

render it more acceptable to him, nor would affixing that of "Dr. Squash" to an opposite opinion convince our more carnivorous friends that total abstinence from meat would root out disease from the human family.

We supply our pages with the best information we can obtain, but do not expect our patrons to adopt all the opinions expressed under "Agriculture &c.," or any other head, without examination. We wish them to think for themselves on all subjects, physical, moral, and religious; and act as rational and responsible men and women.

The quality and quantity of food necessary for one person is no criterion for another. We fully believe however, that a larger proportion of good vegetable food, especially of course bread, would be beneficial to the health of most families.

On the other hand we find that in Russia and some other cold countries, animal food, and that of the most greasy nature, oil, &c. forms almost and in some cases quite, their only diet. We are not aware that disease prevails more in those countries than in the tropics, where rice &c. are the great staples.

Other causes we think, operate with the Quakers to lengthen the average of human life amongst them, besides their having a larger proportion of vegetarians. Their general temperate habits and equanimity of mind, their avoidance of exhausting occupations and extravagance, prevent demands on their powers, which are common to other men. We must not however, discuss this matter at greater length now, but shall be glad to receive communications upon the subject. We are not prepared to banish from our pages, all the information we can give from time to time on the rearing of stock, &c. &c., as we believe meat a necessary of life; but such temperate articles as the above, seeking to shew how to obtain a better supply of the means of enlightenment, books, papers &c. in place of what is hurtful, are always welcome.—Ed. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger.

Valedictory Address

TO THE REV. AARON COGSWELL.

Dear Brother,—As we are called, in the providence of God, to part, we esteem it a privilege as well as a duty to tender you some token of the esteem in which you have been, and are still held by the people of your charge. During the twelve years you have spent with us, we believe you have had the hearts and sympathies of your Brethren and Sisters with you generally in your labors of love.

Although we may have had some trials by the way, nevertheless, we have had many days of rejoicing whereby many have been profited by your ministrations. We find by reference to our records that during your pastorate there have been added to our number 170 by Baptism. To God be all the glory—the cause of Education, and the Sabbath School have shared your sympathies and influence, and the abodes of the sick have not been neglected by you. When we take a retrospective view of the connection which have so long existed between us, as minister and people, we are constrained to say that it has been most happy and pleasing. And now Dear Brother in going from us be assured that you take with you our fervent desires for your future prosperity in your Master's cause.—And in conclusion we would crave Heaven's best gifts for you and your-family. May you and your dear partner be long spared to each other and to the Church of Christ—and may your children become ornaments and pillars in the church of God, and be a solace and comfort in your declining years, that when your pilgrimage shall be ended here on earth, you may be an unbroken family in yonder Heaven of halloved rest. Farewell!

Signed in behalf of the Clements Church, JAMES POTTER, JAMES E. POTTER, JOHN D. POTTER, RICHARD SANFORD, Committee.

Reply

TO THE BAPTIST CHURCH, CLEMENTS.

Dear Brethren and Sisters in Christ,—In closing the connection that has existed between us as Pastor and people, it gives me pleasure to know that I carry with me the sympathies of those for whom I have labored the past twelve years. The thoughts of separation caused me much anxiety, and led me to solemn inquiry respecting my duty, not knowing any want of love in my people, or any difficulty as a cause of

leaving, but believed it to be a duty the cause of God required of me.

You speak of the days of rejoicing we have had together, they have truly been many, and as to my ministry if it has been blessed to the salvation of souls, to God be all the praise. The cause of Education and the Sabbath School has ever been near my heart, and I have ever striven to promote their interests as far as possible; I have always taken great pleasure in visiting the rooms of affliction to celebrate the victories of the Cross, and point sinners to him who is able to save. Truly, Dear Brethren you are in my heart to live and to die. In calling to mind your many acts of kindness to myself and family I feel assured I shall ever share in your prayers at a throne of grace.

