

nearly 44 years, while many strong ones around have been carried to the tomb, he has now, as is confidently trusted, fallen asleep in Jesus. In such a case "To die is gain."

JOHN E. PEARSON, ESQUIRE.

The subject of this notice was born in Cornwallis, October 4th, 1810. In infancy he was brought apparently to the gates of death. For a length of time he was entirely blind. Though his sight always remained imperfect, yet, possessing strong native talent, and indomitable perseverance, he obtained a good common education, and became a very well-informed and intelligent man.

In youth he professed faith in Christ, and evinced ardent piety. But after some time he fell into a cold state of mind, entered into carnal speculations on religious matters, and, as two often happens with backsliders, was drawn into the pernicious error of imagining that even those who remain through life impenitent and unbelieving will finally be saved.

Happily, however, for him and his, in the early part of the year 1856 there was a powerful revival of religion in Lower Aylesford, where he resided. When two of his daughters became deeply impressed under a sense of their danger as guilty sinners, exposed to wrath, he was aroused to a conviction of the necessity and vast importance of experimental and vital piety, and with these beloved daughters he became again united with the Baptist Church in which he remained to the close of life. During several of his last years he faithfully discharged the duties of a magistrate.

Bro. Pearson was very kind and affectionate in his family, a man of pacific disposition, and of strictly moral demeanor. In his last illness, however, he deeply regretted that mercantile business had too much engrossed his attention, and frequently kept him from prayer and conference meetings. While in great bodily suffering, he was for a time assailed with distressing doubts and fears. But at the close he became quite easy, and hope evidently revived. When his sorrowing wife said to him, "Why they think you are dying," he replied, "Bless God!" Raising his hands, he added,—"Here Lord, I give myself away, 'Tis all that I can do."

He thus died on the 18th day of May, 1865, aged 54 years, leaving a widow and 6 children to mourn their heavy loss.

The following P. S. should have been appended to Rev. E. N. Harris's letter on the preceding page:

The trade of this port (Liverpool) with the West Indies is attended with fearful loss of life. Not only have fathers been taken from us, but young men. Among those who have recently died of yellow fever was James, aged 22 years, the youngest son of our esteemed brother, Isaac Dexter. This son was healthy, and promising every way, and deservedly esteemed by the community at large. He was baptized by Bro. Hobbs, and though he has not walked with the church recently, he is supposed to have been truly converted. His dear mother was quite inconsolable for days, as her heart was, with her husband's, so bound up in this only single son, whom they expected to remain on the homestead with them. They are comforted by letters that speak of his peaceful death after 4 days sickness.

On the 14th inst., Mrs. Mary Laing, aged 33 years; this young mother died in Jesus, of consumption, leaving a husband and three children to mourn their loss. She was one of the most truly resigned of the Lord's afflicted ones. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

E. N. H.

Religious Intelligence.

DARTMOUTH.—Dear Brother,—After the long and gloomy winter has passed away, how pleasant and cheerful is the lovely Spring. After the weeks of darkness, storm, and rain, how delightful to see the sun and enjoy his smiles for a succession of days; still higher is the enjoyment in a spiritual point of view, when the Christian, after a season of coldness and dark clouds, enjoys a clear spiritual atmosphere, the sun of righteousness shining in his soul, the brilliant rays of light and love, cheering him in the path of duty, aiding his feeble path, and unfolding the future to his view with rising hopes. "Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord."

The little church at Dartmouth has experienced a season of darkness and discouragement; but few attended the house of God, or came up to her solemn feasts. But the scene has changed in some good degree. The last Sabbath was one long to be remembered. In the morning the congregation was increased beyond its usual number, and the services pleasant and we hope, profitable to all. In the afternoon we repaired to the place of baptism—a place of much water,—about three miles out of Dartmouth, to administer the sacred ordinance, according to the Lord's command. As we gathered around the water—a place as if prepared for the purpose, where the ordinance of baptism had never been administered before, in the presence of a large number of spectators, many of whom had never seen it in this fashion,—

