

sionary Society. Its income in 1802, was £356. In 1861, it amounted to £104, 278. In 1804, it had one station abroad, two ordained European Missionaries, but no native assistants. It has now 148 stations, 258 ordained clergymen and a large staff of native clergy. In 1810, it had 35 male and 15 female scholars in its schools, it has now 31,000 scholars. In 1816, Mr. Bickersteth welcomed its first converts into the church, the number being only six; its communicants now number about 21,000.

Again "The Old Book, the Book of our Redeemer's gift, and our fathers faith, . . . has been gradually ascending, taking to itself new tongues spreading open its page in every land—printed in Chinese camps, pondered in the Red man's wigwag, sought after in Benares, a school book in Fejee, eagerly bought in Constantinople, loved in the kloofs of Kaffir-land; while the voices of the dead from Assyria to Egypt, have been lifted up to bear its witness."

Then add to this the fact that an overruling providence has awakened a missionary spirit among those nations who possess the greatest facilities for carrying out its benevolent designs, whose ships cover the seas, and whose sceptre sways so immense a portion of the world. Christianity like the Banyan tree is self propagating, or like leaven, our Saviour's own simile, diffusing itself through the mass till the whole is leavened. What may we not then anticipate when it is the christianized heathen, having himself experienced the love of the truth, shall address the words of salvation to his perishing countryman? Then "shall Israel blossom and bud and fill the face of the world with fruit. The wilderness and solitary place shall be glad for them and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. In the wilderness shall waters break out and streams in the desert, and the parched ground shall become a pool and the thirsty land springs of water."

China with its four hundred millions of inhabitants, is now ready and stands waiting to receive the law of the Lord. India with its immense mass of intelligent and comparatively educated heathens, which have given religion, science and civilization to the rest of the east, is rapidly becoming christianized. Ethiopia is stretching out her sable hands to God. "All the islands in the Eastern Archipelago are now accessible to the missionary, most of them have been visited. Ceylon has flourishing congregations and schools. Madagascar has had her martyrs and has still her indomitable confessors." But how great has been the triumph of missions throughout the whole Pacific. In 1837 Williams addressed royalty in those soul-inspiring words—"It must impart joy to every benevolent mind to know that, by the efforts of British christians, upwards of three hundred thousand of deplorably ignorant and savage barbarians, inhabiting the beautiful islands of the Pacific, have been delivered from a dark, debasing, and sanguinary idolatry, and are now enjoying the civilizing influence, the domestic happiness, and the spiritual blessings which christianity imparts. In the island of Raratonga, which I discovered in 1823, there are upwards of 3000 children under christian instruction daily; not a vestige of idolatry remains; their language has been reduced to a system, and the scriptures, with other books, have been translated. But this is only one of nearly a hundred islands to which similar blessings have been conveyed." "Tens of thousands of souls more have been added to this number since these words were written! In no part of heathendom has the gospel produced, in so short a time, such wonderful fruit as in Polynesia. The labours and sacrifices of the converted natives are more striking than in any other mission. Many islands have been converted solely by means of a native agency, and are superintended by native preachers only. Let us take the Sandwich Islands as illustrating what has been accomplished for the natives and by them. The American Mission was commenced in 1824. These islands have been converted long ago to Christianity, so that not a vestige of idolatry remains, and not only do they support their own clergy and schools, but have their own Bible and Foreign Missionary Society. They raise for these objects about £4000 per annum, and support six missionaries to the heathen islands around them. The communicants in the islands amount to upwards of 25,000, and the children who attend the common schools to a still greater number." The Jews are also awakening from the sleep of centuries; they are wearied out with the ever-promising but unsatisfactory illusions of the Rabbis. There is among them a spirit of enquiry, anticipation and change, and a strong presentiment that the doom of their religion is sealed. And "if the casting away of them was the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be but life from the dead." The angel of the Apocalypse seems to have already begun to wing his flight, bearing the everlasting gospel to the inhabitants of the earth.

"Tis coming up the steep of time,
And this old world is growing brighter!
We may not see its dawn sublime,
Yet high hopes make the heart thro' lighter,
We may be sleeping in the ground,
When it awakes the world in wonder,
But we have felt it gathering round,
And heard its voice of living thunder,
'Tis coming, yes, 'tis coming!"

