

For the Christian Messenger.

Examination at the Young Ladies Institute, Clarence, N. S.

MESSENGERS EDITORS,—

A short notice of the examination of the above school, held on the 23rd of this month, may be acceptable to your readers, and perhaps of some service to the cause of female education.

Classes in Physiology, Arithmetic, mental and common, Familiar Science, English Grammar, Geography, History, Astronomy, and French, were as closely and protractedly examined as the time would admit; and to the satisfaction of every person present capable of judging in the case.

The attention given to Arithmetic in this school, as shown by the examination, claims particular mention. The notion has been entertained by some, judging, I suppose, from the many failures they had witnessed, that female instructors are incompetent to teach Arithmetic, and young ladies incompetent or unwilling to study a science so difficult, unpoetic, and uninviting.

The exercises in English Grammar were well conducted, and showed that the class was not led, as we think is sometimes the case, blindfold through the intricacies of grammatic lore; it was manifest they understood the fundamental principles of the science.

The last exercise consisted of questions on Milton's "Paradise Lost," calculated to exhibit the plan, object, personages, progress, and perfection of that inimitable and immortal poem. This was a valuable and delightful exercise, and in my opinion, afforded a better idea of "Paradise Lost," than could ordinarily be obtained from a cursory reading of the work.

In the evening there was an Exhibition, consisting of various exercises, among which were original compositions, select readings from Shakespeare, and good and appropriate Music by the teacher in that department and her pupils. It was interesting and well sustained.

Brief speeches, commendatory of the school and expressive of desire for its permanency and prosperity, were made by the Rev's. N. Vidito, Dr. Robertson, Jas. More, and the writer.

Notwithstanding the coldness of the day a large number of spectators were present—I should suppose about two hundred—and showed by their attendance for seven hours or so, the interest they took in the exercises.

The Principal, Miss Wentworth, continues to discharge her duties to the entire satisfaction of her employers.

Miss Berry has charge of the Music department, and we should judge her services are efficient, and highly satisfactory.

Mr. Handy Fitch, the originator and curator of the school, deserves great credit for the zeal he has manifested in the cause of female education. In about three weeks from the date of the examination it is understood the school will reopen. Young ladies' schools of a superior grade are essential to that progress of social education demanded by our times and circumstances.

I remain &c., GEORGE ARMSTRONG. Bridgetown, Dec. 27th, 1858.

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Melancholy Occurrence.

David Whitman aged 22 years, eldest son of William and Charlotte Ann Whitman, was one of a party of lumbermen, who were working in the woods in Kempt, Queens Co., about ten miles from his home.

On Saturday the 11th inst., after their day's work was done (the axes had been placed by a barrel at the camp door) the company entered their camp all in good health and spirits. After a while had passed David went out with the intention of taking care of his oxen, but he slipped and fell among the axes above mentioned, and cut his left wrist, severing all the veins in that part of the arm. A person was immediately despatched for medical aid. The parties remaining with him did all they could to stop the bleeding, but their efforts were unavailing. It

became apparent that life was fast ebbing out. He was therefore taken home, but a short time afterwards he expired, on Sunday the 12th inst. He was a very promising young man, remarkably mild in his disposition. His parents testify that he never gave either of them an unkind word. In the revival here last Spring his evidences of acceptance with God became clear, and he gave himself up to the Church of Christ and was buried in baptism together with four other young men on the first day of last April. Those who witnessed the baptismal scene will not soon forget its impressiveness. They were all singers, and left the water singing the praises of Jehovah. I think they were the five happiest converts I ever baptized together. His numerous friends feel smitten and afflicted, yet we cannot but exclaim—

Brother, thou art gone to rest— We will not weep for thee: For thou art now where oft on earth Thy spirit longed to be.

Brother, thou art gone to rest, Thine is an early tomb; But Jesus summoned thee away, Thy Saviour called thee home.

The occasion was improved by the writer. From "As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death,"—1 Samuel xx. 30. From this occurrence we may learn the importance of putting sharp and dangerous instruments away where persons will not be likely to fall on them; and also the importance of being prepared for death whenever it may come.—Communicated by Rev. A. W. Barss. Dec. 16th, 1858.

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Tea-meeting at Sackville.

The good people of Sackville held a Tea-meeting on Thursday evening last, in the Baptist meeting-house. Their object was to procure a more suitable light arrangement. Another object not less important was at the same time accomplished by it, that of drawing more closely the ties of friendship. The tables were covered with every delicacy, and reflected great credit on the Sackville ladies. The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and every thing looked cheerful and festive.

The chair was occupied by C. Hamilton, Esq. Addresses were given by several gentlemen, all of which were characterized by liveliness and animation. The Indian missionary, Mr. Rand, chanted some Mic-Mac melodies, whose plaintive notes reached every heart. His assistant, Ben Christmas, refuted some bad divinity. Some of his less christian white brethren had been trying to persuade him that because he was born an Indian, he should therefore remain in the woods, live in a wigwam and dress in a blanket. This argument he thought would hardly suit the Anglo-Saxon race, as it would compel them to return to painted skins and barbarism not above that of their red brethren. Education formed as it ought the basis of many of the speeches.

