

would refresh his fainting nature more than the breath of mornng or the sound of falling streams. Tender visions of the past would mingle with his thoughts in the tented field, on the harrass'd march, or amidst the troubles of his stormy throne. He looked back upon his adventures when a shepherd boy. He thought, for instance, how he saved the life of his sheep. "Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion and a bear and took a lamb out of the flock; and I went after him, and delivered it out of his mouth, and when he arose against me, I caught him by the beard, and slew him; thy servant slew both the lion and the bear." He thought over the days when he "led the sheep out," calling them by name, feeding them when hungry, healing them when sick, guiding them over the hill paths and through the gloomy hollows until they were safe in the village fold. One day, when rapt in thoughts like these, suddenly, at a flash, they were lit up with new meaning, there came a rush of inspiration over his soul along with this stream of familiar memories, and he cried in ecstasy, "The Lord is my Shepherd!" All that I was to the flock He is to me!

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JANUARY 8, 1862.

SUBSCRIBERS who are in arrears, but are uncertain as to the amount of their indebtedness, and have no other opportunity of sending to our office, will greatly oblige by forwarding to us any convenient sum by letter, through the post office. We shall be happy, in acknowledging the receipt of the same, to inform them to what date the sum sent will pay.

Thanksgiving

is always appropriate, but never more so to Nova Scotians than at the present time. After being threatened with all the horrors of war, or else made liable at any moment to have our homes invaded by strangers, we have the danger suddenly averted, by the acknowledgement on the part of our aggressors, that they have done wrong, and are willing to make reparation. When our near neighbour, being driven by evil-minded counsellors to menace and eventually to interference with our nation in pursuing her peaceful avocation, sought to prevent her from off ring the right of asylum to the refugee and exile, that neighbor has been taught that although braggadocio and bluster may be borne with or laughed at or a time, yet acts of aggression must never be permitted with impunity on those under British protection.

Of all wars one between these two nations would be most to be deplored, and if to be regretted by the nation generally how much more so by us; just on the borders. Not only should we offer thanksgiving for this instance of threatened hostility being averted, but that we are permitted to enjoy British liberty and British protection, free from the desolations experienced by our Western neighbors both North and South. Never was loyalty so precious to a people. Whilst we see the two parties in the mis-called Union standing prepared only to spill each others blood, or trample over their persons and possessions, we are enjoying the blessings of peace and quietness. The suitable acknowledgement for all this is gratitude to Almighty God; and such appropriate of the means He has placed in our hands as shall give expression of its sincerity.

International Arbitration.

The Divine method of mediation is applicable, we believe, to all causes of disagreement, whether between individuals or nations, where both parties are inclined to submit their case to proper arbitrators, and faithfully abide by the decision. Where, however, one party is not disposed to accept such decision, but after such adjustment of the difficulties, persists in exacting what he conceives to be his own rights, there can be but little satisfaction subsequently in entering into such an agreement.

Some have expressed surprise at the attitude assumed by Great Britain on the late invasion of her right of refuge on board the Trent. The bluster of our American neighbors—even the religious journals—and their determination to die rather than give up the rebel Commissioners, Mason and S' idell, seems to have pretty well evaporated, and they are now only too glad to restore those gentlemen again to British protection. Had the former treaties made by them, been respected and adhered to, it is likely that such a demonstration would not so soon have followed the decision of the British Government as we find by the troops now surrounding us has been the case.

It may interest our readers to take a retrospective glance at our relations with the American Government. We find a good ar-

ticle in the London Freeman on the subject, from which we make the following extract:

"We have seen, as we expected, arbitration suggested, and ably pleaded for, by Mr. Buxton especially, as the best means to settle the dispute, apparently so near at hand, between us and the Federal States. We must say that we have, advisedly, refrained from urging that course, and that principally for two reasons.

