

to this great moral question. You have seen with pleasure, no doubt, the published Declaration of the Clergymen of the Church of England in England, in favor of Total Abstinence. Strange as it may sound to some ears in Halifax, the Lord Bishop of Huron took the chair at a Temperance meeting recently at London, Canada West! The Lord Bishop, is one of the "peculiar people zealous of good works," that we do not find as frequently as we would desire. In the Niagara District, during my absence 6 new organizations have been formed, and the cause never stood better than it does now. The Sons of Temperance take the lead in this Province. I trust, that my Brethren of the Order in Nova Scotia and the sister Provinces are all alive to duty and privilege, looking to God, for the continual dew of his blessing.

I often live over again the happy hours I spent in your Province and in the Province of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and I trust all my brethren and sisters there, are remembering me at the Throne of Grace. I regret that I was so long a slave to the Devil, and that I wasted so many days and years in sin and madness and gracelessness. The Lord help me to redeem the time. My Post Office address is Box 119, and I will rejoice to hear from any of my brethren or friends, and if any of them have information bearing in the cause of Temperance, of any kind, I will rejoice to receive it. I would like to see a *Messenger* now and then. The great kindness and respect shown me, Mr. Editor, in Nova Scotia, calls me to thus let my friends know how good the Lord is to me, and how grateful I feel to God for raising me up good and true friends when I was a stranger in a strange land. May God bless the Nova Scotians all, is the prayer of my heart."

Yours truly in Christ,  
JAMES A. DAVIDSON.

For the Christian Messenger.

### French Mission.

MR. EDITOR,

As the numerous friends of the French Mission are desirous of hearing some account of the progress of the Mission. I am happy to inform them that every tour I travel brings some good tidings which ought to encourage us when we see the efforts put forth by the priests of the Papal Church. These do not hinder some from inquiring the way to God, this ought to cheer our hearts and make us pray more earnestly, although we do not see all we should like to, but the All-seeing Eye knows better how to make his kingdom permanent than we do, he bids us cast our bread on the waters, and tells us that we shall find it after many days. Let us labor in faith and we shall reap in due time, for certainly there is something to encourage us. When we see already some converted souls and even their little children singing God's praise and those dear Christians praising God and blessing those who sent the good news of salvation to them, who made them free from the bondage they were in, and placed them on the Rock Christ Jesus.

O for more prayer and sympathy in behalf of those who do not see their own miseries, who under pretence of Christianity are kept in darkness and ignorance.

I remain, yours in Christ,  
M. NORMONDY, French Missionary.  
Tusket, Nov. 30th, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

### Obituary Notices.

MRS. E. GRIFFIN AND CHILD. DAVID BURTON.

Rev. W. Burton writes:—

Dear Brother,—It is a time of great mortality in this and Horton township. From three to four persons have died in some families. One of our Brethren in this church,—Brother C. Griffin,—has buried both his wife and only child. We sympathize with our dear Brother Griffin, and pray that the Grace of God, which brought both himself and late wife to the knowledge of himself, will, in this great bereavement, give him strength in this cloudy day. Sister Griffin died while I was absent at Yarmouth.

I also am taught to sympathize with my brethren by sharing like affliction. My eldest son, David Burton, then living, died in Yarmouth, N. S., on the 13th of November, inst., in the 26th year of his age, of consumption. He had been absent for three years in California, with a view of recovering his health, but failed of doing so. He was a child of God. Was baptized by Dr. Pryor, at Horton, when young, and was enabled to rest on his Saviour for time and eternity. This is a great comfort to me. I saw him two weeks before his death.

### Religious Intelligence.

#### Canada.

CLAREMONT, C. W.—For some time our church and congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Alex. Anderson, gave evident tokens that the God of Christians was about to visit us. The prayer-meetings were better attended, and a spirit of inquiry manifested in the neighbourhood. About the end of August the work began to appear more visible, and

since that time our pastor has buried twenty-one hopeful converts into the likeness of Christ's death and burial, and the work seems still to be going on. We have also had four added to our number, who had been previously baptized; among whom was brother G. Graffey, a Baptist preacher from Manchester, England, and brother M. Gold, of Whitty; both of whom are preaching the gospel with great acceptance.

