

heaven," &c. Having acted as clerk, repeating after Peter, the ferryman cried:

"Now let me go." "Not yet," said he, "you must make three promises: First, that you will repeat that prayer every morning and every evening as long as you live; secondly, that you will hear every preacher that comes within five miles of this ferry; and thirdly, that you will put every Methodist preacher over free of expense. Do you promise and vow?"

"I promise," said the ferryman. And strange to say, that man became a shining light.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 11, 1861.

The present Term of Acadia College we learn has opened with thirty-three matriculated Students, and four others who are taking partial courses of study, making in all thirty-seven students. This is a larger number we believe, than has been in attendance in any previous season, and still others will probably be added to the number. This is a pleasing indication of the increasing appreciation of an extended course of education in this country.

Our report last week of the doings at the Convention took up so much of our space that we were prevented from saying much, in connection with the subjects there considered, that we had been hoping to place before our readers.

It was with considerable reluctance we returned from our trip of a few days into the country. Those who live in the rural districts we imagine do but imperfectly realize the delights by which they are surrounded. They know but little what a treat it is for those who are shut up in the city all the year round to get a chance for a short time of breathing freely in pure air.

After poring over piles of newspapers from week to week, searching through every paragraph with the care of the miner for specks of the precious metal—having often, too, like him, to cast aside lump after lump of the crushed and broken material, without discovering a particle worth transferring to our coffers—columns for the benefit of our readers, we rejoice in a visit where we can see the growing crops of grain and fruit smiling upon the industrious farmer, and promising him an abundant reward for his labors.

We have received the Minutes of the Eastern New Brunswick Baptist Association, printed at Fredericton. The Reports of the Home Missionary Society, the Educational Society and the Union Society are included, making quite a respectable pamphlet of 44 pages.

We learn from the statistics given, that out of 69 churches there were letters received from 50, and that the additions to their membership were 157 and diminutions 95, leaving a net increase of 62 members, or about one-and-a-half per cent. The total number of members being 4082.

In referring to the question of Foreign Missions brought before the Convention, the N. B. Baptist and Visitor says:—

"Our churches will never be thoroughly aroused to do their duty to the heathen world until they have a given field of their own to cultivate. On this account mainly, we have advocated all through, independent action in some given direction. Let those in charge have faith in God and go forward, and men and means will be forth-coming to carry on the work."

We think it very desirable to have "independent action," as soon as means are forth-coming. Our present Foreign Missionary work, however should not be undervalued. The Native Preachers now laboring in Burmah sustained by

the Nova Scotia Baptist Churches and the Brussels Street Juvenile Society, are doing more we believe than any independent missionary in the world. If we cannot do what we would, let us do what we can. Perhaps we are not yet worthy of having an independent mission entrusted to us.

The Rev. George F. Miles has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Amherst Baptist Church, and entered upon his duties several weeks since. We are pleased to learn that during the past week he has removed his family from Moncton to Amherst, and has taken possession of the Mission premises, which have been repaired and refitted by the Church to suit the taste and add to the comfort of the Pastor and his family.

We are glad to welcome our brother to his important position in this province, and trust his labors may be abundantly blessed—that he may be the means of leading many to Christ and eventually to heaven.

During the absence of the Rev. Geo. F. Miles at the Baptist Convention at Nictaux, his pulpit at Amherst was supplied by the Rev. John Allison, Principal of the Wesleyan Female Seminary at Sackville.

"ONESIMUS" favors us with an account of a picnic given to the Baptist Sabbath School and Village Day School at Windsor. Press of other matter will not allow us to insert the whole.—We doubt not the compliments to the ladies were well deserved, and probably given in person, which must suffice. The writer says:—

MR. EDITOR,—

On Tuesday the 3rd Inst., a picnic was held within the picturesque and romantic College grounds at Windsor. It comprised the children of the Congregation of the Baptist Church and the pupils of the Village School, under the care of their Preceptor Mr. McDonald, with their respective teachers. The place chosen resembles a mountain gorge—having no outlet. During rain the water finds its way through the interstices of the plaster rocks. The vale is studded with some beautiful majestic elms which for centuries must have graced this fairy spot. The whole scenery was of the most pleasing kind imaginable. The old patriarch of eighty to the infant in arms were there, each enjoying the festivities of the day. Peeping through the bushes were to be seen a number of ragged hungry looking urchins, or Zouaves, if you please, who looked as though they would like to have a finger in the pie,—and what is better they had all, were cared for, and looked as if they would be willing to join the ranks if asked. Send out your recruiting sergeants, and no doubt they will volunteer.

The Rev. D. M. Welton and the Rev. S. T. Rand were present and entered into the festivities with great enjoyment to themselves and the friends present.

The Editor of the Bridgetown Weekly Register, in a very neat notice of the late Convention, says:

"So many elegant carriages we never before saw concentrated at a single point. It was pleasant to witness the fraternal greetings of christian brethren, who from various and distant sections of the Provinces, were called together by the claims of a common interest."