In conclusion Dear Brethren, it is my earnest prayer that you may abound more and more in the love of the truth, till we all meet in the house not made with hands, where we shall go no more out, but spend a long eternity in praising Him who has loved us. And may the great Shepherd speedily send you a man after his own heart who shall break unto you the bread of life. Farewell!

A. COGSWELL.

Beaver River, Dec. 15th, 1861.

American and European News.

Latest from the States!

The following are from telegrams received by the News-room and the evening papers:

BOSTON, January 1.—Messrs. Mason and Slidell, with their Secretaries, were to-day transferred from Fort Warren to the British War Steamer *Rinaldo*.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The *Rinaldo* left Provincetown, at five, P. M., yesterday with the Confederate Commissioners and their Secretaries on board.

The *Rinaldo* will probably go to England direct.

Advices from Havana to the 28th December, state that Vera Cruz has been taken possession of by a Spanish force, and that the Spanish flag floats again from the Castle of San Juan Du Lloa.

The President's New Year reception was a brilliant affair. Subsequently all the Foreign Ministers except Lord Lyons called on Secretary Seward.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The British Steamer *Fingal* has been frustrated in an attempt to run the blockade at Savannah. Commodore Tall's fleet attempted to convoy the *Fingal* in, but after a sharp action with the Federal gun boat *Ottawa* they were compelled to retire.

A special committee of Congress is preparing a general tax bill, and devising other means to defray the expenses of Government.

Lord Lyons was present at the President's levee on New Year's day, and also attended Secretary Seward's party.

The general feeling at Washington is, that we shall have no Foreign war.

BOSTON, Jan. 4th.—Fortress Murree despatches state that two hundred and forty Federal prisoners taken at Bull's Run, have arrived there, having been exchanged for Confederate prisoners.

The Federals occupy Great Bethel. Washington despatches state that the report of trouble with England, on account of the stone blockade, is wholly without foundation.

Charleston advices state that cotton valued at ten million of dollars has been burned by planters, to prevent it falling into the hands of the Federals.

The surrender of Mason and Slidell causes great depression at the South.

It is stated that an English force will occupy Matamoros in Mexico.

It is thought that a decisive battle cannot much longer be avoided! Armies are drawing daily nearer to each other!

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—Gen. Burnside's fleet was inspected to-day at Annapolis.

Destination of expedition remains as much a mystery as Gen. Sherman's, before the latter landed at Port Royal.

Special Washington despatches say that committee of ways and means will ask for issue of one hundred millions treasury notes, payable on demand.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 4th.—Richmond papers have despatches from Mobile, saying that Federal troops had nominal possession of Billoxi, and would probably occupy all points in that region.

Six thousand Confederates had attacked the Regiment protecting the Railroad, on Upper Potomac. The latter retired with trifling loss.

There has been a destructive fire at Richmond.

General Lee has informed President Davis that he is confident of being able to repel the Federal advance on Charleston.

ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON.

THE LATEST YANKEE DODGE.—A Washington correspondent of the Boston *Watchman & Reflector* says:—

"At a chaplain's meeting, before a devotional season, a man arose, and with a solemn air, asked permission to say a few words on a subject of personal interest to all present. Permission was

granted, and he told how near death he had been, how he was saved by a medicine, how anxious he was to save the army from colds, coughs, consumption, &c. He concluded by asking the chaplains to introduce a patent medicine among their regiments. It was the latest dodge, freely advertising a cough-syrup in a prayer-meeting."

THE REAL REBELS.—The same writer "Ranger" gives the following concerning the treachery of some of those engaged in supplying the Army:—

"The recent reports of investigating committees show that the government is the passive victim of its agents. It is cheated in ships, horses, arms, in every thing it buys. Men act like horse-jockeys, lie and cheat as much as they can. The object is to get your hand as deep as possible in the treasury. Mr. Welles, in his report, speaks of a merchant who buys ships for the government: without compensation. But a committee prove that he has received ninety-five thousand dollars for four months' service, and so on *ad infinitum, ad nauseam*. Not believe in total depravity? Come to Washington, Mr. Unbeliever, and you will return home with a new creed."

