

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JANUARY 18, 1860.

The week of Prayer.

The crowded state of our columns last week prevented us from referring to this subject as we desired.

The Union Prayer Meeting Committee requested ministers of various churches to confer with them on the subject, on the 4th inst.

These recommendations were entered into pretty generally. The following places of worship were opened for worship on Monday at 11 o'clock in the morning.

Services were held in the first named and some of the other churches every evening during the week.

The most remarkable features of the week, however, were the meetings held in Temperance Hall on Friday. The morning meeting was very numerously attended, and was presided over by Sir Brenton Haliburton the Chief Justice, assisted by the Rev. R. F. Uniacke.

In the evening the Hall was crowded in every part long before the time of commencement, hundreds probably a thousand were unable to get inside and were obliged to return to their homes.

The Rev. Mr. Jardine offered prayer, after which the Chairman read a portion of the sacred Scriptures.

of the Times," and the Rev. W. H. Humphrey gave a brief Closing Address.

Hymns printed for the occasion were sung at intervals during the services, in which all the vast congregation joined most heartily.

We are glad to learn that Special Services were held in several towns and villages in the province.

Church of England in Nova Scotia.

The last Report of the Diocesan Church Society gives the following statistical information with regard to the present position of the Episcopal Church in this Province.

We are not aware on what data the column of "Church Members" is given as distinct from "Communicants," or whether it is any more than an estimate of the supposed number of those who are not members of other communions.

Table with columns: PARISHES, Extent in Square Miles, Church Members, Communicants, Baptisms, Contributions to Church objects. Rows include Halifax, Albion Mines, Amherst, Annapolis, Antigonish, Aylesford, Beaver Harbor, Bridgewater, Chester, Clements, Cornwallis, Dartmouth, Digby, Dublin, New, Falmouth, Granville, Upper, Lower, Guyborough, Hubbard's Cove, Kentville, Liverpool, Lunenburg, Mahone Bay, Maitland, Manchester, Margaret's Bay, Parrsboro, Pictou, Pugwash, Rawdon, Shelburne, Ship Harbour, Sherbrooke, Truro, Weymouth, Wilmot, Windsor, Yarmouth, Tusket, Arichat, Sydney, Travelling Missionary.

\* This column contains the whole amount raised in each parish, including payments to Clergymen, as gathered from the returns.

The Pope's temporal Sovereignty.

We learn from the Evening Express of Wednesday last that a meeting was held on Sunday, the 8th inst., in the St. Mary's Chapel, to give expressions of sympathy with the Pope in his present troubles.

Speeches were delivered by Dr. Conolly the Archbishop, the Hon. Mr. Kenny, John Tobin, Esq., Edward Maturin, Esq., and Mr. J. W. Quinlan. Several resolutions were passed, the burden of which was that His Holiness had been deprived of his temporal dominions by some of his people revolting from his government, and is threatened with having the whole of his power as a temporal sovereign taken from him.

Dr. Conolly said:

"The mouths of Bishops and of Priests are gagged in enlightened France and in constitutional Sardinia, yet liberty or no liberty, the voice of the Catholic Priesthood is never to be hushed where the interests of their creed and of their people are concerned.

"Take the Pope away from Rome and Rome is no more. Take the Pope away from Rome and her people will not only starve and thin away, as so often happened; but in a few years there will not be left even a solitary Palmyra in the desert; the last of her standing monuments, her Pantheon, and her Colosseum, and her triumphal arch in Titus, her Baths of Diocletian, must soon moulder undistinguished in the dust."

"Sixty five Bishops and Archbishops in France have already spoken out: they have challenged Europe to point out to them a happier or a more paternal and benignant rule than that of the Pope of Rome; and the only reply is that the Emperor of the French forbids the whole press of the country to print another line for them.

In referring to Louis Napoleon, himself a Catholic, and still designated by the Pope "the eldest son of the Church, to whom God has entrusted the mission to protect the patrimony of St. Peter against illegal covetousness," Dr. Conolly ventures to speak in the following not very flattering terms. He says:—

"After having been a revolutionist in his early days in Rome, he has most consistently advanced in his career of adventure. He was an exile in Switzerland, a maniac in Strasburg and in Bologna, a vagrant in America, a rose in London; a false brother in the National Assembly at Paris, a violator of his oath, and a man of blood in the Tuilleries. He began with peace on his lips 'l'Empire cest la paix' and he has not since sheathed the sword.

"The King of Sardinia's part in the transaction" he said "speaks for itself. He began his rule by the suppression of Convents, and the confiscation of Church property, and the imprisonment and exile of Bishops and Priests."

The threatened revolution arose, he said, not from Romans, but "Rome even at the present day is literally swarming with Protestants, Jews, and Atheists, and foreigners of every religious creed."

Each of the speakers took the opportunity of declaring his undiminished loyalty to the British Crown, contending that they owe only spiritual allegiance to the Pope, but that the spiritual sovereignty of the Pope required that he be "an independant monarch in his own dominions, which are comprised within the States of the Church in Italy."

Whatever the motive may be for holding this opinion, we think the Archbishop and his supporters are more effectually undermining their own church by such a statement than can be done by any "Protestants, Jews, and Atheists," for we think there is but little doubt that the days of the Papal Monarchy are numbered, and if the Pope's spiritual power is to fall with his temporal sovereignty, Romanism is soon to come to an end.

We might, if necessary, controvert several of the allegations made respecting the benevolent and paternal character of the Roman Government, but perhaps the best reply that can be made is that given by Dr. Conolly himself, when he says,—

"Under our own form of government in British North America, I for one believe, that we are as free and as happy as any people on

the face of the globe, and I am not prepared to exchange it for any other. The man among us is a fool who is not loyal in this country; for here he has something to be loyal for—he has rational liberty to its fullest extent—he has perfect equality with his fellow subjects—he has that precise amount of comfort, and that exact position in society to which his conduct and talents entitle him!"

If, then, such blessings attend the possession of liberty, why not allow the Roman people to choose for themselves their own government, without the aid of foreign bayonets. Great Britain, we apprehend, would be the last power in Europe to allow any barrier to be placed in the way of that people exercising the right of self-government.

The Claims of Seamen.

SEAMEN differ in many respects from the resident population of any country, and have peculiar claims upon Christian sympathy and effort. At the last Anniversary of the Western Association a Report was adopted recommending that "a suitable person be employed to devote his undivided energies to the welfare of our sea-going fathers and sons, by forming Bethel Unions in the respective seaports of the Province—to enlist the sympathies of the ministers of Religion and the friends of seamen generally.

HALIFAX CITY MISSION.—The Report of this important mission is before us. The silent operations of the missionary are doubtless doing much good. It might be well for some of the friends and supporters of the mission occasionally to accompany their agent at his work.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE MONUMENTS OF ASSYRIA, BABYLON AND PERSIA; with a New Key for the discovery of the Lost Ten Tribes. By the Rev. Charles Forster, B. D. Richard Bentley, London.

The researches of antiquarians especially of those who have given their attention to the deciphering of ancient inscriptions have rendered important service to biblical literature and the confirmation of scripture history and prophecy.

This work is the result of much careful and continued labor, and comes to the conclusion by numerous highly interesting facts and arguments that the Afghans are the descendants of the so-called lost ten tribes. We commend the work to public attention.

THE PSALMIST, with music, &c., Gould & Lincoln, Boston.

The excellent lecture on Sacred Music in our two preceding numbers will form a good introduction to a notice of this new feature in the psalmody for our churches. We might say many things in favor of this new version of the Psalmist which would meet a ready response from all who have learned to appreciate our admirable collection of "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs."