

"did you ever endeavor to learn to play upon an instrument?" would immediately reply "why no! I never supposed such a thing possible!" And yet such persons ever affirm their inability to become musical. The non-musical world is largely prevented from attempts at progress by such shallow and absurd reasoning and conclusions as this; otherwise society would be largely blessed by the co-operation of many of those who now declare their utter destitution of musical talent. Thousands upon thousands live and die ignorant of the sterling abilities they possess, locked up within their souls, behind an ungovernable voice, whose dreary lives might have been hallowed by instrumental performance and the joys of musical cultivation and refinement, had they only been possessed of sufficient energy to prompt them to a first attempt upon some simple instrument. Thousands of excellent performers, to, in the musical world were never yet known to sing or whistle a tune. One of the first instrumentalists of N. S. to-day is of this class. Many of the most eminent instrumentalists possessed no voice till art supplied it in some rudely sculptured reed flute, or the rough hewn shell of pine or spruce which gave them a violin, and which native genius, with knife and fire, after long tedious application and assiduity shaped into something like a caricature of the prince of instruments.

The most talented persons seldom accomplish as much as mediocre genius, when prompted by unflagging energy. It is to this latter class that society chiefly owes its greatest obligations.—Such persons are capable of being taught a great deal, but are incapable of originating or accomplishing much themselves; and, constantly seeking assistance from the skillful, until they occupy high positions in society, they command the admiration which none more deserve, and a pampering world is willing to call them geniuses.—Then, again, and on the other hand, circumstances have power to stimulate the unsuspected but slumbering, latent fires of genius, which no sense of need has hitherto required in assistance of life's responsibilities, and thus men and women sometimes suddenly change to the world, and become what it long convinced itself they were not. The old truism that the "strength is given to the burden," originated itself from this simple fact of the presence of dormant powers which only needed to be *urgently required*, in order, by some sudden coincidence of circumstances, or sudden and mighty throes of energy, to be brought forth from their long imprisonment and made useful. Then the possessor himself is astonished at his own genius; and the world looks on and smiles in pleased amazement.

Religious Intelligence.

HALIFAX NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH.—Rev. J. E. Goucher baptized four persons on Lord's Day last. In the evening they, with three others, by letter, were received into the fellowship of the Church.

ARCADIA, YARMOUTH Co.—Rev. W. L. Parker writes, Dec. 9, 1866.—*Dear Brother,*—Our hearts have been cheered of late, by some additions to the South Yarmouth Church. I had the privilege yesterday to baptize four, and one a short time previous, four of whom are heads of families. There are others who seem deeply impressed about their soul's salvation. We feel much encouraged to labour on, knowing "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

CHESTER.—Rev. I. J. Skinner writes, Dec. 8rd: "Yesterday we had the pleasure of again visiting the water side for the purpose of administering the ordinance of baptism. The Rev. S. T. Rand was with us, and preached morning and evening with much acceptance. May it be as seed 'sown on good ground.'"

We were glad to hear from Bro. Skinner a week or two previously that on two occasions four persons had been baptized on a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus.

RELIGIOUS REVIVAL AMONGST THE FRENCH ACADIANS AT ST. MARY'S BAY.—Rev. C. Randall writes as follows on the 5th inst: "You and your numerous readers will be glad to hear that the Lord is blessing the labours of our esteemed Bro. Normandy, especially in the North Range district, St. Mary's Bay, where several families embraced the cross of Christ some years since.

Our brother left home some four weeks since, in order to prosecute his agency in behalf of the Mission premises at Saulnierville, as stated by Rev. R. D. Porter, Secretary of the French

Mission Board, in *C. Messenger* of 21st ult.; but stopping a few days among his people in the place above named, he saw that his Master evidently had work for him to do there. On consulting us, we advised him by all means not to leave the ground under existing circumstances, as no one else could fill his place there. The Lord has graciously smiled upon the efforts put forth, and a number of precious souls are hopefully converted to God; some of them are French, several are children of French converts, and some English. Twelve have been baptized by Brother Normandy, and it is expected that more will be baptized next Sabbath. The Lord be praised."

