

its chords operated upon by the Holy Spirit is an instrument of the most musical harmony.—Already it has been our privilege to receive twenty-six into the church by baptism; eight of whom were baptized yesterday in one of the lakes at Pleasant River. In the Pleasant River district our Congregational brethren are participating in the good work. In our meetings the tide of spiritual influences and interest still flows, there is no ebb yet. The abounding sovereign grace of God is infinite, and encircled with it now as in a halo of holy light we can set no bounds to our hopes and expectations.

"Onward speed thy conquering flight;
Angel, onward haste;
Quickly on each mountain's height
Be thy standard placed.
Let thy blissful tidings float
Far o'er vale and hill,
Till the sweetly-echoing note
Every bosom thrill."

One week ago to-day one of our young brethren, Charles Meritt, who but a short time previous was buried with Christ in baptism, was suddenly entombed in a watery grave. He was a poor orphan boy, away from his early home, cast among strangers, but cherished with almost parental esteem and affection.

"Asleep in Jesus! far from thee
Thy kindred and their graves may be;
But there is still a blessed sleep,
From which none ever wakes to weep."

Our young friend when snatched away was in the ardour of his first love. Only the evening previous he spoke in meeting with deep humility and pathos. Our loss is his infinite gain. "Be still and know that I am God." Already God is sanctifying this melancholy providence to the good of the surviving. It is a loud call to his youthful companions and others, "be ye also ready."

D. OTHO PARKER.

Brookfield, July 21st, 1862.

CONVERSION OF A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST.

In a letter, under date Montreal, July 12, 1862, to the *Canadian Baptist*, the Rev. N. Cyr gives an interesting account of the conversion of the Rev. Mr. Ligier, a Frenchman:

"During his studies for the priesthood, he was two years under the celebrated Father Lacordaire, who has been considered the greatest Catholic preacher of France in the nineteenth century. Mr. Ligier imbibed the liberal views held by his teacher, and instead of accepting a parish, he devoted himself to itinerant preaching, holding protracted meetings, and endeavoring to revive christianity (as far as he understood it) among the people. He was quite successful in his work.

At the time of the Italian campaign, he went to Italy as chaplain of the Zouaves, and was present at the battle of Solferino, as well as at the other great battles. When the war was over, he went to Rome, where he spent two months in observing the working of Romanism in the so-called Eternal City, and what he saw there was very far from being satisfactory.

On his return to France, his mind was directed to the missions in the New World, and last year he came to Prince Edward Island, preached to the Acadians, and remained with the Bishop of Charlottetown, as professor in his college, for six months; then he crossed to New Brunswick, and was employed in a similar way. Being called to supply the pulpit of a priest who had gone to St. John for medical advice, he could not refrain from preaching against some of the abuses which he had seen there since his arrival. This immediately brought him in conflict with his bishop, and he was recalled. His preaching, however, pleased the people, and ninety families sent him a petition to go and be their pastor. The bishop of course would not consent, unless he preached differently. Mr. Ligier replied that he could not accept these conditions. The bishop then told him that he had better go back to France, and gave him the best recommendation that a man could desire."

"But before leaving New Brunswick," Mr. Cyr adds, "Mr. Ligier heard of me, through the *Semeur*, and resolved to come and see me. He arrived here six weeks ago; and two weeks after, being satisfied that he was sincere, I invited him to lecture on Sabbath evening, and I am happy to add that he has had a good audience, composed partly of Roman Catholics, and there is quite an interest excited. He is himself daily advancing in the way of light and piety. He is quite decided to give himself to the good work among the French, and seems eminently qualified. We are invited in many places, and a very fine field is opening before us, but the work cannot be accomplished without funds; we shall have to wait until God sends us the necessary means."

Yours truly,
N. CYR.

Montreal, July 12, 1862.

