

ings presided over by members of the Church of England and of Scotland, by our Congregational and our Wesleyan brethren. I think while we have been gratified in seeing the chair so occupied, we have, at the same time, seen thereby promoted an extension of that Christian love and fraternal feeling which it is most important should subsist between all missionary bodies. But in the sixth year, on receiving a request from the committee, I felt that it might appear somewhat like shrinking from a duty to decline, and therefore I come cheerfully to-day to occupy the place of your president: and I ask at your hand for all our Christian brethren who shall address you a cheerful hearing, and at the same time that you will lift up your hearts to Almighty God, and pray that that which proceeds from them may have his blessing, and that the meeting itself may be productive of his glory. What an eventful year has the last been! In our country we have seen a commercial crisis of unparalleled severity; but that which is of an absorbing interest, and which swallows up every other feeling, has been the mutiny which has so unfortunately and distressingly pervaded the length and breadth of India. All missionary societies having stations there, have more or less suffered from it; and this year becomes eventful in our own history, from its being the first in which any of our missionary brethren have become martyrs to the cross. We must hope that with us and with other kindred societies who have suffered in like manner, the blood of martyrs may be the seed of the church. I will leave the question of India and all concerning it to-day in the hands of those whom you will hear who have been personally associated with labourers there. But it is due from me to-day that I should especially refer to the fact that we have suffered in the person of our dear brother, Mr. Mackay, and of a dear Christian brother, Waiyat Ali. Dear Christian friends, what has occurred in India must have a deep and pervading influence upon the future conduct of that country. If we read anything in the history of past events there, we see that God has signally made known that that prophecy and promise both in one, "Them that honour me I will honour," is specially made to be felt at the present moment as the indelible mark of all that has occurred in India. We see in connection with the Government there in the earliest stages of our mission that missionary exertion was prevented. We have seen down to the present moment that the idolatrous prejudices of the natives have been cherished. We have abundant means of showing that Christianity has not only been regretted and discouraged, but as far as possible absolutely prohibited. We are in a position to show, and it has been shown, and is known to the members of the House of Commons, that just before the mutiny occurred a despatch went out—and I blame not the East India Company for that so much as I do the Government—requiring the names of all members of Missionary and Bible Societies connected with the Government. And I have reason to know, too, that that eminent servant of God, Colonel Edwards, of Peshawur, received positively a rebuke from the Government for presiding at a missionary society. Then God has shown that those who honour him shall be honoured. It is a singular thing the instrumentality he has employed in putting down this mutiny and saving India, has been men of eminent religious character. Look at them all! I need not mention the name of Havelock here, connected with our own denomination. I have felt, and in connection with our own denomination, that we are lamentably behind with regard to organisation. It has always appeared to me that we have somewhat felt that organisation and systematic effort were opposed in some degree to the Christian liberty in which we rejoice so much. But while the Lord loveth a cheerful giver, the Lord loves, at the same time, a systematic and prudent giver. We find in the apostolic age they balanced their accounts oftener than we do, because it appears that they balanced them every week, and gave "as the Lord had prospered them." Let us follow their example, and though we may not balance our accounts every week, as Christian men we are bound to balance them as often as we can, and then we are bound to give to the Lord all that we can of that with which he has prospered us; and in doing that we are bound to accompany the gift to the altar with earnest prayer and devout thanksgiving.

If the mutiny in India should produce a deep feeling in all the various denominations, and they come to an understanding to take the field together, as men banded together in the high purpose of God and living for eternity, then, I say, God will have

wrought an amount of blessing out of evil for which we shall have throughout eternity to bless and adore his holy name. But I may be asked, What is the duty of our own denomination? You remind me that it is a poor denomination, and that the churches are poor. I acknowledge it; but, I believe—and I thank God that I may most conscientiously believe it, with regard to the greater part of them—that, though they may be poor as to this world, they are rich in faith. Then, if they are so, let them act up to their principles. Let them give what they can. Let them give what they can systematically, and in a way that does not reflect either on their prudence or their liberality. You will think I have made a treasurer's speech, and have talked too much about money; but, remember, I have not had the chance of talking to you about it for the last six years, and having come before you on the present occasion, I may fairly ask your forgiveness in that particular.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL read the annual report. The receipts for the past year amounted to 22,946l. 15s. 10d., being an increase of 1,479l. 11s. 4d. upon the receipts of the previous year, subject, however, to some deduction on account of special donations not applicable to the general purposes of the society. The year's expenditure amounted to 23,593l. 13s. 8d., which, including a previous balance, left a present balance against the society of 932l. 18s. 9d. The expenditure of the year exceeded that of the previous one by 1,454l. 12s. 11d.; and, considering the late commercial crisis, there was reason to be thankful that the deficiency was not larger. The report contrasted the state of India when the society's missionaries first commenced their labours in that country with its present condition, after the lapse of half a century. At that time there was but six or seven Danish and German missionaries in the peninsula, but now, to quote the report—"From the lone wanderer in the Sunderbunds of Bengal, and the six or seven faithful men on the coast of Tranquebar, the missionary band has multiplied to nearly 500 missionaries, the chosen messengers of Christ from all the churches of Christendom."