If discouragements were as numerous as the prospects are cheering,—if those who in distant lands are now asking and learning what they must do to be saved, were, instead of this, beseeching the missionaries to depart from their

coasts, and clinging to all the absurdities of a debasing superstition, our hope might still rest upon the sure word of prophecy, that the period must arrive when "the heathen shall no longer rage, nor the people imagine a vain thing against the Lord," when Juggernaut shall be dethroned, his reign of impunity yield to that of the king of righteousness, and the idol's car give place to the chariot of the gospel. Our confidence rests upon the Omnipotence of truth which is sure to subvert its adversaries, and make each conqueror to a stepping-stone to further triumphs. "This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth; and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations; for the Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?"

If science brightens prophecy grows not dim. In every part of the missionary world the horizon of hope enlarges and brightens. The world is placed at the disposal of the Church and it is commanded to go up and possess the land. Truth stands in the midst of our benighted world clothed with angelic power and the day of its perfect light and its perfect liberty is rapidly advancing. There is at the present time a glorious awakening abroad. Every form of heathenism is losing ground, and new principles of social polity are everywhere displacing the ancient despotisms. The pride and ambitious schemes of Princes and rulers are being made to harmonize by a law far more mysterious than that of gravitation, with the prayers of the redeemed, in bringing about the exact fulfilment of prophecy. And as this earth is journeying with its fellow planets through infinite space, so is the work of evangelization together with the other destinies embarked on it journeying through infinite time, under a higher guidance than ours to the exact point, at which God has determined it should arrive. And now looking through the opening vista of time, we discern the overthrow of idolatry, the wasting away of Mahometan delusion, the destruction of Popery, the vanquishing of Infidelity, and the universal spread and recognition of the gospel. "To this triumph the eye of the church has ever been directed; it strung the harp of prophecy, it is the theme of all the promises, and to it the rise and fall of empires, ever have been and ever will be subservient. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. And the government is upon his shoulder; his name is called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government, and peace there shall be no end. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this."

We see yet but few links of the mighty and mysterious chain, which is to bind all hearts to the throne of God. But we anticipate a far more prosperous and glorious state for the church, than she has yet enjoyed. A new and brighter career is yet to be run by the regenerated family of man, missionaries; as pioneers, break up the ground; level the mountains; exalt the hills; and throw open the gates of brass. Armed with a sword out of heaven's own armory, and sky-tempered, they have joined issue with the empire of darkness, nor will the conflict cease till the banner of the Redeemer floats in triumph over every hostile foe. Then will peace take up its perennial abode with us; and good will to men circulate as free as the air of heaven among all nations; and the sun looking out from the firmament, will behold a delightful aspect of harmony throughout the whole extent of a renovated world. The missionaries of the cross blow the great trumpet of the jubilee year, proclaiming its approach, while the saints in light celebrate in the sweet strains of immortality its daily advance and descent to aid its prayers. Thy kingdom come, is the prayer of the church; the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth is the anthem of heaven.

"O catch its high important; ye winds as ye blow;
O hear it ye waves as ye roll,
From regions that feel the sun's vertical glow,
To the utmost extremes of the pole,
Equal laws, equal rights, to the nations around,
Peace and friendship its precepts impart,
And wherever the footsteps of man can be found,
May he bind the decree to his heart."

This is a work in which every one is allowed to do something. We can aid it by our prayers. Paul may plant, and Apollos water, it is God who giveth the increase. And the influence of the Holy Spirit is promised and promised alone in answer to prayer. "I have set watchmen upon thy walls O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night. For Zion's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth."

We may aid it by individual effort. It is the work that our Lord has assigned us, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." It requires that we should be so constrained by the love of Christ, as to ask ourselves daily the question, "What are we doing for Jesus?" My christian brother you are not your own, you have been bought with a price, you are therefore to glorify God in your body and spirit which are God's. The "reasonable service" now demanded, is, that you should consecrate yourself a living, holy and acceptable sacrifice to God. Time and talent are to be unreservedly devoted to the Master's use. Our opportunities for action and usefulness are very precious and very brief and when they are gone they are lost forever. God's grand purpose will move onward but our co-operation therewith will be impossible.

"Where is your heathen brother? From his grave;
Near thy own gates, or 'neath, a foreign sky,
From the thronged depths of ocean's moaning wave,
His answering blood reproachfully doth cry;
Blood or the soul! Can all earth's fountains make,
Thy dark stain disappear? Stewards of God, awake!

