

spicy articles from ancient times, Corinth, Philippi, Laodicea, Italy and the Isle of Patmos." The present letter is from one Paul, for known as "Saul of Tarsus," and best of it is, that he proves to be a "sound" and even a "landmark" Baptist. The *Banner* promises other communications from this unexceptionable source, which cannot fail to be of great service to its readers.—*N. Y. Chronicle.*

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, DECEMBER 21, 1859.

The Past, the present and the future.

THERE are few things more difficult than to present a subject, however important in itself, but which has been often dwelt on, in such a point of view, as to interest the feelings or instruct the minds of men. Such a subject is now offered to our thoughts in the close of another year—not indeed the more lapse of time in its rapid approach to the unknown future, but the vast and absorbing consequences which each revolving moment may bear in its relation to the temporal and much more the eternal interests of each one of us. But what adds tenfold force to such considerations is, that in every case the history of the past is so intimately linked with the future that we cannot, if we would, disconnect the two or dismiss from our minds the deep conviction that as regards our own individual welfare, the future will be the test of the present and the past. If men could accurately weigh the good and the evil, the joys and the sorrows of their past lives, how vast a proportion would they find which has been the result of their own or others actions, as the direct or indirect consequences of the transgression of the laws of God. It is an inward consciousness of this truth no doubt, which so often casts a gloomy foreboding on the future, and prevents the enjoyment of the hourly blessings which Infinite goodness has connected even with our mortal being.

The past year has been distinguished from others that have preceded it, by marks of no common character. The conflict of human passions among civilized nations has been again permitted to an extent which perils the peace of many nations, affording evidence that cannot be mistaken, that Christianity, the great moral remedy of our nature, has as yet taken but a feeble hold on the "powers that be." Still it is matter for grateful hope for the future, that the great sanctions of our holy faith have not been without their influence on the ruling powers of the earth, and that among some of the great masses of the human family at least, something more than a mere empty acknowledgement of Divine authority is beginning to be felt.

In no respect is this great fact so apparent as in the extensive religious awakenings which have pervaded society in countries of all others blessed with the highest amount of intelligence, and therefore, possessing the largest influence on human affairs. Such manifestations of God's power, wholly unknown to the same extent in these latter days, coupled with the breaking down of barriers which have hitherto barred all intercourse between many of the most populous nations of the earth, and the wonderful dispersion of civilized men by the gold discoveries within a very few years past, carry the conviction to our own minds, that the dawn of a more glorious day is approaching, and that men, as a race are beginning to feel the true nature of their duties to each other, and their responsibilities to their Maker. It must be the fervent prayer of every sincere believer in the revelations that God has made to his creatures, that this blessed consummation may soon arrive, and that the miseries and desolations which sin has occasioned on earth, may shortly be followed by the triumphs of the Prince of Peace.

We shall in our next offer a brief summary of the leading events of the year now fast hastening to its close.

"Chronicle" Misrepresentation.

WHEN truth fails to serve a man's purpose, and he has to resort to falsehood to sustain his position, it indicates either that his cause is bad, or he wishes to make a bad use of it. He wishes to cover over some baseness that he has committed, or that he intends to perpetrate. He is afraid to allow people to take facts as they are, he therefore either distorts the truth, or violates it by his own fabrications. He asserts, of those he wishes to traduce, something they have not said, or misrepresents their language, and tries to make it appear that it means something else than what may be fairly drawn from it. This

has been the course of the Persecutor from the earliest times, and has been resorted to in numberless instances, for the purpose of shutting up conventicles, stopping the mouths of preachers of the gospel, and taking the lives of thousands of those "of whom the world was not worthy." Charges have been brought against them of which they were not guilty and which they did not acknowledge.

The Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, in this very same spirit, pretends to have found, in some of our late remarks, the *Christian Messenger* "advocating in Nova Scotia the abolition of trial by Jury." Now we hesitate not in affirming that the writer of that editorial in the *Morning Chronicle* knew, when writing it, that he was perverting the truth, and endeavoring to raise a base slander. We shall not insult our readers by repeating what we did say. The possibility of such construction being put upon our language will hardly be believed by many of them and it will be enough to shew them all, what prevarication some will resort to, to secure their designs on the public. A man who could do such a thing as this, must have lost all respect for truthfulness and honor. We can well afford to ask our friends if such an idea entered their minds while reading our remarks, two weeks ago.

Not only is our neighbour defective in conscientiousness, but he seems actually to have taken leave of his judgment, whilst writing that full column, entitled "The Christian Messenger, on trial by Jury." He makes a garbled quotation from our columns as a text, and after trying to make it mean as stated above, he refers to several trials, as given by Macauley, in favor of juries, and we suppose he also intended, against the administration of justice by an "upright individual." Does he think the three judges who condemned John Bunyan were "upright individuals?" If not, then where is the point of its application to the case in hand? In Baxter's trial, where the Chief Justice overruled the Jury, and condemned that godly man, Was he an "upright" individual? Answer, Mr. *Chronicle*, if you please. The latter case he gives, is that of the celebrated trial of the seven Bishops, and proves just the contrary of what this profound logician proposed. It establishes the correctness of our statements, for, notwithstanding that two of the Judges called their very "petition" a libel, and another evaded the question, Justice Powell set his face against the prosecution, and was the "upright individual" through whom "justice was impartially administered." The course taken by him, our sagacious friend unwittingly remarks "helped mightily to redeem the Island (Great Britain) forever from the dynasty of the Stuarts, and from Popish rule." So that, after all, it appears that he confirms our position, instead of confuting it.

