

"Pugwash was in a very depraved state.—There was no religious society or christian minister in the place. Sabbath-breaking, drunkenness, and every kind of iniquity prevailed. Rev. T. S. Harding visited the place on a mission.—The novelty of a 'new-light preacher,' as he was called, drew out multitudes to hear him. His first discourse was preached in Mr. Bigelow's house. His text was Ephes. v. 8. He vividly portrayed the moral condition of the impenitent, as in darkness; also the great change that took place when men became 'light in the Lord,' and closed his sermon by an impassioned appeal to his hearers in reference to their condition before God. The majestic tones of his voice, the magnitude of his theme, and the earnestness and sincerity with which he addressed the people, at first filled them with astonishment—then subdued them to tears—and before the preacher had closed, his voice was almost drowned in the cries and groans of souls awakened to a sense of their lost condition. A gracious revival commenced. Mrs. Bigelow was the first person baptized; many others soon followed, among whom were her husband and several members of her family. A church was immediately formed. After a few weeks Father Harding decided to return home. The people sad and tearful, assembled to hear his farewell sermon; and like Paul on a similar occasion, he preached until midnight, 'ready to depart on the morrow.' At the close of the sermon a female requested to be baptized. She had hitherto delayed on account of the opposition of her friends, but now felt that she must obey her Lord in his holy ordinance. Father Harding consented to administer the rite immediately.—They repaired to a branch of the Pugwash river. The light of a full moon shone benignly upon them, and the voice of prayer and praise rolled along the shining stream. It was said that the voice of the preacher was heard down the river for several miles. The candidate was baptized, and went on her way rejoicing. After the baptism Father H. bade the people adieu and retired to rest. The people decided to remain until morning and see him depart. Father H. was too excited to sleep, and it was not long before he came from his apartment, singing an old hymn commencing thus—'How can I sleep when angels sing?' The rest of the night was spent in prayer and exhortation. On the morrow he departed."

I find that I have omitted to mention the subjects of the Circular Letters for 1826 and 1827. Edward Manning wrote the letter for 1826: the subject was, "the love of God to his people, and their love to him in return." It was an affectionate and fervent exhortation. The letter for 1827 was written by William Elder. It was a practical discourse on "the support of the gospel ministry."

Yours truly,
MENNO.

June 24, 1861.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 3, 1861.

Union is Strength.

Compromise or Secession is too much the order of the day in religious bodies as well as in the neighbouring Republic. Division is the result of weakness, whether it be in governments or churches. Where the proper degree of cohesion exists, there will be forbearance, and that exercise of love which will keep the general welfare of the community above all other considerations of personal feeling and gratification. Union for the protection of the individual and the common good of the body, is the principle on which Christian Churches are formed. This we fear is often but inadequately appreciated. Even professing Christians frequently regard their religion as simply a means of security for themselves from the evils of the world and from future condemnation. Instead of feeling that they are called to be soldiers of the cross, always as duty, they regard themselves but as recipients of blessings, forgetting that they are to distribute these blessings to others. As their sense of responsibility is weak, their appreciation of Christian fellowship and attachment to the church is but feeble. Their efforts in its behalf are correspondingly few and ill-sustained.

In a well disciplined army every man is found at his post, and prepared to defend it or take up any position to which he may be called for the general good. Selfishness is not to be once submitted to. The soldier's own comfort, or life even, is not to be valued or put in competition with obedience to commands, and the pursuit of the object sought on behalf of the whole.

Whether in the army of Christ or of this world, a small, but compact and united body, is

far more effective than a large company loosely holding together. It is often thought that because Baptists, in their church organization are not encumbered with the same amount of legal enactment, as other denominations, that they, therefore, have less of real union existing among their members, and between the churches in different places, and that they are less able to combine and bring their religious sentiments to bear on the world than some other religious communities. This, we rejoice to believe, is a grand mistake, the very absence of external bonds renders the great bond by which they are held,—love to Christ and his truth,—more free to act and control the operations of the whole. The machinery may be less efficient for purposes of oppression, and aiding political partisans, but for doing good and all that is essential to them as believers and disciples of the Lord Jesus, the liberty they enjoy, affords scope and opportunity which no human arrangements could secure. Amongst intelligent Baptists we believe there exists a degree of union enjoyed by no other body. Where the great truths which distinguish us, as a denomination, are imperfectly understood, there may be a want of zeal, or the union may partake too much of a sectarian character, but where they are properly appreciated, we believe there is a far greater disposition and opportunity for the exercise of christian love than under any other arrangement. Some may have adopted the views they hold without much enquiry, or from the circumstance of being associated with others by whom they are well understood. In such cases the principle of union is but imperfectly developed, and but a poor sickly plant, but where the truth is held in all its fair proportions, there Christian fellowship becomes a vigorous plant, whose fruit is abundant in love to God and to his people.