R. R. P.
Sackville, Jan. 28th, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.

ORDINATION OF MR. AMOS WEAVER, AT MITON.

A Council was convened at the Milton Baptist Church, on the 16th inst., to consider the propriety of ordaining brother Amos Weaver.

The Council was organized by the choice of Rev. E. N. Harris as Moderator, and Rev. D. O. Parker, Clerk. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. W. Barse. The Vote of the church inviting the Council was then read.

The credentials of delegates were called for, from which it appeared that the following brethren were entitled to vote in the Council, viz: Milton Church, Brethren Whitman Freeman; Stephen Kempton; Edward Kempton; and James Ford. Liverpool; Rev. E. N. Harris; Brethren Chas. Bill; Jabez Freeman; Geo. S. Parker; Alex. West; and Wm. Staratt. Port Medway, Rev. J. E. Goucher. Greenfield, Rev. R. Walker. Brookfield, Rev. D. O. Parker. Ragged Island, Rev. A. W. Barse. Bridgewater, Rev. Mr. March.

Brother Weaver's License from the Baptist Church at Sugar Creek, Walworth, Wis. was called for and read. Brother Weaver then related his christian experience, call to the ministry, and views of bible doctrine, the clearness and earnestness of which won the entire confidence of the Council, and unanimous recommendation of the candidate's ordination. It was then voted to ordain the candidate on the following morning; Sunday, Jan 17th.

The services were as follows:—Sermon by Rev. E. N. Harris, Text, Malachi 2: 7. Questions to the candidate by Rev. Mr. March. Ordaining prayer by Rev. R. Walker. Charge to the candidate by Rev. A. W. Barse. Right-hand of fellowship by Rev. D. O. Parker. Address to the church by Rev. J. E. Goucher; and benediction by the candidate.

E. N. HARRIS, MODERATOR.
D. O. PARKER, CLERK.

REMARKS.—The day was delightful. The congregation was large, the services were very solemn and listened to with deep interest. The sermon was appropriate and a faithful exposition of the minister's intellectual and spiritual qualifications, and the people's duty to receive the law at his mouth. All the sciences aid him if sanctified on the altar of devotion. Let him gather the choicest treasures from the whole republic of art, science and literature; but especially, at Calvary's perennial fountain; let him drink deeply of the baptized wisdom of heaven, and then his lips will be as a golden orifice from which flow the waters of life. It is the people's duty to love the house of God, to frequent its solemn feasts and receive instruction from their Pastor. Those who do not, sustain a personal loss; it tends to skepticism and infidelity as in the case of "brother Thomas;" and also exerts an injurious influence upon the family and community at large.

Brother Weaver spent his childhood till about fourteen years of age at his early home in Cornwallis, where he received his first religious impressions under the occasional preaching of Rev. Mr. Hunt and Father Manning. While on a visit to N. S., God sent him to Milton with no other call from the church than their long and united call of prayer heard in heaven. Our young brother enters his field of labor under very promising circumstances. The church perfectly united in him, are already showing an improved state of religious feeling. The Lord grant that his labors in Milton may be long and greatly blessed.

D. O. PARKER.

For the Christian Messenger.

DONATION VISITS.

Dear Brother,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge through the *Christian Messenger* the kindness of the ladies of Woods Harbor who on the evening of the 29th of Dec., had a sale of fancy articles and a splendid tea, from which they obtained for my comfort and that of my family the handsome sum of \$104. May God abundantly reward these kind friends for their labor of love.

AUGUSTUS SHIELDS.

Jan. 19th, 1864.

ANOTHER TOKEN OF LOVE AND RESPECT.

The young men of the church and congregation at East Point, Prince Edward Island, waited on their Pastor, Elder John Shaw, on the 11th inst., and presented him with a beautiful overcoat, not as a Donation Visit, but merely a token of love and respect—A new year's gift.

Presented in the name and behalf of the church and congregation by

DANIEL MACLEAN,
WILLIAM MACVEAN,
HORATIO MORROW.

American and Foreign News.

LATEST FROM THE STATES.

(From Telegrams to morning and evening papers.)

TUESDAY, Jan. 26.—The Arkansas State Convention passed an article prohibiting Slavery with one dissenting vote.

Thirty thousand Southern troops are supposed to be in West Mississippi, with the evident intention of invading West Tennessee, and diverting Grant's attention.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27.—Vice president Stephens is seriously ill at Augusta, Georgia.