If the writer of that article in the *Morning Chronicle* were a lawyer, (perhaps he is,) and were to make such a blunder in bringing forward cases in favour of his client, his fate would surely be sealed, in the estimation of the bench, the bar, and the jury.

What we demand is, that every man has a right to think for himself, and speak out his opinion as to the justice of the verdict given in every case submitted to a jury, without being denounced, proscribed, or molested as a political partizan, as the *Morning Chronicle* has chosen to do, by his attack upon us, for doing this in the case of Preep. Any party who would interfere with this right is essentially a Persecutor and not to be trusted, seeing that he infringes on the first principles of liberty of opinion and speech.

Because a man calls himself a Protestant, that surely is no reason why he should be allowed with impunity to take the life of another—a Catholic—any more than a Catholic should that of a Protestant. *Fiat justitia, et ruat cælum.*

Baptists in England

BAPTIST MINISTERS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—We have long held "our denomination" in the mother country in high estimation, but were not prepared to find that it had such an army of ministers. The December number of the *Baptist Magazine* gives a list of about *Fifty hundred names of Baptist Ministers in England and Wales, and eighty-six in Scotland.*

BAPTIST CHAPELS IN AND NEAR LONDON.—It was lately stated, publicly, by a certain Methodist minister in this province, well known for his reckless assertions in controversy on the baptismal question, that Baptists are so few in London that it is next to an impossibility to find one in the metropolis! The Baptist year-book for 1860, received by last mail, however, gives a list of *One Hundred and twenty-seven Baptist Chapels, with the names and residences of their ministers, in the City of London and its suburbs.* We merely mention this for the purpose of giving correct information to those who have been so misinformed.

CHURCH EXTENSION.—In the same periodical we also have the names of *Eighty-nine* new Baptist Chapels erected during the year. The Denomination also sustains *nineteen* different, great Missionary, Educational and Bible and Tract Societies.

BAPTIST COLLEGES are sustained at Bristol, Bradford, Regent's Park, Pontypool, and Haverford West, with One hundred and sixteen Students for the ministry.

The GENERAL (OR FREEWILL) BAPTISTS, also have an Institution at Nottingham with eight students.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF NOVA SCOTIA, by J. B. Calkin, Head Master of the Provincial Model School, Truro. pp. 102. Halifax: A. & W. Mackinlay.

Every effort to improve upon School-books is deserving of commendation. Such important interests are involved that nothing is to be despised which will promote them. So many mistakes have been made in Educational matters that all the light which can possibly be thrown on the subject is necessary.

We have looked through this little Manual, and although we might refer to some trifling things which we deem imperfections and defects, yet we see nothing which will prevent its being received as a very useful compilation, and one which may be usefully adapted by teachers generally with advantage to themselves and their pupils. If all the paragraphs had been numbered in the same way as those which treat of the History of Nova Scotia, it would have been a convenience for many teachers.

We were told some years ago by a teacher of some years standing, that Nova Scotia had no geography, and there was nothing about this province to be taught. This notion is now being pretty generally exploded, and the opinion is extending itself here as in every other country, that every child should be no less familiar with the geography and history of his own country than with that of distant nations. This small volume will tend to the promotion of that sentiment, and render important service in carrying it into practical application.

GOTTHOLD'S EMBLEMS: by Christian Scriber, Minister of Magdeburg in 1671. Translated from the 28th German Edition by the Rev. R. Menzies. pp. 316. Gould & Lincoln, Boston.

Making use of things around us as emblems of Divine things is a practice which can scarcely be too much cultivated. Every object is capable of imparting to us a lesson of wisdom, if we will but come to it with a teachable spirit. The author in his Address to the Reader says:—"My object in this book was to make the creatures converse with thee, or rather to expound and interpret their secret language." The work is got up in a very beautiful style; the paper is fine and the typography beautiful; even superior to those commonly issuing from the press of Gould & Lincoln, and they are always equal to the best American publications.

THE COSMOPOLITAN ART JOURNAL, Quarterly, December; is a well-filled number on all subjects relating to the Arts. The plate "This little pig went to market &c" is a gem, surrounded with the pleasantest associations. This is perhaps the first fable universally taught to the babies.

THE BIBLE UNION REPORTER for September and October, and for November and December contains the Revision of Luke as far as the 22nd Chapter.

The cover also contains a specimen of D. Conant's Revision of Matthew, now in press. The Marginal Notes giving reasons for every alteration of the text from the Authorized Version if carefully examined, would, we think, materially modify the opinions of many who entertain prejudices against Revision.

