

turn. I have had the second attack of Diphtheria since I returned, but have now nearly recovered. Yours in Christ Jesus, A. W. BARSS. Locke's Island, Nov. 29th, 1861.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MR. WILLIAM GOUCHER,

Of Victoria Road, Wilmot, died on the 9th ult., aged 76 years, and leaving 7 children. Mr. G. was a remarkable trophy of divine grace. He lived upwards of forty years in utter neglect of religion, and in entire unconcern respecting his everlasting welfare. During the extensive revival that occurred in this region about thirty-three years ago, a brother, Oliver Brown, who had recently obtained hope in Christ, was strongly exercised with an anxious desire for the salvation of his old associate, William Goucher. Under this influence he visited him, and suddenly accosted him, while chopping at his own door, with the exclamation, "I have a message from the Lord to you!" He proceeded to give him a most solemn warning.—Mr. G. immediately dropped his axe, and went into his house under pungent conviction. An awful sense of his sin and danger seized him.—After a season of keen anguish of spirit, he obtained strong consolation through faith in the Saviour.

He then became a member of a Baptist Church, and subsequently walked in fellowship with his brethren to the close of his life. Though he was far from being free from infirmities, yet the reality of the change wrought in him, was apparent to all his acquaintances.

As the day on which the remains of our departed brother were interred, was so rainy that his relatives and the people in general could not assemble for public worship, a sermon was preached on Lord's day, the 1st inst., by the writer, for the improvement of the occasion, from Isa. lvi. 1, 2. "The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men of piety are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come." &c.—Communicated by Rev. C. Tapper.

THOMAS CROUDES,

Died at North Sydney, Cape Breton, July 5th, 1861. After an illness of more than a year's continuance which he bore with christian patience and resignation to the Divine will. He often expressed great satisfaction in the thought that his accumulated afflictions were bounded by time, and all beyond was one blissful, happy, eternal rest, which he fondly anticipated enjoying through the mercy of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Brother Croudes professed religion 20 years ago, and was baptized on a profession of faith in Christ, united with the Church, and ever afterwards manifested attachment to the cause of Christ and the principles of religion.

His end was peace, for he knew in whom he had believed, and was persuaded that He was able to keep that which he had committed to him against that day.

He has left an affectionate wife, 2 sons and 5 daughters, and a very large connection of friends and acquaintances to mourn their irreparable loss. The interment took place on the Sabbath after his death. In the absence of the writer a Sermon was delivered on the occasion, by the Rev. A. Shields.—Communicated by Rev. H. Ross.

N. Sydney, Dec. 2, 1861.

Missionary Intelligence.

Henthada Mission.

In our last we gave some account of the Henthada Association. The following is the remainder of the report of the interesting meetings held on that occasion.

Feb. 24.—Sabbath evening. Again we met and poured out our souls before God; especially for the new converts who are now in several places where churches have not yet been established.

In the forenoon the spacious tent was filled. By the outer edge of the congregation were many heathen Karens and Burmans, who could be readily distinguished by their ornaments, and by their wild appearance. To preach before such a congregation is a privilege sufficiently great to repay one for all the hardships of a life among the heathen.

At noon we had a baptism, when seven interesting converts professed Christ. At two P. M., we all met again, and united with the Au-ka-go church in commemorating the love of Christ.

ORDINATION OF A NATIVE PREACHER.—At half past three, a Council was called to consider the propriety of ordaining Nga Shway Nu to the work of the gospel ministry. The candidate is one of the most unassuming of all our native preachers. He is not brilliant, but a man of a very good reputation. We have known and tried him for six years, and God has blessed his labors. Six years ago, he came from the northern part of the Rangoon province, to study in our Normal school. My buildings, not being quite ready to commence school, Shway Nu went to Quab-thah, to visit some heathen relatives of his. He preached to them and with so much success that he remained there the whole rains. (He has studied two rains since.) The

next dry season, about twenty were baptized. Now that church numbers about seventy members, all of whom seem to be in earnest. Thirteen were baptised in Shway Nu's village this season. Next year the Association is to be held in his village. Shway Nu's views of gospel doctrines were very correct—indeed there was no reason why he should not be ordained, while an ordained man is much needed at his place, in the northern part of this province.

At evening it fell to my lot to preach the ordination sermon, from 1 Tim. 4: 16. "Take heed to thyself and to the doctrine, &c." Tsh Mai and Nga Pee laid their hands upon the candidate, while Mau Dee made a very earnest and appropriate prayer, and Sau Totah gave to the candidate the hand of fellowship, welcoming him in a few appropriate words, to the duties and privileges of this holy office. Now we have five ordained Karens in this mission. There are others whom I want to have ordained, and one whom I would ordain, had he a wife suited for a pastor's wife. Thus closed one of the most important Associations,—nay, the most important, we have yet held. We want, O how much! the sanctifying influences of God's Spirit. Do unite with us in asking for this blessing.

"All will come to desolation," without the Holy Spirit to enlighten and sanctify. We feel this truth, but, want to feel it still more.

European and American News.

For the Christian Messenger

English Correspondence.

From our own Correspondent.

FOREBODINGS OF WINTER.—PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—GREAT EXCITEMENT OCCASIONED BY THE TRENT AFFAIR.—WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES DEMANDED BY SOME PARTIES.—DIFFERENCES OF OPINION.—DECISION OF ENGLISH LAW OFFICERS.—ENGLISH GOVERNMENT DEMAND RESTITUTION, APOLOGY AND COMPENSATION.—10,000 TROOPS FOR CANADA.—PLENTY OF COTTON IN ENGLAND.—GENERAL STAGNATION OF TRADE, BUT FEW FAILURES.—NEW EDUCATIONAL CODE.—CHANGES RESISTED AND SUSPENDED.

MR. EDITOR,—

For some weeks past there has been a general foreboding of evil in the future, shrouding all our public speeches and private gossip. From what quarter we were to expect it was a mystery; but everybody has anticipated a hard winter, and general suffering. Under the influence of this universal impression trade has languished, enterprise has become frigid. Even speculation has at last ceased its spasms. Home politics have been unusually quiet.

Just lately a movement in favor of reform in our Parliamentary representation has sprung up in Leeds, originating with the working classes, through the medium of trades' union organizations; this has evoked sympathetic action on the other large centres of industry and may, if discreetly managed, result in some beneficial change, especially as it accords with all previous successful political movements, having sprung spontaneously from the people. The chief reform patriots have signified their acquiescence in the movement, and will doubtless push it in a little faster if no other more important subject occupy the time of our legislators next session. It is worthy of remark here that the idea of "Manhood suffrage" so much mooted by the ultras a year or two ago has been softened down into "Household suffrage;" and even this will not be insisted on if a £5 or £6 suffrage in boroughs, and a £10 suffrage in counties by quiet-ly conceded.

One other subject, that of Education, has been extensively canvassed. With these exceptions we have had nothing to disturb the placid waiting for of some change in American affairs.—The hopes of the people have been that we might have a mild winter to soften the rigors of scanty of food, and that the returning Spring might bring about a cessation of hostilities, amongst our blood relations over the water.

The general stagnation suffered a violent eruption on Wednesday last.—The electric wires spread consternation over the whole land. The news that the Trent, West India Mail packet, had been violated by a United States war ship, the steam-sloop San Jacinto, that shot and shell had been fired at her to stop her, that she had been boarded and Messrs. Slidell and Mason, the diplomatic agents of the Confederate States, with their Secretaries, were seized and carried prisoners on board the San Jacinto, excited a most bitter feeling every where. The loudest demands were for immediate war with the offending States for such a national insult. Markets were paralyzed. Funds and Shares suffered a serious decline. The wildest rumours were afloat. After some reflection it was felt to be rather a question for our lawyers to settle than for an excited multitude, and patience was to be

exercised till the right of the case could be known. It has been interesting to compare the different views of the case taken by different parties and papers both in this country and in France. Some argue that international law gives the right of search of neutral ships to the government ships of a belligerent power, and that firing the shot or shell across the bows of the Trent, was not exceeding the etiquette of warlike custom, and that the seizure of those gentlemen was a matter of course, as it was not denied that they were on a hostile mission to the Courts of Paris and London, and were therefore "contraband of war." Others again justifying the stoppage of the ship and the right to board her and search for contraband of war, urge that the officer in command exceeded his duty, as though had he searched and found the despatches, which have safely reached England, he might have carried the ship and cargo and passengers into port, to be adjudicated on and in that case it would most probably have been condemned as a prize, he had no right to take the law into his own hands by first foregoing his right of search, and yet carrying off with force four peaceable passengers from under our flag. There is however another view of the case, which seems to have been overlooked by our journalists. The United States Government persist in refusing to recognize the Confederate States as an independent power, and will not acknowledge that they are fighting an enemy or blockading an enemy's ports. The Americans have given us any amount of abuse for even hinting in the Queen's Proclamation that the seceded States are a hostile power. In their own view of the case they are not at war, and are not therefore in a position to avail themselves of the international usages of war, and were therefore not justified in demanding a right of search. Possibly Lieutenant Fairfax felt it to be a stretch of authority and would not insist on it when it was refused by Captain Moir, as little right had he to capture Slidell, Mason and company. Being rebels they were simply criminals, to be demanded in a formal manner and only handed over after due process of law.

This morning we have a telegram that the law officers of the Crown have decided that the United States Government were not justified in the action, and that therefore our Government will demand restitution and apology with compensation. The Cabinet met on Friday afternoon, and doubtless the packet which brings this letter will convey important despatches to Lord Lyons. We now wish for the Atlantic telegraph. The work it might do for us in a single day would be worth the whole cost of the concern. American telegrams direct would be cheap at a thousand pounds a word. There is, as there always is, a party wishful for war, but the great masses of Englishmen tremble at the bare possibility of hostilities. Still, our honor being assailed, I believe there would be no hesitation in even that desperate course if reparation be refused. A rumour was afloat yesterday, that 10,000 troops would be sent to Canada. It is certainly possible and under certain contingencies is probable, but I cannot think the Washington Government would be so blind to its own interests, as to provoke hostilities with her best friend. We wait for the next mail with anxiety.

