Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Baptismal Service at Windsor.

SIR,-I would like to convey to your mind a scene which I was privileged to witness on the last Lord's day, which, for grandeur and true sublimity, surpassed all scenes of the kind I ever witnessed. I have been present on many such occasions, but a more imposing and convincing proof of the apostolic mode I never expect to see. God grant that I may be spared to see many more of this sort. The locality of the scene is near Windsor; the River Avon was at full tide, and there was quite a large assemblage of persons at the water's edge and on the high lands just above to witness the ordinance of baptism administered by the Pastor of the Church, Meeting in which between 70 and 80 persons After singing and prayer, he led five willing candidates into the Avon, and then, on a profession of their faith, he baptized them in the name of the adorable Trinity. The assemblage was composed of many denominations of Christians and of a lages. The utmost decorum was paid, and I may add, I believe they must have felt convinced that this was, and should be now, the only and proper mode.

new chapel: why they did not use it, I have not learnt, and I hope they never will as long as the Avon can afford them water.

What a privilege our youthful pastor enjoyed to be favoured as the administrator of this boly rite to the five converts above alluded to. What were John the Bactist's feelings when he was the honored instrument in baptizing our blessed Lord. Hear his remonstrance, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?" Now observe the answer, ' Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." by his own servant John, whose shoes' latchet he was not worthy to unloose, as he expressed himself.

The Church appears quite alive to a sense of their duty, -the members are zealous and active, holding their prayer-meetings almost nightly They are well attended. Some are not there, however, who should be. We trust that the prayers of the Church may awaken them to a sense of their duty, and Windsor Baptists may yet be redeemed from the reproach of being called " cold bearted."

The Methodists are holding meetings, and they are well attended.

AN OBSERVER. Windsor, April 7th, 1859.

Home Missions.

The Secretary of the Home Missionary Society has handed us some communications, recently received, from which we make a few extracts

ANTIGONISH.—Rev. A. F. Porter writes, dated March 14th.—" Last evening the house was nearly filled with attentive listeners from all the denominations in the place. I trust in the Lord, if he pleases, the work will prove effectual; for this, dear Bro., pray, that I may not labor here in vain. I do not judge of the progress of the work by the numbers baptized, though I do most earnestly desire this, when the church shall prove a nursery for young converts.

"The death bell's toll is now familiar to our ears—but oh! how few lay it to heart. I have witnessed more drunkenness since I came here than in all my life before. There are six licensed dens in this small village, and what better state of things may we expect while these are well sustained - May God save the church. One is now received for baptism."

GAELIC MISSION .- The Rev Hugh Ross writes, January 31st:-"I have labored to the best of my ability among the Gaelic people. Our meetings are well attended and interesting. A great work of grace seems to be at hand. Prayers of such persons as have been seldom heard, go up for the outpouring of God's spirit on the island. Prophecy declares the work of Christ is to advance. What disciple of Christ in the land will form bill debate :not pray for this end?

among the happy converts.

of Christ. Seven were baptized by him yester- a seat (which, if a member occupies at prayers, les he merely endeavoured to get them to bring

MIRA BAY, C. B .- The Rev. D. P. McQuillan in giving an account of his labour, states :-

God

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want

to the place of worship wherever appointed. was the presentation of petitions, of which there ture - Court Journal.

Sometimes I felt much discouraged, but at other was an unusual number-almost all about the times I was led to hope that God was preparing Reform Bill, and nearly every one against the the way for a great and glorious work of Divine Reform Bill. How the House roured with grace amongst us; and, to the praise and glory laughter, however, when, after some hundreds of Sovereign mercy, we were not left to disap- of petitions had been presented, begging that pointment. I cannot give you a full account of the Bill might be rejected, Mr. Garnett, the the work, but will say that it has been remarka- member for Luncaster, rose and produced a solibly powerful, and has spread for 20 miles up tary memorial praying that the Bill might be Mira River to Mainadue. Two from that place, passed into a law. Hardly less intense was the attending our meeting, have been hopefully con- merriment when Mr. Bazley, the lately elected verted, and the way will be opened for the gos- member for Manchester, presented a petition on pel to be preached there. I baptized seven Sab- the other side from his constituents, signed by baths in succession, and two since, being pre- 53,000 persons. The monster petition was vented on one Sunday by storm. Fifty-one have neatly packed up in the shape of a bale of cotmore indulging a kope. My field is now large, and will require much attention."

New Brunswick.

