

eight days, ten often, and six or seven ordinarily, at home and abroad, besides his frequent converse with souls—he then, laying aside all other studies which he formerly so much delighted in, because he accounted his time would be short." Prison experience followed. Confined in jail with thirteen other ministers, all, like himself, charged with the high crime of preaching the gospel in a manner forbidden by law, his first act was to preach and pray, which he called "holding a consecration service." "Subsequently, and to the last, he and his companions in turn preached and prayed publicly once, and sometimes twice, every day, the minister generally speaking through the prison-bars to the congregation that flocked from the various villages within a distance of ten miles. All the rest of the day he constantly spent in converse with those who thronged to him for counsel and instruction, and in consequence of this he was forced to take much of the night for study and secret converse with God."

Such was the character of this noble band—such their labors and their sufferings. And the people by whom they were encouraged and sustained were worthy of them. They "took joyfully the spoiling of their goods." There was plenty of it. The grain was borne off from the fields—the cattle from the stall—the furniture from the house—even the very beds from under the sick. Thousands of them suffered in person as well as in property. An accurate and full enumeration of losses is not attainable, and an estimate may, therefore, err, in excess or defect, according to the data on which it is founded, or even the bias of the individual by whom it is made. Competent judges, however, have recorded their conclusions, based on facts, and they are thus summarily expressed:—

"Within the compass of three years, the Dissenters of England suffered, in penalties inflicted for the worship of God, the amount of two millions sterling. From the Restoration to the Revolution, these losses from the same causes rose to twelve or fourteen millions. In the same space of time, sixty thousand persons are said to have suffered on a religious account. * * * These sufferings included fines, bonds, transportation, voluntary exile to Holland or America, and death in prison. The number of such deaths is variously estimated, from 5000 to 8000. It is impossible for us to know with certainty the statistics of that black record until the books are opened at the judgment day."†

*Stanford's "Joseph Alleine and his Times," pp. 156, 209, 221. See Appendix, No. II.
†Stanford, p. 383.

[Conclusion next week.]

For the Christian Messenger.

Places of Worship.

MR. EDITOR,—

The liberality of feeling existing between the different religious denominations at the present time is very gratifying. Clergymen of the Church of England associate with Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists in works of general benevolence and christian philanthropy. The Young Men's Christian Association, Bible Society, and Union Prayer Meetings afford good opportunities for these interchanges of fraternal intercourse. These meetings are sometimes held in places of worship and the Church Clergymen appear on the same footing with those of other bodies, but I never hear of any such meetings being held in Episcopal places of worship. I should be glad to know why this distinction exists. Is there any law in this province against it being done or is it merely the effect of prejudice on the part of churchmen? If the latter surely it should be broken down. The Rector of a parish must feel himself compromised by going into a Methodist church to preside over a prayer or other meeting if he can not return the compliment by inviting such meeting to his own church.

Besides I am informed that the Bishop himself has held services in Baptist meeting houses and has preached in them. I am glad to know that the Baptists in those places have shewn themselves so free from bigotry and exclusiveness and think it an example worthy of imitation by other denominations. I trust that when a Baptist minister is in any place where he is desired to preach, if there is no more suitable place than an Episcopal Church, he will not allow any supposition of unwillingness on the part of those having it in charge to deter him from embracing the opportunity.

My object Mr. Editor in writing is to ascertain if there is really any substantial reason why such friendly interchange of service should not be observed in Episcopal churches as well as others. If you can inform me you will oblige.

Yours respectfully

ENQUIRER.

[We understand that Presbyterian churches have also been used by the Episcopal Bishop for preaching, and also for Confirmation services. There is, we believe, some Canon of the Church of England, against allowing others than those who have received Episcopal ordination, from

performing religious services in their church edifices.

When they advance in liberality to an equality with other denominations, that canon will become a dead letter and cease to terrify good men.—Ed. C. M.]

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, DECEMBER 3, 1862.

Thanksgiving, Humiliation and Prayer.

A day of Thanksgiving is perfectly compatible with a Day of Humiliation and Prayer. Were Thanksgiving merely another name for feasting, and were Humiliation and Prayer synonymous with fasting—abstinence from food, there would be some incongruity in properly observing both at one and the same time. We have not adopted, in these provinces, the American idea of Thanksgiving Days, making them annual days of feasting, and times of sending portions, preaching political sermons, &c., but where it is observed at all in this Province, we believe it is as a day of religious services. This, we doubt not, will be the case to-morrow. Business will be suspended, and the many causes we have for thanksgiving and gratitude to our Heavenly Father will occupy the thoughts of the people. The great contrast between our position and that of our fellow-men in the United States, and also thousands of our fellow-subjects in the mother country, will doubtless form topics for consideration. We might find abundant material for dissatisfaction even with our own state, were that demanded of us; but this is not the object to be sought. We are invited to think over our mercies and be thankful. A thankful heart may look around and discover cause of gratitude in every circumstance of life, but where we have been so exempt from the thousand evils which fall to the common lot of men in many countries, and where we have had the continued smile of Heaven on the labours of the husbandman, and each season has, on its return, been daily loaded with benefits, we may well exclaim "the lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places; yea, we have a goodly heritage."