The great bond of union amongst christians must be love to Christ, the natural fruit of this will be obedience to his precepts. The strength of the Church will be apparent where it is evident the members are united by this living principle. It is not enough that a few out of the whole of those composing the body, are animated by one spirit, but when all are fully alive to their duties and responsibilities then may we look for a more full manifestation of the church's power. Whether advancement be by a general awakening of the people to concern for their souls, or by a gradual gathering in of ones or twos or more from the congregations, or, by only a greater amount of earnestness witnessed amongst those already brought in, without any actual additions, there will be an augmentation of strength in the church, and a power will be exerted on the world which must eventually bring about God's merciful designs in saving men.

Baptists have an important mission. It is theirs to teach the truth with regard to the ordinances and government of the Christian Church; and they, of all people, should be well grounded in these principles. We would not have them less Christian, but more Baptist, and while delighting in the exhibition of Christian character in men generally, they should aim to hold forth these great beacon lights, and call men to distinguish between a profession by proxy or restraint, and a free voluntary offering of service for life on the altar of Christ. The progress already made by Baptist principles, notwithstanding the feeble attempts made to propagate them, except by way of defence, is but a faint indication of what may be produced by a general union and determination on their part to be more faithful in this matter.

"Father Chiniquy and his Flock."

We learn from the *Presbyterian Witness* that the Rev. Mr. Chiniquy has been undergoing a trial before the Presbytery of Chicago, which lasted several days, on the charges of, "1. Falsehood, with six specifications,—and 2. Obtaining money under false pretences—with two specifications." To all of these the accused pleaded "not guilty." "The Rev. Dr. W. A. Scott was appointed to conduct the prosecution as the representative of Common Fame." "Mr. Chiniquy conducted his own defence." Upon the call of the roll it was found that no one count of either charge was sustained. On two of the counts of the first charge the vote for and against was a tie, with one or more "non liquet" votes. The writer adds:—

"In the judgment of the writer, no conclusion other than that reached ought to have been announced. No other could be in accordance with the testimony. To me, and, I presume, to those who voted with me 'not to sustain,' the difficulty was that the proof did not reach the point of wilful deliberate, intentional mendacity. Giving Mr. Chiniquy the advantage of just and reasonable doubts, and the benefit

of that favorable construction of all his conduct which his foreign education, his foreign ecclesiastical training, and his recent introduction, either to the Presbyterian Church or to Presbyterian usages, may reasonably claim, I do not see now any other vote could have been given. I speak however, for myself,—I could not, with a good conscience, have voted "to sustain" upon the testimony before the Court."

PRESBYTERIAN SYNODICAL MEETINGS.—The Synod of the "Established Church of Scotland in Nova Scotia" has been holding its Annual Session in St. Matthew's Church, during the past week. There are, we believe sixteen clergymen associated with this body.

The Synod of the "Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces," also commenced its sittings on Wednesday last at Chalmers' Church, and has continued its meetings through several days. Sixty-six ministers names are given as having been in attendance, besides about thirty elders.

On Lord's Day ministers belonging to these bodies occupied the pulpits of several churches in the city, besides those belonging to their own denomination.

Yesterday afternoon was appointed for a Steamboat Excursion on the harbour for the ministers and friends belonging to the latter body.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. W. The letter is good, and well suited to meet the assumptions of certain clergymen, but as it was written in reply to what occurred in private we conceive it would be better to withhold it from publication at present.

J. C. M. We should be unwilling to allow space for the propagation of error, more particularly where such error is the result of a want of information.

On another page of our present issue will be found the first part of the Inaugural Discourse of Professor DeMill, delivered at the Anniversary of Acadia College. We shall give the conclusion next week. The sentiments it contains and the adaptation of the address for the occasion are favorable auguries of what may be expected of Mr. DeMill. We doubt not that the students, the denomination, and the public will have reason to congratulate the Governors of the College on this appointment.

News Summary.

OUR latest European dates are by the steamer *Europa* on Tuesday, the 25th ult. The punctuality and safety with which this first and by far the most efficient of Atlantic Lines of Steamers, runs its weekly course of 3000 miles, may well be considered a mighty triumph in steam navigation, and justly elicited, a few days since, a high eulogium in the British Parliament.

The items of news by the mail, though not exciting, are important. The English and French Embassies have established their residence in the City of Peking, and have been received with apparent cordiality by the Chinese Government, which has determined to establish an English School in that capital. How little were facts like these anticipated twenty years ago!

It will be remembered that owing to the brutal massacre of the native Christians of Lebanon in Syria, by the Mahomedan Druses, a large body of French troops, about 10,000 we think, were sent thither to restore order, under the sanction of the great European Powers, and the consent of the Turkish Sultan. It has been feared from the hesitation of France in withdrawing their troops, that she had sinister designs which might result in international difficulties in Europe. They are, however, now withdrawn, and such apprehensions are quieted for the present.

