

with sacrificing the marks of their knightly and seignorial rank, and placed baldricks and swords on the altars and before the images of saints. Some manumitted their serfs, and bestowed large sums upon charitable trusts, commencing their disposition with words implying the approaching end of all. Crowds of the common people would sleep nowhere but in the porches, or at any rate within the shadow of the churches, and other holy buildings; and as the day of doom drew nearer and nearer, greater efforts were made to appease the wrath of heaven. Peace was proclaimed between all classes of men. From Wednesday night till Monday evening of each week there was to be no violence or enmity or war in all the land. It was to be a Truce of God. . . . And now came the dreadful or hoped for year. The awful Thousand had at last commenced, and men held their breath to watch what would be the result of its arrival. "And he laid hold of the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years shall be fulfilled; and after that he must be loosed a little season."—(Rev. xxii: 2-3.) With this text all the pulpits in Christendom had been ringing for a whole generation. And not the pulpits only, but the refectory halls of convents, and the cottages of the starving peasantry. Into the castle also of the noble we have seen it had penetrated; and the most abject terror pervaded the superstitious, while despair, as in shipwrecked vessels, displayed itself amid the masses of the population in rioting and insubordination. The spirit of evil for a little season was to be let loose upon a sinful world; and when the observer looked round at the real condition of the people in all parts of Europe—at the ignorance and degradation of the multitude, the cruelty of the lords, and the un-Christian ambition and unrestrained passions of the clergy—it must have puzzled him how to imagine a worse state of things even when the chain was loosed from that "old serpent," and the world placed unresistingly in his folds. Yet, as if men's minds had now reached their lowest point there was a perpetual rise from the beginning of this date. When the first day of the thousand-and-first year shone upon the world, it seemed that in all nations the torpor of the past was to be thrown off. There were strivings every where after a new order of things. . . . The first joy of their deliverance from the expected destruction impelled all classes of society in a more honorable and useful path than they had ever hitherto trod.—*White's Eighteen Christian Centuries.*

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 29, 1858.

THE evil consequences resulting from a union of Church and State are so numerous that we find them often making their appearance at times and in forms which many would suppose the least likely. In the establishment of the Episcopal church in England, one of the principal objects sought to be accomplished by its original promoters was, that it might be a permanent barrier and effectual guard against the promulgation of Roman Catholic doctrines and practices, yet we find in that church itself, a party is sustained who are using every effort to teach all the essential views, and introducing as much as possible the very practices, which have been so carefully guarded against. Efforts to crush out by law any form of religious opinion, unless they amount to entire extermination, have usually resulted in its further extension. The unholy alliance existing between the Church and the State may therefore account for the late progress of Tractarian sentiments. The late trials in England for Puseyite practices and the more recent exposure of clergymen who have attempted to introduce the practice of auricular confession in even a more corrupting form than that of the Roman Catholic church are striking evidence of this tendency in a State Church.

So soon as a Christian body becomes linked to a political party, and have to do its bidding, "Ichabod" may be written on its walls—its glory is departed.

The recent attempts to form in this province a combination of clergymen and other religious men with the avowed purpose of advancing the opinions they choose to denominate protestantism, but who by the course they have pursued, evidently show

that they have other political objects in view, have doubtless had the effect of bringing into activity sentiments and feelings contrary to those of Christianity and agreeing in almost every particular with those with which they profess to wage war. The bitterness of spirit and the recklessness of its abettors, indicate sufficiently their disposition and shew plainly the treatment we might expect from them if such views were to prevail in the community. If opposition to certain forms of error is made the basis of any combination, the probability is that the party so combining will either cherish a similar spirit to that which they are aiming to destroy, or will adopt other errors which will be equally injurious.

Some benevolent design or active efforts to spread the truth may be a good reason for forming an organization, but where such organization is directed against any particular body, although they may be Roman Catholics, it must necessarily partake much of the spirit of tyranny and oppression—the same as that which it professes to oppose.

Postal Affairs.

WE occasionally have complaints from the country of a deficiency of Post and Way-office accommodation: parties in some places have to go six, eight, or ten miles for their letters or papers. Subscribers have sometimes come to the conclusion that because of the difficulty of getting their papers regularly, they must deprive themselves and families of the benefit, until greater facilities are afforded. We would suggest to those who have had such an idea, and to our readers generally, that the best way of securing an increase of mail accommodation is to induce as many as possible of their neighbours to become subscribers. The greater the number of papers and letters sent to any place, the more probability there is of getting an office established in that locality.

Now that we are referring to Postal affairs we would intimate that the present mode of determining what new Post and Way offices shall be established is most unsatisfactory.

A great temptation is offered to the sitting Member of the Legislature to recommend advantages to such places as sustain him in preference to those in which his opponents reside. Whether this is done or not we cannot say—but there are not wanting parties who suspect that such motives have in some instances exerted more influence than the real wants of the community.

New Brunswick.

