

Religious Intelligence.

DARTMOUTH.—We omitted to mention last week that an interesting feature is presenting itself in connexion with the labours of the Rev. R. D. Porter on the eastern side of the harbour, at Dartmouth and its neighbourhood. Five persons were baptized by Mr. P., on Lord's Day, the 28th, at Tufts' Cove. Several were lately baptized at the Truro Road, about 12 miles from Dartmouth. Other pleasing indications of the Lord's visitation are evident. Let us hope the work may extend and spread until the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.

ADDRESS TO THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA.

The following excellent address from "the three denominations" in London, has been forwarded to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia, through his Excellency Count Bernstorff, the Prussian Ambassador:—

"To their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia."

"We, the general body of Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations in and about the cities of London and Westminster, desire, with profound respect, to offer to your Royal Highnesses our hearty congratulations on the auspicious occasion of your marriage.

"In common with all classes of the British people, we regard your union with sentiments of sincere pleasure, as an event taking place, we confidently hope, under the guidance and blessing of Divine Providence, and affording the promise of future happiness, both to yourselves, and also to those two great nations which, in your persons, are brought into intimate alliance with each other. Nor can we refrain from expressing our belief, that it is an event fraught with important and beneficial consequences to the whole of Protestant Europe.

"While we give expression to our warmest desires that the prospects opening before your Royal Highnesses, rich in the promise of a long and prosperous future, may be fully realized, our sacred office will, we trust, excuse us for suggesting, that the solid and permanent happiness of princes, not less than that of humbler persons, spring from the favour of God, which is only to be expected in a course of holy obedience to his revealed will. We offer our humble and sincere prayers, that His grace may always incline your hearts to that deep reverence for His word and His Sabbaths, which is the foundation of all private and public virtue; and that He may so crown your union with His benediction, as to make it the means of your mutual establishment in the faith of our Divine Redeemer, and in the successful imitation in all things of His perfect example.

"Remembering, moreover, the exalted destiny and solemn responsibilities which may eventually await you, we cannot refrain from adding yet another prayer. When, at some distant period, if it so please the great Disposer of all things, you shall be led by His own hand to the highest position which human beings can occupy among their fellow-men, may He environ you with his omnipotent protection; surround you with a free, a loyal, and an attached nation; make you the patrons of just laws, the protectors of civil and religious liberty, and the vindicators of all who suffer persecution or wrong, as from any cause, so especially for the sake of truth and conscience. May the wicked flee from your presence, the upright and godly rejoice in your smile; and when, at length, your earthly course shall be finished, may it leave a long and grateful remembrance in the memories of the wise and good, and issue, through your personal faith in 'the righteousness of our God and Saviour,' in 'everlasting life.'

"Signed by Edward Steane, D.D., Chairman, John Howard Hinton, M.A., Secretary, and 68 other ministers of the Gospel."

FRANCE.—The correspondence of *The Christian Times* shows that religious persecution is still going on in France. "Your readers," says a correspondent in a recent letter, "will recollect the position of the Protestants at Fouqueure (Charante), who are awaiting their trial for the offence of meeting without authority, that authority being refused only because, to their repeated applications for permission, the officials have always replied: 'There is nothing serious in your desire to worship!' The good people could not be put off thus, and being debarred from assembling at Fouqueure, they met in the fields and woods, sometimes in one place, sometimes in another, to avoid being discovered by the police, who were trying to catch them in flagrant offence. They were discovered once, and the police wrote out an official report; again they were discovered, and a second report was written out; a third time four gendarmes made their appearance. 'We will not interrupt you,' they said, 'you are honest folk (braves gens), we will wait till you have done!' After the service they went up to the evangelist, M. Boniface, 'Follow us,' they said, 'we have orders to lead you to prison to Ruffee,' and turning towards the hearers, added, 'If we discover you meeting again, we have orders to take to prison all present.' The evangelist was then led away between two gendarmes, followed by his children, who were weeping, and by his wife, exhorting him to fear naught and be courageous! A search had been made at his house, and all his papers and correspondence seized. This took place a week ago. M.