First, the present case, as our Government has put it, is not one of disputed law, but of whether recognised law shall be submitted to. There may be different opinions as to whether a mail steamer, clearly on her regular route from one neutral port to another, ought to be exposed even to detention and search. There might be doubt whether the persons thus conveyed were contraband of war, or if they were, whether they could be so under the circumstances, which even intelligent Americans, as well as all English thinkers, perhaps deny. But there is no doubt on the illegality of taking the men from the vessel without the intervention of a judicial decision. Americans themselves acknowledge this. Our Government only asks that this filibustering seizure shall be atoned for by the surrender of what was illegally taken. The Americans reply: We wished to spare you the inconvenience of detaining and condemning a mail steamer to the annoyance of the passengers and delay of the mails: are we to lose by our courtesy? We reply, We do not except the courtesy—we ask for acknowledged law. How important it is, that law should be observed, may be seen from this very case. Captain Wilkes would have been chary of touching the Trent had he remembered that it involved the taking of her to an American port, and the subjecting of his act to the scrutiny of experienced advocates, and the decision before the world of even an American judge. To seize a packet relied on by all nations as their common carrier, would make even the "gallant" Wilkes bethink himself. We entirely agree here with President Madison himself, that it cannot be tolerated that every petty officer in command of a ship of war should constitute himself a judge of what he might seize and what he might not. It was wise, considerate, even kind, therefore, of our Government, to fix on the point on which no lawyer has doubt, and to ask unreserved concession in what furnishes no case of arbitration.

But we should not fairly give our whole opinion, if we did not express our opinion that the Americans are not a people with whom arbitration is possible, unless on one condition,—that it should be acknowledged previously that the decision should please them. They have been before with us into an arbitration court, and we remember too well the consequences. In 1827, the English and American Boundary Commissioners being unable to agree, both parties referred the dispute to the King of the Netherlands, and this under a pledge to consider that Sovereign's decision "final and conclusive in all matters so referred." Now for the issue. The King recommended a compromise—a fair mode of settling the greater part of the disputes. The British felt bound by their pledge, and accepted the award. The American Minister protested, and his Government formally refused to accept the decision of the King. Some time after, Lord Grey's Ministry declared that they no longer held themselves bound by their acceptance of what the other party refused. And thus this precious quarrel went on for eight-and-twenty years longer, and was not settled till 1842, by the Treaty of Washington!

In that case, as in Central America, as in Oregon, as in the Slave-trade, as in everything, it was only settled by conceding everything.—The good-tempered Lord Ashburton gave the Americans almost all they asked, and at this moment our colonies feel most inconveniently the perfectly unreasonable concessions he made for a settlement at any price. Reluctantly, therefore, on the ground that the case is not one of disputable law, but of compliance with undisputed law, and that to submit would only be to multiply interminably cases of vexation, we prefer that England should take her own course. No arbitration tribunal would bind men whose sense of honour does not include abiding by their pledge to submit to a decision. Probably they would trust no arbitrator, for it would be hard to find a maritime Power which would not be hostile to their outrageous pretensions. If the case were even referred to all the maritime Powers of Europe, they would be unanimous against the Americans; and the Americans know this. We think, therefore, it is time that such political potrooms as Mr. Seward should be taught that the time is gone by for stepping into office by insults to England. Fight with him and his, we would not; our contempt for such reckless bullying politicians should be shown by leaving them to bluster, and taking good care that they did nothing worse. In time, the virtue and intelligence of America will be compelled, for the country's safety, to take the reins, and then we shall be but too happy to renew friendly Governmental intercourse with a Power whose rulers are at present created by the worst of king-makers.

DR. CUNNINGHAM, Principal of New College, Edinburgh, died on the 14th of November, aged 56 years. He was one of the most prominent men in the Presbyterian Free Church in Scotland. He succeeded Dr. Chalmers in 1847, since which time he is said to have given instruction to 1200 students, who have become ordained ministers. He was not considered dangerously ill till about eight hours before his death. His departure is cause of much lamentation in the denomination to which he belonged, and to numbers of other bodies of Christians.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER in Halifax commenced by a meeting on Monday morning in the Argyle Street Chapel. A large number were present belonging to various different denominations. S. L. Shannon, Esq.,—taking his regular turn as a member of the Committee,—presided over the meeting.