Had the din of war which threatened us about this time last year, been permitted to break out into open hostility, by this time we might have had to lament over great destruction of human life and valuable property. The blessings of peace are not fully estimated until they have been exchanged for the horrors of war. Whilst we feel some of the effects of the sad scourge which has fallen on our neighbors, in diminished trade, and the mercantile community suffers some depression, we trust it is but a prelude to a time of prosperity which will become more permanent than any preceding one.

Our religious privileges, perhaps, are amongst the greatest which demand consideration. And here we might institute a comparison between our own country and those in any other on the face of the earth, and feel that God hath not dealt so with any nation. A day of thanksgiving for temporal mercies alone might lead us to look too much at the things of this life, as if they were the great good, and the criterion of God's goodness and love, but very appropriately we, as a denomination, are to have other subjects brought to mind by the exercises of the day. Our unfaithfulness in the Lord's service, and the absence of the blessing which makes our efforts successful in the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom. These are matters which may well produce Humiliation and lead to self-examination and Prayer. Ministers and people may come up to the sanctuary of God and enquire into the cause which has led Him to partially withdraw from us His presence, and to ask ourselves how we have been spending our time, and how we have used our privileges. If Christians, we have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, and this not that we may live on as the rest of the world, but that we may live as those who are alive from the dead. Works of benevolence are a necessary part of christian life but they do not constitute that life. They contribute to the happiness of the christian, but if he has not the substantial joy arising from a sense of God's favor and the anticipation of dwelling with Him, it will be likely soon to evaporate, and bring forth no fruit to perfection. Let every man and woman seek a fuller realization of their obligations to Christ, and a higher perception of the glorious liberty brought to light by the gospel, and this day of Humiliation and Prayer may be the commencement of a new era in our heavenward journey, and the beginning of a new day of progress for the churches in these provinces.

ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF PAPER.—Much alarm is being felt at the recent advance in paper arising from the scarcity of Cotton and rags. A rise of from 25 to 50 per cent has already been made. Publishers of books and newspapers are greatly alarmed.

The New York Sunday Times says:

"The cost of paper, in these extraordinary times, and especially such as newspapers are printed on, is going up so rapidly that we feel assured every journal will soon be compelled to increase its price, despite the wish of the proprietors to the contrary."

The Philadelphia Inquirer adds:

"Even old newspapers and other refuse paper command four or five cents per pound. New York and other Northern dealers have been here purchasing all they can get of both rags and paper. Owing to the drought and lowness of the streams, paper mills in the surrounding country have been unable to manufacture half the usual quantity."

"It is thought our daily newspapers, owing to the advance in paper, will be obliged to put up the rates for subscription, or reduce the size of their journals."

The N. Y. Tablet remarks:

"The paper upon which the Tablet is printed this week costs exactly 50 per cent more than the same quality of paper did six months ago. If the price of paper advances much more every paper intending to live must increase its price."

The N. Y. Examiner says:—

"The additional price of paper, now exacted, is more than enough to eat up the profits of every newspaper in the land."

The Boston Christian Era states:

"The scarcity of rags is increasing the price of paper at an unprecedented rate. The price of rags has already doubled, and is constantly going higher. There are but few to be had at any price."

"So far as now appears, the choice lays between increased price and suspension; and a greater calamity could scarcely befall the religious world than the suspension of their weekly denominational papers."

Another cause of deficiency is that rags are used for making the shoddy cloth for the Northern Army.

We have no wish to make any change in the terms on which we supply our friends with the Messenger, but as they would not desire us to place its continuance and stability in jeopardy, we beg to inform our readers that we must regulate the future price of the paper by the cost of the material on which it is printed, and the labor performed in getting it up. To those who have paid in advance, we must of course supply the paper without any increase, up to the time for which they have paid, but we make no promise that we shall continue the same terms after the first of January, 1863.

Many of the U. States papers have made an advance in their terms, and some of our city papers are proposing to put 50 per cent upon their former prices.

A large increase of Subscribers would have the effect of diminishing the necessity for an increase of price. Any of our friends, therefore, who can induce their neighbors to give their names for our list, will be doing good in various ways, besides introducing the Christian Messenger to new families,—those who have not been accustomed to our weekly visits.

The New Subscribers who pay in advance for 1863, we shall place on our list as soon as received. They will consequently have the remainder of the present year in addition to the year for which they subscribe.