RELIVAL IN CARLETON .- We baptized seven persons and Dr. Clay nine last Sabbath, and ten on the previous one. On Sabbath evening we spoke, which together with giving the right hand of fellowship to the seven baptized, made it a meeting of intense interest .- Religious Intelligencer.

Canada.

VICTORIA, C. W.—The Canada Christian Messenger gives an account from Rev. John Rowe of a revival at the above place. He says-"21 have been baptized since this revival commenced, ned has committed himself, and how much a The Baptists here have a baptistry in their and some backsliders restored, and others received into the church by letter."

United States.

Highly interesting accounts continue to b received from various parts of the Union of extensive additions to the churches. We regret that our space will not allow us to give some of the details.

has occurred in the Elhot school, Boston, from permanent tranquillity of Southern Europe. the refusal of several hundred scholars of Cathoof the Catholics .- N. Y. Chron.

European & Foreign News.

THE WAR QUESTION

We are now told that Lord Cowley has succeeded in inducing Austria to do all that might to Rome, should such a step be taken bona fide become her towards peace in Italy. She asserts, and there seems no reason to disbelieve it, that she has had no aggressive designs on Piedmont, although she had been on such bad diplomatic terms with her. She is now willing, it is confidently affirmed, to evacuate the Roman States simultaneously with the Freuch,, and not to quarrel with France, even if for the personal salety of the Pope her troops should be required to return again. Austria is willing to renounce her separate treaties with the Italian States, which she speaks of as if they had been a burden—the burden being that of sending troops, when requested by the petty potentates, to sustain them against their people—a burden she has always taken up with savage delight hitherto. So, magnanimous Austria has conceded all that can be asked. Count Cavour's ambition must content itself with a free Sardinia, and leave Lombardy to groun beneath the Austrian gaoler, and the other States to the oppressions of their legitimate despots. Above all, France-Louis Napoleon rather - must give up the project of enacting the part of arbiter of Italian and Europeon affairs; he must content himself with the humble position of absolute ruler of all France, and commander of an army of 600,000 men, and of a navy vieing with that of Eugland. The war-like movements, however, continue to the last. Troops still move south, and preparations are not intermitted.

THE REFORM BILL DEBATE.

In the Parliamentary Notes from the House of Commons in the Freeman we find an amusing account of the excitement produced by the Re-

"On Monday there was a general excitement "Mira Church is greatly blessed by the out- about the House of Commons. The crowd in pouring of God's spirit, of which you have al- | Palace-yard to see the Members assemble, was ready heard the work is extending. Scores have larger than I remember to have seen it for sev- in his reply to an address from the merchants publicly professed faith in Jesus and are bap- eral years past. The chaplain of the House of Shanghai, has informed them that his artized, and many more are coming. Their Pas- must have been greatly edified by the extraor- rangements do not at all fetter the action of tor, brother McQuillan, reems to have his youth dinary fit of devotion which brought some four Great Britain in regard to opium. It may still renewed-no wonder, his own two sons are hundred members down to the House to join in be made penal for a British subject to engage the opening prayer; and it is to be hoped that in the traffic; but he does not think this would Dear Father Richardson is happy in the the chilling suspicion never flitted across his diminish consumption of the drug in China; in work, pointing the wounded sinner to the cross mind, that not devotion, but a desire to secure his intercourse with the Chinese Plenipotentiaring), was the predominating motive on the oc- to that of fact, and thus to place under the concourse were filled; and the House of Lords ad- and sold as if it were legal. The tax is to be "Since I came here, I have been taking some journed early, that the Premier might watch rather heavy, but not much more so than the new ground. Where I found a desert, God has from his post of vantage the conduct of his lieu- charges now incident to a contraband trade. caused the rose to blossom. Although I have tenants, and perhaps also witness the oratorical not been far away, yet good has been done. triumph of his son, who, it was settled, was to The aid given by the Board has supported and reply to Lord John Russell, as well as for the cheered me. I did not feel at liberty to leave convenience of other members of the House of this field. I could scarcely be reconciled to be Lords, whose personal and political position. The present of her Majesty to her grandson absent for a single Sabbath. Though there was was likely to be seriously affected by the fate of on his christening is a splendid and very valuano revival, I was cheered. People would flock the measure. The first business of the evening ble coral of the most tasteful style of manufac-

been received by baptism, and there are numbers ton. How the hon, member had got it to his seat I did not observe, but when the Speaker called him to bring it to the table, he handled it in the most approved style of a porter in a warehouse, tossed it lightly upon his shoulder, and marched up the floor of the House thus accoutred, amidst the laughter and cheers of his colleagues."

