

February 22, 1865.

## THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

**GOLD MINING.**—The Gold Commissioner has given his returns of the operations at the different gold fields during the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864. The following are the returns for the month of October:—Mines, 93; men, 778; quartz crushed, 2265 tons; total yield, 1890 oz. 12 dwt. 10 grs.; mills, 30-24 steam, 12 water power.

For November.—Mines, 92; men, 778; quartz crushed, 2330 tons; total yield, 2198 oz. 5dwt. 10 grs.

For December.—Mines, 89; men, 772; quartz crushed, 1520 tons; total yield, 1428 oz. 11 dwt. 9 grs.

Total yield of Gold for year 1863, 14001 oz. 14 dwt. 17 grs. Year ending 1864, 20022 oz. 18 dwt. 13 grs.

The value of the gold stated above as being raised in 1864, (which does not embrace all taken from the mines, because it is impossible to obtain complete returns) at \$20 per ounce, is \$100,458. The returns for 1864, as compared with those of 1863, exhibit an increase in the yield of gold in favor of last year of 6021 ounces.

The export of coal from Cape Breton during the year just passed, exceeds 325,000 tons. Of that quantity, probably over 200,000 tons have been sent from what are termed the "New Mines."

Dr. Tomkins, formerly pastor of the Congregational Church at Larmouth and subsequently of Gorham College, Liverpool, has recently paid a visit to those two places. He was on his way to the United States in connection with the operations of the Freedman's Aid Society of London. We learn that he intends to give a series of lectures with an account of his visit, in one of the London periodicals.

We perceive by New Brunswick papers that the Editor of the *Presbyterian* and the Rev. Mr. Brewster are engaged in a spirited controversy, as to who was the Goddess of wisdom—Minerva or Diana.—*Reporter.*

**New Brunswick.**

**THE ELECTIONS.**—The nomination of the candidates for the City and County of St. John, N. B., will take place on Monday, 27th February; polling day for the County, Friday, 3d March; for the City, Saturday, 4th March; and declaration day, Monday, 6th March. In York, nomination day will be the 24th inst.; polling day, 2d March; declaration day, 6th of

March.

**LATEST FROM THE STATES.**

(From Telegraphs to Associated Press.)

TUESDAY, Feb. 14.—The report that the powerful iron-clad war vessel built at Bordeaux and sold to the Danish Govt. had been transferred to the rebels causes much interest at Washington. The Danish Minister denies the report.

The past week has been the most inclement experienced for a long time. 15 inches of snow fell in Philadelphia on Sunday.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15.—Lieut. Cushing, of the Navy, has made a successful expedition up Little River, South Carolina, destroying property, and seizing a considerable quantity of cotton, and freeing many slaves.

A Federal force was marching on Columbia, South Carolina.

It is said that Sherman's troops are devastating all portions of South Carolina through which they march.

Evening.—The St. Albans raiders' case at Montreal is still progressing. A messenger, with documents from Richmond, arrived there day before yesterday.

Southern papers state that a large Union Cavalry force, estimated at 40,000, passed down the Mississippi River on the 27th ult., en route to New Orleans. They are supposed to soon operate against Mobile.

THURSDAY, Feb. 16.—Gen. Terry and Admiral Porter threatened Wilmington on Saturday last, the troops advancing from Fort Fisher. The advance was led by colored troops. The rebels were driven to their main works, and we gained a few miles more ground, and took 100 prisoners. Union loss sixty to seventy.

Union meetings are being held throughout Georgia. The Governor and majority of the Legislature are said to be in favor of calling a Convention.

FRIDAY, Feb. 17th.—Richmond papers of the 16th indicate that Sherman's advance cavalry is as far north as Florence. Telegraphic and railroad communication with Charleston is destroyed, thus showing that Sherman has struck N. E. Railroad running from Florence to Charleston.

Advices from Mexico via Havana, state that

the French had been defeated in three several engagements at Oaxaca with heavy loss.

In Sonora, also, the Imperialists had been badly whipped.—It is reported the French commander

Bouzine was severely wounded.

Evening.—Exchanged prisoners arrived at Annapolis to day, and report when in Richmond a rumour prevailed there that Sherman had been checked and Beauregard killed.

