

A telegram with news from Athens shows that the young King of Greece has like his father of Denmark, found plenty of cares along with his dignities. Up to the present time Athens has been under the rule of the National Guard. Whenever the Government took any step which did not please that martial body, there were immediate threats of mutiny and counter-revolution.

His Majesty had received a deputation from the Ionian Islands requesting him not to accept the union of the islands with Greece on the stipulations. That is, he is begged to refuse the gift of seven fertile islands because he cannot have the fortifications of Corfu as well.

The men who have already grumbled about being asked to contribute 10,000,000 a-year to the King's civil list, will hardly agree to raise the hundreds of thousands a-year which the fortress now costs England. Corfu would be worse than a white elephant as a present for Greece.

FRANCE.

The customary new year's reception of the diplomatic corps at the Tuileries took place on Friday. The Papal Nuncio, acting as the mouthpiece of the foreign ambassadors to the French Court, presented their good wishes to the Emperor. His Majesty, after thanking the ambassadors, made a brief reference to the present state of Europe, and expressing his conviction that, notwithstanding the threatening difficulties brought about certain events, peace will be preserved by the conciliatory spirit with which the Sovereigns are animated. It is also stated that his Majesty, addressing himself to the American ambassador, expressed a hope that 1864 will be a year of peace and reconciliation for the United States.

A French journal informs us in the most positive terms that the Emperor Napoleon and the Archduke Maximilian are excellent friends; and that all those people who think that the election of the latter to the throne of Mexico is likely to come to nothing, will shortly find themselves very much mistaken.

POLAND.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—According to intelligence received here from Warsaw 250 prisoners were despatched on the 2nd inst. to Siberia, among the number of whom was Count Stanislas Zamoycki.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE IN SANTIAGO, CHILI.

Santiago de Chile, Dec. 17, 1863.—I have told you strange tales from abroad during the many years I have been your correspondent, but seldom one that has made your heart strings tingle as will this.

On Tuesday last, at seven o'clock in the evening, one of the most splendid churches of the capital was reduced to ashes, and in its ruins were burned to death over two thousand females. Santiago is mourning for hundreds of her brightest ornaments, and there is scarcely a family which is not more or less bereaved by the terrific tragedy of the night of 8th inst.

On that day was celebrated this year throughout the Catholic world the feast of the Conception of the Virgin. In Chili the "month of Mary" (celebrated elsewhere in May) ends with that evening.

There are no feasts in Spanish America so popular, particularly with the ladies, as those dedicated to the Virgin. Some one of the gorgeous churches of the capital is annually selected for the ceremonies, and this year the magnificent temple of the Compania (called so from having once belonged to the Jesuits) was chosen. It is in the very heart of the city. For thirty evenings it has been crowded to excess, and almost exclusively by females. Every effort had been made to make this evening surpass in splendor its predecessors.

The church was gorgeously ornamented and illuminated by more than ten thousand lights. Of these the most remarkable was a crescent of gas jets at the foot of a colossal statue of the Virgin, on the high altar. It had just been lighted, and whether from carelessness in lighting or from too much pressure in the metre, the blaze flew up to an inordinate height, and in a moment the thousand tinsel altar ornaments were on fire.

The cry of "fire" re-echoed through the temple.

Imagine, if you can, the consternation of those kneeling thousands of tender women and children. Isay kneel for kneel they must, as there are no pews in the churches here, as with you. There were at this time, as near as can now be calculated, three thousand five hundred in the church.

Only two of the doors were open, and to those a rush was instantly made. Hundreds fell in their efforts to reach them, and, becoming entangled in their crinolines or fainting through fright were unable to rise again. Over these fell others; and soon a pile of bodies was formed in front of the doors, preventing all further egress. In the meantime the flames had reached the dome and communicated quickly to the roof. The lamps, of which thousands were filled with camphene oil or kerosene, bursting, scattered their contents over the multitude below. You will ask, where were the fire engines all this time? There are none in Santiago.—But to continue: Many had already escaped; some few were saved by the superhuman efforts of those from the outside; but soon the mass of shrieking victims before the doors had become so compact that no strength of man was able to break it, and in the efforts arms were actually torn from their sockets.

