

Letter from England.

Nothing is heard in our political circles at present but the cry of reform. From our Eastern dependencies the intelligence scarcely excites any attention. The Indian struggle is virtually at an end. Skirmishes with the rebels, who are wandering to and fro throughout the land without a resting place, are frequent and with the same invariable result. The warfare is no doubt harassing to our troops and useless to the foe, as their numbers are thinned by every encounter. Most parts of the country are now tranquilized, and the population is pursuing its accustomed avocations. Lord Clyde has entered upon his last operations, and the execution of his plans we expect will finally annihilate the last foe. China, too, ceases to awaken solicitude. The progress of events there is propitious: and in good faith I think the authorities of the Celestials are carrying out their engagements. The absence of these exciting elements leaves the popular mind unfilled, and at liberty to concentrate its whole energies on home matters.

From all parts of the kingdom the cry for reform is heard. In all the large towns the feeling allows of no mistake. Dr. McFale, the restless Romish archbishop of Tuam, has just issued a long letter to the Earl of Derby on the subject. The bishop is clever, politic, the great opponent of Paul Cullen, Rome's tool in Ireland, and his influence will tell in Ireland. All parties in the State admit the necessity of changes. Upon this the question does not turn; the extent to which it shall be carried will be the battle ground on which the conflict parties will contend for political power. Manhood suffrage, if unstained by crime or pauperism, with the ballot, electoral districts, and triennial parliaments, is the programme of the advanced liberals. Only rated householders, educational, or professional men not such, is the demand of others, whilst less radical changes would satisfy another class. The struggle, I apprehend, in the house, will be between the bill of John Bright—which he is to bring in at the request of the leading advanced reformers, and which doubtless will embody manhood suffrage, etc.—and that of the ministry. Most, nay, all the larger towns have pronounced in favor of this. The conflict will be a hard one. Its final issue we cannot predict; I think it probable the house will be dissolved on it, and that an appeal to the people will be the result. From this test there will be no shrinking, and I have no fear for the result.

No thoughtful mind can regard the continent at present but with unmingled anxiety; signs of restlessness and political dissatisfaction meet you everywhere. I am greatly mistaken if we are not on the eve of great events which will modify greatly the social and political conditions of society in most of the kingdoms there. The great event in France since my last, has been the trial and condemnation of Count Montalembert. Every precaution was taken by the imperial despot to secure a conviction. Parties were admitted to the trial by ticket. No reporters were allowed to enter; and the whole of the press was forbidden to publish any account of it. The *Moniteur* has not more than a dozen lines, and the whole of the English press which contained any report were seized at the Post Offices. M. Berryer, the advocate of the prisoner, made a masterly defense.

The Emperor has not committed so serious a blunder before. Europe rings with execrations at his despotism, and France is sullen and gloomy. His relations with Rome are also very low. The Vatican has been uneasy at his interference about the child of the Jew, sprinkled by a servant girl, and now as a Christian kept back from his parents. France, with other countries remonstrated in vain with Rome against this crying insult to humanity. No doubt about the coolness can exist; proofs exist in many forms. The *Univers*, the most talented, rabid, and unprincipled Popish journal in France, if not in Europe, has been warned that its intolerant denunciations of religious liberty will not be permitted. Nay more, even the Jews have permission from the minister of the Interior to commence an action against the editor for his unmeasured abuse of them during the discussion about the lost child. The organ of the Vatican in Italy more than intimates the readiness of Austria to give that natural support to the Father of the Faithful which is more than ever necessary to keep him from the ingratitude of his children and the violence of their rage. Around this unhappy country the elements of wretchedness still linger, and probably are rapidly augmenting. Milan is all but in rebellion, and other cities are uneasy. The Sardinian monarch is evidently watching with intense interest any political movement, whilst reports say, that Austria and France are on the point of an outbreak from the jealousy of each other's

position there. Long the storm cannot be crushed, and its ravages will be felt over a wide circle when it bursts. The elections in Prussia are very favorable to the Regent and his ministry, and promise the working out of measures which will advance the material, the political, and moral interests of the nation.

