

and his heart too. Not length but strength is desirable. A sense of need in a mighty teacher of brevity. If our prayers had less of the tail feathers of pride and more wing they would be all the better. Verbiage is to devotion as chaff to the wheat. Precious things lie in small compass, and all that is real prayer in many a long address might have been uttered in a sentence as short as that which burst from the soul of the sinking Apostle.

Our extremities are the Lord's opportunities. Immediately a keen sense of danger forces an anxious cry from us, the ear of Jesus hears, and with him ear and heart go together, and the hand does not long linger. At the last moment we appeal to our Master, but his swift hand makes up for our delays by instant and effectual action. Are we nearly engulfed by the boisterous waters of affliction? let us then lift up our souls unto our Saviour, and we may rest assured that he will not suffer us to perish. When we can do nothing Jesus can do all things; let us enlist his powerful aid upon our side, and all will be well.—Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, MAY 2, 1866.

"TIMES OF REFRESHING"

are being enjoyed by many of the Christian churches in this and other countries. Converts are being received into the fellowship of the church, and believers are rejoicing to see the manifestation of power from on high. We know not the designs of the Almighty or the extent to which he proposes to influence the minds of men. At the great day of Pentecost the hearts of thousands were changed in a few hours. The word preached was made efficient in the uprooting, not only of prejudice, but of bitter hostility against the name of Christ, and of destroying the hatred of those who had crucified the Lord of life and glory. We are not aware that there is anything in the case of those who are being converted now more favorable than in that of thousands living around them, who listen to the gospel with them, and others in their immediate vicinity who are altogether indifferent. It needs but the Divine power brought to bear on the hearts of men, and they would forthwith yield a ready submission, the hearing ear would be followed by the understanding heart, the "means of grace" would be sought and the grace of the means would be given; multitudes would become obedient to the faith, and great joy would be the result, as in former times.

All men need salvation. The gospel is the only power of God to effect salvation. These are only common place remarks which will be admitted by all christians, and yet they are facts which relate to the greatest matters on which the mind of man can be engaged. There have been large displays of mercy through the agency of the church at different ages of the world, and we are warranted in believing that there will be similar displays, and even more extensive and powerful movements than any yet recorded. May we not then regard the present ingathering as the first-fruits of a plentiful harvest.—a guarantee that God is ready to bestow blessings and to answer the petitions of his people. When believers are acting in harmony with the divine arrangements and following in the footsteps of Jesus—doing the will of their Father and seeking the salvation of souls—then they may look for the manifestation of "power from on high."

We may be on the eve of a great reformation in which the prayer spoken of by the prophet Ezekiel chapter xxxiii; 37, is to be offered and answered: "Thus saith the Lord God: I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock." If this be the case it will be readily admitted that this is a crisis of no small moment, and it requires that the under-shepherds—the ministers of the gospel—be well prepared to stand in their lot, and point those who would flee from the City of Destruction to the Cross as the only way to the Celestial City. Christian people, too, should be awake and active, so that converts may be ushered into a living church and commence their new relationship with an improved tone of piety. Not settling down into a state of security without repentance and holiness, or profession without activity in doing good.

Whatever may be the purposes of the Most High respecting the extent or continuance of these revival influences, this is a time of His visitation, and all should be watching, and in a state of preparedness for receiving the blessing.

RITUALISM IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Whilst both church and state have shewn themselves unable to control the ritualistic tendencies of certain parties in the State-Church of England, there is no abatement, but rather an increase of those practices in certain places. The following is an account of the Good Friday performances in the church of St. Alban's, Grays-inn-road, London, as given in the London Guardian:

"Our old English custom was for the deacon to cense the middle of the altar thrice, then to deliver the censer to the acolyte, and, attended by him and by other acolytes bearing lighted tapers, to walk in procession to the rood-loft or chancel steps, whence he read the Gospel "versus aquilonem." The symbolical meaning of all this was tolerably obvious—the Epistle being addressed to the Church was read towards the enlightened quarter of the heavens; but the Gospel is a thing to be preached to the people that walk in darkness, and those who bring glad tidings are to get up into the high mountains; so it was read from the rood-loft, towards that quarter whence the sun never shines. After the Gospel, the clergy at St. Alban's take up their position in a line at the centre of the altar; but at the words, "One God," in the Creel, the Deacon ascends the footpace to the right and the Sub-deacon to the left. (The same thing is also done at the Sanctus and the Gloria in excelsis) At the Offertory there is the most elaborate censing of all. The Celebrant having performed the oblations at the altar, delivers the thuribulum to the Deacon, who censes him thrice; he then comes down into the choir and censes each clergyman present twice; then the choir each side twice; and, lastly, the Sub-deacon twice. The acolyte then takes the censer, and, coming down to the chancel steps, gravely bows to the congregation, and swings the censer once due west; then he turns to the men on the south side and repeats the ceremony, the men gravely bowing in return.—Lastly he censes the women. After the Prayer of Humble Access the choir sing, "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosannah in the Highest." Then the consecration takes place, the Deacon standing at the right hand of the Priest and the Sub-deacon behind him. At the words of institution they all profoundly bow, after "This my Body," they kneel; and then, all rising, the Celebrant elevates the Sacrament, saying, "This do in remembrance of Me." The same ceremony is repeated at the consecration of the chalice. Incense is here burnt for the last time. In this respect the old English use differed from the Roman for reasons which are thus stated by Dr. Littledale in his tract just published:—

"As incense is merely a type of Christ's intercession, it most fitly appears at the Introit, because only through Him have we access to the Father; at the Gospel, which tells of His Very Manhood; and at the Oblation of the Elements, because only through Him can any offering be accepted, but after the consecration, when He is present actually, and not merely virtually or by symbol, the shadowy type is ritually superfluous."

THE United States press are making merry over the Fenian "scare" in the provinces. It is, perhaps, as well that the array of force on the part of the Britishers has compelled those filibusters to retire after receiving a significant warning from the Washington government. A late number of the New York Examiner indicates that no favor need be expected by those robbers of a flag-staff, from the United States authorities. It states:—

"The action of the Fenian Brotherhood has been confined to speech making—a style of making war in which they have few equals, and no superiors. It is very noisy, but very harmless, and we hope they will stick to it. They have not yet divulged their object in making a demonstration against New Brunswick, nor what they intend to do in case they succeed in effecting a landing in any part of the Province. To ordinary observers, the attempt looks like a piece of senseless bravado, without purpose, and without hope of success. What good would it do them to take Campo Bello, or any town in New-Brunswick? A temporary success of this kind, so far from elevating them into the rank of belligerents, would not only call down upon them tenfold vengeance from the military power of Great Britain, but would compel our own Government to take measures to prevent the abuse of our territory. The first brush of actual war will be the signal for the arrest of Fenian agitators in this city, and the pulling down of the green flag that flouts its ridiculous folds on the borders of Union Square. We are not sure that the Government ought to wait for an actual attack on British territory before proceeding against the Fenian organization. Unlike most societies, it has a distinct military character, and it was formed for the sole purpose of making war on a power with which we are on friendly terms. Its existence is a menace, and a source of unpleasant feeling. Our laws forbid combinations of this character, and this one has certainly not the least claim to consideration or forbearance.

It should be understood, at any rate, that the United States will be no parties to any war that may grow out of Fenianism. We have had enough of war during the last four years. If Ireland wants to throw off the "British yoke," she must rely on herself to do it, and not seek to draw us into the struggle. We have less sympathy with the movement because of its utter hopelessness. A rising in Ireland, unsupported by foreign powers, could not last a day against the military power of England. Raids into British-American territory would amount to nothing more than the burning of a few farm-houses, the butchery of a few men,

and the hanging of all the raiders captured. We do not anticipate any such occurrences. The great Eastport Convention, with its secret expeditions and formidable oratory, will probably turn out to be merely a last resort to keep up the Fenian fervor, and quicken the slackening flow of contributions into the Fenian treasury."