THE OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ARMY.—Another item from the same, as we believe, truthful source, will not go far to assure the U. States people of Jonathan's prospects. He says:—

One is painfully impressed as he visits the camps with the inferiority of officers to the men. They are too young, too ignorant, too unsoldierlike for their positions. The rank and file are good, but one trembles at the thought of committing them in battle to the guidance of inexperienced boys.

A few further extracts may interest our readers:

"Ex-Minister Faulkner has been here on his way South to exchange himself for Congressman Ely. He boasted of the attentions which he received from Bostonians. He thought they indicated Southern sympathies. Your Ex-Congressman who was so active in furnishing rebels with champagne, venison, cigars, &c., may rejoice in the shame of encouraging rebellion, but here his conduct is viewed with disgust. A Bostonian remarks that he would lead a band to tar and feather such a sympathizer."

"It is rumored that a Philadelphia politician has addressed a circular to Members of Congress denouncing Gen. McClellan as incompetent. The General has been the object of several similar missives, but he keeps the even tenor of his way, as unruddled by unfriendly criticism as a tin roof by the rain. He has the confidence of the administration and the country. His plans may require time for their development, (what they are few know,) but patience, forbearance and confidence are cheerfully extended to him. His policy seems to be to wait until the rebels, compelled by despair, shall throw themselves on our lines. Their Generals are said to be spoiling for a fight. They represent their army to be in excellent fighting condition, and eager to be led against the North. They fear that winter quarters may demoralize them more than a defeat. If this is true, why do they wait for Gen. McClellan to march twenty miles in order to attack their entrenchments? Battle is not now necessary for our success; we can wait. If the rebels cannot, they have but to march on our lines, and they will secure the luxury of a fight."

"I saw to-day a soldier undergoing military punishment in the public street. His crime was expiated by carrying a heavy log of wood up and down a space of twenty feet. First he shifted it from one shoulder to the other, then he carried it on one arm, then on the other, then back to the shoulder. Watching his progress in penal gymnastics stood a sentinel, while an inquiring crowd gave the encouragement of their presence. Military rule is more universal and severe now than formerly. A patrol passes through the streets during the night; the effect is seen in the quiet, resembling a country village. In Alexandria no one is suffered in the streets after ten o'clock in the evening."

There are forty thousand Northerners in Washington. Small pox and typhoid fever abound. The weekly report of the seven hospitals gives eleven hundred and forty-seven as the number of sick; not a large proportion. The camps show the influence of sanitary ideas. They are clean, well-policed; and as comfortable as circumstances all admit. Washington abounds in contractors, knaves, gamblers, fast men and fast women."

FROM THE SOUTH.

The following is extracted from a letter dated New Orleans, December 12th.

Three large steamers have run the blockade the past week; and have taken full cargoes of cotton. Schooners are leaving for Havana nearly every day.

There are over 400 cannons mounted in the fortifications defending the city. We have over 30,000 troops, and expect 20,000 more from the country.

No distress exists even among the poorer classes in the city, as they are well provided for by the free market.

Houses are selling for 30 per cent more than formerly. Bank and other stocks are also advancing. The banks will declare larger dividends than usual. There are over \$20,000,000 deposit in these institutions. Produce and other goods are on the decline.

The war has thus far cost only \$50,000,000 so great have been the private contributions.

ADMISSION OF KENTUCKY.—Richmond Dec. 10th.—The *Examiner* of this morning says that

Congress, while in session, passed a bill admitting Kentucky into the Southern Confederacy. The admission is complete, as commissioners were appointed at Russellville and empowered to act in behalf of Kentucky.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The fire in Charleston destroyed the Roman Catholic Cathedral, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, the Cumberland Street Church, and the Circular Church and 576 buildings.