PRESBYTERIAN.—The Rev. C. M. Grant is to be inducted to the charge of St. Andrew's Church this evening. Service commencing at 7 o'clock.

The ordination of Mr. John Forrest and his induction over the congregation of St. John's Church, College Hall, Gerrish Street, will also take place this evening commencing at 7 o'clock.

The Presbyterian congregation at Stewiacke has divided itself into two—Lower Stewiacke, under Rev. Dr. Smith—and the Upper (now Springside) is vacant, and asks the Presbytery for a minister.

Colonial and Foreign News.

New Brunswick.

The postage on pamphlets has been reduced from one cent to half-a-cent per ounce.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.—William Slocomb, belonging in the neighborhood of Port George, in this Province, was drowned in the harbor of St. John, N. B., on the evening of the 4th inst. He was on board of the schr. *A. M. Stone*, which had just arrived; the schr. *Harvest Home* was going out when the vessels fouled. Slocomb was pushed overboard, and owing to the darkness of the night and the *A. M. Stone's* boat being ashore with passengers, it was found impossible to pick him up. The body has not been recovered.

Last Tuesday evening a young man named Gillespie, about 20 years of age, fell from the steamer *Empress* as she lay at her wharf in St. John, preparing to leave for Windsor, and was drowned. It is supposed that he was under the influence of strong drink at the time.

Michael Daley, a hand employed on board the steamer *New England*, lying at St. John, fell overboard from that vessel on the 2nd inst., and was drowned.

Alfred S. Gross, in the 22nd year of his age, son of Richard and Mary Gross, of Coverdale, Albert Co., was drowned while in the act of driving deal on the Turtle Creek.

THE ST. JOHN RIVER.—The navigation of the St. John River has ceased for the present season, although the weather is remarkably mild.

Canada.

[By Telegraph.]

HAMILTON, C. W., Dec. 5.—The Provisional Government has purchased in this city, to be forwarded to the Paris Exhibition a collection of native stuffed birds, said to be the best of the kind on the continent. The Government has also purchased a splendid set of furniture for the same destination.

Extensive improvements are being made in the military buildings to accommodate the new artillery equipments. In addition to guns and harnesses of a new pattern, field batteries have been supplied with the Spencer rifle.

MONTREAL, Dec. 5.—A private letter states that the only remaining descendant of Columbus will shortly visit America.

A large number of French Canadians are returning from the States, for want of employment.

It is reported that a secret Fenian meeting has been held at St. Alban's, but nothing serious is anticipated.

TORONTO, C. W., Dec. 5.—A man, named James McDevitt, hailing from New Brunswick, has been arrested here for using seditious language, daring the Government to hang the Fenians, etc. He will be examined to-day.

OTTAWA, Dec. 8.—The whole of the Volunteer Battalion in Canada have been supplied with new and complete equipment of gun carriage, stores, ammunition and harness, which has given great satisfaction to the officers and men as placing them in a condition to take the field with effect at a moment's notice. Among those who have thus been newly equipped are the field batteries at London, Welland, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec.

QUEBEC, Dec. 7.—Lord Monck and Sir Narcisse Belleau left last evening for Montreal. The harbour is still open. It is snowing fast.

The *Montreal Transcript* learns from a reliable source that from 15,000 to 17,000 rifles were sold in this city on Fenian account, within a few days. Destination unknown.

TORONTO, C. W., Dec. 7.—In the matter of the condemned Fenians the Sheriff to-day received instructions from the Government to make no preparation for the execution, inasmuch as a respite is granted until the 13th March.

THE HON. MR. MCGEE AND THE FENIANS.—At a recent Concert, where the audience consisted of Irishmen, Mr. McGee spoke of the condemned Fenians. The *Montreal Gazette* gives the following report of his speech:

"Those men deserve death. (Hisses.) Mr. McGee coming forward to the foot-lights repeated—Those men deserve death—(hisses renewed)—don't run away with a semicolon—(laughter). I repeat deliberately, those men deserve death (hissing); but I will add that the spirit of our times is opposed to the infliction of capital punishment where any other punishment can reach the case, and in these cases I hope it may be found possible to temper justice with mercy. (Cheers.) As to the handful who hissed just now in the far corner, if I had not stood between them and the consequences of their criminal sympathies—some of them would be sharing to-day the fate of those fairly tried and justly condemned men. (Sensation and a few hisses). Yes, I have held in that hand (holding out his right hand) the evidence of your criminal folly, and I could have put some of you where you would not hiss or hear much, but you were not worth prosecuting. You may be worth watching, and there are those among yourselves, I can tell you, as there were among the Toronto Fenians, who are keeping a good account of your ingoings and outgoings. Mr. McGee then said perhaps he ought not to have noticed these few disturbers of the meeting, and continued his remarks to the end."

All the judges have agreed in refusing the application for a new trial in the cases of Mc Mahon, Lynch and School, Fenian prisoners.

LATEST FROM UNITED STATES.

NIAGARA CANAL.—A conference of Western Boards of Trade and chambers of Commerce, will be held at Chicago on the 11th inst., for the purpose of deciding upon such concerted action as will secure the passage, during the present session of Congress, of the bill for securing the immediate construction of the projected canal around the Falls of Niagara.

DESPERADOES.—An attempt was made at Bangor on Tuesday night last to break jail, by ten of the inmates, the ringleader of whom is said to be Thomas Sears, described as a desperate character, and said to hail from Woodstock, where he not long since stabbed a man. The attempt was unsuccessful, and Sears was badly wounded in the shoulder by a bullet from the keeper's pistol.

It is proposed to build a railroad from New York to Albany, on the west side of the River Hudson.

A RAILROAD ACCIDENT occurred at Zanesville, on the 4th, by the breaking of a large iron bridge over the Muskingum River, the eastern bound express train was crossing at the time, the engine, tender, two Adams Express cars, one baggage and one passenger car, were precipitated 60 feet to the rocky bottom of the river. It is not known yet that any persons were killed, but many were seriously and perhaps some fatally wounded.

At the time of the accident two empty engines were crossing on the down track, one of which escaped with the loss of the tender. This train contained the passengers from St. Louis and Cincinnati, destined for Baltimore and Washington, and was the regular connection of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad by way of Bellaire.

ARMS AND LEGS.—During the last four years the Government has supplied to disabled soldiers about 4000 legs 2240 arms, 9 feet and 55 hands—and it has about 1000 more limbs to distribute.

THE FENIAN leaders are in favor of an immediate attack on Canada. They state that they have 20,000 men ready to take the field!

REV. DR. PRIESTLY, a Presbyterian clergyman of Pittsburg, has been dismissed on charges of cruelty to his wife, indecent and profane language and adultery.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—London, Tuesday Dec. 4.—The following are the opening quotations for U. S. securities:—U. S. 5-20's of 1860 70 1-2; do of 1865 69 1-2 Erie R. R. Shares 77. Despatches received from Berlin, Frankfurt and Hamburg, quote U. S. bonds firmer. The acceptances of Abraham Frost & Sons have been protested.

London, Tuesday evening, Dec. 4.—The *Morning Herald* declares the rumors that have been circulating disensions in the British Cabinet of the probable retirement of D'Israeli are without foundation. The same paper announces that the Royal Commission upon the Neutrality Laws has been formed and consists of thirteen members, the most eminent of whom have already been announced.

London, Wednesday, Dec. 5.—The Message of President Johnson has had no effect either to lower or raise prices of American Securities, nor has it had any appreciable influence upon the general money market.

Mr. Fox, Asst. Secretary of the U. S. Navy, is visiting the British Navy Yards. He is received everywhere with a great deal of courtesy and afforded every reasonable facility to compare English navy yard management with U. States. The *London Times* in an editorial article of this morning fully agrees with the policy of the President of the United States, as set forth in

his annual message to Congress. It frankly declares that the Alabama claims ought to be settled promptly and amicably. It expresses deep regret that the whole matter was not compromised and thus disposed of at a much earlier date than the present.

Dec. 6.—It is reported here to-day that the Emperor Maximilian has telegraphed by the Atlantic cable that he will soon land at Gibraltar.