WE beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Minutes of the Eastern New Brunswick Baptist Association, held at Springfield, July 10th-13th, with which is incorporated the Annual Report of the New Brunswick Baptist Home Missionary Society, and New Brunswick Education Society.

From these we learn that there are forty churches, containing 2849 members. During the past year 288 have been added, which, placed against a diminution of 187, leaves a clear gain of 101, or nearly 4 percent.

The Circular Letter for next year is to be "on the permanency of the Pastorate."

The Missionary Board mention at some length in their report, Rev. J. Blakeney's Mission of 10 months 1 week, Rev. Geo. Seeley's Mission of 7 months—now succeeded by Rev. Isa Wallace—Rev. J. Trimble's mission of 6 months, and Rev. E. B. DeMill's mission since September last. The latter is partially sustained by the Juvenile Missionary Society of Brussel Street Church, St. John, who had collected, during the year, £75 0s. 9d., and expended £88 5s. 3d. During the year, Mr. DeMill had baptized 22 persons. The Church at Marsh Bridge, his principal station, numbers between 40 and 50 members. Rev. W. A. Troop's mission of 2 months.

The FRENCH MISSION, in connection with this Society, is suspended, in consequence of want of funds.

Rev. Jas. Newcomb was appointed the GENERAL AGENT of the Society; but the Report states, "owing to the financial pressure, &c., our brother became disheartened and gave up his Agency." The Board urge upon the Society the appointment of some competent man for this important work. The amount collected and expended is £280 3s. 9d.

The Fredericton Seminary reports 65 students during the year.

The Education Society's receipts were:

Legislative Grant,	£250 0 0
Tuition Fees,	77 14 5½
Other sources,	8 8 4
	£336 2 9½

Expenditure for the year about £320

The application of "CAUSTIC" does not appear to please our neighbour of the *Morning Chronicle*. Finding the danger he runs of being burned by it, he no sooner feels it coming in contact with him than he flies off at a tangent and lands himself at Horton where in his rage at its touch, he bites the dust and endeavours to hide his agony by raising a cloud around the Rev. Dr. Cramp. "What an admirable logician! Brave man! How proud his friends ought to be of him!"

We are informed that a merchant of Londonderry has just forwarded five pounds to the Home Missionary Treasury, as a thankoffering for recent prosperity in business. Will not other Baptist merchants do likewise?—*Com.*

THE HAND-BOOK OF FRUIT CULTURE.

By Thomas Gregg. Fowler & Wells, New York.

This is a thoroughly practical little work, well suited to help the farmer and cottager in selecting and improving his fruit trees and supplying himself with the best qualities and larger quantities of this valuable part of the products of his toil.

LONDON dates by our second September Mail are up to the 11th inst. There is not much additional news. The accounts from the north of China, by way of Canton, are not late enough to bring a confirmation of the conclusion of the treaty with the European Powers, which has reached us by way of St. Petersburg. It is most probable, however, that those accounts were correct, as negotiations between Lord Elgin and the French Ambassador and the Chinese Commissioners were in progress by the latest Canton accounts. Evasion and duplicity, on the part of the Chinese Government, were the most striking facts in the negotiations; but our Plenipotentiary seems quite equal to the emergency. Our troops at Canton in the meantime appear to be in a somewhat perilous position. The allied forces which hold possession of that large Southern Capital of the Chinese Empire, are ridiculously few to oppose the hordes of Chinese soldiery, or *Braves*, as they are termed, who swarm on every side. It was hoped, however, that the news of the treaty being concluded at Peking would put an end to all further hostile operations.

We are sorry to find that serious doubts hang over the effective working of the Atlantic Cable. The interruption seems to have occurred in Valentia Bay, and is probably occasioned by the violent action of the water, which is comparatively shallow there for some distance from the land. The depth of water is very much greater on this side, at Trinity Bay, and consequently more safe from the action of the sea. Active means are being used to discover the defect and, if possible, to remedy it.

The Queen, who had returned from her visit to her daughter in Prussia, was on her way to Balmoral, her seat in the Highlands, to spend a few weeks.

We are glad to be able to state that a large delegation from the British North American Colonies have proceeded to England to confer with the Home Government on the subject of constructing the long-talked-of Inter-Colonial Railway from Halifax to Quebec, and on other important matters touching Colonial interests. The Delegates from Nova Scotia are Messrs. Tupper, Dickey, and Henry. Three have been sent from Canada, and we understand that the same number will proceed from New Brunswick. No conceivable measure could be equally well calculated to open up the resources and benefit the interests of the whole of British North America.

The crops are now being generally gathered in, for which the present fine weather is providentially highly favorable. The hay crop has, we believe, been fully an average one, and, considering the catching weather, has been tolerably well saved. Wheat and Oats are reported to be good throughout the country; and although the Potato blight has prevailed in injuring the vines to a considerable extent, especially on the shore districts, we believe there will be a fair yield, and that the root itself will not be seriously affected.

Sweden.