were expressed that good order might not be observed, and the solemnity of the ordinance might be interrupted. But in this we were happily disappointed. Brother A. F. Porter being with us gave out and sang that beautiful hymn, the 112th of the Psalmist, and then engaged in prayer. All was silent as though waiting for the divine blessing. After reading select portions of the word of the Lord on the subject, with a few appropriate remarks, followed the administration of the ordinance. Two persons in the bloom of life, who had witnessed a good confession of faith in Christ, were immersed in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All was solemnity, and it seemed as though the Holy Spirit was present to bless it to many precious souls. In the place of any derision, there were the penitential tears in many eyes, which, when we saw, "we thanked God and took courage," hoping soon to have the pleasure of again visiting our Jordan. May the Lord hasten it in his time. The fields are white already to the harvest. Truth is mighty and will prevail.

OBED PARKER.

Dartmouth, May 22nd.

Mission to Walton and Kempt.

Having been appointed a mission to Walton and Kempt shore, I wish to make the following brief report through the columns of the Christian Messenger:

WALTON is a small but thriving village, depending chiefly upon ship-building and plaster quarries; the other resources, such as the manganese mines, fisheries, and cultivation of the soil, are not as yet receiving much attention. Like most villages, the different denominations have their representatives, and like most other places, too, there is found an outlying mass of worldliness and formal profession of religion; so that in common with many other places it presents a field for Christian exertion which ought not to left uncultivated, unquestioned, unreproved and uncared for. There are but few Baptists in Walton. They have, however, a very good Meeting-house, and when there is preaching and the day fine, there is a large congregation. I had the pleasure of baptizing one person, an aged widow. The brethren shewed me every kindness, especially F. Parker, Esq., of whose hospitality I received during my stay at Walton.

KEMPT SHORE.—The Rev. B. Vaughn, the pastor of the Kempt Baptist Church, has for the past few months been unable, by reason of ill health, to attend to his pastoral duties. I received a cordial welcome from both pastor and people, and supplied, during my short stay, the various preaching stations in the bounds of the church. The congregations were not large, owing to the unusually wet season; my appointments, however, were all kept, and frequently the attendance much better than I expected. They are a united church, but they lamented their spiritual lethargy and weakness. Amidst the smouldering embers I found many sparks of living fire.

ROBERT R. PHILP.

Sackville, May 22nd, 1865.

YARMOUTH CO.—Rev. W. L. Parker writes from Acadia, May 22nd: "I see by the C. Messenger that there have been Revivals in several of the churches. We are not without some tokens of God's mercy. I have baptized four this month. There are others whom we expect will soon be baptized. We have great reason to thank God, take courage, and labour on, knowing that the Lord will never leave himself without witnesses."

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the supporters and friends of this Society was held on Wednesday, May 3rd, at Exeter Hall, London. The Earl of Shaftesbury, president of the Society, occupied the chair, and was supported by a large number of gentlemen interested in the work of the Society. The vast hall was densely crowded, the greater portion of the general assembly being composed of ladies. The Rev. S. B. Bergue, one of the secretaries, read the annual report. At the present time the Societies in connection with the British and Foreign Bible Society were stated to be:—In Great Britain, 3,894; in the colonies and other dependencies, 1,154; Ireland, 495; foreign societies, with branches, about 4,000; making a total of about 9,543. When the Society was first established the translations of the Bible, in whole or in part, may have been about fifty, but since that time the number has greatly increased. It appears that there are now 169 languages or dialects. The Society has promoted the distribution, printing, or translation of the Scriptures directly in 125 languages or dialects, and indirectly in 44. The circulation of the Scriptures had shown also a great increase. Last year alone it was, at home and abroad, 2,450,127. The receipts during the last year amounted to 187,454, 11s. 9d. The expenditure was, during the past year, 169,742, 13s. 10d., being 18,866 more than in the preceding year.