Great reforms have lately taken place in the administration of East Indian affairs, consequent upon the great Sepoy rebellion in 1857 and its suppression. The political management of that vast Empire, containing a population of some hundred and forty millions of souls, has been taken out of the hands of the old East India Company, and is now amalgamated and made a part of the Imperial Government on the same principle as other Colonial possessions. The Native Army, which, at the time of the rebellion, consisted of 286,000 men, with a large number of European regiments in addition, has lately been reduced to 140,000, and the European force somewhat increased. The India Government, notwithstanding the inexhaustible riches of the Country, was deeply involved in debt, and was becoming a source of great anxiety to the Home Government. It is most satisfactory to find that by the late judicious and sweeping reforms in the finances and the Army, a greatly improved state of things has been introduced,

and a course of social and commercial prosperity has a fair prospect of being realized in India. Great efforts are making by the Indian Government to encourage and extend the raising of cotton, in order to supply the vast demand of the English market. Many districts of the country are most favourable for its growth.

The unhappy war with the natives of New Zealand is reported to be at an end, by an unconditional surrender of the native tribes.

The Arsenal of Harper's Ferry on the Potomac, has been abandoned by the Secession Troops, but of course all munitions of war and stores were first destroyed. No news of any moment has been lately received. We give the latest intelligence in our news columns.

In New Brunswick the General Election just concluded has resulted in a majority, which, it is said, will sustain the present Government.

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

FOURTH OF JULY.—About sixty passengers left Halifax on Friday last, in the Steamer *Eastern State* for Boston, for the purpose of witnessing the fourth of July celebrations. The character of these glorifications will doubtless be somewhat modified this year. The anxiety as to the result of the extra Session of Congress, will doubtless interfere with any very positive demonstrations on the questions at issue.

RESCUED FROM DROWNING.—On Thursday evening, whilst a number of persons were on Cunard's wharf waiting the approach of the steamer from Boston, a man fell off the wharf into deep water, and being unable to swim was in imminent danger of drowning. A Naval officer who was present—Lieut. Phillips of the *Aile*—immediately threw off his coat, jumped into the water, and rescued the unfortunate man from drowning. We understood that this was not the first human life that Mr. Phillips has saved in a similar manner, at the risk of his own.—*Recorder.*

ANOTHER APPOINTMENT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—We are informed on undoubted authority that a mandamus from Her Majesty the Queen, bearing date the 26th of April last, was duly received in this Province and transmitted by the Provincial Secretary to Charles Whitman, Esq., in the county of Annapolis, appointing that gentleman to a seat in the Legislative Council. The Hon. Chas. Whitman, who has accepted the appointment of Her Gracious Majesty, will therefore take his seat on the assembling of the Legislature.—*Colonist*, 25th ult.

We have seen no contradiction of the above, in the papers supposed to represent the Government.

GOLD.—It would be almost unpardonable for a weekly paper to make its appearance, now, without a paragraph on this subject. Reports are brought almost daily of "gold bearing quartz" being found in fresh places around Halifax. Musquodoboit, Porter's Lake and Dartmouth have been added to the list during the past week. Much of this is said to be very promising.

Specimens of silver, copper, and lead are also said to have been found at Sambro. A quartz crushing machine we learn will shortly be in operation at Tangier. Some of the "diggers" have collected tons of quartz in anticipation of this apparatus.

One of our morning papers says in reference to the abundance of the precious metal, that it is actually brought up in quartz (quartz). We learn from the *Morning Journal* that at Tangier "the trees have mostly been cut down about the place, so that the mining operations are unimpeded. A good road has been made from the shore. Several shanties have been opened which are doing a good business in groceries wet and dry goods. The blacksmiths are never idle, but busy all the day long repairing and making mining implements. The same rumor was current at the mines which we have often heard "about town"—that a large company of miners was en route for Tangier from England. It may prove correct."

DARING FEATS.—We have had several daring acrobatic feats during the past week at *la Blondin* in Halifax. A rope was stretched from the upper story of the Mansion House across the Parade to a house in the street above. On this rope one of the brothers Denier walked, ran, danced, swung by his hands and then by his feet, turned summersaults and laid down at full length. On Friday he drove a wheelbarrow across and back on the rope, to the astonishment of thousands of spectators.

MRS. WINSLOW, VS. CRYING CHILDREN.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with the excruciating pain of cutting teeth? If so, go at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately—depend upon it; there is no mistake about it. There is not a mother on earth who has ever used it, who will not tell you at once that it will regulate the bowels, and give rest to the mother and relief and health to the child, operating like magic. It is perfectly safe to use in all cases, and pleasant to taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States.—Price 25 cents. Office 18 Cedar-street, New York. Sold everywhere.