CIVIC.—We have to tender our thanks for a copy of the Annual Report of the several Departments of the City Government of Halifax, for the year 1861-62. This pamphlet of 71 pages gives a very succinct view of our municipal expenditure, and of the Property held by the city, and of the City Debt. The placing of the information contained in these reports in a permanent printed form, we deem highly important, and must prove very satisfactory to the citizens generally. They will well repay a careful perusal. It would be invidious to direct attention to the labours performed by any one department in particular, where all appear to have been so efficiently managed. We might offer some remarks on quite a number of the facts given in the several documents, but our want of space at present forbids our doing so. Amongst the items of increase of income during the past year, we perceive that £200 is from Liquor and Auction Licenses, and what of course is a natural consequence of the former, an increase of £250 has been received from Police Fines. If there had been a diminution instead of an increase in both of these, it would have been rather more satisfactory to those who wish for the moral as well as the material improvement of their fellow-citizens.

The recommendation of the Mayor and the Committee of the City Prison for the establishment of a Juvenile Reformatory, deserves the very serious attention of the City Council and all who desire the improvement of young criminals. We shall return to this subject.

News Summary.

Ever since the commencement of the sanguinary war that is still being prosecuted with increasing bitterness in the neighboring States, there have been, every few months, rumours of the intervention of some of the European Governments, to put an end, if possible, to the strife. Such rumours have been for the most part founded on truth, as the consequences of the war have been severely felt in the commerce and manufactures of both England and France. The desire so to interfere has been most openly manifested on the part of France, but has, no doubt, been often discussed in the secret Councils of the two powers. It has at length resulted in an open proposal of the French Emperor, to the Courts of England and Russia, to unite with France in urging upon the belligerent parties an armistice of six months, in the hope that before the expiration of such time, the terms of a permanent peace might be agreed on. In another page will be found, at length, the proposal of the French Cabinet for such intervention, with the answer of Earl Russell, the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, declining, for the present, to accede to the measure, as premature, and in all probability likely to have a tendency to prevent such mediation at a future period. We have no doubt the reasons assigned by Earl Russell are founded on a sound view of the war, and at all events, it seems most consistent with the true policy of England, which, for some reason that has not been, and we believe cannot be explained, has, ever since the war commenced, been the butt of the dislike and vituperation of the Northern States. Under such circumstances there is every reason to believe that any kind of interference, however well meant, on the part of England, would be met by the Federal Government by rejection, and not unlikely with insult. As, however, the war is assuming a character of ferocity, happily unknown of late years among civilized nations, it is by no means improbable that ere long the more powerful maritime nations of Europe may, in the interests both of humanity and policy, interpose to check, if possible, the further effusion of human blood. In the mean time the contending armies are standing at bay, almost in sight of each other, paralyzed and exhausted, no doubt to some extent, by the inclemency of the season. On the Confederate side, the original objects of the war still remain the same,—the unaltered determination to achieve their independence of the North. With the Federals a large modification of purpose, has taken place since the contest began. The restoration of the Union can now no longer be hoped for by any one possessed of common sense. The question has become one, in a great measure, of national honour, and which can only be satisfied by the entire subjugation of the South, or possibly, if short of that, by such a series of decisive successes as might atone for past failures, and furnish an excuse for listening to terms of an amicable separation. There can be no doubt that a compulsory acknowledgement of the superior prowess and the independence of the Southern States might lead to the most serious consequences, as regards the integrity of the remaining States of the old Union. The approach of a great battle is talked of in the papers and telegraphic despatches daily received, but such an event seems hardly credible amid the frosts and rains and snows of December.

Notices, &c.

Associated Alumni of Acadia College.

The Treasurer of the Associated Alumni has great pleasure in acknowledging the full wing sum received lately for the Alumni fund, and earnestly hopes that the whole sum due for subscriptions will soon be forthcoming. To obtain this however the friends of the Society, will have to make strenuous efforts.

N. S. DeMill, Esq.,	£1 0 0
Mr. Alfred DeMill,	1 0 0
Campbell Berryman,	1 0 0
Z. G. Gabel,	1 0 0
Arthur DeMill,	1 0 0
Miss Duval,	0 10 0
Emily DeMill,	1 0 0
Alec DeMill,	1 10 0
Mr. Bell,	1 0 0
Mrs. E. DeMill,	1 0 0
Miss E. DeMill,	1 0 0
Professor DeMill,	1 0 0
William DeMill,	1 0 0
Fred DeMill,	1 0 0

PORTLAND.

Mr. David Roberts,	2 10 0
George Roberts,	2 10 0
Rev. J. Smith, Butternut Ridge,	1 0 0
John Ferris, Esq., M. P. P.,	1 0 0

D. McN. PARKER, Treasurer.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The third lecture for the season before this society will be delivered by Mr. Rob. L. Weatherly, A. M., at Wolfville, on Thursday evening the 18th Dec., commencing at 7 o'clock.

Subject:—The latest Roman.
Tickets 5 cents; for the season 25 cents; to be obtained at the store of Mr. G. V. Rand.

ALBERT J. HILL, Cor. Sec.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Unus." The question has been fully discussed more than once. It is perhaps entitled to reply. We must know its nature and extent before we can decide on accepting it for publication.