"In the discussion of the matters submitted to the Convention, there was a delightful spirit of harmony; and we have no doubt that these gatherings tend to keep alive the spirit of brotherly love, and to expand that more general charity which embraces the whole brotherhood of man."

We have no desire to further agitate the subject to which "Cephas" refers, we therefore withhold for the present his brief communication. His remark about 'putting a construction' upon a passage of scripture, is, however, so much to the purpose, that we extract it pro bono publico. He would recommend brother — to read Exodus xx. 13, and then if a venturesome musquito, or fly, should happen to molest him, he must politely request it to go away; for the commandment says "Thou shalt not kill;" and he must not put any construction on passages of Scripture.

News Summary.

THE Prorogation of Parliament in the middle of August has produced, as usual, a great dearth of political matter in the London papers. The great event of the late Session was Mr. Gladstone's famous Budget, involving the great Commercial treaty between England and France. This treaty in some of its essential particulars has not yet come into operation. We believe, however, that it is generally considered as likely to be highly beneficial to the trade of both countries, as in a great many respects old and vexatious obstructions are removed and the reciprocal duties largely diminished.

A new Bankruptcy Bill has been passed, which has created much discussion and has been much modified in its passage through the House of Lords.

Most of the occasional vacancies which have occurred in the House of Commons of late have been filled up by the return of Conservative candidates, and it seems highly probable that the next general election will reinstate Lord Derby and his party in power.

The Queen is making her visit to Ireland, after which she will go to her Highland Home at Balmoral to pass some weeks of the Autumn.

Warlike movements on this side the water appear still somewhat at a stand, each of the belligerent parties being busily employed in preparations for renewed conflicts. A Federalist expedition, however, has attacked and taken some forts at Hatteras Inlet, on the Coast of North Carolina, capturing seven or eight hundred prisoners.

Mr. Jefferson Davis, the President of the Southern Confederacy, it has been confidently rumoured, is dead. He has for some time past been in an infirm state of health. Later dates have contradicted the rumour and reported him in fine health the day after his reported demise.

The discovery of Gold Diggings appears to be the exciting event of the day in this Province. Tangier, Lunenburg, Lawrence town, (Halifax Co.) Allen's Bucket Factory, Gold River and Wine Harbour (Guysborough) are all localities in which more or less specimens of Gold-bearing quartz-rock, or alluvial soil have been found.

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

A CONSTABLE SHOT IN ANNAPOLIS.—We regret to learn of a serious affair at Annapolis, which occurred on Thursday last. Constable Hudson was shot dead by a colored man, while attempting to arrest him, on the Bay Shore.—Chron.

Three prisoners escaped from Rockhead Prison on Friday last. Two of them, Ford and Rawley, have made their escape three times from the above place during the last three months.

STOCKS IN HALIFAX.—At a sale of stocks last week, the following rates were realized:— Union Bank - - - - £9 15 0 Bank B. N. A., - - - - 71 0 0 Halifax Gas Company - - 15 2 6 Telegraph Stock, £3 10s 0d. offered; no sale. Union Marine Insurance Company £17 10s 0d offered; no sale.

The French Admiral REYNAUD wrote a letter to the Reporter last week denying the statement that two men had been hung on board of one of the ships now in our harbor. He says:—

In the first place there has been no Court Martial held on board because there has been neither misdemeanor nor crime committed. In the second place, had sentence of death been pronounced, the guilty could not have been "hanged," this mode of execution being contrary to the laws by which we are governed.

HANTS & KINGS COUNTIES.—A letter to the Recorder dated Rawdon, Sep. 3, says:—

"Last week I went through some of the finest parts of Hants and Kings Counties. In many places the frost has done serious injury to the corn, buckwheat, potatoes, &c. Ours have not been injured by the frost, but there is a small black fly (not known here before) destroying oats, &c. Some who expected large crops, will scarcely have any worth thrashing. The gold fever rages here as well as other places, and several are digging in this neighbourhood, with the expectation of finding some of the precious metal."

HOW THE ARMY-WORM GETS IN.—We were shown yesterday by Mr. H. Starr, an army-worm, taken from some straw in a package received from Boston. The insect is still alive.—Sun.

GOLD.—As we mentioned in our last some of the remarks which had been made by the Editor of the Sun, in reference to Mr. Cunard's first letter on the gold diggings at the Ovens, we feel it would be unfair to that gentleman to withhold a letter he last week wrote to the Reporter.