Altogether we had a real feast, and the company departed somewhat reluctantly, more in love with Tea-meetings than ever.

The day following, the little ones met, and were plentifully supplied.—Com.

For the Christian Messenger.

Tea-meeting in Upper Stewiacke.

DEAR MR. EDITOR, Permit me through your columns to call attention to the prompt and praiseworthy efforts of the Baptists of Upper Stewiacke, in repairing their house of worship. Only three weeks ago it was well nigh destroyed by fire; but nothing daunted, this hard season of the year finds them already at work.

At the above Tea-meeting, to be held on Thursday the 13th inst., at 3 P. M., they propose to provide a bountiful repast for at least four hundred persons; and to provide for them also a rich intellectual entertainment.

They anticipate the liberal patronage of friends and fellow countrymen in Musquodoboit, Middle and Lower Stewiacke, Brookfield and neighbourhood, Truro, and Onslow; and will be happy to welcome those from more distant places.

So many happy faces gathered for so good an object will cause even the "dead of winter" to put on smiles.

Tickets low. Come friends, let us help!

KIND HEART.

Carlyle says: "Experience is an excellent schoolmaster, but he does charge such dreadful high wages."

An emigrant to Oregon writing home to one of his friends says: "We are getting on finely here, and have already laid the foundation of a larger jail."

Religious Intelligence.

United States.

The Churchman laments that eighty per cent. of the members of the Church of England who come to the United States fail to join the Episcopal Church of this country. "Eighty per cent." it says, "is surely a large proportion to lose by the simple act of migration from one country to another, of those who were once willing members of our branch of the Catholic Church."

It is proposed to open the Boston Theatre or Howard Athenæum for public worship on Sunday evening, after the example of New York. Different preachers will lead the services.

Twelve missionaries sailed from Boston last week in the ship Como for India, under the patronage of the Presbyterian Board.

Bishop Early of the Methodist church South has recently ordained twelve Indians, principally chiefs of their tribes, to the ministry.

In New York there are constantly at work twenty-five lay missionaries, who visit the neglected classes, gather them into the neighbourhood prayer-meetings, and are silently doing an important work.

The chaplain of the American expedition says:—"The native Japanese are now favorable for the reception of Christian doctrine and morals. There seems to be an entire absence of prejudice and pre-occupation; no bigotry is encountered even in the temples, which you are allowed to enter as often as you please, and stare in the holy faces of their gods, and even laugh at them. The priests and monks remain courteous, offering you a cup of tea, and inviting you to sit on the mat at their side. Indeed I am not sure that they would not offer to exchange with the occupants of Christian pulpits, should they be 'hard up' for a sermon on Saturday night."

In China on the contrary missionaries meet with little success. The Chinese are not strongly attached to their own religion, but are in a state of general scepticism, and have a perfect contempt for Christianity, which they judge according to the treatment they have received from the Christian nations.

The lower room at Exeter Hall, London, has been engaged for six months, for a prayer-meeting every Thursday, between four and five in the afternoon.

MR. SPURGEON'S NEW TABERNACLE TEA-MEETING.—On Monday evening last about 1,000 of Mr. Spurgeon's friends held a monster tea-meeting in Park-street Chapel. After tea there was a public meeting to aid the funds for the erection of a new tabernacle. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, the Rev. Hugh Allen, Rev. Mr. Davies, and other gentlemen, Mr. Low in the chair. The liberality of those present to the pleading of the different speakers will be seen by the fact that upwards of 800l. was collected and promised. The chapel was crowded, and hundreds were unable to gain admittance.

ROMANISM.—A very grave and delicate question has agitated the Romanist community for some time. The Rosary has been recited in common, while only one person has held the beads. The question was, Could all enjoy the indulgence in this case? To the delight of the faithful, the authorities have decided in favour of this division of religious-labour.

The brochure of the Count Montalembert, which has excited the wrath of the French Emperor, has awakened the indignation of some of the Roman Catholic dignitaries. One of them, in the columns of The Tablet, holds up the Count to the scorn of the Church because he speaks of England as "a great Christian nation," and "Christian West." His distilled gall is amusing. Happily, his will is greater than his power, or the Count and some others would soon feel the power of his wrath.

TURKEY.—In many parts of this country the prospects are brightening. In Armenia, and amongst the Armenians scattered over the empire, the truth is spreading. From the American missionaries the intelligence is more cheering. The bishop and priests in many places, finding it impossible to keep the Scriptures from the people, are allowing not only their free circulation, but in some places the churches are open for their public reading. Mr. Wheeler describes the effect as striking. Pictures of saints, which adorn the churches, in some cases, are being destroyed. Light is dawning upon the minds of the people, and the superstitions in which they have been held by their ignorant teachers is giving way before the majestic power of a simpler and purer faith.

Colonial & Foreign News.

New Brunswick.

POST-OFFICE SABBATH OBSERVANCE.—The new Postmaster General has issued the following order:—"No letters, newspapers, pamphlets, printed books, magazines, reviews, or other publications shall be delivered by any officer in the Post-office department on Sundays." In Halifax we have long enjoyed this freedom from interference with the Lord's-day.

FIRE.—The barn of Mr. John McMullen, at Waeig, Charlotte Co., was destroyed by fire on the 15th ult., together with 8 head of cattle, two horses, 27 tons of hay, and a large quantity of oats.

Canada.

Mr. John MacDonald, a member of the Government of Canada, has received a verdict in his favour in a case brought against him for illegally resigning his seat in Parliament whilst accepting offices within one month.

The Grand Trunk Railroad Company had a continuous line laid open on the 1st of September last of 80 miles.

Mr. Ross, the engineer of the great Victoria Bridge, reports progress of that work, and announces that no unforeseen casualty of much consequence will arise, the trains may pass over the bridge by the 8th or 9th of November next.

The Sarnia Branch of the Great Western Railroad was opened on the 27th ult.

POLITICS!—At a public meeting held in Quebec, a Mr. Plandon denounced the Governor General as a felon named Sir Edmund Head!

Lord Bury met in a fall at Quebec, while skating, and dislocated his arm. Nevertheless he appeared at the banquet in his honor on the same day.

General Eyre, now in Canada, has offered a prize to the Montserrat Snow-Ball Club, to be awarded to that member who shall fire the greatest number of snow-balls in the given time.

United States.

AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.—Nothing of special public interest has yet been done by Congress, and the chief occurrence of moment at the National Capital has been the first fight of the season, which occurred Saturday morning, on Pennsylvania avenue, between Mr. English of Indiana, and Mr. Montgomery, of Pennsylvania. The latter gentleman, who got the worst of the fight, appears, in the reports of the affair, to have been decidedly in the wrong. He refused the proffered hand of English and called him a puppy, whereupon that gentleman struck him over the head with a lignum vitae cane. Montgomery then picked up a brick which he threw at English without doing him any harm, and then went off to a magistrate to lodge a complaint against his adversary. Such boyish quarrels between members of Congress are unworthy notice.

In the house, the Judge Watrous' impeachment case being up, a resolution was adopted, to the effect that there is testimony to justify the allegation of high crimes and misdemeanors against that functionary. Ayes, 113; nays, 86. Here it is presumed the matter will stop. An interesting discussion of the Pacific railroad bill was had in the Senate. An amendment was offered that the road should be built exclusively of American iron, which led to a lengthy discussion, but was finally carried by yeas, 25, nays 23. Both Houses have agreed to adjourn over from the 23d inst., to the 1st of January, for the holidays.

During the recent excursion of the scientific men and litterateurs of Boston and vicinity, to the wilds of Maine, it was found that Prof. Agassiz was the best shot in the party, his ball going straight home every time. Yet he was no sportsman, and his skill was merely the result of long practice in the use of the microscope, by which the muscles of the eye and the hand had been brought under complete control, and disciplined to perfect accuracy.

Sartiges, the French Minister, has recently communicated to Secretary Cass that Louis Napoleon has conferred upon Lieutenant Maury the distinction of the "Legion of Honor," for his valuable services to the navigation of the world.

The orange crop of Louisiana this season is very large, and the crop is sold from plantations at from six to eight dollars per thousand.

INDIA.

THE QUEEN OF INDIA.

The last act in the great drama of the East India Company's reign is now played out. An address by a Queen of the nation, in many respects the greatest in Europe or the world—an address to at least one hundred and fifty millions of subjects, at the close of an unparalleled mutiny, a mutiny which has demonstrated so wonderfully the superiority of the victors in arts and arms—an address to a large number of subject princes, too—an address in which, for the first time, the Sovereign speaks to her subjects as her subjects, and announces the cessation of the reign of the only power the most of them had heard of—such an address is, with too little thought, perhaps, looked on as one in which the style shall reflect the greatness of the facts it implies or announces.

After all, though we could have wished for some sentences that would be spoken to the inmost souls of all Indians—indeed of all men and to all time—the matter is yet more than the manner. We do not know what, on this score, we have ought to condemn, if we have little to call for marked commendation. The Proclamation commences with a catalogue of the Queen's dominions, such as probably no Sovereign of England ever before presented to his subjects. Good for Oriental doubtless. The natives are then informed that the old trustees are removed, and that her Majesty has taken the government of them on herself; that she reposes special trust and confidence in her trusty and well-beloved cousin JOHN VAUGHAN CANNING (an assurance needless perhaps after the ELLENBOROUGH Despatch), and confirms him and all subordinates in their posts. All native princes are assured that treaties and engagements made by the Company with them be accepted, and