

however he was forced to seek a grave or bed in the highway, yet was his life and death, and burial, (being attended with many hundreds of God's people) honorable and (how much more on his rising again!) glorious" ("The Hireling Ministry none of Christ's," p. ii: quoted by Ivimey, i. 155.) The barbarity attending his burial was characteristic of the age. We have outgrown such things now.

Immediately after the commencement of the contest between Charles I. and the Long Parliament, freedom in religion advanced with rapid strides. The chief restraints of law being removed, by the abolition of the High Commission Court and the downfall of hierarchy, all parties claimed and exercised liberty of worship. The Baptists increased very fast, greatly to the chagrin of the Presbyterian party, which was then in the ascendant. A book published 1644 by Dr. Featley may be taken as the exponent of the feelings entertained towards them. Dr. F. had been engaged in a public disputation with the Baptists, and he printed an account of it, in which he claimed the victory. The book was entitled, "The Dippers dipt, or, the Anabaptists ducked and plunged over head and ears at a disputation in Southwark." He calls the Baptists an illiterate and sottish sect—a lying and blasphemous sect—an impure and carnal sect—a bloody and cruel sect—a profane and sacrilegious sect. His malice is thus expressed in the "Epistle Dedicatory":—"of all heretics and schismatics the Anabaptists ought to be most carefully looked unto, and severely punished, if not utterly exterminated and banished out of the church and kingdom. . . . They preach, and print, and practise their heretical impieties openly; they hold their conventicles weekly in our chief cities and suburbs thereof, and there prophesy by turns: . . . They flock in great multitudes to their Jordans, and both sexes enter into the river, and are dipt after their manner with a kind of spell, containing the heads of their erroneous tenets. . . . And as they defile our rivers with their impure washings, and our pulpits with their false prophecies and fanatical enthusiasms, so the presses sweat and groan under the load of their blasphemies."—I cannot help thinking that these are the words of a defeated champion, venting his spite against his opponents.

Dr. Featley was a man of influence, and it was therefore judged expedient to furnish an antidote to his book. This was done by the publication of a Confession of Faith, on the part of seven London churches. It appeared in the year 1644, under the following title:—"The Confession of Faith of those churches which are commonly (though falsely) called Anabaptists; presented to the view of all that fear God, to examine by the touchstone of the Word of Truth: as likewise for the taking off those aspersions which are frequently both in pulpit and print (although unjustly) cast upon them." It was a fair digest of Baptist principles, showing that in all important points of theology, christian ordinances and church government excepted, the Baptists agreed with other evangelical Protestants. The compilers were particularly careful to state in full the views on magistracy held by the churches, in order to disabuse men of the absurd notions still cherished by many, who were fain to charge the Baptists with revolutionary tendencies, similar to those of Munster. The concluding paragraph is admirably written. It is as follows:—"Thus we desire to give unto Christ that which is his, and unto all lawful authority that which is their due; and to owe nothing to any man but love; to live quietly and peaceably, as it becometh saints, endeavouring in all things to keep a good conscience, and to do unto every man (of what judgment soever) as we would they should do unto us; that as our practice is, so it may prove us to be a conscionable, quiet, and harmless people (no ways dangerous or troublesome to human society), and to labour and work with our hands that we may not be chargeable to any, but to give to him that needeth, both friends and enemies, accounting it more excellent to give than to receive." Also we confess that we know but in part, and that we are ignorant of many things which we desire and seek to know; and if any shall do us that friendly part to show us from the word of God that we see not, we shall have cause to be thankful to God and them. But if any man shall impose upon us any thing that we see not to be commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ, we should in his strength rather embrace all reproaches and tortures of men, to be stripped of all outward comforts, and, if it were possible, to die a thousand deaths, rather than to do anything against the least tittle of the truth of God, or against the

light of our own consciences. And if any shall call what we have said heresy, then do we with the apostle acknowledge, that after the way they call heresy, worship we the God of our fathers, disclaiming all heresies (rightly so called) because they are against Christ, and to be steadfast and immovable, always abounding in obedience to Christ, as knowing our labour shall not be in vain in the Lord."

The seven churches by which this Confession was published met in the following places, viz.:—Devonshire Square; Broad Street, Wapping; Great St. Helens; Crutched Friars; Bishopsgate Street; Coleman Street; and Glazier's Hall. The first-mentioned church has existed from that time to the present. It is now under the able pastorate of the Rev. J. H. Hinton, A. M. The others have been long extinct.

Yours truly,
MENNOR,
From my Study,
Jan. 2, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

New Church organised at Truro.

A Council was invited by a number of brethren and sisters residing in Truro, who had asked for a dismission from the Baptist Church in Onslow, to advise with them as to the propriety of forming a separate church in that place.