CONGRESS ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

We read in The Times of Monday:

"We are happy to state that a Congress of the great Powers will meet either at London or Berlin to take into consideration the state of Italy and the complications to which it has led. Although we may all have become somewhat tired of Congresses, yet there is no doubt that this solution is the best under the circumstances -in fact, the only one, considering how far each of the two Sovereigns principally concerretreat would detract from the pretensions of either. The recent conduct of the French and Sardinian Courts is not calculated to insure a fortune for Italy, but we trust that, now the settlement of that unhappy country has been committed to Europe, the Great Powers, and especially England and Prussia, will make their voices heard in favour of humanity and good Government. France and Austria have called a Congress not only to decide the points in dis-School Difficulty in Boston.-A difficulty pure between them, but to take counsel for the

The Emperior of Austria having regard to the lic parents, to repeat the Lord's prayer and interests of peace, and willing to take away commandments, except after the Douay version. every excuse for an aggression on the part of One lad was punished, and over one hundred France, has stated his intentions respecting Italy And thus our blessed Lord was baptized in Jordan were sent away. They have mostly returned, fully and frankly. He declares, what we can however, and submitted to the rule of the well believe, that he has not and never has had school, while Bishop Fitzpatrick, who is him- any design of attacking Piedmont. The agself a 'medal scholar,' has addressed a temperate gressive attitude has been throughout on the letter to the school committee, suggesting such side of the weaker State, encouraged by the alterations in the rule as may meet the scruples hope of French assistance; and the alledged designs of Austria have been a mere pretext to cover armaments intended for an invasion of Lombardy, The Emperor of Austria is quite willing to evacuate the Papal States simultaneously with France, and if the result of such an act chances to be the exposure of the Pope to danger from the revolutionary party, he will not regard with jealousy the return of French troops for the purpose of supporting his Holiness."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL IN THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—The House of Lords have again rejected the Marriage Law Amendment Bill. Four bishops spoke against the Bill, and two-the Bishop of CARLISLE and the Bishop of Cork-in its fevour. To the list of authorities in support of the measure is, however, to be added the Bishop of MANCHESTER. To a highly influential deputation which waited upon him, on Saturday, comprising the Mayors of four horoughs, the bishop expressed very much the views which we have always thought justified us in regarding the marriage of a deceased wife's sister as a question of the "Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control." Having adverted to the purely constructive character of the interpretations of Scripture by the opponents of these marriages, he adds-

"But it does not seem reasonable, or in this country constitutional, that any body of men, however distinguished for the great qualities last mentioned, should be permitted to make, by legislative enactment, their own private interpretation, without express warrant of Holy Scripture, obligatory on others as a rule of practise; and this becomes more evident and cogent in proportion as the interests, feelings, and liberty of action affected by such a rule more closely concern the private and personal happiness or domestic comfort of the party on whom the rule is, against his own conscientious belief, imposed. Parties interpreting Scripture, were Scripture itself is not explicit in a peculiar way may make, and ought to make, such interpretation a law of themselves, but have no right to lay it as a burden on others. To do so were to take a first step towards persecution."

THE OPIUM TRADE IN CHINA.-LOTH ELGIN, he is enabled to retain for the rest of the even- the trade of opium from the region of fiction casion. The galleries allotted to strangers of trol of law an article which is openly bought

> Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston abstained from voting on the motion for the Abolition of Church-rates.

REVIEW

E. MATURIN'S LETTER,

By Rev. John Hunter, A LECTURE BEFORE THE PROTESTANT ALLIANCE,

now ready and may be had at the Wesleyan Book ooms and at the Stores of Messrs. A. & W. Mackinlay, ames Gossip and James Tracey. April 6.

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Revised: with an Appendix.

Scripture and Iradition; A REPLY TO MR. MATURIN'S LETTER

"The Claims of the Catholic Church."

By J. M. CRAMP, D. D.

The Appendix will contain articles on the following subjects :-

- 1. WAS PETER BISHOP OF ROME?
- 2. THE EARLY HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN BRITAIN. 3. THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES.

4. APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION. "Christian Messenger" Office. 49 Granville Street, Halifax.

Notice of Dissolution.

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between the Subscribers under the firm of

ALBRO & WIER,

Is this day dissolved by the withdrawal of FREDERICK O. WIER therefrom. All persons indebted to the said firm are requested to pay the amounts to FRANCIS J. ALBRO, who alone s authorized to receive and settle the same, and who as assumed all the liabilities of the late firm,

FREDERICK O. WIER. Halifax, N. S., April 1st, 1859.

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