All hopes of reaching Charleston this winter has died out among the Federal troops.

Evening.—Peterburg *Express* of the 22nd says that seven hospital buildings and a large quantity of commissary stores and clothing were destroyed at Camp Winder.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to burn President Davis's house last Thursday night.

The same paper says that nearly half of the Confederate military force is scattered as absentees and stragglers over the country.

Charleston *Courier* says that the bombardment continues, but damage occasioned is extraordinarily small.

THURSDAY, Jan. 28.—A serious revolt occurred in the Confederate camp near Stevensburg on Saturday morning.

General Butler forbids the reception of women and children within his lines from the South inasmuch as the Confederates are sending them, and retaining all able-bodied men.

FRIDAY, Jan. 29.—A despatch from the Army of the Potomac says it was two Mississippi Regiments which attempted to fight their way out from Confederate ranks last Saturday.

From 25 to 40 deserters come into the Picket lines of the 2nd corps daily, notwithstanding extraordinary precautions taken against desertion.

Considerable reaction is developed in Alabama against Confederate leaders, and resolutions endorsing Secession met with unexpected and decided opposition in the Legislature of that State.

Skirmishing is reported between the Confederate cavalry under Longstreet, and the Federal cavalry.

Evening.—At a supper at Raleigh, N. C., Governor Vance and Editors of *Standard* and *Progress* present. The "Stars and Stripes" were toasted. Petersburg (late Raleigh) *Register* comments sarcastically on such proceedings at the very capital.

Confederate despatches reported Mississippi River blockaded at Milliken's Bend and Greenville, by their batteries; also that their cavalry had reached within four miles of Knoxville capturing five thousand cattle, one hundred wagons, and a large amount of other property.

Convention bill passed in Maryland Legislature by overwhelming majority.

SATURDAY, Jan. 30.—The Secretary of the Treasury has removed the restrictions on trade in Kentucky and Missouri.

The *Herald's* Army of the Potomac despatch says that a hundred and thirty deserters came into the Federal lines in one squad—including the pickets.

Evening.—The Knoxville correspondent of the *Cincinnati Gazette* writes on the 22nd that the Federals crossed Holstein River at Strawberry Plains, falling back to a new position.—The loss of stores at Strawberry Plains was quite severe. The Confederates picked up two hundred stragglers. The Federals burned Bridges, &c., likely to fall into the hands of their enemy.

On the 22nd Confederate and Federal sharpshooters were skirmishing across the river six miles above Knoxville, which is being strengthened. Longstreet has a strong position at Bull's Gap, whence he can throw fires into the valley on either side with great facility.

MONDAY, Feb. 1.—The Arkansas Convention Constitution has been engrossed declaring the State free forever, with only one dissenting voice, and he favored gradual emancipation.

Governor Vance of North Carolina publishes a card against taxation of State property by the Confederate Government. Public meetings are held favoring call for State Convention. The Raleigh, N. C. *Journal* says that these movements in connection with President Lincoln's proposition for reconstruction, look disloyal and treasonable.

A lady who left Charleston on the 11th., reports that half the city was abandoned and damaged by shells.

Evening.—President Lincoln orders a draft of five hundred thousand men for March 10th, crediting all enlisting to March 1st, not heretofore credited. This, it is supposed, includes the three hundred thousand ordered in October, and is in effect a call for two hundred thousand more.

A supply train of eighty waggons with eight hundred escort for Petersburg garrison, West Virginia, was attacked near Williamsport by two thousand. The engagement lasted four hours. The train was captured. The Garrison evacuated Petersburg.

Another revolution has occurred in Matamoros. Cortinas is again in power. Two Federal regiments went across the river to protect American property, and brought to Brownsville two million dollars belonging to Americans.

GIFT BY THE PRINCE OF WALES TO HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY.—We learn from the *Boston Journal* that The Prince of Wales has made a valuable present to Harvard College, accompanied by the following letter:

Sandringham, Nov. 5, 1863.—Sir: I am desired by the Prince of Wales to say, in answer to your letter of the 23d ult., that it will give him very great pleasure to present to the Library of Cambridge University a copy of the photographs of the Samaritan Pentateuch taken during the visit of his Royal Highness to Nablos.

The Prince of Wales desires me to add that he will always be glad of any opportunity which may enable him to evince, in however slight a manner, the lively sense which he entertains of the kindness and hospitality which he received during his visit to the United States; and that with these recollections he cannot fail