I have only to add that at present the season is fine; we have sunny and balmy days at present, though a week ago, three or four days we had intense frost. Trade is flat, and complaints are very loud and dolorous from our shipping interest. The latter gentlemen are always ready, and few now pay much attention to their complaints, without England would become a wreck; and yet amidst all this suffering we live.—*Correspondent of N. Y. Chronicle.*

Religious Intelligence.

Baptisms in France.

The mission to France has been conducted for several months by the native brethren. The divine blessing evidently attends the labours. We translate the following from a communication dated Oct. 20, 1850.

The last Sabbath in September we had a delightful day. Seven persons,—three males and four females,—professed their faith in the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. The examination took place in the chapel in the morning, and the church was fully satisfied and most happy to receive these new converts into its bosom. In order to have water enough for the ordinance of baptism, we were obliged to travel a league distant, to a forest where we thought we should be alone. But what was our surprise on arriving at the place appointed, to find a crowd of people who had come to be present at the ceremony, informed, I know not how, what was to take place. People were there from several different villages, and some had travelled three leagues to witness the ordinance. Being such a crowd, composed of Catholics, I supposed we should be annoyed by mockery and jests, and that probably the occasion would not be much blessed. But God is good and caused every thing to be favorable. Before the baptism, I addressed the multitude, showing them that the ordinance was according to Scripture, and that it was on that account that we thus practised. They listened to my long address with attention, and my words produced a serious impression. When the baptism was administered, many were seen to shed tears. The candidates were very courageous in confessing their faith. Many of them were well known to the spectators, but they did not blush to own their Lord. I hope the day has left upon more than one heart impressions that will never be effaced, and that more than one soul has been seriously affected by the baptism and the Lord's Supper which followed. May God grant us many such days.

Another of the preachers writes—

Our meetings at P— are still attended by a good number of hearers. Our colporteur dispenses of more Bibles, Testaments and religious tracts than ever. Among the Catholics whom we visit, many are seriously inquiring with respect to the salvation of the soul. Our meeting for public worship on the Sabbath is closed by a most interesting prayer meeting, which appears already to be yielding fruit. We long for a revival such as that which is now visiting the United States. May God pour upon us a blessing beyond the expectation of our feeble faith.—*Macedonian.*

Baptisms in Switzerland.

Mr. Merkt writes as follows, under date of Aug. 12, from Constance, Switzerland:—

Last week, I visited Thurgau, and spent nearly eight days in the vicinity of Constance. This is the most promising station in my field of labor; for here sinners are always casting themselves at the feet of Christ and receiving pardon from him. I baptized five there last April, and on the 8th inst. five more, some of whom have had evidence of their adoption a long time. Five of the whole number were Catholics, residents of Constance. This is the more delightful because, so far as I know, the truth (on the subject of baptism) has not been acknowledged in the city for centuries. We are encouraged to hope that the number of those who follow the Lord in all things will soon be increased, so that there will be here many witnesses for the truth. There are several at the other stations which I visited, who desire to be baptized into the death of Christ.—*Id.*

The Lord's Supper celebrated under Difficulties.

Mr. Kohner, a German pastor, visiting Sweden in June last, found in Gottenburg four baptized females, who had long been faithful to their profession, though they very seldom had opportunity to strengthen their faith by hearing a sermon, or enjoying the communion of saints or the Lord's Supper. The K's account of the administration of the eucharist to them is adapted to arouse sympathy with the persecuted in all lands, and to awaken gratitude for the tranquil enjoyment of Christian privileges by which our lot is blessed. We translate the narrative from the *Missionsblatt*.

"On Sabbath, June 6, with the doors fasten-

ed, I celebrated with them the death of Christ. We had already broken the bread and partaken of it, when some one knocked at the door. We were obliged, before opening, to remove out of sight the table and what was on it, as we were liable to a sudden entrance of the police. It proved to be only a person from out of the city, who wished to converse with one of the sisters. When he had gone, the door was bolted again and the table spread afresh, and we received together the blessed cup.—*Id.*

Henthada Mission House Completed.