#### United States.

GENEROUS GIVING.—In response to the recent appeal of Father Chiniqny, the Brick church of New York sent on to the colony of St. Anne, about five thousand dollars' worth of clothing, and a similar donation to the amount of two thousand dollars has since been made by the West Spruce street church, Philadelphia.

The Israelite population in the United States is estimated at about two hundred thousand souls, who have established one hundred and seventy synagogues. Of these, forty thousand dwell in the city of New-York, and alone outnumber the entire Hebrew population resident in the British Isles. Of this aggregate about three-fourths are derived from the immigration of the preceding twenty years.

The Cologne Gazette states that a fire broke out some days back at Husinee, in Bohemia, the birth-place of John Huss. In about an hour thirty-two houses were destroyed, and among them the house in which the great Reformer was born. Fifty-five families have lost all they possessed.

### General Intelligence.

#### Domestic and Foreign.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.—The Royal Gazette of Wednesday last, contains a Proclamation summoning Parliament to meet for the despatch of business on Thursday the 26th day of January next.

THE HOWARD DIVISION of the Sons gave a Social and Literary Entertainment last evening.

RIFLEMEN! FORM!—This seems to be now more than ever the cry throughout Great Britain and all her dependencies.

At the Burn's Lodge Banquet on the 30th, their Excellencies the Lieutenant Governor, the Vice Admiral and the Major General being present, the first suggested that Agricultural Societies be formed throughout the length and breadth of Nova Scotia; the second advised the speedy establishment of a Chamber of Commerce in Halifax; and the third hoped to meet at least two hundred Volunteer Militiamen on the Common when the *Eighth of June* is celebrated in 1860. Some have suggested the desirableness of different nationalities forming separate companies.

We regret to learn that James A. Moren Esq. on Friday last was injured considerably by falling from the gallery of one of his stores.

The Telegraph Company have again attempted to put up posts in Gottengen Street much to the annoyance of some of the inhabitants, and again they have been sawed off.

A correspondent of the *Colonist* writes:—"I am sorry to inform you that our usually dull town is just now much excited in consequence of the introduction of small-pox. A case was brought here by a boy who had been in a vessel to St. John. The whole family to which he belongs now have it, also a colored woman who visited the house."

The Measles have been very prevalent in Halifax. Not only children but adults also have been amongst the sufferers.

The Rev. Thos. Crisp is announced to deliver the next lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association; Subject, "Men for the time."

The steamer *Emperor* made her last passage for the season between Windsor and St. John on Thursday last. She is appointed to run between St. John and Digby until the 1st of January, after which she will be laid up at St. John for the winter.

DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.—The Secretary of this institution reports a number of donations during the past month. Collections had been taken at Margarets Bay, at the Bishops Chapel, Halifax, at Pictou, at Dartmouth, at Sackville, at Londonderry and at South Rawdon. Also from Vice-Admiral Stewart. Mrs. Jas. Thomson and others. A collection of 20s. 9d. from the Baptist Church, at Port aupeque, also has been sent in since.

PROGRESS.—Messrs. Doull & Miller's splendid store has had the roof put on during the past week. This is now one of the handsomest buildings in the city.

The City-Court house is also a very handsome structure. It is just ready for the roof.

The *Morning Chronicle* of Thursday contained a lengthy affidavit dated *December the 3rd, 1859*, sworn to by R. J. Pevaryl lately one of the prisoners in the Grand Lake Riot to the effect that whilst in jail he was visited by J.W. Johnston Junr. Esq., and amongst other enquiries, Mr. J. asked him "If Messrs. Esson and Annand did not cause fire-arms consisting of guns, &c., to be sent to the Grand Lake for use on the Election Day;" and charging Mr. J. with offering to reward him and get him released, if he would swear that fire-arms were provided by those gentlemen; to which he

plied "that Messrs. Esson and Annand were strangers to him," and that he could not swear that either of them furnished the fire-arms, but said "Release me from prison and I will tell you all I know about it on the trial."

