

The firm constitution of Sergeant Holmes had borne him up against the hardships of long and repeated marches, and carried him through eight battles successfully. He had for months encountered the severities of camp life, apparently without faltering or injury, but disease had marked him for its victim, and all that skill and affection could do, could not save him. He sank rapidly at last. Rev. Mr. Sykes, his pastor, learning his situation, determined to go to his aid and attend him to his home. Before, however, he had completed half the journey, his friend was no more, and his corpse was on the way for burial among those from whom he had so lately parted. The interest of his pastor in his welfare will excite their gratitude, but scarcely more than that evinced by those who had fought with him on the field, and shared with him its perils. Lieut. B. C. Welch accompanied the remains to this city, and with Capt. Foster, Lieut. Stover and Quartermaster Haynes saw him interred with those honors, which the faithful soldier well merits. Nor should we fail to add, even at the risk of being charged with intermeddling, that company B. of the 40th New York regiment—better perhaps known in this vicinity as the National Guards—claim it as their privilege, to meet the expense incurred in burying their deceased comrade. It is indeed sad to record the death of so excellent a man, and at the early age of thirty-eight; but the grief of friends, however near, must find alleviation in the attentions and mutual sorrow of associates in arms, whatever their rank.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visits.

TO THE REV. DAVID MCKEEN.

The members of the Congregations in River Hebert, Maccan and Little Forks, having decided to make their Pastor a donation visit, met for that purpose in the Baptist Meeting-house, Little Forks, on the evening of the 10th inst. An excellent tea was provided which few know better how to do than the ladies of the above named places.

After 75 persons had regaled themselves, the meeting being called to order, Deacon Wm. Blenkhorn was appointed to the Chair. A suitable address was read, and the purse presented by one of the party, the Pastor replied in a very appropriate speech, remarking how such tokens of respect and kindness are calculated to cheer and encourage the minister while pursuing his calling. The company separated, leaving 84 dollars, of which \$19.60 was in cash, the remainder in articles, all valuable and useful.

All appeared highly gratified, and we believe, convinced that such gatherings are profitable as well as pleasing. ONE PRESENT.
Little Forks, March 16, 1863.

P. S. In the early part of the Winter two or three friends in Parsboro Village, presented Mr. McKeen with a substantial new sleigh.

TO REV. DAVID FREEMAN.

Gratitude as well as a sense of justice prompts me to record another of those annual events which are styled Donation visits. On Monday evening of February 2nd, our house was filled with kind hearted friends. Rev. Messrs. Hunt, Hennigar and Keane made excellent addresses. They were followed by Dr. Hamilton in his usual humorous and practical style. All which made up an intellectual repast that could scarcely be excelled by the material delicacies, nor even by the fine musical strains which cheered the occasion. But the christian and social converse was not the only charm of the evening. A purse was presented with an appropriate speech by J. B. Freeman, M. D., in which touching allusion was made to the bereavements and sorrows as well as the joys of the past year. At the close we found ourselves richer to the amount of \$150.21 in cash and \$37.58 in sundries. In the last item was included a fine riding saddle,—a very significant donation as well as opportune, implying that the large hearted donors have no wish to monopolize the gospel, but to send it where neither runners nor wheels can go. Doubtless if snow-shoes were needed, as in primitive times, these too would be forthcoming. May the blessings of the gospel descend upon the givers.

Yours, &c.,

D. FREEMAN.

Canning, March 16th, 1863.

TO REV. JAMES PARKER.

Mr. Editor,—On the 3rd of February, the Baptist Church and congregation in this place made us a handsome donation visit. The presents left with us at that time, including some additions since, amounted to \$140 in cash and first rate useful articles for family use.

Allow me, through the *Christian Messenger*, to return my sincere thanks to those many friends both far and near, who, since the burning of my house last April, have generously contributed towards making up the loss which we sustained at that time. I hope that none of them will ever suffer loss by fire, either in this world or that which is to come.

Yours truly,

JAMES PARKER.

Lakeville, March 18, 1863.

TO REV. JAMES L. READ.

The church and congregation at Long Point, Cornwallis, met at the Baptist Meeting-house, Feb. 23,—had a good tea and good speeches; and, as an expression of their regard for their pastor, they presented him with a present of fifty dollars.