NOBLE GENEROSITY.—At the late anniversary of the Newton Theological Institution, Mass., as the assembly was about to separate, Rev. Dr. Warren said he must speak. He believed in doing as well as saying. He had several hundred dollars which had fallen to him by the recent death of his mother. He dare not invest it in lands or stocks. He had there discovered what to do with it. He would give it towards the erection within one year of a new

building for the Institution, to cost \$25,000, provided the balance of the money would be raised. This called out several money speeches; brethren G. Colby, J. W. Merrill, and G. Dexter pledged each five thousand dollars toward the necessary amount. Dr. Warren then commenced taking subscriptions for the balance, which we hope to hear was filled up before the Trustees adjourned their meeting, which was held at two o'clock. The President of the Board, Dr. Stow, invited the friends to come up one year from that day to the dedication of Warren Hall. We presume it will be built by that time.—*Can. Baptist.*

RELIGIOUS INTEREST IN ENGLAND.—The *News of the Churches*, for April, says that interesting movements are going forward in London, as well as over the country, indicative of the progress of a deep and hearty interest in religion. Many new lay evangelists have recently appeared. Several of them, as Mr. Ord, in Manchester, a London workman called Alexander, in Menmouth, and a poor gardener, recently himself converted, in the county of Kent, have been the means of arousing many from a state of doubt in the districts in which they have labored. A deep religious interest pervades the minds of numbers of the common people in all parts of the country.

A GREAT revival is reported in progress among the Baptists of Sweden. Great masses of people assemble with every demonstration of religious feeling, and many hopeful converts have been made. In Shetland there are five or six Baptist churches, with six preachers and four hundred members, in a population of thirty-two thousand. These churches began with Rev. Sinclair Thompson, who was baptized in 1814, and who still survives as the father of the spiritual family which has grown up around him. They are now appealing to British liberality for the means of building a chapel in Lerwick, their capital city.

American and Foreign News.

Latest from the States!

[From telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.]

JULY 23rd.—President Lincoln has issued an order to the Federal Commanders, in the revolted states, instructing them to use real or personal property, as they may find such necessary, also to use the labor of negroes, giving the latter reasonable wages. Generals Halleck, Burnside, and other Federal commanding officers have arrived at Washington, whither they have repaired for consultation on the progress of the civil war. The Federal Government has issued orders relative to aliens, absolving them from taking the oath of allegiance to the United States but requiring all due respect to the U. S. Government. When their personal liberty is affected, their case will be turned over to the State Department for consideration. General Morgan's Guerilla band of Confederates have been overtaken and scattered in Kentucky, retaking cannon, horses and other property, captured by them at Cynthiana. Fifty Federal Cavalry have been made prisoners by the Confederate forces operating near Boonesville, Kentucky. Skirmishing in that locality was of daily occurrence.

JULY 24.—One Branch of the Baltimore City Council has a second time negatived appropriation for bounty to Volunteers, which caused great excitement, and a large police force was required to protect members of the Council to their homes. Previous report of the dispersion of Morgan's Guerrillas is incorrect. General Smith, in pursuit of Morgan, had crossed Cumberland Gap, and was retreating into Tennessee. Governor Morgan, of Indiana, has sent one thousand men to Henderson to clear out guerillas and to protect the inhabitants. Reports are coming in from Richmond that the Confederates treat the men wounded like their own wounded, but both are dying rapidly. The Confederate Government are disposed to regard Mumford's execution at New Orleans as murder, and demand the surrender of Gen. Butler, and if that is refused, they will hang Federal General McCall.

JULY 25.—The delay in the taking of Vicksburg, Mississippi, is attributed by the Federal Commanders operating in that quarter, to lack of an efficient land force to hold the place after being captured, even if the batteries were silenced, as a large Confederate force is lying back of the city. There are rumours, emanating from Confederate sources, to the effect that the rebel gunboat *Arkansas* has been captured at Vicksburg. This is regarded as not improbable, an expedition having been planned to effect the cutting out of that redoubtable vessel. The U. S. Commissioner for Indian Affairs has received cheering news from the Indian Territory, in the friendly disposition of the several tribes. Two thousand white troops, accompanying an equal number of Indian refugees, had made a good impression on the Cherokee country, and with an additional force of fifteen hundred Indians, under John Ross, further important results are expected. Many of these Indians have expressed a desire to take up arms in favor of the Federal Government. The Confederate Government also profess to have successfully negotiated treaties of alliance with a number of the tribes.

JULY 26.—The official report of the Federal losses in the late battles gives the killed, wounded and missing at 16,000. "Stonewall" Jackson is at Louisa Court House with 24,000 men, and Elwell at Gordonsville with 6000. Their probable intention is to

break the Federal lines and threaten Washington in order to draw off Federal forces from Richmond. Gen. Pope's forces are represented to be ready to meet the attack.