There are nearly fifty soldiers of the Army of the Potomac in custody, who have been convicted of offences, the punishment of which, by the articles of war, is death. They are mostly cases of sleeping on post. Their fate is undecided.

Henry Ward Beecher, in the last number of the *Independent*, announces his entrance into editorial life. Hereafter he will be the responsible editor of that paper, which he will conduct on substantially the same principles as those which have hitherto distinguished it. We may expect, however, more conservatism, for Mr. Beecher is a common sense man, and far from an impatient fanatic. The new cares which editorial life will impose upon him will probably prevent or greatly interfere with his usual lectures abroad, the *Independent* becoming his medium of influence with the people. Mr. Beecher adapts himself gracefully to editorial duties, and will doubtless be a prolific writer.—*N. Y. Chronicle*.

A recent decision of a court in Massachusetts deprives a Methodist minister of legal means of collecting his salary. A Methodist preacher, in Ware, sued his church for an unpaid portion of the little stipend they were to give him, and was met by the defence that under the economy of Methodism, nothing was legally due him; that the minister was sent to the society from his conference, not called by the society; that all payments, under such circumstances, were voluntary and not the result of a legal agreement binding both sides; and that if the stewards of the society did not collect the full amount of the salary, there was no legal means of collecting the balance. The court decided that the grounds of the defence were correct, and that the clergyman could not recover.—*Id.*

Latest from Europe!

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

Orders have been transmitted for the manufacture of 10,000,000 rounds of small arm cartridges, and 100,000 charges of Armstrong 100-pounder ammunition for sea service.

The force under the flags of Sir A. Milne and Admiral Dacres will shortly number 1,000 guns, and will include some of the fastest and most efficient ships in the British fleet.

Admiral Dacres hoisted his flag on Thursday on board the *Edgar*, 89, screw, Capt. Mends, as second in command on the North American station.

A portion of the Mediterranean fleet is gradually accumulating at Gibraltar, to be ready, if necessary, to cross the Atlantic.

At Portsmouth, on Wednesday, it was reported that the Shannon, Euryalus, Vigilant, and Pandora will be commissioned this week for the North American station.

Ten Armstrong 100-pounder guns are ordered to be embarked with earliest despatch for the sea and land defences of Halifax.

THE PROMPTITUDE OF THE CUNARD TRANSPORTS BOUND FOR CANADA.—The urgent demands for expedition in the despatch of troops for Canada has been such as to tax to some extent the resources possessed by our mercantile steam marine. How such emergencies can be met in Liverpool has been demonstrated within the last ten days. On Thursday week a telegram was received from Government by the Cunard Company, inquiring as to whether they could get the Persia and Australasian, two of their steamers, ready for the conveyance of troops to Canada, and if so, how soon they could be made ready for sea. The response was both the ships could be placed at the service of Government, and be made ready within ten days.—The company was at once taken at its word, and instructions were forwarded to have the ships ready with all possible despatch. Under the able direction and superintendance of Messrs. James Currie, Thomson, Black, and Ogston, of the Cunard Company, both ships were put under preparation, and in eight days from the commencement of operations they were completely fitted and ready for embarking the troops. This included the fitting up of troop accommodation for 1200 men in each of the vessels, together with stores and every requisite for a month's voyage.

FRANCE.

An important step towards carrying into effect the financial reforms promised by the Emperor Napoleon is recorded in the *Moniteur*. Hitherto it has been the practice of the various Ministers to obtain the Emperor's signature to decrees authorising expenditure in their departments without consulting the Finance Minister on the subject. It thus happened that enormous charges were incurred without means being provided to meet them, and it thus happened that France contracted a debt of some forty or fifty millions sterling in a very short time. To prevent the recurrence of such a thing the Emperor has ordered that no decrees authorising a charge upon the Budget shall henceforth be presented to him for signature unless accompanied by an opinion from the Minister of Finance. M. Fould has had a hard fight to procure this recognition of the true functions of a Finance Minister.