J. L. READ.

Religious Intelligence.

KEMPT, HANTS COUNTY.—The Rev Benjamin Vaughan baptized four persons on a profession of faith in Christ, at Kempt on Lord's Day, March 1st. These with one who had some years previously been immersed by a Methodist minister were afterwards received into the church under Brother Vaughan's pastoral care.

These are signs of progress at Kempt. The opening of the New Meeting-house at the beginning of the year, was the occasion of much gratification to the friends of Zion. The pews were all taken up and the sums paid for them will be ample to finish the building.

LAKEVILLE, CORNWALLIS.—The Rev. James Parker writes on the 11th Instant. "I baptized four last Sabbath and I expect to see others come forward next Sabbath or on the first opportunity."

WESTBROOK, CUMBERLAND COUNTY.—We are informed by Brother Hance Mills, that, Rev. Mr. McKeen baptized nine who had made a confession of Christ at Westbrook on the last Lord's Day in February. Brother Palmer is labouring there to good acceptance and is beloved by the people.

AYLESFORD—Elisha D. Harris, Esq., writes March 14th:—*Dear Brother*,—I am happy to inform you that the cause of God in Upper been *Forty-two* baptized, and the work still Aylesford has been greatly revived of late. Since the commencement of the year, there has been *forty-two* baptized, and the work still appears to be progressing.

Rev. James L. Read writes, March 17th:—*Mr. Editor*,—The work of grace is still progressing in this place. I baptized *eight* last Sabbath.

Prince Edward Island.

UIGG, March 6th, 1863.—Mr. Maynard P. Freeman writes:—"We held our last Quarterly Meeting in East Point, commencing on Friday, Feb. 20, and ending the following Tuesday. The services were interesting and the people attentive. Their meetings are regularly maintained, in the absence of the pastor, under the direction of Bro. Scott.

Bro. M. Ross and myself came to this place the Thursday following, on our way home. We turned aside to see brother Samuel McLeod, who, in his own unobtrusive way, has been labouring in these parts for a quarter of a century. We preached that evening in a comfortable place of worship, and to an interesting audience, intending on the morrow to proceed on our journey. But the Lord ordered otherwise. We believed a good work had begun among the people, and resolved to tarry over the Sabbath. A good work was commenced, and soon manifested itself, and the heart of our brother McLeod was made glad by seeing his own children and those for whom he has long laboured and prayed, seeking the salvation of their souls. On Monday *five* were baptized by Bro. Ross, who the next day proceeded homeward. Bro. McL. and myself are continuing meetings. We expect another baptism soon.

I think we must call this an *awakening*, but it is not such as some that I have witnessed. There is no excitement, but a deep seriousness rests over the community. Enter any house you may, you will find the people thoughtful. Young and old seem to think it is time to seek the Lord. What it may come to, we know not. We rejoice with trembling. Those of our brethren who have visited Uigg, will offer prayer in our behalf. Our churches through the Island are slumbering. We hope the Lord is about to speak to the valley of dry bones."

Just allow me to tender my thanks to my friends in Bedeque and Cavendish, for the present of a seal-skin coat and fur cap, costing eight pounds, Island currency.

Yours in the gospel,

M. P. FREEMAN.

New Brunswick.

SACKVILLE.—Under date of March 9th, Bro. Todd, the pastor of Sackville, writes:—"The good work is still progressing; eight were baptized last Lord's day, and eighty-six in all have joined the church under my care since the revival commenced."—*Visitor*.

SOUTHAMPTON.—We learn that the church at Southampton, of which Rev. George Burns is pastor, has had "a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord." At a protracted meeting lately several ministering and other brethren were present. They all spoke the word with power, and the Lord blessed their labors, six willing converts came forward and were baptized in the likeness of the Saviour's death, and added to the church.—*Id.*

BULYEA'S COVE.—Under date of the 10th instant, Elder David Crandal writes, "The little church at Bulyea's Cove, organized recently of twenty-four, has increased to thirty-five, and others will join soon. We had baptism last Lord's day."—*Id.*

BISHOP COLENSO AND HIS BRETHREN.—Forty Bishops of the Church of England, Ireland, and the Colonies, have addressed, "with deep brotherly anxiety," a letter to their brother of Natal. They decline to touch on either legal or critical questions, but ask him whether, after he has avowed that he could not use the Ordination Service, which requires of recipients "unfeigned belief in the canonical Scriptures,"—also after he had asserted that those who hold his views cannot use the Baptismal Service,—he can hold office without scandal to the Church or "without harm to his conscience" retain his position. They conclude with good wishes for his reconviction, which, as we have little doubt he is a sincerely good man, misled by very flimsy reasons, we should not be surprised at.—*Freeman*

American and Foreign News.