A Baltimore letter gives a list of 24 fortifications around Richmond.

The *Richmond Enquirer* complains that rowdyism and disorder have got the upper hand in that city. Also says that the arrangement for exchange of prisoners marks an important era in recognizing the Confederates as belligerents.

The latest news from Chattanooga, Tennessee, states that the Confederate infantry had crossed the river in force.

The number of Confederate cavalry in East Tennessee is stated to be fully five thousand.

The secessionists in the Baltimore City Council have resigned.

JULY 28.—President Lincoln, by proclamation, warns the people of those States in rebellion to the General Government to return to their allegiance, on pain of the forfeitures of the Confiscation Act. Nine hundred Federal wounded and paroled prisoners had arrived at the Head Quarters of the army of the Potomac, from Richmond, on Friday last. General Pope's orders, especially those relating to the oath of allegiance, have caused great excitement in his department; nearly all have taken the oath to the Southern Confederacy, and express their determination to go South rather than to recant from the same. The Confederates have made a raid upon Florence, Alabama, burning warehouses containing Commissary stores and cotton; also a small steamer; and proceeding down the Tennessee River, they burned more cotton warehouses in that quarter. Another Guerilla band had captured sixty Commissary wagons near Pittsburg Landing. Reported that 70,000 Confederates are concentrated about Junction of Appomattox and James River.

An attack on Suffolk expected. Guerillas continue depredations. Rebel spy has been arrested with 200 letters from Norfolk for Richmond.

Blockading fleet recently captured large iron clad English steamer *Tubal Cain*, off Charleston, while attempting to run the blockade. She was heavily laden with arms and ammunition. Was ordered to New York.

Rebels in Washington speak confidently of its capture by Jackson shortly.

The District of Columbia is infested with rebels. In Georgetown, where there is no provost guard, they insult flag and all Unionists.

Under increased bounty, Maine Regiments are rapidly filling. It is reported 4 new regiments will be ready to march in two weeks.

The Union losses in the six days fighting before Richmond, are officially stated as follows: Killed, 1,565; wounded, 7,001; missing, 6,958; total, 15,224.

According to the Southern journals, the purpose of the Confederate leaders is now to adopt an offensive policy, and make an immediate attack on Washington.

Large numbers of persons are leaving the Northern States in order to escape the draft that is expected to take place. There were fifty arrived in one day at Montreal.

A Washington order reduces the term of enlistment in the Federal army from three years to one year. This may possibly neutralize the necessity of drafting for the additional 300,000 men.

During the battle before Richmond the Federals sent up a balloon, and the Confederates trained a gun at it, and sent some shells so close to it that the aeronaut took fright, and rapidly descended to the ground.

ANOTHER NOVA SCOTIAN VESSEL CAPTURED.—The British brig *Richard O'Brien*, from Kingston, with contraband stores, was burned by a boat's crew from the Rhode Island in the harbor of Galveston on the 4th.

A Washington despatch says the President has been urged to call out more troops, and by draft, if not at once provided. He will decide upon this policy when Gen. Halleck arrives, and then make his proclamation to the people and army.

A Fortress Monroe letter of the 26th says, the Confederates are said to be concentrating in some force between City Point and Richmond, on the south bank of the river, for the purpose of covering the flanks of the forts on the river. Beauregard is said to be in command, and to have in the neighborhood of 30,000 men under him.

CAPT. GRIFFIN, of the schooner *Will-o-the-Wisp*, lately seized by the blockading squadron while in Mexican waters, has arrived in this city. The vessel was seized illegally, as she had made no attempt to run the blockade, nor had no intention of so doing. We should think that the Federal government was exceeding its authority when it attempts to blockade neutral ports.—*Halifax Journal.*

The news from the Indian country reports that the chief of the Cherokees is about to join the Union army with 1500 Indians. It is stated from Kansas city that a recent battle between a detachment of the Kansas regiment, under Colonel Wier, and a force of Confederates, resulted in the capture of one hundred and twenty-five prisoners, a large number of horses and ponies, about 1500 head of cattle, thirty-six loaded mule teams, a large quantity of camp and garrison equipage, and fifty stand of arms.—Four hundred wounded Cherokee and Osage Indians have come into the Union camp with white flags, and carrying their guns with muzzles pointing downward.