It was a source of regret, that neither of the five churches responded to the invitation, except Onslow church, which sent four delegates and the pastor.

The Council being already in possession of the reasons for the movement, and having approved of the measure, in the dismission given to the members for that purpose, precluded the necessity of particular examination, and therefore unanimously resolved that the brethren and sisters be advised to proceed.

The "Declaration of the Faith, Practice, and Covenant of the Churches of Christ composing the N. S. Baptist Associations" was stated to be the sentiments they entertained, as expressing, in general, their views of Divine truth.

After a sermon on the Lord's-day morning, bearing on the importance and nature of a New Testament Church of Christ, the covenant engagements were recognised and the consecrating prayer offered: A short address to the church was also given, and the right hand of fellowship.

Immediately followed the ordination of a deacon. Two members, dismissed from sister churches, were then received; after which a goodly number of disciples gathered before the Lord's table to commemorate the love and death, and glorious work of their Redeemer.

May the divine blessing rest upon the newly formed church. It was hard for the church to be separated from their brethren and sisters, whom they loved with sincere christian affection, but in the hope that the step would be for the glory and prosperity of the Saviour's name and cause, it was submitted to cheerfully.

[* We presume, the 3rd Instant.—ED. C. M.]

Removal.

We beg to inform our Subscribers that we have again removed our office, and are now occupying the new building erected on the site of the one destroyed during the fire on the first of January last, No. 49, Granville Street.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JANUARY 13, 1858.

It is with some anxiety we await the Indian news expected by the coming mail. The situation of our force under Outram and Havelock in the entrenched Residency at Lucknow, with hourly diminishing stores, and a large number of women and children, sick and wounded, environed by myriads of enraged barbarians, was anything but cheering. Little was known about them except that they still held out against fearful odds, and that they had had severe conflicts with the besiegers. Their number could not probably exceed 1,000 or 1,200 men, fit for action. We have every confidence in the relieving force under Sir Colin Campbell, amounting to above 7,000, but they have had heavy odds to contend with in the great army of Mutineers, which would meet them at every step of their advance.

It is said in the last telegraphic despatches, that the Ministry have given the East India Company notice of their intention to terminate the present double system of Indian Government, in which a mixed responsibility leaves neither party directly amenable to

the great councils of the nation as in every other case. Such a measure adopted a few years since would in all probability have prevented the unhappy catastrophe which is now so deeply deplored.

It appears that the American Congress have refused to admit the Delegate from Utah, on the score of the Mormon State being in a position of hostility to the U. S. Col. Johnston, with a party of troops, is advancing towards Utah, but will probably not reach there this season, or with so small a force as he now commands. It is thought that Brigham Young and his fanatics will offer a desperate resistance, and perhaps cut off the American troops in their advance through the wild and almost unknown country through which they must pass.

The Brigand, Gen. Walker, has been captured and sent back from Central America by the naval force despatched by President Buchanan to preserve inviolate the treaty with Nicaragua. It is said much commotion is the result among the filibustering population of some of the Southern States. Where the interests of Slavery or Annexation are concerned some of the Southern States seem to consider the principles of justice or humanity, of small moment. The Sun informs us that "Gen. Walker has been relieved from custody by the United States Government. Much excitement in favour of his schemes and conduct was exhibited in various parts of the Union. In New Orleans and other places, indignation meetings were held, in consequence of his arrest, and money was raising and men arming for the expedition. This is a very strange state of affairs. The General Government denounce hostile inroads on neutral or friendly states, but when the leader of such inroads is brought before them, he is set free on technical grounds, and extreme and open rallying in his support are tolerated. The expected recall of Commodore Paulding, for arresting Walker on foreign territory was reported."

ALTHOUGH many of our Subscribers require no reminding of the time when their subscriptions become due, but send on their sum a little before, or shortly after their year has expired, yet there are others on our list, to whom a hint on the subject will not be deemed out of place or unnecessary. Our contemporaries are making similar suggestions to their patrons, and we would not be behind any in our respectful attentions. Whilst we believe our readers generally will bear favourable comparison with any other body in the province, yet we do not suppose that a hint will be misunderstood by any, or be allowed to lose its effect on those for whose benefit it is given. Our friends will please hand in their amounts to one of our Agents, or send it on direct to our office, without waiting to be called on—this is the great source of perplexity and embarrassment to newspaper publishers. These payments will afford pleasure to all concerned, and to none more than to the parties making them. If any one has a doubt on this point, we advise him to try the experiment, and the result will, we believe, prove the truth of this assertion.

Those who have not paid for their paper, will please consider what would be the result if all were like themselves, and with the respect for the great moral law which we give all our readers credit for possessing, we doubt not they will shortly let us hear from them. Some of our contemporaries after making desperate attempts to live, are obliged to give up, and die out.

