woodbury, N. J. At the former place they attacked a corn-field, and cut off the stalks at the ground, though full four feet high.

Wheat was sold a few days ago, at New-Albany, for ninety-five cents per bushel, to be delivered within three weeks.

Three young men, who were born and reared, and still have their homes in the Sandwick Islands, have taken the first Astronomical prizes at Yale College. These three are Hiram Bingham, of the class of 1853; W. D. Alexander, of 1855, and D. D. Baldwin, of 1857.

A barkeeper at the Howard House, in Broadway, has been arrested for embezzling the funds of that establishment, and from the testimony adduced on the examination, it appears that he had long been in the habit of abstracting daily a considerable sum from the receipts of the bar, and in this way robbed his employer of some $20,000.