

tured on his mind in most vivid colours. He felt it, while he was writing. He felt himself on a retired spot; and he saw death, the mighty hunter, pursuing the unthinking world. He saw redemption—its necessity and its grandeur; and, while he looked on it, he spoke as a man would speak whose mind and heart are deeply engaged. Notwithstanding all this, the view did not reach his heart. Had I preached in his pulpit with the fervour and interest that his 'Night Thoughts' discover, he would have been terrified. He told a friend of mine, who went to him under religious fears, that he must go more into the world."

Religious Intelligence.

LOWER GRANVILLE.—Brother Wallace informs us that there is some religious awakening in one of his preaching stations in Lower Granville. He has recently baptized two rejoicing converts and several others have lately been hopefully converted.

REV. C. H. COREY, Baptist Missionary, visited the island of Edisto last Sunday and held religious services, preaching to large congregations. Twenty persons were baptized.—*South Carolina Leader.*

Dr. Underhill's Letter to Mr. Cardwell, the Colonial Secretary of State.

"33, Moorgate street, 5th Jan., 1865.

"I venture to ask your kind consideration to a few observations on the present condition of the island of Jamaica. For several months past every mail has brought letters informing me of the continually increasing distress of the coloured population. As a sufficient illustration, I quote the following brief passage from one of them:—'Crime has fearfully increased. The number of prisoners in the penitentiary and gaols is considerably more than double the average, and nearly all for one crime—larceny. Summonses for petty debts disclose an amount of pecuniary difficulty which has never before been experienced; and applications for parochial and private relief prove that multitudes are suffering from want little removed from starvation.' The immediate cause of this distress would seem to be the drought of the last two years; but in fact this has only given intensity to suffering previously existing. All accounts, both public and private, concur in affirming the alarming increase of crime chiefly of larceny and petty theft. This arises from the extreme poverty of the people. That this is its true origin is made evident by the ragged and even naked condition of vast numbers of them; so contrary to the taste for dress they usually exhibit. They cannot purchase clothing, partly from its greatly increased cost, which is unduly enhanced by the duty (said to be thirty-eight per cent. by the Hon. Mr. White Locke) which it now pays, and partly from the want of employment and the consequent absence of wages.

"The people then, are starving; and the causes of this are not far to seek. No doubt the taxation of the island is too heavy for its present resources, and must necessarily render the cost of producing the staples higher than they can bear, to meet competition in the markets of the world. No doubt much of the sugar land of the island is worn out, or can only be made productive by an outlay which would destroy all hope of profitable return. No doubt, too, a large part of the island is uncultivated, and might be made to support a greater population than is now existing upon it.

"But the simple fact is, there is not sufficient employment for the people; there is neither work for them nor capital to employ them. The labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done. Sugar cultivation on the estates does not absorb more than 30,000 of the people, and every other species of cultivation (apart from provision growing) cannot give employment to more than another 30,000. But the agricultural population of the island is over 400,000, so that there are at least 340,000 whose livelihood depends on employment other than that devoted to the staple cultivation of the island. Of these 340,000 certainly not less than 130,000 are adults, and capable of labour. For subsistence they must be entirely dependent on the provisions grown on their little freeholds, a portion of which is sold to those who find employment on the estates; or, perhaps in a slight degree, on such produce as they are able to raise for exportation. But those who grow produce for exportation are very few; and they meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute the means of support which is as advantageous to the island as to themselves. If their provisions fail, as has been the case, from drought, they must starve or starve. And this is their present condition. The same result follows in this country, when employment ceases or wages fail.

"The great decrease of coin in circulation in Jamaica is a further proof that less money is spent in wages, through the decline of employment. Were Jamaica prosperous silver would flow into it; or its equivalent in English manufactures, instead of the exportation of silver, which now regularly takes place. And if, as stated in the Governor's speech, the customs revenue in the year gone by, has been equal to former years, this has arisen, not from an increase in the quantities imported, but

from the increased value of the imports, the duty being levied at an *ad valorem* charge of 12½ per cent. on articles such as cotton goods, which have, within the last year or two, greatly risen in price.

"I shall say nothing of the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature; of their abortive immigration bills; of their unjust taxation of the coloured population; of their refusal of just tribunals; of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes. Could the people find remunerative employment; these evils would in time be remedied, from their growing strength and intelligence. The worst evil consequent on the proceedings of the Legislature, is the distrust awakened in the minds of capitalists, and the avoidance of Jamaica, with its manifold advantages, by all who possess the means to benefit by their expenditure.

"Unless means can be found to encourage the outlay of capital in Jamaica in the growth of those numerous products which can be profitably exported, so that employment can be given to its starving people, I see no other result than the entire failure of the island, and the destruction of the hopes that the Legislature and the people of Great Britain have cherished with regard to the well being of its emancipated population.

"With your kind permission I will venture to make two or three suggestions, which, if carried out, may assist to avert so painful a result. 1st. A searching inquiry into the legislation of the island since emancipation, its taxation, its economical and material condition, would go far to bring to light the causes of the existing evils, and, by convincing the ruling class of the mistakes of the past, lead to their removal. Such an enquiry seems also due to this country, that it may be seen whether the emancipated peasantry have gained those advantages which were sought to be secured to them by enfranchisement. 2nd. The Governor might be entrusted to encourage, by his personal approval and urgent recommendation, the growth of exportable produce by the people on the very numerous freeholds they possess. This might be done by the formation of associations for shipping their produce in considerable quantities; by equalizing duties on the produce of the people and that of the planting interests; by instructing the native growers of produce in the best methods of cultivation, and pointing out the articles which would find a ready sale in the markets of the world; by opening channels for direct transmission of produce without the intervention of agents, by whose extortions and frauds the people now frequently suffer and are greatly discouraged. The cultivation of sugar by the peasantry should, in my judgment, be discouraged. At the best, with all the scientific appliances the planters can bring to it, both capital and machinery, sugar manufacturing is a hazardous thing. Much more must it become so in the hands of the people, with their rude mills and imperfect method. But the minor products of the island, such as spices, tobacco, farinaceous food, coffee, and cotton, are quite within their reach, and always fetch a fair and remunerative price, when not burdened by extravagant charges and local taxation. 3rd. With just laws and light taxation, capitalists would be encouraged to settle in Jamaica, and employ themselves in the production of the more important staples, such as sugar, coffee, and cotton. Thus the people would be employed, and the present starvation rate of wages be improved.

"In conclusion, I have to apologise for troubling you with this communication; but since my visit to the island in 1859-60, I have felt the greatest interest in its prosperity, and deeply grieve over the sufferings of its coloured population. It is more than time that the unwisdom (to use the gentlest term) that has governed Jamaica since emancipation should be brought to an end; a course of action which, while it incalculably aggravates the misery arising from natural, and therefore unavoidable causes, renders certain the ultimate ruin of every class—planter and peasant—European and Creole.

"Should you, Sir, desire such information as it may be in my power to furnish, or to see me on the matter, I shall be most happy either to forward whatever facts I may possess, or wait upon you at any time that you may appoint.

"I have, &c.
EDWD. B. UNDERHILL.

"P.S.—I append an extract from the speech of the Hon. H. A. White Locke in the House of Assembly, with respect to the condition of the people.

"He (Mr. White Locke) would make an assertion which could not be gainsaid by his successor, that taxation could not be extended; nor one farthing more could be imposed upon the people, who were suffering peculiar hardship from the increased value of wearing apparel, which was now taxed beyond all bounds; actually they were paying thirty-eight per cent. now, when twelve and a half per cent. was before considered an outrageous *ad valorem* duty. Cotton goods, including Onaburgh and all the wearing apparel of the labouring classes, had increased 200 per cent. in value; what was bought at fourpence per yard before was selling at a shilling per yard. Therefore the people are now paying a penny halfpenny duty on every yard of cloth, instead of one halfpenny which has been justly described as a heavy impost. The consequence is that a disgusting state of nudity exhibited itself in some parts of the country. Hardly a boy under ten years of age wore a frock, and adults, from the ragged state of their garments, exhibited those parts of the body where covering was especially wanted. The lower classes hitherto exhibited a propensity for dress, and he could not believe such a change would have come over them, but for his belief in their destitution, arising out of a reduction in their

wages, at a time when every article of apparel had risen in value. This year's decrease in imports foreshadowed what was coming. Sugar was down again at £11 per hoghead; coffee was falling; pimento was valueless, logwood was scarcely worth cutting; and moreover, a sad diminution was effected in our chief staple exports from a deficiency of rain."