THE LONDON RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY held its 69th annual meeting at Exeter Hall, on Friday, the 5th inst., the Earl of Harrowby in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Davis, the secretary, read the report, which showed that during the past year the Society had issued upwards of 300 different books and publications, in addition to 74 tracts and the well-known series of the Leisure Hour and the Sunday at Home order. The total circulation had been 41,794,653. This was the home service, and the Society besides aided kindred Societies in different parts of the Continent and in India, China, North America, the West Indies, Australia, New Zealand, and Africa. The numbers of publications issued in those different places were shown to be enormous, the Hamburg Society having distributed 189,300 tracts, besides 10,000 copies of the "Pilgrim's Progress," which books were given, at the expense of the London Society, to the Austrian and Prussian soldiers. The total receipts of the Society during the year had amounted to 110,928, being an increase of 3,122, over the previous year, and the total expenditure to 109,479. The benevolent receipts, including legacies, had amounted to 13,856, and the grants to 14,626.

AUSTRIA.—In Austria, notwithstanding the declaration of religious liberty, instances of persecution are still not infrequent. A working tailor from the North of Germany has, it appears, actively propagated his belief in Hungary, where there are now 2,000 persons who profess the new religion of the "pure doctrine of Jesus Christ." Two men of this sect, which is known as that of "The True Believers," have been apprehended at Vienna, and subjected to the penalties of imprisonment. From their examination, it would seem that thirty or forty persons were accustomed to meet privately with them for the reading of the Bible and prayer; and that they are Baptists.

RUSSIA.—It is generally known that a very considerable number of Mennonites of West Prussia, and of German and Swiss Protestant colonists (about 68,000), have at different periods (since the time of the Empress Catherine II. and the Emperor Paul I.) been invited to settle in South Russia, where they obtained most favourable privileges and rights. Through temporal prosperity they were gradually brought to religious poverty and destitution. About twelve years ago a remarkable religious awakening took place in some of the agricultural colonies, and without any direct influence from without, as it seems, a large number of them became Baptists. They were violently persecuted by their former co-religionists, often beaten and maltreated by them, and rendered suspected before the Russian authorities; but they found an influential protector in the Governor of the Caucasus, the Grand Duke Michael, through whom they obtained new settlements on the River Kuban. In August, 1864, a new persecution broke out against some colonists of New Dantzic, which seems to have been carried on till now with great cruelty and injustice. A year ago, some farmers of the colony of New Dantzic, near Nicolaet, in South Russia, dissolved their connexion with the Lutheran Church and joined the communion of the Baptists. Several efforts were made to bring them back to the former, but these efforts failed, even when the alternative was placed before them either to recant their errors or to be exiled.

TURKEY.—In Turkey also cases of persecution occur, which indicate an increasing hostility to Christian progress. Meanwhile a new chapel has been opened in one of the suburbs of Constantinople; and, although impeded by recent restrictions, missionary operations are still energetically carried on.

PERSIA.—From Persia Dr. Perkins reports that the work of God prospers; and that the female seminary under his charge has been visited by a gracious revival.

American and Foreign News.

LATEST FROM THE STATES.

[From Telegrams to Associated Press.]

TUESDAY, May 23.—President Johnson has issued a proclamation declaring all Southern ports, with the exception of those of the State of Texas, open to commercial intercourse after the 1st day of July. Any violation of the restriction upon commerce, with ports in Texas will be punished as piracy. Persons trading in violation of the laws of the United States cannot thereafter claim belligerent rights and privileges but will be treated as pirates. Some documents lately found among the rebel archives at Richmond were presented in the assassination trial yesterday. They show that the policy of assassination was entertained by Davis and his Sec'y of war. Lieut. Lovett, a witness, was fired upon Sunday night by four men while returning home. Evening.—The Herald's Mobile correspondent announces the surrender of the rebel fleet in the Tombigbee River, on the 9th, comprising two commodores and 150 other officers and 12 vessels.

WEDNESDAY, May 24.—Jeff. Davis was transferred yesterday from the steamer Clyde to one of the casemates of Fortress Monroe. His parting with Mrs. Davis and children is said to have been very affecting. The Steamer Asia, which sailed for Liverpool to-day, took two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in specie. A wagon load of specie, amounting to \$243,000 had been found in the woods near where Jeff. Davis was captured.