The struggle within must have been powerful, since those who were saved were dragged out

completely naked, and many have since died.—Now followed the most terrific scene mortal eye has ever witnessed. In a brief hour from the breaking out of the fire the whole interior of the church was a lake of flame, rising far above the heads of the shrieking sufferers, while the hundreds of bodies massed immovably together burned like so many blocks of wood.

Through the lurid flames arms could be seen extended in supplication, mothers folding their daughters to their burning breasts, and, while hellish light painted up the distorted features, loud above the roar the cracking rafters and rushing flames rose the commingled shrieks of over two thousand victims. Dante, in all his wildest wisdom, never dreamed of such a hell as this. Had the roof fallen in now what suffering had been spared! The fire reached the doors. Effort after effort was made to break the compact but still living mass.

Strong, robust men were seen struggling to extricate themselves, but in vain; and all this within a few feet of hundreds of spectators.—Trees in the place were cut down and thrust in over the burning heads; but it was too late. The smaller branches were almost immediately reduced to ashes, or when the body of the tree was withdrawn those branches taken bold of remained in the victims hands.

It will seem scarcely credible that any yet lived, and yet so it was. A moment more and all was over. Amid the flames blackened heads may be seen swaying to and fro, then falling from the shoulders. The mass near the door was immovable in death, and hundreds of the coal-black statues retained their kneeling posture.

At last the roof fell in with a crash like mighty thunder. The gorgeous belfry still stood, and wrapped in flames, made the scene around bright as noonday, and then, with a dull, sudden sound, the mammoth bells fell from their high place.

SCENES OUTSIDE THE CHURCH.

The scene without the church baffles all description. Every house far and near was crowded with the dying and the dead. In one hour from the breaking out of the flames all was over. Of two thousand beautiful women of Santiago there remained but a hideous mass of reeking and carbonized corpses, and not a single family in the city but was left to mourn some lost one.

Very many of the corpses were found with only the head and arms burned; but as the clothes in most cases were burned it was impossible to recognize them.

I dare not tell you of the scenes I witnessed that night and at daylight on the following morning. No pen can describe the father or the mother or brother searching among the blackened thousands for some one single sign that the fearful corpse before them was all that remained to them of that cherished form which but a few short hours before was the object of their love and fond idolatry. What pen can portray to you a father who had lost his young wife and five lovely daughters, searching, and in vain, for them; or tell you of the haggard features of a widowed mother, too happy had the flames but spared only enough of her cherished child that she might know it hers, and bathe its blackened limbs in hot, scalding tears?

Yet these and other such scenes I have witnessed, and, though days have passed, my eyes fill with tears as I tell you their story; and I must live long years before, as memory reproduces the awful scene, my blood will cease to grow cold at its remembrance or my heart refuse its tear of tribute to unquestionably the most awful tragedy in ancient or modern history. Others there have been where more have perished, but none under such heart rending circumstances. In one of the largest and most cultivated capitals of South America two thousand of its loveliest women are burned to death, and that in presence of their fathers, husbands, brothers, powerless to save them.

Do you require statistics? Let me give you but a single one: it will suffice. One hundred and fifty cartloads of unrecognized corpses were, on the 9th and 10th, carried to the cemetery. The beauty and the wealth and the proud Spanish aristocracy all had their representatives in that awful cortege.

CITY LIFE IN SANTIAGO.

Santiago, as I have often told your in conversation and in letters, is unlike any city in the world in this, that here all the wealthy families of the republic reside; and, as you may readily imagine, in a city where there is so little immigration, these families are more or less connected. All are well known to each other, and in a word, form one large family. The blow has thus struck home to the heart of every one.

FEELING AGAINST THE CLERGY.

A reaction has taken place here against the clergy. Public opinion demanded at once the conversion of the church site into a public square. This has been and is violently opposed by the clergy and their formidable party. The fanaticism of these and its manifold abuses, among which is considered foremost the late disaster, is the subject of conversation in every circle. The papers are full of the bitterest invectives on both sides of this question. Thousands of dollars are offered to rebuild the temple, and force is threatened if it be attempted. Accusations of the vilest conduct are brought against the clergy. In my next I will give you the continuation of this awful drama. Terrible has been the lesson, Chili will profit by it. We may hope for more liberality and less fanaticism. From out the still smoking ruins of the Compania may yet arise the bright light of religious liberty.