Latest from the States!

[From Telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.]

MARCH 4.—Gen. Hooker and Medical Director Letterman pronounce the Army of the Potomac the healthiest the world has ever known.

From positive information, the mortality in the Confederate army is seventy-five per cent. greater than in that of the Union.

Eight hundred paroled prisoners (Federals) en route to Chicago, demolished an anti-war paper office at Richmond, Indiana, and threatened another establishment at Indianapolis.

Rosecrans telegraphs that a cavalry force under Col. Mintz had been driving the enemy, capturing one of their camps and 114 prisoners.

Minister Dayton had an interview with the French Foreign Minister, and read Mr. Seward's letter, declining mediation. French Minister made no comment.

The Russian Minister has been obliged to leave Mexico, owing to bad relations between him and the Juarez Government.

War is raging in Central America. Battle occurred 22nd Feb. at Coalapeque—three hundred killed.

MARCH 19.—About 2000 cavalry from the army of the Potomac, on a reconnaissance, had a brilliant fight near Kelleysford, on the Rappahannock, on Tuesday, taking about 100 prisoners.

Richmond papers say that Admiral Farragut attacked Port Hudson on the 14th and was repulsed. The Mississippi was burnt.

The same paper states that the French have taken the city of Mexico.

MARCH 20.—The cavalry army attached to the Federal forces is highly elated with the recent brilliant engagement on the Potomac. The Federal force attacked the breastworks at Blackwater, and failed. A Southern account of the action at Port Hudson, on the 14th inst., says that the Federal fleet attempted to pass under cover of darkness, the firing being terrific. One gunboat passed in a damaged condition. The steamer Mississippi was burned, another steamer riddled, a third badly crippled, and the remainder driven back. There were no casualties among the Confederates. Admiral Farragut's flagship went down the river disabled. A special despatch to the *St. Louis Democrat* states that the Lake Providence canal is completed, and the water will be let in after a few days. The Confederate gunboat Webb is lying close ashore at Vicksburg, in a sinking condition.

Evening.—Rosecrans' army not yet removed, but occupying old quarters at Murfreesboro, Gubernatorial Conventions at Louisville resolved unanimously for crushing rebellion, opposing foreign mediation and denouncing acts of Southern Confederacy in Kentucky, and urging preparations to repel invasion of the State. Government will not issue letters of marque. Vessels fitted out by private parties will be commissioned in Navy, and proceed against Confederate Privateers. Capture of city of Mexico discredited.

MARCH 21.—The Richmond "Examiner" has a leader evidently intended to prepare the Southern mind for serious reverses on the Rappahannock. It thinks Lee's retreat possible, if not probable; if it is true, then Confederates will fall back and give battle near Richmond.

Rumors of a proposed invasion of Kentucky are assuming a more definite form.

A considerable force of Confederate cavalry recrossed Duck River, and advanced towards Franklin, and were driven back.

Vandorn is reported to be largely reinforced. Latest advices state that the Black Brigade in Florida have taken several important points and large quantities of supplies, driving the enemy before them.

Pennsylvania regiments denounce peace meetings at home.

MARCH 23.—The Confederate cavalry attacked the brigade of Gen. Reynold's division near "Milton," and at latest reports quite a heavy engagement was going on.

Intelligent released prisoners from Richmond mention the steady removal of machinery for manufacturing ordinance, &c. from that city to Northern Georgia, thus possibly transferring the seat of war to a point below Richmond. There is a generally recognized feeling among the soldiers for ending the war and returning to the Union. The Southern prisons are filled with deserters. Military executions are frequent, and these excite no comment.

The Confederate privateer "Retribution" is reported to have been condemned at Nassau as unseaworthy.