We fear that before the summer is over, a large majority of those who have been digging for gold, will find themselves no better off than they were before the fever broke out, notwithstanding all the fine things written and said about golden prospects. Mr. Cunard says:—

HALIFAX, 4th Sept., 1861

Mr. Editor.—I have been absent for a few days to Cape Breton, and find on my return the daily papers prolific with remarks editorial and otherwise, on the letter I addressed to the Express a short time since, on the subject of the gold diggings at the Ovens. It seems almost entirely to have escaped the notice of those who to use the language of the Sun, "have rushed into print," that at the time I wrote no great progress had been made in opening up the claims, and that with the exception of those taken out by Messrs. Fraser and Campbell and myself, and an adjoining one belonging to Mr. Benjamin, what had been done had offered at least, so far as could then be ascertained, little or no encouragement to continue to work the claims—numbers who from the newspaper reports had been induced to visit the Ovens, were returning home disappointed. On my return to Halifax

from the Ovens, I was informed by a resident of this city, who had just come from Windsor, that that town was almost deserted, that farmers and farm laborers were alike starting for the diggings, leaving their crops in the field, and he said the consequences to the country generally would be disastrous unless a contradiction was given to the reports which I was so well aware were altogether exaggerated and many untrue. I was, therefore, induced to depart from my usual course and to trouble the newspapers with a letter, the contents of which I contend, at the time I penned it, were fully borne out by the facts of the case as then known, and I am supported in this opinion by the fact that a gentleman, well-known in this city, who visited the Ovens with me and to whom I showed my letter before it was published, agreed entirely with the opinions expressed in it, and my views were further corroborated in the Morning Chronicle by some editorial remarks on a visit made to the spot by His Excellency the Governor and several members of the Government; and to show you my opinion of the value of our claims, I may state that ten days after my letter was written a person had informed me that he had seen £500 taken from our claims in one day. I immediately offered to sell him the whole of the claims upland as well as washing for one so-called day's work, say £500, and I afterwards offered it as is well known, to several other parties for the same sum, but in each of these instances my offer was refused, a refusal which I do not now regret, because since then our washings have proved to be much richer than at first was anticipated.

The Government having confirmed to us the areas we claimed, and to which we were entitled on every principle of impartiality and justice, it was a matter of no consequence to us whether 10, or 10,000 persons went to the diggings; if we had been given all the claims in the locality or had been seeking to increase the area first given to us, there might have been some show of reason in the remarks indulged in, and possibly the inference might have been that I had a design to deceive the public in publishing my first letter; but no one has yet ventured to show what personal object I had to gain in taking the course I did. No one would rejoice more than myself to learn that my opinions were premature and that subsequent efforts have led to the discovery of rich deposits of gold in every claim at the Ovens.

With regard to the reports as to the quantity of gold in my possession, I may say that they are much exaggerated. But I need not enter into details on this subject, as they are matters into which myself and others associated with me have alone the right to enquire.

W. CUNARD.

HALIFAX HARBOR has perhaps never presented so lively an appearance as during the present summer. The fleet of first-class men-of-war, both English and French, now riding at anchor, render it quite an interesting spectacle. The following is a list given in the past week:

Table with columns: ENGLISH, horse power, guns. Lists ships like St. George, Nile, Diadem, Jason, Racer, Gladiator, Bull-dog, Spiteful, Nimble, Steady, Barracouta, Ariadne, Immortakite, Bellone, Foudre, Pronoy, Renaudin.

A correspondent of the St. John Colonial Empire writing from Boston, speaking of his journey thence from St. John, says:

"Among the passengers in the boat were a party of Nova Scotians, some of whom had really fine specimens of the real stuff from Tangier. They told some very tough yarns, however, about the gold bearing regions, and, on the whole, exaggerated badly about the diggings. Among them was one gentleman, formerly a resident of Halifax, who amassed considerable wealth there in the tailoring business in former years, but who has removed all or nearly all of his wealth to the principal city of the Provinces, where he has largely invested, preferring, (as too many of the St. John people have done,) to give to places abroad the benefit of his wealth rather than making it useful to those among whom it was raised. In this party was also an American gentleman who delivered two lectures last winter in the Institute. In a conversation with him upon the Provinces, he concluded his remarks by saying 'Sir, I have lived in all the Provinces, and I have travelled pretty extensively, and I believe Nova Scotia with her extensive franchise, her freedom from restrictive alien laws, her well established schools, and her low rate of taxation, to be the freest country in the world; certainly I know of none equal to it.'"

NEW COLONIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Francis Hincks, now Governor of Barbadoes, is to succeed Mr. Wodehouse in British Guiana; James Walker, Esq., now secretary of Barbadoes, who has for some time temporarily administered several governments, is to succeed Mr. Hincks at Barbadoes; the Hon. Arthur Gordon, the youngest son of the late Earl of Aberdeen, is to succeed the Hon. Henry Manners Sutton in New Brunswick; Sir Dominic Daly, late lieutenant governor of Prince Edward's Island, is to succeed Sir Richard Macdonnell in South Australia; Thomas Price, Esq., now president of the Virgin Islands, is to succeed Lieutenant Colonel Ord, lately promoted to Bermuda in Dominica.