But I must close. The recital has cost me more than I can tell you. I have not yet sufficiently recovered from the stunning blow to look calmly back upon the frightful past.

Marriages.

On the 18th inst., by the Rev. J. C. Cochran, M. A., Mr. W. Wesley Lambert, of Liverpool, N. S., to Alicia Ward, of this city.

On the 14th inst., by the Rev. John Morton, assisted by the Rev. William Duff, Capt. James Ross, of Middle Lahave, to Annie, eldest daughter of Abraham Hebb, Sr., of Bridgewater.

On the 14th inst., by the Rev. G. M. Grant, George Worrall to Mary McKintay.

By the same, on the 15th, James Seton, of Meagher's Grant, to Mary Matthias, of Halifax.

On the 21st inst., by the Rev. P. G. McGregor, Mr. Joseph Estano, to Mrs. Jane Robb.

By the Rev. Charles Randall, on the 19th inst., Mr. Abner Lewis, to Miss Christina A., eldest daughter of Mr. Jacob Wyman, all of Weymouth.

At Chester, on the 16th inst., by the Rev. I. J. Skinner, Mr. Francis Demil, to Miss Elizabeth Swaller, both of Middle River.

Dec. 15th, by the Rev. E. O. Read, Mr. George Reid, to Miss Seraph Scholl, all of Horton.

By the same, at the Parsonage, Gaspereaux, Jan. 10th, Mr. Henry Coldwell, to Miss Margaret Foster, all of Horton.

At Westport, by the Rev. John Miller, on the 7th inst., Mr. Handley C. Coggins, to Miss Elizabeth A. Potter.

By the same, at the same time and place, Mr. Joseph D. Payson, to Miss Augusta C., second daughter of Mr. Rice Coggins.

At Westport, on the 14th inst., by the same, Mr. William Smith, to Miss Sarah Morill.

By the Rev. Isa. Wallace, on the 17th Dec., 1863, Mr. Edwin Godfrey, of Annapolis, to Miss Sophia Crummel, of Granville Ferry.

By the same, on the 23rd Dec., 1863, at the residence of Mr. Robt. Chute, Mr. John Covert, to Miss Mary E. Chute, all of Lower Granville, N. S.

By the same, on the 31st Dec., 1863, at the Parsonage, Mr. William Tracey, of Clements, N. S., to Mrs. Sarah H. Woodland, of Lower Granville, N. S.

By the same, on the 31st Dec., 1863, at the residence of the brides' mother, Capt. George Johnson, to Miss Isabel A. Conley, all of Lower Granville, N. S.

By the same, on the 7th Jan., 1864, at the residence of the brides' father, Mr. Henry Hall, to Miss Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Capt. William Fowler, all of Lower Granville, N. S.

Deaths.

On Monday 18th, of Conjection of the lungs, on board the ship Consul, Captain John F. Hayden, of Baltimore.

On the 12th inst., James McKee, in the 33rd year of his age.

On the 18th inst., Mrs. Ann Boyce, in the 79th year of her age.

On the 19th inst., after a short illness, Dennis Deasy, aged 40 years.

On Sunday, James C., son of Christopher and Charlotte McLearn.

On the 22nd inst., William Roome, aged 75 years.

On Friday morning, James Bernard, son of Wm. and Johanna Roberts, aged 1 year and 11 months.

At Pictou, on the 12th inst., Frances Ann, wife of Mr. G. P. Boggs, and third daughter of Mr. John Goudge.

At Chester, on the 27th Dec., in the 27th year of her age, Ann Catherine, the beloved wife of Mr. James Naas, and daughter of George R. Richardson, Esq.

At Rawdon, of Diphtheria, on the 7th Dec., 1863, Elizabeth A., aged 5 years and 3 months; also, Isabella R., aged 7 years and 9 months; also, Frances, aged 3 years and 5 months; and on the 1st Jan., Thomas E., aged 10 years and 5 months—the beloved children of Thomas W. and Alice Meek.