Our friends in their several localities, by a little effort, may do for us what would cost us personally a large expenditure of time and money to perform, and would not then be done so effectually as by those well acquainted with the people.

Whatever we may have done, (and all our doings are imperfect), may be considered as done by the aid of our patrons. We desire to make the C. Messenger a blessing to every family into which it comes. This, however, can only be done by its being regularly paid for, by those who receive it.

To our Agents we need scarcely speak. Many of them we know use no small amount of effort to accommodate subscribers and collect their subscriptions. Our subscribers and ourselves are under great obligations to many of them for the interest they manifest in behalf of the paper, being desirous only of doing good, and promoting the cause of Christ by the circulation of their religious journal.

May they be abundantly rewarded here by the gratitude of those who receive the benefit, and the consciousness of having done what they could, and in the resurrection of the just by seeing many by their means brought into the kingdom of heaven.

General Sir Henry Havelock.

THE secret of greatness in this famous man may be gathered from various facts lately brought to light. One of the most prominent characteristics in him appears to be his persisting in a course of obedience to what he believes to be duty. Having discovered the value of religious truth, he embraces all proper opportunities of making use of it, and commending it to others. The following anecdote is one instance in which we see the great principle of human happiness and security illustrated:

"At a meeting of the Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, held in Leadenhall-street on Saturday, Mr. Wilcox, M. P., chairman, mentioned an anecdote associated with the loss of one of the company's vessels, the *Erin*, at Calcutta, on the western coast of Ceylon. Colonel, now General Havelock, was on board at the time, and seeing a little confusion on deck, he said, "Men, think of nothing but obeying your orders, and all may be saved." The men did so, and every soul on board was saved. When all the crew and passengers got safely from the boats they assembled together in a cluster, and the gallant General offered up a brief prayer to the Almighty for their providential escape."

How well, too, does this exhibit the plan of salvation and the necessity of obeying the command "believe on Him who is sent" in order that "all may be saved."

It is somewhat amusing to see the changes in popular feeling in Great Britain, brought about by various circumstances, principally, perhaps, by the popularity of Mr. Spurgeon, and the victories of General Havelock. In allusion to the remark of one of the bishops at a recent visitation, that the church required more Bishops, *Punch* says "We want more Baptists and fewer Bishops."

DR. CRAMP'S letter on Registration in another column, deserves the serious attention of the public generally and of our legislators in particular. The present generation owe it to those who will succeed them to make some such provision as that referred to for their future protection. The longer it is neglected the greater the number of cases where injury, such as that spoken of, will be sustained, and the longer it will be before the information to be obtained from the plan will be available for practical purposes.

THE BIBLE UNION MONTHLY REPORTER for December has reached us. It contains the first installment of the Revised Version of the Gospel of Mark. In three columns, are given the authorised version, the Greek text, and the revision, similar to the former books which have been published, so that readers may see at a glance the alterations made and the original text, together with the reasons below for the changes made in the rendering. This book will doubtless be subjected to the closest scrutiny of the learned, and will be of much interest to bible students generally. The plan of the Bible Union is given very succinctly in the following, by the Rev. Mr. Breaker:—

"The present plan, therefore, of the American Bible Union, is manifestly the only one that is either practicable or desirable. This is a union, not of denominations, but of individuals, from all denominations or from none, and irrespectively of denominational distinctions and interests,—a union upon this simple basis—the procuring and circulation of the most faithful version of God's word, that the best scholarship of the age can make. If the unprejudiced wisdom and piety of the age are not sufficient to give success to such an enterprise, alas for the age! But it is not dependent on wisdom and piety alone. The hand of God is in the work, and his approving smiles are now resting upon it. Its rapid and cheering progress abundantly bespeaks this. It is fast awakening and receiving the earnest attention of the christian world."

"It is not the right, simply, but the solemn duty of every one, to desire, procure, and circulate, only faithful versions of the inspired word. If there are none such at hand, then he should do what he can to procure them. If there be any body of men organized for this purpose, it is their duty to ascertain its character and principles, and, if these be founded in wisdom and truth, to give it his sanction and support. But if, after due examination, he is convinced that the body thus organized is not worthy of confidence, then he should at once set to work, and do all that he can to procure the organization of one that is. If he admits the need of revision, which the facts and the best authorities attest, he is bound to do something directly or indirectly to bring it about."

Among the passengers in the last Steamer for England, en route for India, to join his Regiment, we notice the name of Ensign Gray, of H. M. 32nd Regiment. Mr. Gray is a native of this city, and son of the late Jas. F. Gray, Esq. We are also pleased to add that this young gentleman previous to his departure passed a very creditable examination before a Military board of officers.—*Express*.