Notwithstanding this statement, he says Mr. Johnston urged him to swear that the fire-arms were provided by them, and offered to reward him for so doing by granting him his release, assisting his family, and providing him with money. That had he yielded to the earnest solicitations of Mr. Johnston he would have perjured himself by swearing to a deliberate falsehood.

Mr. Johnston publishes a short note in both the *Chronicle* and *Colonist* pronouncing "these statements and every assertion of like import," "shamelessly false." Mr. Johnston also publishes "a statement of facts," in which he says:—

"Some time last summer, about the middle of August, I think, and while the Attorney General was absent from the city I received a note purporting to be written from the county jail by Pevaryl, and addressed either to the Attorney General or myself, but which, I am unable to say, not having preserved the letter, requesting one or other of us to call upon him at the jail as he had some important communications to make. I made no reply to the letter, but subsequently receiving several verbal messages to the same effect, I at length went as requested to the jail and saw Pevaryl. He stated to me that he was not engaged in the riot, and had been taken up in mistake for Preepier;—that he wanted to obtain his discharge; and if I would give it to him he would turn Crown evidence on the trial, and could give most important testimony that would implicate other parties in the riot and in sending up firearms to be used at the election,—adding, that it was a shame that poor men were in jail while the leaders who incited them and furnished the guns, were at large. As he dealt altogether in generalities, I questioned him pretty closely in order to find out whether he knew anything about the transactions—and came to the conclusion that he had very little to communicate. The style of his remarks led me to believe that he was far from friendly with the Opposition, as one of his chief grounds of complaint was, that while the Opposition party were providing for the Kentys in jail, and furnishing them with provisions and means, he was left to shift for himself. I then left him, after stating to him that he might probably have an opportunity of giving his testimony on the trial if he wished, but that I could take no steps to procure his discharge from jail. On the Attorney General's return to the city, I mentioned to him that a man by the name of Pevaryl had sent for me to the jail on the subject of the riot, but that I did not think he knew much, if anything about the affair. I dismissed the whole matter from my thoughts until a few weeks since, and while the Grand Jury were sitting, I believe, I received another message through Mr. Michael Keating, stating that Pevaryl was very anxious to see me, and had requested him to ask me to visit him. I mentioned this at the time to the Attorney General, and he thinking that I had better go up, I again visited the jail and had a conversation with Pevaryl. As before, he told me that he could make some important revelations seriously implicating the leaders of the opposition party in sending guns and ammunition to the polling place and in inciting the riot. I again examined him as to the nature and extent of his testimony, but could obtain no precise information from him of any moment. His chief object seemed to be to be allowed to turn Queen's evidence and obtain his discharge. During the course of the conversation he told me that he had been informed that there was no warrant against him, and that he was illegally kept in jail. I replied, that if such was the case he should employ an Attorney, who would procure his release; but declined his request to undertake that duty for him.

On my return I mentioned to the Attorney General that I did not think Pevaryl knew much, but that he had better have him brought down and examined before the Grand Jury, and I believe he was afterwards brought before that body under habeas corpus.

These are the only occasions on which I saw Pevaryl, and on each I did so at his own earnest request."

#### United States.

#### EXECUTION OF JOHN BROWN.

The greatest excitement has existed in the neighbourhood of Harper's Ferry ever since the insurrection in October last. It has been supposed since the sentence of death has been passed on John Brown, that a reprieve would be given, but all such expectations have been put to silence by the news of his execution. The trial was hurried forward and all connected plainly shows that the authorities were conscious of danger, perhaps also of wrong doing. Great military preparations were made under the impression that an attempt would be made by anti-slavery men to rescue Brown. No strangers or persons from the country were allowed to enter Charlestown. The fact of Brown and seventeen men keeping possession of a town of 2000 souls for two days shows that he believed he might calculate on the sympathy of a large number of the inhabitants.

The following dispatch was sent from Charlestown, Va., on the 2nd inst.

CHARLESTOWN, VA., Dec. 2.—John Brown was hanged this morning at 11 o'clock and 15 minutes precisely.

He remained firm and dignified to the last moment.

Everything was conducted under the strictest military discipline, as if the town were in a state of siege.