At Amherst, on the 3rd inst., Joshua Chandler, Esq., for many years High Sheriff of Cumberland, in the 72nd year of his age.

On the 10th of Nov., 1863, of Consumption, Mr. Samuel Gertridge, son of the late James Gertridge, of Gaspereaux, aged 22 years, leaving a mother and 5 sisters to mourn their loss, his end was calm and peaceful.

On the 15th inst., of Diphtheria, Cassie, the only child of Mr. Perez Martin, of Lochhartville.

At Gaspereaux, Dec. 24th, 1863, of Consumption, Mr. John Caldwell, aged 39 years, leaving a wife and 6 children to mourn their loss. Bro. C. was a faithful and consistent member of the Baptist Church, and died in the faith of the Gospel.

On the 12th inst., Mr. Michael Davison, of Gaspereaux, aged 82 years, leaving a large circle of relatives to mourn their loss, he had been for many years a member of the Baptist Church, and a respectable inhabitant of the place.

On the passage from Sydney, C. B., to St. John, N. B., on the 12th day of November, 1863, John Franklin, infant son of Capt. Jacob and Mrs. Sarah Hall, of Margaretville, aged 64 months.

From Burmah.

SHWAYOHYEEN, Burmah, March 6, 1866. Mr. P. Davis—Dear Sir: Such is the great demand for the Pain Killer that I write you to send me as soon as possible, in addition to what I have hitherto ordered, 24 dozen boxes, (two dozen bottles in a box) and a bill for the same, that I may give you an order on the Treasurer of the Union to the amounts of the same. N. HARRIS.

HENTHADA, Burmah, March 17, 1866. Messrs. P. Davis & Son—Gents: I am sorry to say the last box of Pain Killer sent me has not yet come to hand. The expense of getting the medicine is something "these hard times," but the want of it is of far more importance. Send me as soon as possible, another box of the same size, (viz. \$30 worth.) I enclose an order on the Treasurer of the Missionary Union for the amount. REV. B. E. THOMAS.

Sold by Avery Brown & Co., and Brown, Brother & Co.

New Periodicals, January, 1864.

COTTAGE JOURNAL—monthly, 12 cents, Cornhill Magazine, Churchman's Family Magazine, Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine, Every Boy's Magazine, 12 cents, Good Words 12 cents, Leisure Hour, do, London Society Magazine, Our own Fireside—monthly, 12 cents, St. James' Magazine, Sunday at Home, 12 cents, Temple Bar Magazine, What Not Book of Fashions, &c. With all the London Journals—supplied monthly or by annual subscription at the Book and News Agency of G. E. Morton & Co., Granville Street, Halifax. Bibles, Prayers, Church Services; Childrens Books in variety, as per catalogue supplied at the Agency of G. E. Morton & Co.

Halifax, N. S., Nov. 4th, 1863.

Mr. F. Graham. DEAR SIR,—I had for many years been afflicted with Asthma, which was so severe I could scarcely breathe, and having used many of advertised remedies without benefit, I concluded to try "Graham's Pain Eradicator," which gave immediate relief and soon restored me to health. GEORGE R. PARKER. Cogswell & Forsyth, General Agents.

Shipping List.

PORT OF HALIFAX.

Arrived.

Monday, 18th.—Bark Halifax, O'Brien, Boston 45 hours, Lawson, Harrington & Co. and others—10 passengers.

Wednesday, 20th.—Schr. Blue Jacket, Horne, New York 4 days—J. Lithgow.

Thursday, 21st.—Brigt Planet, Lamb, Auguilla 15 days, T. S. Tobin; R. M. Steamer Africa, Shannon, Boston 36 hours—50 passengers, 20 for Halifax.

Friday, 22nd.—Brigt Cupid, Bradshaw, Bermuda 29 days, R. Frith; schrs. Sarah Caroline, Hunt, New York 4 days; Juliet, Wright, St. John, N. B., 7 ds.—T. A. S. DeWolf and Son; Friend, (new packet) Westhaver, Lunenburg—J. M. Watson & Co.; Orion, McLeod, Santa Cruz 20 days—bound to Liverpool, N. S.

Saturday, 23rd.—Brigt Mary Alice, Harding, Ragged Islands—to Master.