A Washington paper of the 17th says, "reliable advices from Richmond state that President Davis has sent a special messenger to France and England, with despatches of a private nature, demanding the recognition of the Southern Confederacy."

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

The *Richmond Dispatch* says it is found upon examination that comparatively few of the muskets captured from the Yankees in the battles below Richmond, have sustained serious damage. In a lot of twenty thousand there are not more than a thousand that cannot speedily be rendered as good as new.

RECOGNITION.—The Washington correspondent of the *New York World* says reliable advices received from Richmond state that Jeff. Davis has sent a special messenger to the Emperor of France and to the Queen of England, with dispatches of a private nature, demanding the immediate recognition of the Southern Confederacy.—The demand is said to be followed by a voluminous bundle of documents, including letters written by the English and French consuls at Richmond, testifying to the unanimity manifested by the inhabitants of that city in forming a separate government, and of their ability to maintain it. Another document, merely devoted to the military operations of the Confederates, states that nearly all the battles fought in Virginia, from Bull Run down to the seven days fight before Richmond, including the battle of Fair Oaks, and the operations in the Shenandoah Valley, were as many victories won by the South against the enemy vastly superior in men, in material of war, in money and in resources of all kinds. In a private note addressed to the Emperor of the French, President Davis states that the series of brilliant victories won by the Confederates, as well as the rapid exhaustion of the resources of the North, ought to satisfy the Emperor of the unanimity of sentiment existing in the South concerning its separation from the North, and of the resources it possesses for the building up of a strong, respected, prosperous and independent nationality.

The *Richmond Dispatch* urges the carrying out of the conscription law to its full extent, and the application of the arrestment system to every case of absenteeism, and compliments the government on its determination to take the most zealous and active measures to place the Confederate army "upon a footing of the abolition monarch, without regard to the three hundred thousand so piteously appealed for by the Governors of the loyal States." The *Whig* joins in this urgency, and says:

"We believe that, no matter at what expense of time, treasure and blood, it is the determination of the North to capture this city, and conquer the South if it can. There is no hope but in our strong hearts and arms, save in that benignant Providence which has so often interposed for our deliverance, but which only helps those who help themselves. Let us not forget the lesson of Manassas. Every moment now is more precious than gold."

Latest from Europe!

The "Etna" from Liverpool 16th, Queenstown 17th, arrived at Cape Race on Thursday evening.

The *Times* again deprecates the new American tariff, predicts far greater injury to America herself than to any one else.

The fighting before Richmond is eagerly canvassed. Some of the journals regard it as a great reverse for the North and reproach the American Government for treating it in any other light. Others contend that McClellan has sustained no serious disaster, is indeed, practically nearer Richmond, and may congratulate himself on accomplishment of a great and most successful operation.

Hopes are freely expressed that more pacific councils will soon prevail at Washington. It is denied that the Prince of Wales will visit Russia.

Paris, *Patrie* says an interview between the Emperors of France and Russia and King of Prussia takes place in September.

FRANCE.

The French Senate having passed the Budget, the session of the Chambers was brought to a close on Wednesday. The members of the Corps Legislatif are not at all certain that they will ever be called together again. A general election is believed to be on the programme of the Government.

The cry of French intervention in America is again raised at Paris. The correspondent of *The Herald* assures us that the Imperial Government entertains very serious intentions of interfering, and the Russian journals assert that the Government of the Czar has—"in consequence of the stubbornness of England"—been invited to associate itself with the Cabinet of the Tuileries in the matter. It is very possible that communications respecting America may have passed between St. Petersburg and Paris, but they are assuredly not of the nature which these statements would lead one to suppose. France is naturally very anxious to do something to shorten a war by which she suffers so much, and a joint action with Russia would be quite in accordance with recent French policy, but unfortunately the Russian Government has troubles at home which are likely to keep it in full occupation for a long time to come.

ITALY.

ROME, July 5.—The French and Pontifical troops have been consigned to their barracks, on account of a popular demonstration in favor of the Unity of Italy being expected.