Boniface, without being precisely *au secret*, since he has received visitors, who bear witness to his peace of mind, has not written a word to any one; either he is not allowed writing materials, or he thinks it more prudent not to write. The Sunday following, notwithstanding the threat of the gendarmes, the Protestants of Fouqueure met in the morning at the entrance of a wood. There was none to preside; one of them took the Bible, and placing it on a stone in the midst of the assembly, said, 'The Lord will preside by His Spirit,' and they then worshipped, while the emotion produced by the circumstances was manifested only by more fervour in prayer and exhortations. The evangelist had a fellow helper, who was not taken to prison with him; but he was absent from this last meeting; the people had begged him not to be present. Why? Was it to spare his youth, not twenty years of age, from the trial of imprisonment? or was it to reserve for themselves a comforter in perilous days? No. 'Stay at home,' they had said to him, 'we want to show the authorities that we need no captain, and that in meeting we follow our own convictions.' Fifty-two were present. On Sunday the young man was free, but on Monday gendarmes came for him, and now he is in captivity with his master. They are both accused of political intrigues! It is a clever manoeuvre on the part of the clergy to lead the Government to believe that Evangelical Christians are the enemies of social order; it is an accusation as old as Christianity, and which has more than once found credit from Roman Governors and Emperors. I hope that the inquiry now opened up will demonstrate clearly and openly that the clergy, having no other arm to use, have chosen the perfidious arm of olden times: 'They are Cæsar's enemies.'

The Home and Foreign Record, of the Free Church of Scotland, Feb. 1st, 1858, published in Edinburgh, gives its readers the following items of information:—

Halifax, Nova Scotia.

POPERY.

Writing to the Convener, the Rev. John Hunter, of Halifax, says—

"We are in a sad state as regards Popery. Our political factions are so nearly equal in strength, and so fiercely opposed, that the Papists, though otherwise an unimportant minority, rule. There are fifty-two Protestant members in the House of Assembly, and eight Romanists; yet these last sway the government. We are forming a Protestant Alliance, of which I have been acting secretary since the commencement.

"Our half-yearly communion takes place on 1st November. The roll at my arrival numbered ninety-four. It is now upwards of one hundred and thirty, and eighteen applications to join in the approaching feast, nearly all of which are from married persons. It is the most refreshing thing I know, when these people come to tell what God has done, or is doing for their souls."

The contiguity of "Rev. John Hunter," "Political factions," and "Protestant Alliance" in the above are somewhat curious but significant. The mistake in the number of Protestant members probably arose from the Rev. gentleman's imperfect knowledge, having been in the Province only so short a time.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Observer says, "in this city the revival deepens and spreads. The meetings are daily attended with increased numbers and interest. The revival has been peculiarly precious in its influences upon persons belonging to the mercantile community. But it has also reached the masses whose business can scarcely be defined, and of these multitudes have been hopefully converted.

THE REVIVAL IN BOSTON.—We find great pleasure in recording for the interest more especially of our readers remote from this city, that the work of divine grace has been steadily extending and diffusing itself for the last fortnight, until now it may be said to have become general. Never within our remembrance has there been a revival that so commanded and absorbed the attention of the public. No longer is their any distinguishing point of interest to the exclusion of others.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, March 29, 1858.

Hon. Solicitor-General asked leave to introduce a bill to authorize a loan to purchase a piece of ground in the town of Picton on which to erect a Water Tank.

Also, a bill to legalize the sittings of the special sessions at Picton—read a first time.

Mr. McDonald asked leave for Mr. Davidson to return home for a few days, on urgent private business—leave granted.

Several local bills were read a third time.

Mr. Wier asked for special leave to present a petition numerously signed by 987 of the inhabitants of Yarmouth, praying the repeal of the Municipal Incorporation act, for that township. The petition was read, and after some remarks from the members of the county and others, leave was given to introduce a bill for that object, which was read a first time.

On motion the adjourned debate on Mr. Young's resolutions was resumed.

The following gentlemen addressed the house: Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Churchill. A discussion ensued as to the time of the

future meeting of the house, in order to shorten the debate. Hon. Atty. General suggested that the house should sit late at night. Some discussion ensued, but no action was taken on the subject.

The debate was adjourned.