In the evening a very large assembly, probably 1000, met in Temperance Hall, for the same purpose.—Prayer and exhortation.—The Rev. Mr. Uniacke presided. The Revs. Dr. Smith, G. Hill, C. Churchill, Crawford, Boyd and Brewster, took part in the exercises. The general feeling on the occasion, we believe, was, that it was good to be there.

The meetings of yesterday were also of an interesting character. His Worship the Mayor, also in his turn, presided.

YARMOUTH.—We learn that the Meeting House of the First Yarmouth Church has been greatly enlarged, making it a fine spacious building. May this be the precursor of an enlarged measure of the Divine blessing on pastor and people.

We learn from the N. B. Baptist & Christian Visitor that "the Christian Watchman of last week announces its discontinuance." The last number did not reach us. Will the publisher please forward us a copy?

We received a letter yesterday from Rev. A. D. Thompson, but too late for publication in this issue, informing us of being on his way in the prosecution of his Agency.

MR. B. F. STAPLES who visited Halifax about two years ago, and spent three or four months in teaching writing, expects shortly to open classes here again. His beautiful specimens of penmanship,—even superior to those then exhibited, excel all that we have ever seen.

THE next lecture of the course before the Young Men's Christian Association will be delivered (D. V.) on Tuesday evening next, the 14th inst., at Temperance Hall, by the Rev. R. Murray. Subject: "War." Chair to be taken at half-past 7 o'clock.

THE Report and Almanac of the Colonial Life Assurance Company have been laid on our table by M. H. Richéy, Esq., the Agent for Nova Scotia. The former shows the affairs of the Company to be in a highly flourishing condition. The latter contains much interesting information on Life Assurance, &c. Those desirous of effecting assurance on their lives will do well to consult these documents.

News Summary.

THE past week is nearly barren of news. The Southern Delegates were given up to the British Sloop of War *Rinaldo* at Boston, on New Year's day, and are now, as we suppose, on their way to England, whither our Government consider themselves bound in honour to convey them, in accordance with their undertaking frustrated by the unjustifiable act of Capt. Wilkes in taking them from the Trent.

Several large Steamers with troops for the Colonies have arrived since our last, while some have gone on to New Brunswick on their way to Canada. Among the latter, are the 62nd Regt. and the Rifles, who have arrived at St. Andrews. The First Foot Guards, the second battalion of the 16th Regt., a Brigade of Artillery, with a large number of Engineers and officers and men of the Military Train are still in this garrison. The *Maydayena*, large Steamer transport, with troops and warlike stores, arrived on Friday, and the *Melbourne* on Sunday, while the *Parana*, having on board the Royal Scots Fusileer Guards, is daily expected.

The Cunard steamer *Persia*, which landed the 1st Battalion of the 16th Regt. at Isle Bic, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, was obliged to leave precipitately on account of the ice coming down the river, without landing the baggage and stores, and leaving a number of her crew on shore. It was a most imprudent measure to attempt such a navigation so late in the season. A large number of troops will remain here until the navigation opens in the Spring, but it is not yet known what Regiment. All the troops sent out are among the finest in the service, and each regiment has its full complement of men, fully equipped for a winter campaign.

Nothing of any moment has taken place of late between the hostile armies. Indeed the season of the year precludes any extensive movements. There appears, however, a singular inertness on both sides. Want of leaders and want of discipline are most probably the chief causes. We cannot imagine two European armies of one third of their numbers, remaining for one third of the time in

face of each other without some decisive results.

The European Governments and public Journals, one and all, appear to have taken a very strong view of the illegality of the Trent affair.

The Steamship *Bohemian* of the Canadian line, on her way from Liverpool to Portland, put into our harbor on Monday last for orders—probably to learn the state of matters between the two countries before proceeding to Portland. She brought news to the 26th ult. Details are given of the funeral of Prince Albert. The young princes appear to have been deeply affected—sobbed and cried bitterly. Minute guns were fired during the whole of the ceremony.

The war preparations are proceeding with much activity.

The London Morning Post disputes the accuracy of the statements respecting the American Federal Fleet, and shews that the ships of Great Britain now on the North American station, may be reckoned at nearly double the force possessed by the Federal States.

Notices, &c.