THE progress of Baptist sentiments in Sweden, within these three years past, has created no small sensation in that country. Previous to this period the Baptists were

little known there even by name. The past history of the three most northern kingdoms of Europe possesses no small interest for the great Anglo-Saxon race. With the most northern parts of Germany and the shores of the Baltic, they were originally inhabited by what are called the Scandinavian nations, a rude and warlike people, who were ever and anon pouring out their redundant populations upon their more southern neighbours, and to a large extent influencing the character and manners of those who fell under their power. Barbarian as they were in the early stages of their history, addicted to war and plunder, they were not without a considerable amount of literary knowledge, as is manifested by the inscriptions engraved on stones and monuments in the ancient *Runic* characters, scattered throughout the Scandinavian countries. Like most early nations their learning was chiefly embodied in the language of poetry—in celebrating the praises and recounting the deeds of their sanguinary gods and heroes. The cessation of the Roman power in the British Isles was shortly succeeded by the inroads of numerous predatory bands from these northern countries—the Norwegian Corsairs, the Danes and their more southern kindred, the Saxons. The seeds of popular and independent action in government had, from time immemorial, existed among these ancient people, as also among the inhabitants of the neighbouring Teutonic Counties, and from these sources, in a large measure, without a doubt, has been derived the free and popular institutions, the habits of independent thought and action, and the principles of self government which so signally distinguish the Anglo-Saxon race, whether in Europe, America, or elsewhere. These characteristics have not forsaken the descendants of the nations from whence they had their origin, and who have ever retained in their various modes of Government, a greater or less portion of the popular element. Thus at the present day Sweden and Denmark have their limited and constitutional monarchies, with representative and elective assemblies vested with large and controlling powers. It is not strange that in these countries the great Reformation in the 15th Century took a speedy and permanent root. The slavish dogmas of Rome had ever been repugnant to their independent feelings and usages, and were at once renounced for a purer and more rational faith. Lutheranism, however, is the established religion of the Scandinavian kingdoms, but it is now fully conceded that Luther fell far short of a complete reformation, and in that age the disunion of Church and State was neither understood nor desired by the most enlightened men. The consequence has been that even in the Reformed Churches of Europe persecution to a large extent has prevailed against all who differed from the State religion. From this reproach we regret to say, the northern kingdoms have not been exempt, and it was only the other day that several women, in conformity with existing laws, were banished from Sweden for forsaking the Lutheran and joining the Roman Catholic Church. But the most remarkable feature in the present religious aspect of Sweden is the sudden introduction and the rapid spread of Baptist principles in the very bosom of the State Church; and both in Sweden and Norway hundreds have been baptized on a profession of a living faith in the Redeemer, and in all corners of the land little bands of earnest believers are renouncing the frigid rites of their hereditary Church and listening to the gospel in its purity and its power. The clergy, whose legal rights over the consciences and the purses of their people have been thus imperilled, are naturally aroused, and the stringent laws with which the state religion has been hedged round, are called into active operation, and fines and imprisonments have been inflicted in many cases upon the obnoxious seceders. The work is nevertheless prospering amid persecution, and signal instances of Divine grace are constantly occurring. It is also a cheering fact that the tide of popular opinion is undergoing a rapid change on the subject of persecution for conscience sake, and that even the highest authorities in the land are desirous of modifying the existing laws. That this will very shortly take place we devoutly trust. The English Evangelical Alliance and many private Christians there, are taking a deep interest in the state of religion in Sweden, and surely no more appropriate object of prayer can be proposed for the Church of Christ, than that of humble supplication at a throne of Grace, that every stumbling-block may be shortly removed, and the cause of the Redeemer have free course and be glorified in the kingdoms of the North.

THE COR... zens will... number as... of the City... No 1, one... signed. Th... three years... of indepen... be placed... The pres... fax deman... honor of t... will not o... protect its... who can ri... the City... come before... the City m... they are e... A memo... persons, ha... present M... nomination... he has giv... fore that t... orable offic... His Worsh... characteriz... shall be gl... cil of int... worthy of... Men can... their dutie... them.

The foll... in the last... At a Coun... twenty fi...

His Exc... The... The... The... The... His Exc... despatch d... Honorable... closing a M... that Provi... ral, convey... of the Car... ture for E... tion of th... the constru... connect C... suggesting... the adopti... steps as th... with Cana... On full... subject the... in opinion... vince to u... in again b... Imperial... the advic... for this p... Provincial... Esquire, a... —and to... Dickey, a... in London... PROVINC... 18, 1858... vernet, wh... has been... ments: sioners fo... of Lunen... To be... the Rural... McKinnon... who has... To be... the Dis... dall, in t... has reme... Senter... has been... Esq., to... County of... One of... bridge o... seafo... another... fell, and... J. Be... Samuel... addition... jamin S... Sackv... terday... about e... afterno... their '... Sunday... taught... Parents... ing the... tea, bea... class, in... are ver... procee... tion to... The a... year, a... see it r... None... children... during... soul, an... Sack...