Raleigh Progress, of North Carolina, says South Carolina is willing to make peace on any terms.

SATURDAY, Feb. 18.—A courier arrived at Fort Fisher from Gen. Sherman on the 12th, and reports that Sherman captured Branchville, S.C., after three days' hard fighting.

A Rebel naval force consisting of 12 officers

and 100 men were captured by a Federal force

near Smithfield, Va.

Evening.—Lieutenant Cushing made a reconnoissance up Cape Fear River to the very narrows of Wilmington, where he gained valuable information. Gen. Schofield landed his forces of 20,000 veterans at Alasonborough, and now closely besieges Wilmington.

Sherman is 25 miles South East of Columbia.

A despatch from Quebec says the Canadian House of Parliament last night in committee passed the estimate for \$30,000 dollars for expenses of the Volunteers to be sent to the frontier to prevent Southern raids on the United States; also 50,000 dollars to make good the money improperly returned to the St. Albans raiders.

MONDAY, Feb. 20.—Gen. Beauregard has officially announced the capture of Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, by Sherman, without serious resistance.

Evening.—The Richmond Examiner just received, officially announces the evacuation of Charleston, S. C., last Tuesday.

Advices from Army of the Potomac state that the desertions from Lee's army for ten days past have averaged 70 per day.

Gold, 200.

INDIANS IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.—The Miner publishes an interesting correspondence of a French Canadian, Louis Orleans, who had gone as miner into the gold region of the Colorado territory. The digging were paying well until the mines were treacherously attacked by the Indians, and the war of extermination began. The miners are organized in three regiments. The fighting is very severe, and no quarter is granted on either side,—squaws and papooses being massacred like the rest. The writer, who, for his bravery, has been promoted from the ranks, is now in hospital seriously wounded, and with great pains saved from being scalped.

FRANCE.

We hear from Marseilles that the French Ambassador at Rome has given a decided message to the Papal Court: He is said to have declared that France had exhausted every means

of conciliation, and the Convention would now be fairly carried out. It is believed that the proceedings of the French Government in regard to the Encyclical and the Bishop will form

a subject of warm debate during the approaching session of the Senate. One of the cardinals is, it seems, about to raise the question and to complain of the conduct of the Government,

and it is rumoured that Prince Napoleon will

play a prominent part in the debate likely to ensue. The Italian Convention will also, no doubt, be eagerly discussed in the Senate as well as in the Representative Chamber.

The conscience of strict Catholics has been

greatly shocked by the news that the Prince

Imperial's banquet to 120 schoolboys was given

on a Friday—a day on which, according to the

rules of the Church, no flesh should be eaten.

It has been endeavoured to attenuate the serious character of this event by the remark that

children under seven years of age are not required to abstain. But it is to be feared that

many of the young guests were much older.

The Opinion Nationale thus treats of the matter:—"Abomination of desolation!" At the

Prince Imperial's lunch to the lycéen sandwiches were served. Think of that! Sandwiches—that is to say, slices of ham between

slices of bread on a Friday, before midnight!

Horrible, most horrible, as Macbeth says.

It is in vain that extenuating circumstances are

pleaded, and the question discussed whether all

the boys were not under the fasting age. We

are too scrupulous to go into these nice distinctions, and we tremble to think of the disasters

which may be the consequence of this impiety.

Unhappy prince! Unhappy France! For the

first time in our lives we regret that we are not

a bishop, and so entitled to evoke the shade of

Nebuchadnezzar or Semichachis!

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Sherman is 25 miles South East of Columbia.

THE LATE CYCLONE IN INDIA.—I see that

the news of 12,000 persons having been lost in

the cyclone was received with incredulity in

England. The estimate was wide of the truth,

but only because it vastly underrated the calam-

ity. As every one who knows this country will

readily conceive, there is no possibility of ascer-

taining precisely the loss of life, because

hundreds might be swept away and leave no

trace behind. But we are not without data for

arriving at a conclusion, and it has now been

calculated that there cannot have been fewer

than 60,000 persons drowned or otherwise killed

by that fearful storm. Times Calcutta Cor-

respondent.

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