Hon. Finl. Secretary called attention to the propriety of deciding upon the road scale. The subject was adjourned until the next day.

The house adjourned until 3 past 9 o'clock the next day, to attend the funeral of the late Hon. James B. Uniacke; and until 3 o'clock to meet for business.

TUESDAY, March 30.

A bill to extend to Wolfville the laws relating to Commissioners of Streets, was read a third time.

The adjourned debate on the hon. Mr. Young's resolutions was then resumed. The following gentlemen addressed the house:—Mr. Wier, the hon. Sol. General, Mr. Tobin, Mr. Ruggles, Mr. Locke, some explanations were made by hon. Mr. Young, and the hon. Atty. General.

The papers connected with the dismissal of Mr. Hamilton, Deputy Surveyor of Crown Lands at Shelburne, were read.

Then the house adjourned until next day at 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, March 31.

Hon. Prov. Secretary asked leave to present the petition of Rev. James Ritchie and others, of Annapolis, against the proposed change in the mail communication between Annapolis and St. John.

This has been published in the newspapers, and after some further discussion, the Speaker decided that it must be withdrawn, as it contained expressions reflecting upon the action of certain members of the House.

Mr. Waite stated that, being the member referred to in the petition, he felt called upon to state that he had no objection to the reception of the petition.

Hon. Prov. Secretary.—It was in consequence of being aware that the hon. member had no objection to the reception of the petition that he was induced to present it.

The petition was withdrawn.

Mr. Esso, as Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, reported, at great length.

A message from the Legislative Council announced that the Council had agreed to the following bills:

A bill, further to amend the act relating to the Inspection of Pickled Fish.

A bill to legalize the proceedings of the Sessions at Richmond.

A bill to provide for a public road and slip at Digby.

A bill to authorize a loan for the rebuilding of the Bridge at Bridgewater.

A bill to prevent the destruction of Oysters. The report of the Committee on Public Accounts was received.

The hon. Finl. Secretary moved the adoption of the road scale; the sub-division, he stated, is made on the same principle as that of last year.

After some discussion, and objections having been made by the members for Halifax to the apportionment for that County, the road scale, as moved, passed.

On motion, the adjourned debate was resumed.

The following gentlemen addressed the house—Mr. Wade, Mr. White.

Hon. Mr. Howe then addressed the house for two hours; after which, with the understanding that he was to resume his address the following day, the house adjourned until 3 o'clock the next day.

THURSDAY, April 1.

The hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table a despatch from the Colonial Secretary, on the subject of the power of Colonial Legislatures to enforce the attendance of witnesses before them, and commit for contempt—which was read. The despatch decides that they do not possess the power. Some remarks were made by hon. Mr. Young and hon. Atty. General.

Hon. Atty. General, by command, presented a petition, numerously signed, from the inhabitants of the County of Annapolis, against the proposed change in the steam communication between Annapolis and St. John.

The hon. Atty. General, in the course of his remarks, stated that he believed, in consequence of difficulties experienced by Mr. King in procuring a boat, and also in reference to the recent action of the New Brunswick Legislature, that it was not probable the recent arrangement would be carried out. He hoped the matter would be maturely considered.

Hon. Mr. Archibald reported from the Committee on Education, a bill to authorize the sale of the Colchester Academy.

Hon. Finl. Secretary moved that the Despatch which had been presented should be referred to the committee on privileges.

Hon. Mr. Howe seconded the motion—referred accordingly.

Mr. McDonald, from the committee appointed to revise the License Law, reported two bills: a bill to amend the laws with regard to License; a bill to regulate proceedings for breach of the License Law in the city of Halifax.

Hon. Finl. Secretary asked special leave to present the petition of the inhabitants of Margaret's Bay, complaining of the obstruction caused to fish by the present kind of mill-dam used, and pointing out a remedy. He stated that although it was too late for the committee on Fisheries, he would lay it on the table for future action.

Hon. Atty. General asked leave to present the petition of Hypolite Marmand and others, on the subject of a scientific survey of the Province—referred to committee on Crown Lands.

Hon. Prov. Secretary called the attention of the house to a case which had been before the transient pauper committee, of a negro sailor who had been shipwrecked, was entirely destitute and ignorant of our language. He would suggest to the transient pauper committee the propriety of granting a sufficient sum to send him home to his native land.