It may be old news to you that the Confederate war steamer "Nashville" which a fortnight ago took, pillaged and burnt the United States steamer Harvey Birch, in the British Channel, is still lying at the docks at Southampton, waiting without present hope to be allowed to refit there. Of course, so long as we are neutrals we are debarred from rendering any such assistance to one belligerent more than another.

Much has been said about our Cotton famine, this is more imaginary than real, we hold now over half a million bales of cotton, and the factories are working only an average of four days a week. The stock of cotton on hand, which was a month or two ago to have been worked up by Christmas, will certainly last till next May.—The markets for cloth and yarn are so very dull, that even four days a week seems too much for the demand. Immense quantities of piece goods are stored up in Manchester awaiting a market. As things stand at present, it would scarcely be an advantage if the American Cotton found free exit to-morrow. Indeed, any sudden addition to our stock would spread disaster abroad, it being mostly held by speculators. Prices of the raw material are going down. The highest point has probably been reached. News of the capture of Beaufort, and with it a large quantity of cotton,—the successful run of the Bermuda with 2000 bales of cotton, and lastly the chances of a rupture with the United States, have combined to cause a decline equal to a depreciation of half a million sterling this week.

The effects of short time are acutely felt now.

Some thousands of operatives are without employment, subsisting on charity, and poor-law relief. A larger number are earning barely enough to live upon. In such times food is the first necessity. Constant demand for that keeps up prices, whilst for clothing, furniture, houses, &c., the demand is very restricted, a general stagnation of trade is prevalent in the manufacturing counties. Large capitalists are safe working up steadily their stocks of cheaply bought cotton, whilst small capitalists, who have to go to market now, are either working their mills at a loss or have closed them entirely. Still, I do not hear of many concerns being in the market for sale. It is singular that amidst also this commercial depression and manufacturing difficulties, the receipts of our railways do not show much decrease.

Some three months ago a Revised Code of Regulations, for the distribution of the Parliamentary grant in aid of Education was published. Its provisions completely set aside the Code of Minutes at present in use, which have so successfully established or improved 9,000 schools in 10 years, and carried means of a good education within the reach of all, but the very lowest classes of Society. It is feared, by those interested in the support of existing schools, that its provisions will seriously inconvenience managers in maintaining them with the present efficiency. Calculations have been made showing that a large number of schools will suffer to the extent of two thirds of the present grant. Whilst such stringent and in many cases impracticable conditions are imposed, as must shut up many establishments entirely. The teachers, who of all men should know the practicability of such a measure, unanimously condemn the Revised Code, and have memorialized the Committee to Council on Education, to have withdrawn or modified. Politicians complain that the prerogative of Parliament have been invaded by the enactment of laws affecting the expenditure of £800,000 without consulting that body. It is singular that the Report of the Royal Commission on Education should be contemptuously cast aside, and before time has allowed its consideration by the House of Commons, this Revised Code, which is really a new Code, is brought before the public with provisions quite opposed to the recommendations of the Commission.—The public clamour has caused it to be suspended till next April. In the meantime it may be greatly modified or annulled.

HASTINGS.

Manchester, Nov. 30th, 1861.

Latest from Europe!

WARLIKE APPEARANCES.

The past week has been one of considerable excitement in Halifax. Several rumours have been floating about respecting the proceedings of the U. S. Government.

It was understood that Messrs. Breckenridge and Hunter, appointed by the Confederates to take the places of Slidell and Mason, were in Halifax, ready to proceed in the Canada. A telegram was said to have been received from the Attorney General of Boston, by Messrs. Cunard for the captain of that ship, forbidding him to take those gentlemen on board. Capt. Muir very quietly replied that he was not supposed to know who his passengers were; and he would like to see any passenger taken out of his ship, while under the protection of the British flag!

On Friday it was learned that the Europa was off Cape Race, and had been detained at Queenstown for despatches. On Saturday a report arrived that the Canada had been engaged off the harbor by two American frigates, and was being taken back to Boston; that Lord Lyons had been insulted at Washington, and had telegraphed for the Steamer Rinaldo then in harbor. It is somewhat uncertain what amount of truth is contained in the Breckenridge story. As to the Canada being interfered with outside, we believe it was altogether a hoax.

All supposition was allayed by the arrival of the Steamer on Sunday.

The European Times states that the last week had been one of intense excitement, surpassing anything experienced since the Crimean war. People felt on Wednesday as if the greatest calamity that could befall us—a rupture between ourselves and our transatlantic kindred—was imminent. On Thursday there was a calm, next day the wind rose and raged with fearful violence all over the land. When it became known that the British Mail Packet Trent had been boarded at sea, and Messrs. Mason and Slidell taken from her under circumstance of discourtesy and menace, the merchants of Liverpool held an "indignation meeting," at which speeches were made of the most fiery description, and advice scorned because it counselled inquiry into the case an acquaintance with the law of nations. But what the coolness of one or