THURSDAY, May 25.—Advices from Havana to May 20th, report that the rebel pirate Stonewall has been placed in the hands of the Captain General of Cuba, as a deposit, and her officers and crew paid off and sent ashore. Kirby Smith has refused to surrender. Alex. H. Stephens and other notorious rebels have been sent to Fort Warren.

Washington correspondents assert that all rebel officers concerned in the atrocious starvation of Federal prisoners will be excluded from the benefits of that amnesty proclamation, also the Fort Pillow murderers and all proprietors of great landed estates will be required to take the oath of allegiance.

The great review closed yesterday by the inspection of Sherman's Veteran Army.

Evening.—Assassins' trial adjourned yesterday to allow the Government time to examine rebel documents forwarded to the War Department.

It is said President Johnson will refer the question of negro suffrage in States late in rebellion to the loyal white citizens.

FRIDAY, May 26.—The surrender of the rebel ram Stonewall to the Spanish authorities is confirmed.

A despatch from Toronto states that the case of Blackburn, charged with sending infected clothing into the United States, has been postponed to the next assizes. Blackburn gave bail in \$8000.

Evening.—A French paper, published in the city of Mexico, says the condition of Mexico occupies the serious attention of the French Government; and the Emperor has said that he is resolved to maintain her honor established at the cost of French blood. Speaking of the probable intervention of the United States, it says that those European powers, France, Austria, and Belgium, are bound to sustain the Empire: a conflict the United States will not provoke.

The Herald's Washington despatch says information has been received here that Kirby Smith intends marching across the Rio Grande to tender his services to Maximilian. His movement will be prevented.

SATURDAY, May 27.—The Grand Jury for the district of Columbia has found true bills of indictment against Jeff. Davis and Breckenridge for High Treason. Breckenridge is still at large.

The amount of cotton in Georgia is estimated at 300,000 bales. It is being moved to Savannah for shipment.

Strong Federal forces are concentrating in Texas to clear out the rebels in that locality. Gen. Sheridan is in command.

Evening.—The Tribune's Washington despatch says the Attorney General has decided that the amnesty proclamation becomes void, owing to the suppression of the rebellion; that the decrees of confiscation are in full force, and that the exercise of Executive clemency cannot be extended to the future.

In Mobile quiet and order prevails; trade is improving; goods are arriving in large quantities from New Orleans by every steamer.

MONDAY, May 29.—General Canby, under date New Orleans of the 26th, officially announces to the War Department the surrender of Kirby Smith, and the Confederate forces of the Trans-Mississippi Department, including the men and material of the army and navy.

In evidence taken on Saturday at the trial of the assassins, a copy of the order of the Confederate Secretary of War, J. A. Seddon, was produced, authorizing the raid on St. Albans.

Evening.—A New Orleans despatch of the 26th states that the ordnance depot and magazine at Mobile exploded at 2 o'clock yesterday. The shock was terrific. The city shook to its very foundation. Eight squares of buildings were destroyed. Five hundred persons were buried in the ruins. Loss \$800,000. Cause of the explosion not yet ascertained.

There will be nearly one thousand persons released within a few days who were sentenced to imprisonment during the war. Gold 136.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

FRANCE.

The Emperor Napoleon has issued the following proclamation to the inhabitants of Algeria:—"THE EMPEROR TO THE INHABITANTS OF ALGERIA."

"I come among you to learn in person your interests, to second your efforts, and to assure you that the protection of the mother country shall not fail you. You have for a long time past combated with energy two obstacles—a virgin soil and a warlike people; but better days are at hand. On the one side, private companies are about to develop by their industry and their capital the fertility of the land; on the other, the Arabs, restrained, and enlightened with regard to our own benevolent intentions, will no longer be able to disturb the tranquility of the country. Have faith, then in the future. Become attached to the land which you cultivate as to a new fatherland, and treat the Arabs in the midst of whom you must dwell, as fellow-countrymen. We must be the masters, because we are the more civilized; we must be generous, because we are the stronger.

"Let us, then, justify unceasingly the glorious act of one of my predecessors, who, in planting, 35 years ago, on the soil of Africa the banner of France and the cross, unfurled at once the sign of civilization and the symbol of peace and charity. NAPOLÉON III. Algiers, May 2, 1865."