The prisoner was accompanied from the jail to the scaffold by the Sheriff, his assistants, and the jailer. There was no clergyman present, Brown having declined all religious services, both in jail and on the scaffold.

He was taken to the scaffold in a small cart, on which was also placed his coffin, a plain affair, made of white pine.

On arriving at the scaffold the prisoner looked around calmly on the assembled multitude, then mounted the scaffold with a firm step. His arms were pinioned by the Sheriff, when the trap of the scaffold was pulled away and with a few slight struggles John Brown yielded up his spirit.

The interview between Brown and his wife lasted from 6 till 8 P. M., yesterday, when Gen. Talferio informed them that the period allowed her had elapsed, and that she must depart. The interview was not very affecting. Mrs. Brown was for a few moments quite overcome, but Brown was firm as a rock.

Brisk excitement prevailed at Manchester, N. H., when intelligence of Brown's execution reached there. The City Hall bell was tolled by the inhabitants until the Mayor ordered them to desist.

An additional item or two we learn from the *N. Y. Tribune*.

"On leaving the jail, John Brown had on his face an expression of calmness and serenity characteristic of the patriot who is about to die with a living consciousness that he is laying down his life for the good of his fellow-creatures. His face was even joyous, and a forgiving smile resting on his lips. His was the lightest heart, among friend or foe, in the whole of Charlestown that day, and not a word was spoken that was not an intuitive appreciation of his manly courage. Firmly and with elastic step he moved forward. No flinching of a coward's heart there. He stood in the midst of that organized mob, from whose despotic hearts petty tyranny seemed for once annihilated by the admiration they had in once beholding a man—for John Brown was there every inch a man.

As he stepped out of the door a black woman with her little child in arms, stood near his way. The twain were of the despised race, for whose emancipation and elevation to the dignity of children of God, he was about to lay down his life. His thoughts at that moment none can know except his acts interpret them. He stopped for a moment in his course, stooped over, and, with the tenderness of one whose love is as broad as the brotherhood of man, kissed it affectionately. That mother will be proud of that mark of distinction for her offspring; and some day when, over the ashes of John Brown the temple of Virginia liberty is reared, she may join in the joyful song of praise on that soil will do justice to his memory."

"What a beautiful country you have," said Capt. Brown to Capt. Avis.

"Yes," was the response.

"It seems the more beautiful to behold because I have so long been shut from it."

"You are more cheerful than I am Capt. Brown," said Mr. Saddler.

"Yes," said the Captain, "I ought to be." He continued, "I see no citizens here—where are they?"

"The citizens are not allowed to be present—none but the soldiers," was the reply.

"That ought not to be," said the old man, "citizens should be allowed to be present as well as others."

The scaffold if reached.

The cap is drawn over his eyes, and the rope adjusted about his neck. John Brown is ready to meet his God.

But what next? The military have yet to go through some senseless evolutions, and near ten minutes elapsed before Gen. Taliafore's chivalrous hosts are in their proper position, during which time John Brown stands with the cap drawn over his head, and the hangman's knot under his ear.

Each moment seems an hour, and some of the people, unable to restrain an expression of their sense of the outrage, murmur "Shame!" "Shame!"

At last Virginia troops are arranged *a la mode*.

"Capt. Brown, you are not standing on the drop—will you come forward!" said the Sheriff.

"I can't see gentlemen," was the reply "you must lead me."

The Sheriff led the prisoner forward to the centre of the drop.

"Shall I give you a handkerchief, and let you drop it as a signal?" inquired the Sheriff.

"No, I am ready at any time; but don't keep me waiting needlessly," was the reply.

A moment after the Sheriff springs the latch—the drop falls—and the body of John Brown is suspended between heaven and earth. A few convulsive twitchings of his arms are observed. These cease after a moment.

John Brown is dead.

On Wednesday, the people in the upper part of this city were astonished with the visit of a fiery meteor. It was described as a large body of fire, in the shape of a comet, with a body as long as a house, and a tail about forty feet long, and appeared to have fallen from the heavens between Yorkville and Seventy-First street. The phenomenon was seen in New-Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania, and has been described as above, as nearly as possible, by all who have endeavored to depict its appearance. *N. Y. Paper.*