THE MECHANICS & INVENTOR'S POCKET MANUAL for 1860. Fowler & Wells, New York, is a neat pocket manual of many things which relate to mechanics and the obtaining Patents in the United States.

VALUE OF A RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPER.—We copy the following from the *Watchman and Reflector*:

"There is that in a well-managed Christian weekly newspaper which meets a want of the reading public—and who does not read—which nothing else can attain to. The style of such a journal is inviting by the variety and richness of its general as well as religious reading; by its careful digests of news and of informing matter; by its live discussions and moral pointing of current matters; by its variety of contributors and able correspondence; by its graphic, pleasing and yet salutary sketches; by its making prominent every week, Christ and the Spirit as the Redeemer and Renewer of lost men. We say such a paper has adaptations to render it the counteractive of immoral and corrupting issues that should especially commend it to the lovers of virtue and of God."

Our readers will thus perceive how desirable it is that they should introduce a religious newspaper to families who do not have the weekly visits of one.

The *Europa*, which arrived on Thursday last, brings London dates to the 3rd inst. It is gratifying to find that the political horizon is somewhat clearer, and that European affairs wear a more pacific appearance.

The proposition has at length been made by France and Austria for a general European Congress to adjust the unsettled state of things, especially as regards Italy, and it is said the plenipotentiaries from the various Powers are to convene in Paris in the beginning of January. Several of the French Journals have been officially admonished to avoid irritating language towards England, and the French Emperor professes to be unchanged in his adherence to the English Alliance. If he is really so, he will prove his sincerity by relaxing his warlike demonstrations, which have aroused England throughout to a state of feeling which has probably taught him, that his ships and legions would have a harder task to encounter than he at first anticipated. It is most probable that something will be done at the approaching Congress towards a general reduction of the immense standing armies of the continent.

Preparations are making on a large scale by England and France to send out a powerful expedition to China. France sends out 18,000 men under Gen. Montauban. England will probably dispatch a still larger force, chiefly from India. An adequate naval force will accompany the expedition.

The raising and discipline of Volunteer Rifle Corps is still going on with unabated vigour throughout the United Kingdom. Vast numbers are enrolled and partially disciplined in all parts of the country.

The Screw Line-of-battle-Ship *Nile*, of 91 guns, which sailed some weeks since from Portsmouth, for Halifax, had returned and put into Cork, much disabled, having encountered severe storms.

Parliament was to meet for the dispatch of business on the 24th January.

To our Agents and Patrons generally.

Dear Friends,—In prospect of the commencement of a New Year, we are desirous of showing that we appreciate your efforts to extend our circulation, and of co-operating with you in securing that desirable object.

As the large number of new subscribers we are accustomed to receive during the first two or three weeks of the New Year, have sometimes rendered it difficult for us to attend to other pressing duties at that time, we therefore propose, to all who forward their names any time between this and the end of the year, sending the paper from the time of receiving their names, and charging only from the first of January 1860. We would further briefly intimate our wants, our intentions, and our offers.

1. **OUR WANTS.**—One thousand new subscribers before the first of January, 1860. PAYMENT FROM ALL WHO ARE IN ARREARS.

2. **OUR INTENTIONS.**—To strike off from our list of subscribers those who have for several years neglected to forward their subscriptions; and place the names of such in a list FOR IMMEDIATE COLLECTION.

3. **OUR OFFERS.**—For the names of two new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£1) besides sending the *Messenger* to their address, as above, to Dec. 31, 1860, we will also send a copy, for three months, to the person sending, or to any other address desired by him.

For the names of four new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£2) besides sending the *Messenger* to their address, as above, we will also send a copy, for six months, to any other address.

For the names of eight new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£4) besides sending the *Messenger* to their address, as above, we will also send a copy, for one year, to any other address.

Meteorological Register.

Abstract of Meteorological Observations

TAKEN AT ACADEMIA COLLEGE, WOLFVILLE, N. S.
In Lat. 45° 6', Long. 64° 25'. Height above sea, 95 ft.
For the month of November, 1859.

Barometer, reduced to 32°	Max'm, 7th, 7 a.m.	30.472
"	Min'm, 11th, 2 p.m.	29.133
"	Mean for the month	29.802
Thermometer in open air	Max'm, 13th, 2 p.m.	63° 000
"	Min'm, 30th, 7 a.m.	15° 000
"	Mean for the month	36° 136
Hygrometer, Mean of Dry Bulb,		36° 136
"	Wet "	33° 950
"	Fraction of Saturation, mean,	79.7
Mean Cloudiness,		8.0
Number of cloudless days,		0
Mean velocity of wind,		8 miles per hour.
Prevailing wind,		N. W.
Number of days on which rain or snow fell,		17
Amount of rain and melted snow in gauge, in inches,		4.7
Amount of snow, in inches,		22.5
Number of evenings on which the Aurora was visible,		1.

C. F. H.