Sunday, 24th.—Brigts Allandale, McBurnie, New York—to Young & Hart; Golden Rule, Patterson, Ponce—to W. P. West; Schrs. Janet, McKay, Kingston via Havana—to Salter & Twining; Jolly Tar, Gunnison, Margaret's Bay—to R. Noble & Sons; Margaret, O'Dell, Sydney; Express, Godfrey, Inagua—to Salter & Twining.

Monday, 25th.—H. M. Steamer Styx, Bermuda; R. M. S. Canada, Moody, Liverpool via Queenstown—to S. Cunard Co.

Cleared.

Monday, 18th.—Cornucopia, Grant, Cienfuegos; Elizabeth Ann, St. Pierre; Rival, Dunlop, Liverpool, N. S.

Tuesday, 19th.—Brigt Italia, (new) Hays, Brazil.

Wednesday, 20th.—schr. Romp, Robinson, Cuba.

Thursday, 21st.—R. M. steamship Merlin, Guilford, Newfoundland; brigt Clyde, Clare, B. W. Indies; schr. Arbutus, (French), St. Pierre, Mtq; Julia, LeBlanc, Glace Bay.

Friday, 22nd.—brigt Boston, McGreger, Boston; R. M. steamer Africa, Shannon, Liverpool; brigt Wild Hunter, Gange, Demerara; Brisk, Harding, B. W. Indies.

Saturday 23rd.—Brigt Magnet, Conyers, Bermuda—by G. C. Harvey.

Monday, 25th.—Brig Express, Frith, Jamaica—by Wm. Pryor & Sons.

Memoranda.

Boston, Jan. 13th.—Cld. schr. Edith, Doane, Turks Island. 19th.—Arr. John Tilton, Davis, Georgetown, P. E. I., via Halifax, for New York, reports, Jan. 13th, in a gale from W. N. W. lost bulwarks and stanchions. Put in to repair. 20th.—arr. ship Bravo, Slater, Liverpool via Queenstown; brigt W. Greenough, Campbell, Cadenas.

New York, Jan. 10th.—Arr. brig Delhi, Salt Cav. 12th.—S. G. Troop, do. 14th.—schr. Minnie Arnold, Jacmel. 18th, brig Letitia Ann, Lingan; bark E. A. Souder, —; cld. Clio, St. Thomas; Mary A. Morgan, Havana; schr. W. D. Bickford, Barbados. 19th.—arr. (below), bark Glacier, of Halifax.

The schr. Lone Star, of Halifax, Carey, master, is ashore at Jones' Beach, L. I.

The schr. Janet, from Kingston to Halifax, arrived at Havana 4th inst., with loss of mainmast. Would repair damage and sail about 10th.

The schr. Oaves, of Halifax, from Anguilla for New York, with a cargo of salt, was totally wrecked on Rockaway, on the 9th inst. Crew saved.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW BOOKS.

The Miracles of Christ, as attested by the Evangelists, by Dr. Hovey.....\$1.00 The Cedar Brook Stories, or the Clifford Family, 5 vols. for..... 2.50 1 The young Seed-sowers, 2 The seed growing, 3 The seed bearing fruit, 4 Sowing the fields, 5 Frank gone to the war, The Leslie Stories, 3 vols. for..... 2.25 1 Up the ladder or striving and thriving, 2 Never give up or the News boys, 3 The two homes or earning and spending, CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE, 59 Granville Street.

1864—GENERAL NOTICE—1864 REDUCTION IN PRICES, Preparatory to taking stock.

OUR annual clearance sale for cash only commences Wednesday, January 6th, when a large variety of fancy, reasonable, and fashionable DRY GOODS, Will be offered, at reduced prices, families and others will please take notice, by calling early and securing BARGAINS. VAUX-BROTHERS. Glasgow House, 152 Granville Street. Jan. 13.

Steamship "Arabia."

R. N. Beckwith & Co HAVE received by the above steamer a great variety of Fancy Woollen Goods IN Ladies' Garibaldi JACKETS, "and Infants' HOODS, " Skating Mitts and Cloaks, " Carriage Boots, Gents' Knitted Vests and Scarfs, FANCY WOOL MATS. 59 Granville Street. dec 9-61.