Mr. Thomas, of the Henthada mission, Burmah, in a letter dated July 9, 1850, communicates the gratifying intelligence that the "Henthada Mission House" is completed.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the "Mission House at Henthada" has been built. It is, at least, a decent appearing house and very permanently built. It will, I think, afford a good dwelling for some one for the next twenty years. But its walls have gone up in "troubled times." Last March, when there was not sufficient money in our treasury to support our families even a week, we commenced the house, and carried on the work without interruption until about a month since, when the house was completed. We record with pleasure that although the house cost about fifteen hundred rupees, yet we are entirely free from debt; and that even now our "barrel is not quite empty."

We are constantly hearing of new worshippers in the various parts of this wide field. But we long to see more glorious displays of God's grace. Here, among the fifty thousand Karens resident within the limits of this mission, pray that the Spirit's presence may be manifested as it has been for months in our own beloved land.—*Id.*

The Revival in Sweden.

Striking illustrations of the work of grace in Sweden are extracted, by the *News of the Churches*, from recent letters: "Here are joyful days at present in this parish," says one account. "A most remarkable revival is going on. Scores of indifferent and unconcerned people are aroused and turning as prodigal sons to their Father. This is especially the case with young people of both sexes. I think this is a good feature in the matter. But it sometimes has been so powerful as almost to overwhelm the aroused sinners, very much like what happened, I think, under Mr. McCheyne's ministry. When holding Bible expositions or lectures in the villages on week-day evenings, I have often been unable to have them within doors, and have been obliged to have the meetings in the open air on account of the great multitudes of people gathering together." "The Christian life develops itself gloriously in many places here," says another account. "A young nobleman, heir to many large estates, brought up in an ungodly home, where from his childhood, he had heard true Christianity reviled, had long resisted, and sought in every way, by wild dissipation, to stifle an awakened conscience; but the Lord Jesus was too strong for him. It was a great victory of grace. Now he has entirely withdrawn from his former companions, and is often to be seen in the humblest peasant houses, where the word of God is read and explained."

New York Daily Meetings.

THE YOUNG MAN FROM JAYNE'S HALL.—A young man said that he had just come from the Jayne's Hall meeting in Philadelphia. "I was there at 12 M. yesterday, and here I am now. I have been every day in the habit of remembering these meetings in my private devotions. I never go into my closet to pray, but I pray for the effusion of the Holy Spirit upon these meetings." He seemed very earnest, and impressed all present with the fervor of his piety and devotion, always praying, as he said, for Fulton street and Jayne's Hall.

After sitting down, an old shipmaster said he wished to say, without any flattery to the young man who had just taken his seat, that he was the man who started the noon prayer meeting in Philadelphia, and he was not then twenty-one years of age when he made that effort, which soon resulted in a meeting in Jayne's Hall, at which 3000 to 5000 gathered daily for prayer, and those meetings are less in number now, but not less in depth of real religious feeling. It is understood that this young man was one of the early converts at the Fulton street meeting—being here on business. Soon after, he went to Philadelphia and entered upon the effort of preparing the way for the opening of a noon prayer meeting, in which for some time he labored with very little prospect of success. And not more than ten to seventeen persons at first attended these meetings. All at once the Spirit was poured out, in mighty power, upon the city, and the largest hall in the city would scarcely contain the number who came to pray. The late systematic efforts which have been made, have disclosed the fact that not less than 10,000 have been hopefully converted in that city within this year. What a glorious harvest of souls. What an eternal change in their hopes and destinies and influences.

Twenty-two sailors lately made a public profession of their faith in Christ, and partook of the Lord's Supper on board the receiving ship *North Carolina*, at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn. The chaplain of this vessel preaches to the largest sailor congregation in the country—the ship's company consisting at the present time of nearly 1,000 men. The sailors conduct a prayer-meeting among themselves every night.

Exceedingly interesting prayer-meetings have frequently been held during the past season in the Long Island Sound boats.

Rev. Chas. G. Finney, the celebrated Oberlin revivalist, with his wife, sailed on the *Persia* for Europe on Wednesday, he having been urgently invited by Christians in England to labor for some months there as a revivalist.