Two more regiments of troops and a company of Engineers, have been ordered to leave immediately for Ireland. The Board of Admiralty have ordered three iron-clads, of the Home fleet to sail for the Irish coast.

Dec. 7.—The *Post* demands of the Government a rigid investigation into the Fenian organization in England.

A rumor is circulating here and on the continent that the Czar of Russia has invited France and England to take some measures by which the three Governments may arrive at a mutual understanding in regard to affairs in the Island of Candia.

ENGLAND.—London, Dec. 8.—The Fenian troubles in Ireland are evidently assuming still more alarming proportions, as it is reported here to-day. In addition to the troops already despatched to that Island, two cavalry regiments have been ordered to leave immediately for the scene of disturbance.

Dec. 9.—The Egyptian Council has passed an address eulogizing the officials of the Viceroys of Egypt for their courage, zeal and ability in subduing the Candian revolt.

Despatches from Candia state that the Cretans are submitting to the power of the Turks, all means of further resistance having been exhausted. The report that the Cretans had blown up a convent garrisoned by Turkish troops is confirmed, but the loss of life among the Turks was small.

Liverpool, Dec. 5, noon.—The cod market opened steady at yesterday's quotations. The Manchester market is quiet and unchanged.

Dec. 7.—All the Depots of arms in this City have been placed under armed guards. The excited state of feeling among the Irish population renders these precautions necessary.

IRELAND.—Dublin, Dec. 7.—Purposes and proceedings of the Fenians in this Island monopolize the attention of the Irish Government. The Grand Lodge of Orangemen have held a meeting and issued an earnest call for all the members of their order to support the Government in their endeavors to keep the peace.

SCOTLAND.—Edinburgh, Dec. 8.—In spite of repeated denials which have been made on all sides, the *Scotsman* to-day reiterates the statement that there had been some trouble in the British Cabinet, and insists that D'Israeli chancellor of the Exchequer, had threatened to resign his post unless the Government accepted a reform bill, liberal in its provisions. The *Scotsman*, however, adds, that Lord Derby yielded to the urgent demands thus made for a more liberal policy on the part of his administration, and by this action a ministerial crisis is averted.

FRANCE.—Paris, Dec. 7.—The French officers held their farewell interview with the Pope yesterday.

The French vessels of war have blockaded Corea.

FRANCE.—Paris, Dec. 8.—The *La France* this morning asserts that Maximilian has telegraphed to some of the physicians attending the Empress Carlotta, to meet him at Gibraltar, by the middle of December.

Paris, Dec. 9.—The *Patrie* of this morning announces that the convention on the subject of the Papal debt, the provisions of which have been for a long time under discussion, has been formally signed.

ITALY.—Rome, Dec. 7.—The officers of the French Regiments which have not yet left this city, took a formal leave of the Pope at the Vatican yesterday.

Dec. 9.—Another one of the French regiments left this city yesterday, on its return to France.

Florence, Dec. 5.—It is asserted that the Pope has agreed to receive the Envoy of the Italian Government for purposes of negotiation.

Vegazzi has declined the mission to Rome, and a deputation will be sent in his place.

SWITZERLAND.—Berne, Dec. 9.—M. Formero has been chosen President of the Swiss Confederation.

PRUSSIA.—Berlin, Dec. 7.—The Crown Prince of Denmark visited the King of Prussia to-day.

Hanover.—Dec. 5.—The King of Hanover by the advice of the English Government has released the officers from their oaths of allegiance.

AUSTRIA.—Perth, Dec. 7.—The Hungarian Diet has agreed to the address to the Emperor of Austria proposed by M. Deak the leader of the Hungarian Party.

RUSSIA.—St. Petersburg, Dec. 9.—An imperial ukase has been issued, declaring all the relations of Russia with the Pope of Rome abrogated, and annulling all special laws of the empire which have heretofore been made in accordance with said relations.

EGYPT.—Alexandria, Dec. 5.—John H. Surratt, is now in custody of the American Consul at this place, Mr. Hale.

I. S. Johnson & Co., of Bangor, are the manufacturers and proprietors of four standard patent medicines, to wit; Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, Parson's Purgative Pills, Blood's Rheumatic Compound, and the popular Cavalry Condition Powders.