Letters Received.

G. V. Rand, 30th, 1 sub. Jas. E. Potter, Esq., 1 sub, 20s. J. McLearn, 28th. W. J. Gates, 25th. Rev. W. Chipman, 2nd, 20s. J. J. King, 30th, 35s. J. Whitman, 24th. Assaph Whitman, 30th, 20s. Rev. P. F. Murray, 29th, 20s. Abraham Lent, Esq., 24th. X. Z. Chipman, Esq., 28th, 2 subs, £2. 1s. 3d., and 2nd, 20s. M. J. Caldwell, 12th. W. Eaton, Esq., 30th, 1 sub, and 1st, 1 sub. Rev. A. S. Hunt, 27th. Chas. Davis, 1st, 10s. W. Chipman, 1st, 1 sub 15s. Nathan Taylor, Assaph Marshall, 24th, 20s., and 1st, £2. Andrew Lockhart, 1st, 10s. Rev. Chas. Randall, 30th, £5, the 7s. 6d. for Rev. A. R. R. Crawley paid to Rev. W. H. Hurphrey. C. Jost, Esq., 18th, 1 sub, 20s. N. E. Davidson, 28th. Jas. Burgess, Esq., 21st. Hugh McCallum, 1st. W. Churchill, Esq., 1st, 3 subs.

NOTICES.

The Board of the Infirm Ministers fund, of the Western N. S. B. Association, is requested to meet at the house of Deacon Jacob Cornwell, Digby Neck, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at 1 o'clock, P. M. CHARLES RANDALL, Treasurer.

The Rev. Aaron Cogswell wishes to inform his friends that he has removed to Beaver River and desires that all communications for him may be sent there.

Annapolis Ministerial Conference.

The Ministerial Conference appointed to be held in the Central Meeting House, Annapolis, on the 17th of Dec., was not held in consequence of the non-attendance of the Ministers. A meeting of the above body is hereby notified, for Monday the 13th of January, at 2 o'clock, P. M., at the place above named. It is hoped that the brethren concerned may see this notice and as far as possible make arrangements and use effort to be present.

The Quarterly Meeting is expected to begin in the same place on the evening of the same day at 6 1/2 o'clock. The Rev. Isaiah Wallace is expected to preach the opening sermon, and Rev. H. Achilles to be his alternate.

Brethren and friends generally invited to attend. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Pastor. Bridgetown, Dec. 24, 1861.

Western Domestic Missionary Board.

A Meeting of D. M. Board, of the W. Association is appointed to be held in the Central Meeting House, Annapolis, on Tuesday the 14th of January, at 2 o'clock, P. M. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Secretary.

The Foreign Missionary Board.

As the Secretary, Rev. Dr. Tupper wishes me to announce a Meeting of the F. M. Board. I therefore notify that a Meeting of that body is appointed to be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of January, at 2 o'clock, P. M., in the Baptist Meeting House, at Tremont, Aylesford. Brethren, attend. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Chairman.

Tea Meeting.

The ladies of the Baptist Church and Congregation of Falmouth intend holding a tea meeting in the Baptist meeting house, on Tuesday evening the 14th of January 1862. To aid in the erection of a new Building.

All persons are cordially invited to attend. Tea at five o'clock. Admission, 1s. 10d. All under twelve, half-price, should the weather prove unfavourable, the meeting will be deferred until the next fine evening.

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE is to be converted into a hospital for the troops. A number of stores &c., are being used as barracks. The sentinels on guard before them make quite a warlike appearance.

MARINE RAILWAY AT DARTMOUTH.—We learn from the Journal that "the Chebucto Marine Railway Company intend building a third railway during the present year. It is to be large enough to take up a ship of 1500 tons, and to contain all the modern improvements. Steam power will also be introduced to work the three railways. The new railway will be placed upon the site of the small Way, now in operation—the bottom being better adapted for the purpose at that particular spot than elsewhere, and the small Way will be transferred to the Cove, the Company having lately purchased property upon that side. Contracts have already been taken for the timber. The cost, we learn, will not fall far short of \$50,000, and the Way will probably be completed during the present year.