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

SANITARY.—Our City Board of Health are co-operating with the Military Committee appointed for this service, for the purpose of taking such precautionary measures as may be deemed necessary in the way of protection from disease. The Artillery Barracks, the Poor House, and the St. Mary's Schools, comprising a population of about 1550 persons, have no proper sewerage. It is proposed to construct a sewer through Blower Street for that part of the city.

THE ROBBERY of plate at Mr. H. W. Albro's house, has been discovered by information obtained from the Artilleryman in company with the servant-girl at the time. Three other artillerymen, John Egan, William Kelly and Thos. Reynolds, were engaged in the robbery, and had deposited it under a barrel in Salie's premises in Barrack Street. The parties are all under arrest.

THE WESTERN RAILWAY surveyors were at work between Wolfville and Kentville last week.

The *Acadian* says it is rumored that the capitalists of Yarmouth, intend to connect by rail that thriving town with the western termini of the proposed Annapolis road!

STABBING.—On Saturday evening, Captain Watt, of the schooner *Gipsy Bride*, was given in charge of the police for having stabbed on board that vessel two men, named, respectively James Kady and Joseph Inzer. The men were stabbed in the side, and the wounds inflicted are of a serious nature. The schooner was lying at Bennett's wharf. The men were attended to by Dr. Wickwire, who dressed the wounds. Captain Watt denies that he was in his vessel at the time. It will be taken to the Supreme Court for trial.

Joseph Shaw, Esq., Sheriff of Yarmouth, has written to the Provincial Secretary resigning his office, and asking that his name "may not appear among the appointments for the ensuing year."

Our worthy friend states that he is now seventy-one years of age, and has held the office of Sheriff fifteen years. We hope he may be spared yet many more years.

MOUNT HOPE.—Preparations are being made for building the proposed additions to the Lunatic Asylum. Much of the preliminary work will be done during the winter.

LUNENBURG ELECTION.—Abraham Hebb, Esq., is announced as the Candidate on the Opposition Ticket. B. Zwicker, Esq., is also a candidate.

THE COMMISSIONERS TO BRAZIL AND MEXICO.—The following gentlemen comprise the Commission, viz:—

From Canada,—Hon. Wm. McDougall, Provincial Secretary; Hon. Thos. Ryan, Member of Legislative Council; W. S. Duncombe, Esq., Collector of Quebec.

From New Brunswick,—William Smith, Esq., Collector of Customs, St. John.

From Nova Scotia,—Hon. James McDonald, Financial Secretary, and Isaac LeVisconte, Esq., M. P. P.

From Prince Edward Island,—Hon. W. H. Pope, Provincial Secretary.

LIVERPOOL.—The schooner *D. R. Proctor*, from Halifax, N. S., for Plymouth, Mass., owned and commanded by Joseph Free, an Italian, sprung a leak about three miles off Little Hope, on Monday night, 27th ult. The vessel filling rapidly the men lowered their boat, and the painter catching under the stern of the vessel, the boat swamped, and the captain and a seaman, named Charles Elliott, of Plymouth, were drowned. The remainder of the crew, two in number, having righted the boat, made for land, and arrived at Liverpool, N. S., on Thursday last. The captain had between \$400 and \$500 in gold on his person when drowned. The vessel was not insured.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Geo. S. Milledge, Esq., Barrister and Judge of Probate, died very suddenly from an apoplectic fit, at Annapolis, on Sunday the 3rd inst.

TOO GREAT A HURRY.—A boy had a narrow escape from drowning on Thursday night last. As the ferry boat approached the dock on the Dartmouth side attempting to jump, he fell into the water, and was rescued with considerably difficulty.

THE FIREWARRIORS are to wear a small silver badge in future, when in attendance at fire.