[Continued on page 164.]

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, MAY 26, 1858.

THE affecting narrative of the martyrdom of Waiyat Ali, as related by his wife Fatima, given on our first page, will, we doubt not, deeply interest every Christian heart.

It forms a most appropriate preface to the excellent speeches at the anniversary of the London Baptist Missionary Society, although we derive it from another source. We have appropriated as much of our space as possible to a report of these, and regret that we could not give them in full.

Perhaps there never was a time when our missionaries and missionary operations in the east were in so critical a position. The temptations to Christian men to endeavour to extend the religion of the Cross by some means besides those of Christian benevolence and love, was perhaps never so great as at the present time.

The past error of the British Government in discountenancing a profession of evangelical religion is quite likely to produce the opposite mistake of making an attempt to endow, and thus in a great measure to destroy the usefulness of Christian ministers. The firm protest of our missionaries against such a proceeding will we trust be a barrier to such an error on the part of our Imperial authorities. All that Christianity asks is a free stage and no favour. Liberty unshackled either by the embraces or the frowns of the State. Let the arm of civil power be thrown around its preachers and professors only to protect their lives and property from molestation, and we have no fears about the result. Let the servants of Christ go forth among the heathen and say "the Lord reigneth," and we shall soon hear "that the people rejoice."

The Baptist churches in this province may feel more closely connected with the work of Christ in India—and indeed in all the operations of our English brethren—from the circumstance of our Board having sent free contributions from their funds to the London Society.

Whilst we have no missionary of our own, however much we may desire the honor of again sustaining one or more in the great field, we may be thankful in being able to claim a participation in sustaining such men as Waiyat Ali in India, and Sau

Quala in Burmah, and others among the Karens, of whose labours and triumphs we have yet to hear.

The Baptist Missionary Society is omitted in our London Correspondent's summary of benevolent institutions, knowing that we should make special reference to its Annual Meeting.

Special Meeting of the Convention. Alteration of day!

We are requested to state that in order to suit the convenience of many brethren, who would be unable to attend on the day first appointed, the Special Meeting of the Convention will therefore be held on FRIDAY, June 4. at 10 o'clock, A. M.

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Convention will be held in the Vestry of the Baptist Meeting House, Wolfville, on Thursday, June 3, at four o'clock, P. M. The following brethren constitute the Board, viz:—

Vice Presidents:—Hon. Attorney General of N. S., Hon. W. B. Kinnear, Revs. S. Robinson, C. Tupper, D. D., I. E. Bill, W. Chipman.

Secretaries:—Rev. S. W. deBlois, A. M., A. H. Munro

Treasurer:—W. Churchill, Esq.

Board of Directors:—Revs. C. Tupper, D. D., A. S. Hunt, A. M., W. Hall, D. Crandall, J. Chase, N. Vidotee, J. Davis, T. Magee, A. Martell, J. Smith, J. Walker, J. Miller, Geo. Miles, W. Coleman, W. G. Parker, D. W. C. Dimock, J. Parker, J. W. Nutting, J. Fisher, E. Huestis, A. McL. Seely, J. King, W. Johnson, Asa Coy, and E. F. Harding, M. D. Esquires.

OUR last English Mail brings London dates to the 8th ult.

As was fully anticipated, accounts have been received from India of the complete capture of Lucknow, with little further loss on the part of our own forces. The Mutineers, however, had made their escape gradually and in small bodies before the final occupation of the City, and are now struggling in reduced numbers in the more difficult parts of the country. Any thing like permanent resistance had ceased, and the great difficulty now appears to be to thoroughly disperse the small roving parties from the numerous strongholds which abound in the kingdom of Oude and other parts of India. Sir Colin Campbell appears to have acted with great skill and prudence throughout the campaign, both as regards the ability with which it has been conducted, and his care for the lives and comfort of his soldiers. The Queen, it is said, has expressed her intention of elevating him to the Peerage; an honour which the nation at large will consider well bestowed.

European affairs appear tranquil. The uneasiness which at one time seemed to have sprung up, as to the continuance of friendly relations between England and France, had subsided, and there is no reason to fear any disruption of the amicable feeling of the Governments, and we believe generally of the people of both countries towards each other.

Commercial prospects in England are by no means cheering, and some considerable time must elapse before the various interests which have suffered so much from the great and numerous failures which have taken place within the last year, will recover a sound and healthy character.

Review of Books.

THE OLD RED SANDSTONE: or new walks in an old field: by Hugh Miller. New Edition. Gould & Lincoln.