Eight or ten regiments of Morgan's and Breckenridge's cavalry attacked Col. Hall's brigade, near Milton, Tenn. The Confederate loss was

about forty in killed and one hundred and forty in wounded. The Federals lost seven killed and thirty one wounded.

The Confederates have captured Mount Sterling, Kentucky, burning the town.

Port Royal papers report that the Negro brigade had taken Jacksonville, Florida; the negroes behaved properly.

The Federal gun-boat Chillicothe ineffectually bombarded Fort Pemberton, on the Mississippi.

Evening.—Barbadoes letter reports that the privateer Florida burnt three vessels off that Island. Large wheel steamer, supposed *Vanderbilt*, after her. Subsequent letter reports Florida arrived at Barbadoes, coaling and repairing.

Reported Admiral Farragut safely passed Port Hudson with fleet, except *Mississippi*, which having grounded, was burnt.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ARMY.—The *N. Y. Post*, in reference to the call for more troops, says:

"The government has not yet come to any conclusion upon that point. The President has by no means come to the conclusion that it is wise to raise a new army of two-thirds of a million of men. Some of the best generals assert that, while we need enough men to make up the losses, the great want is the wise management of the army already in the field. A draft of 200,000 men would keep the army up all summer, and if it is fought with any ability at all the rebellion can be subdued long before next autumn. It is said that by the census estimates the number of males in the loyal States, between the ages of twenty and thirty-five, will number 2,300,000, and at least 1,500,000 are fit for duty."

A BIG MAN.—Hartford's greatest son is no more. Thomas Jefferson Shelley, formerly of that city, died at New York, on Thursday, from suffocation, caused by excessive fat—505 pounds. He was once exhibited by Barnum, then travelled with Van Amburg, and lately has been coach driver at the Astor House, New York.

THE INDIANS.—The Kansas correspondent of the *St. Louis Democrat* says the Cherokee National Council has just adjourned. This was the same Council that was coerced into the passing of an ordinance of Secession by the rebel army. Their first act was to repeal it unconditionally. They then passed an act depriving of office in the Nation, and disqualifying all who continue disloyal to the United States Government.

Latest from Europe!

FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of *The Daily News* hears from a source which he calls authorized, and on which, he says, he implicitly relies; that the news from the French expedition in Mexico is most unfavourable. The correspondent adds, that the Emperor says, he cannot send any more troops to Mexico, in the present condition of Europe. It will be necessary to remember that this is only the statement of a correspondent.

ITALY.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies, on Saturday, passed, by a majority of 204 to 32 votes, the bill authorising the Government to raise a loan of 700,000,000 lire (28,000,000). The bill is merely permissive, and it is understood that the Ministers will avail themselves of the authority to borrow with great caution, according as the necessities of the Government and the state of the money market show to be advisable. The largeness of the majority is a satisfactory proof of the Parliamentary strength of the Ministry.

PRUSSIA.

The debate in the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, on the Polish policy of the Prussian Government, terminated on Saturday, and by a vote of 246 to 32 a resolution, recommending the strictest neutrality, was carried. The President of the Council, Herr Von Bismarck, is said to have behaved with great arrogance during the debate, and when called to order by the President of the Chamber, replied that he acknowledged no authority but the King. Herr Von Sybel, referring to the conduct of the Government, said, "Never before had a more unjustifiable game been played with the interests of the country," and he concluded with the remark, "We desire to preserve the country to our King, and our King to the country."

POLAND.

The *Czas* of Cracow announced on Saturday another Polish victory, by Langiewicz, near Malagazec. The battle lasted five hours, and was, therefore, an important one. The Russian news is, that several regiments of the Imperial Guard had arrived at Warsaw, and were burning to attack the Poles. They had asked through their colonels to march against the insurgents, and the Grand Duke, whilst he thanked them, said their wishes would "probably" be gratified.

A telegram from Ostrowa, on the Prussian frontier, states that the Poles have taken a manufacturing town near Kalisch. This place is close to the Prussian frontier, and it is said that Prussian troops have been despatched thither. *The Dantzig Gazette* of Friday asserts that the Czar, in his fanatic rage against the insurgents, has ordered his generals to crush the rebellion at any price within ten days.