There was not a single Protestant minister in Belgium twenty-four years ago. Now there are 15,000 Protestants, and 18 congregations composed exclusively of converts from Romanism.

The Tractarian party in England are directing their attention to the perversion of the minds of children, and suggest a new prayer-book, to be sold at a shilling, and which is to be called 'The Boys' Own Prayer-Book.' It is, of course, to be thoroughly Romanistic in its principles.

Rev. Mr. Spurgeon expresses his intention of visiting this country next spring, and will probably be in this city during the religious anniversaries in May next.—*N. Y. Chron.*

PRAYER-MEETINGS ON THE HERMANN.—An officer of the *Hermann*, last summer, asked the prayers of the John street meeting for a similar meeting which he intended, by God's blessing, to establish on board that ship, then hourly expected to sail. The *Hermann* was chartered and sent out to Oregon, with some 900 souls on board, at the first breaking out of the "Frazer River excitement." Letters have now been received from her, dated Rio Janeiro, showing that two prayer-meetings are held weekly, and that some of the souls on board have been awakened, and some of them converted.—*Et.*

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

PAULAS LANGILLE.

Died at Cornwall, Lunenburg Co., Novr. 19th, 1850, aged 73 years and 6 months. He united with the Baptist Church at North West Lunenburg in 1820, and was ordained to the office of Deacon in 1830, the duties of which he faithfully discharged till 1846.

As a Christian, he was upright, consistent and exemplary. His religious exercises were marked by a lofty tone of devotional feeling, and his general deportment afforded demonstrative evidence of sincere and fervent piety. In short, he lived—as a Christian should live—in the blissful enjoyment of true religion, and died—as the Christian only can die—in the triumphs of faith and glorious assurance of an everlasting inheritance among them that are sanctified.

He has left a disconsolate widow, 10 children and 34 grand-children to mourn their loss. His remains were interred in the new burial ground at Cornwall on the Sabbath following his death. His funeral sermon was preached by the writer on the same day to an overflowing congregation.—*Com. by Rev. J. C. Hurd.*

MRS. SAMUEL STARRATT.

Died at Paradise, Nov. 27th, in the 67th year of her age.

Mrs. S. was one of the first fruits of Father Ansley's ministry in this Province—upwards of 40 years ago. She was of that class of professors that hold on their way and become stronger and stronger in the Lord. For a long time before the Lord came to take her home she was severely afflicted; but as her outer man decayed her inner man was renewed day by day. Calm, peaceful and happy she waited the hour of the Lord.—*Com. by Rev. N. Vidito.*

MRS. ANDREW MARSHALL.

Of Clarence, was called to her final rest on the 4th of December, having travelled the rugged path of life for almost 90 years, more than fifty of which she had been numbered with the people of God, and ever evinced a deep interest in the cause of her Saviour. Her house has been the ministers' home for more than sixty years. Her faith in God was uniformly strong, and her evidences bright; her mental powers outlived her physical nature, so much so that nothing in life seemed to have faded from her mind. Her aged companion still survives her, though bending beneath the weight of years. Most of her children and many of her grand-children have put on Christ, and hope to meet her above.—*Id.*

HENRIETTA MORSE.

Died at Paradise, on the 5th of Dec., of malignant sore throat, aged 24 years.

As she reviewed life and looked into eternity she seemed overwhelmed with a sense of her unlikeness to God. The earnestness with which she intreated her Christian friends to pray for her will not be soon forgotten by them; but the cloud soon broke and the wall fell,—her soul was at peace; she then took a solemn farewell of her family and friends. The scene was felt, but cannot well be described. At her own request, the writer improved the occasion by preaching from "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." She lived beloved and died deeply lamented.

MRS. SIMON DANIELS.

Exchanged earth for heaven on the 12th of Dec. Her sickness was short, her sufferings were severe, but her enjoyments were divinely great. Having been a professor for upwards of 20 years, she lived in favor with God and man. Her heart was the seat of human kindness, and it was continually flowing out to all around her. The ministers, the church and the world have lost a friend.

Brother Daniels committed his dear daughter Celestia to the same resting place a few weeks ago.—*Id.*