The popularity of this work is a sufficient indication of its value. The highest authorities on both sides of the Atlantic have passed high encomiums on it. With a few alterations in the arrangement of the plates, this is a reprint of the seventh edition, just issued in Edinburgh, with additions which bring it down to the latest discoveries from the papers left by the author, and now published under the supervision of Mrs. Miller, his widow. It contains, in addition to the previous six editions of the same work, five valuable Geological papers, read by Mr. Miller before the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh.

OUR LITTLE ONES IN HEAVEN: by the author of the Aimwell Stories. Gould & Lincoln.

This beautiful little volume is a collection of the arguments for infant salvation, and gems in Prose and Poetry, on the death of little children, and the grounds we have for believing they are but transplanted to a purer brighter world above. It is admirably suited to comfort those who have had these undeveloped "buds of Paradise" lent to them for a few days, or months, or years, and then removed by the All-wise.

What a difference is produced in the feelings of a pious parent when thinking of heaven, by knowing that he has a child there.

"TRUTHS FOR THE TIMES," is a series of pamphlets by Dr. Adams, of Boston, being issued from the press of Gould and Lincoln.

No. 1 is entitled "The reasonableness of future, endless punishments."

No. 2.—Instantaneous Conversion and its connection with piety.

No. 3.—Justification and its consequences.

No. 2 has been laid on our table. As far as we have been able to examine its contents, it appears an excellent address on the necessity of being born again of the Spirit, and the insufficiency of any mere outward reformation to secure salvation.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]

DENTAL CARD.

DR. MACALLASTER would intimate to his friends and the public of Kings and Annapolis Counties—that he intends spending a portion of the coming fall and winter in the following several places, viz:—Hantsport, Wolfville, Canning, Kentville, Wilmot, and Bridgetown. Those who are desirous of having ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted, will need to have their mouths prepared immediately, to give proper time for the absorption of the gum.

Dr. M. would say to those who come to Halifax for the purpose of having Dentistry done, that the establishment of Drs. Macallaster and Paine is fitted up for manufacturing and inserting every style of work known to the profession.

The time required to insert a FULL SET is about four days. Smaller pieces about two days. All operations performed in such a manner as will give entire satisfaction in every case.

Remember 49 Granville Street—Sign of the GOLDEN TOOTH.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

THE NEW COURT HOUSE.—Two places have been named for this new building, the Governor's Field and the site of St. Matthews Church offered by Messrs. Doui and Miller. Each place has its advocates. The probabilities are we believe in favour of the Governor's Field principally we believe because it might there be free from contiguity of other buildings and therefore less exposed to danger by fire. Its distance from the lawyers' and other offices seems to be the principal objection.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.—At the recent election for the county of Colchester the *Witness* informs its readers that "a Magistrate signalled himself by making people drunk and encouraging rowdies to maltreat opposing voters.—Such things should not be tolerated in a Christian land. We are sorry also to learn that considerable sums of money were spent in Bribery. We could mention the districts where money was thus used, but refrain for the present. We are told of a case in which a man got a pair of boots to vote for Mr. Archibald and a hat to vote for Mr. McLellan: and curiously enough the hat carried the day."

LONDON ART UNION.—The following prizes have been awarded to subscribers in Halifax: £100 Stg to Rev. E. B. Nichol; a Bronze Statuette of Her Majesty the Queen, on horseback, to W. Newcomb; and a group in procelain of Venus and Cupid, to T. J. Jost.—*Sun*.

We learn that some time during the week a large whale boat was found bottom up near Herring Cove, and taken into that place. A hat was discovered floating by the boat, or under it, which has led to the conjecture that some person or persons may have been lost.—*Express*.

It appears by Dr. Jennings' report as City Health Officer, that in the first three months of this year there were five deaths less than in the corresponding period of 1857—the total of the latter being 125, and for the former 120.

SURGICAL.—On Tuesday last, Dr. Forman succeeded in safely cutting from the back part of the neck of a man from Cape Breton, who had come here to be operated upon, a WEN which weighed exactly four pounds!—*Chron*.

A Bill has been passed to repeal the Act for the Municipal Government of counties, providing that at the next election for the Municipality of Yarmouth, a poll shall be taken to ascertain the opinion of the electors for or against the repeal of the said Act.

At the Annual Synodical Meeting of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland last month "The organ question gave rise to a long discussion, and terminated by a large majority against the use of instrumental music in worship." Also at the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England "there was a lengthy discussion of the organ question."

The *Presbyterian Witness* pronounces that "the enthusiasm, the *esprit de corps*, of political sects and parties, is much greater and more effective than the apparent family love of Presbyterians. This should not be so. It is a shame that Presbyterians should quarrel over politics, and allow important religious interests to suffer for the sake of party."

Mr. ELKIN, Missionary for Seamen in this Port, has arrived by the last Steamer from England.—Such a mission has been much needed. A Mr Hare has also arrived, who is to labour as City Missionary in connexion with the English Church.—*Witness*.

The Presbyterian Congregation of Onslow, have presented their Pastor, the Rev. Mr. Baxter, with a handsome Waggon and Harness, and a good horse to draw it, the whole valued at £60.