Hon. Mr. Howe continued his address of the previous day, and spoke 3 hours and a half. Mr. Tobin also addressed the House.

SATURDAY, April 3.

Dr. Brown asked leave to introduce a bill for the settlement of the poor.

Mr. Morrison asked leave to introduce a bill to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors, leaving it optional with the different counties to adopt or reject it. Read a first time.

The adjourned debate on Hon. Mr. Young's resolution was resumed. The Hon. Attorney General addressed the house for the remainder of the day.

MONDAY, April 5th.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table a copy of the Revised Statutes, second series, with the report of the commissioners appointed to revise the same, which was read by the clerk.

Hon. Atty. General introduced a clause by way of rider to the bill in relation to the Supreme Court and its officers, to postpone the ensuing Easter term at Halifax, and the sittings thereafter for one fortnight.

On motion the adjourned debate was resumed. Hon. Atty. General read a letter from Rev. Mr. Jardine, on the subject of the Protestant Alliance, in connection with his speech of a former day.

A message from the Legislative Council. The clerk announced that the Council had agreed to the bill to carry out the provisions of the act relating to the assessment of the city of Halifax for railway purposes.

The following gentlemen addressed the house:—Mr. Annand, Mr. Geldert, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Bill, Hon. Financial Secretary.

European & Foreign News.

FRANCE.

Le Nord publishes the following telegram:—"Marseilles, Friday. Several hundreds of persons, arrested, in all parts of France, in pursuance of the late measures of safety, have reached Marseilles. They will be placed in the Chateau d'If, waiting their removal to Lambessa (the penal colony in Algeria)."

Paris is beginning to experience, to a very considerable extent, the results of the new passport regulations regarding the admission of British subjects. The hotels in the Rue de Rivoli and neighbourhood, which are supported almost exclusively by English travellers, are badly off. Their rooms are empty. The dining-room at Meurice's presents an awful blank. The Louvre is only very little better off; and one of the hotels in the Rue Castiglione has left off its *table d'hôte* altogether, having had but a solitary guest for the last fortnight to consume a dinner for thirty.

At Châlons-sur-Saône, on Saturday evening, about nine o'clock, a mob of some forty men assembled suddenly, and made a rush against a small guard of infantry, whom they surprised.

They then proceeded to the railway terminus, uttering cries of "Long live the Republic! the Republic is proclaimed at Paris! the Republic is everywhere! men of Châlons, to arms!"

The station-master, an old soldier, collected the railway officials, and repulsed these insurgents.

From the railway the mob went to the bridge over the Saône, and occupied the bridge-head, for the purpose of preventing the alarm being given to the soldiers in the barracks.

The officers of the garrison, who had hastened to the sub-prefect's dwelling to learn the meaning of the rumour which had already spread, forced a passage at the sabre's point. Shortly afterwards the troops arrived, the mere sight of whom dispersed the group.

Before midnight fifteen of the principal offenders were in the hands of justice.

An Englishwoman, the young wife of De Rudjo, has arrived in Paris with her two children, to solicit the clemency of the Emperor. Madame de Rudjo has presented a petition to the Emperor. The rumours that the clemency of the Emperor will be exercised still continue, but they do not appear to have any foundation. The order for the execution will be signed by the Emperor himself.

CHINA.

It is proposed to send despatches to the Emperor of China; and if, within a reasonable time, a satisfactory answer should not be received, the town of Tien-Sing, on the left bank of the Pay-Ho, or White River, will be strictly blockaded. By this operation it is calculated that Pekin must assuredly be reduced to a state of famine within a very short time, the Chinese Government never having a reserve of more than three months' provisions in the capital of the Celestial Empire, and Tien-Sing being the principal market for supplying the metropolis with food.

A supplement to Friday's *Gazette* contains despatches from Major-General Van Straubenzee, giving details of the capture of Canton. 430 guns were found in the city, 300,000lbs. of powder, 5,000 rockets, 2,000 blue lights, 3,000 stinkpots, six tons of bullets, 15,000lbs. of the powder were kept, the rest destroyed.

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