THE WEATHER.—We had a sudden change on Thursday evening last, from balmy Autumn to frosty Winter. The horses had not been prepared and several accidents occurred in consequence—some even to the breaking of their legs. One owned by W. Blair was so injured that it was found necessary to shoot the animal. On Friday morning a little snow fell, but on Sunday & the even fall supplied us with excellent sleighing. The cold on Friday is said to have been 11° below zero.

Prince Edward Island.

We are informed that two companies of the 17th regiment lately returned from Jamaica were under orders for Charlottetown to relieve the two companies of 15th now there, who were to return to New Brunswick, but the sudden frost has put a stop to navigation and the order is therefore countermanded.

Governor Dundas of P. E. Island and Lady Dundas, were among the passengers from England by the *Asia* on Friday morning.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday evening last, after the steamer *Heather Bill* arrived at Mt. Stewart Bridge, and several of the passengers had proceeded homewards, an alarm was given that a man and woman fell off the wharf, when happily for the man he was rescued by the mate of the boat. After a long and careful search for the woman the body of a Miss Feehan, of Savage Harbor, was discovered a short distance below the wharf, dead. It is supposed she must have been killed by the fall, as no moan or sound of any kind was heard.—*Ross' Weekly.*

LATEST FROM THE U. STATES.

THE FENIANS.—New York, Dec. 11.—The Fenian Senate is in session in this city, and has deposed President John O'Mahoney from office on charges of perjury and malfeasance, and Vice President Roberts has been chosen to fill his place. The Secretary of the Treasury was also deposed from office. These officers, however, repudiate the authority of the Senate in the matter, and indications of a lively quarrel are in prospect.

These are the parties who set themselves up to rule over Ireland. The Irish could have no greater enemies!

MEXICO.—Official intelligence at Washington from the American Consul at Chihuahua, Mexico, dated Oct. 8th, reports the evacuation of that place by the French troops.

The Fenians in New York illuminated the "headquarters" on Wednesday night, made speeches and otherwise expressed their satisfaction at the news of the escape from prison of the Head Centre in Ireland.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—New York, Dec. 6.—The President's message, delivered in Congress yesterday, is dignified and amicable in tone towards late rebellious States. In reference to the propagandism of Republicanism, the President thinks it no part of our policy. He would have the United States do what Washington sought to impress upon his countrymen, preserve our system of Government for a blessing to ourselves and an example to be imitated by the world; but if the Monarchies of Europe insist on challenging Republicanism to a trial on this Continent, he does not believe the people of this country will hesitate to meet the issue.

Our Foreign relations are satisfactory, save with Great Britain. The proposal of Earl Russell to submit claims mutually agreed upon to a commission, was declined, because the very matter in dispute was persistently left out.

The municipal law of Great Britain, with its domestic interpretation, the President proclaims, will not be assented to by this Government as public law for the conduct of neutrals, but he permits the subject, with this protest, to rest where it is, simply insisting that, for the future friendship between the two countries must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

The correspondence between the United States and France, in reference to questions which have become subjects of discussion between the two Governments, will at a proper time be laid before Congress.

No reference is made to the Reciprocity Treaty, except that he leaves it entirely in the hands of Congress.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

FRANCE.

The French Government has received despatches from Madagascar up to the 7th of October. They state that Baharis, governor of Tamatava, persisted in his refusal to pay to the commander of the French squadron on the station the sum due to the French Government as an indemnity. His refusal was approved by the Queen, and a reinforcement of 1,000 men was sent to him to guard the house where the money is deposited, which raises the force stationed there to 3,000 men, although there is no intention of taking it by force.

SPAIN AND CHILI.

The misunderstanding between Spain and Chili has a threatening appearance. The Spanish admiral is said to have acted in a very insulting manner to the Chilean government. His ultimatum was rejected by the Chilean minister and by both Houses of Congress, and one account says that the action of the Chilean government was approved by the whole diplomatic corps, including the representatives of England, France, and the United States. War has been declared on both sides, and the Chilean ports are blockaded by the Spaniards. The Spanish fleet, consisting of eight ships, is expected to bombard the coast towns. Several British ships were warned off the coast at the time. The commander of the steamer *San Carlos* felt himself compelled to enter a protest against the conduct of the Spanish admiral towards him, the captain declaring that the British flag had been insulted. The Chileans are actively preparing for war.