We believe still that the Fenian movement is neither more nor less than a money speculation on the part of some of the troublesome spirits who want employment since the conclusion of the war.

The Saturday Reader, published by W. B. Cordier & Co., Montreal is a cheap weekly Magazine of a highly popular character. It proposes to supersede the vicious and trashy literature which has so abounded in Canada as well as the United States, and supplies mental food of a more wholesome and useful character.

MURDOCK'S HISTORY, No. 14 is published. The narrative is brought down to 1775, and gives a full account of matters at the commencement of the American war, and the excitement occasioned in Nova Scotia by that contest between Britain and its principal colonies on the American continent.

NEWS SUMMARY.

THE Cunard steamer Africa arrived on Thursday last, with news to the 14th ult.

The war cloud is still hanging over the European continent. We trust it may dissipate without bursting and shedding human blood. No question of liberty is at stake. The two great parties in the quarrel are still exchanging angry words, which may at any moment come to blows.

The Fenian troubles have pretty well ceased in Ireland. The Fenian power of doing mischief is, we trust, also crushed out by the foot of General Meade being put upon them at Eastport. His statement that he would bring 50,000 men to the frontier sooner than allow those madmen to make incursions from the frontier will have a tendency to restore confidence on both sides of the border.

Notices, &c.

Donation Visit.

DEAR EDITOR,—Allow me gratefully to acknowledge the continued liberality of my friends here, in extending to us their seven bi-annual donations. On the 23rd of February we were invited to the hall occupied by the British Good Templars, where arrangements had been made to spend the evening in social entertainment. The hall was very tastefully decorated by the young people for the occasion.

The evening passed in pleasant conversation and music, vocal and instrumental. At the close of which a donation of \$34 in cash and \$31 in goods, was presented to us, which, together with \$25 before and since received in wood and other articles, makes a total of \$90 which is very handsome for the circumstances of the people. These are cheerful gifts and God loves the cheerful giver. I have been proving the voluntary free-will offering system for the last nine months, and have every reason to love it. No person has been asked to subscribe or give so far as I know for my support. Faith in God's promises is constantly called into exercise and constantly honoured. It is good to trust in Him who hath said "Trust in the Lord and do good so shalt thou dwell in the land and verily thou shalt be fed." Ps. xxxvii 3.

A. W. BARSS.

Ragged Islands, March 1866.

WE were sorry to hear from Milton that the week before last some copies of the Messenger did not arrive. The parcel was sent just the same as usual. There must have been some mistake in the Post Office. We hope they have been received.

"ELITE."—The publication of your communication would give the writer, to whom it refers, some cause of complaint; now he has none.

Letters Received.

H. B. Mitchell. C. H. Harrington, Esq., \$24.—Omitted week before last. Asaph Marshall, Esq., \$7.50. J. W. Barss, Esq., G. W. Freeman, \$20. A. J. Lebetter, \$5.10. Charles Eaton, \$1. Rev. J. C. Morse, \$2. W. S. Raymond, Esq., C. H. Harrington. Rev. Dr. Tupper. Rev. E. N. Archibald—Will be \$1.50. E. Taylor. H. H. Morse, Rev. A. Martell.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

Provincial Secretary's Office, 21st April, 1866.

APPOINTMENTS:

Annapolis Co.—To be Justices of the Peace—George Murdoch, Samuel Daniels, Abraham Youngs, William Riordan.

Cape Breton Co.—To be Justices of the Peace—Charles J. Clarke, Joseph Martell, Senior, Benjamin Barke, Edward Mullins, Norman McDonald, Michael Slatery, Walter Young. To be Health Officer for the Port of Sydney—A. D. McGilvery, M. D., in place of L. Johnson, M. D., removed to Cow Bay Mines.

Pictou Co.—To be a Health Officer at the Port of Pictou—George A. Christie, M. D., in place of Dr. Kirkwood, removed. To be Justices of the Peace—John McDonald, (Angus' son), John McDonald, (John's son), Donald McLean, (Archibald's son), William McGilvery, Charles McKinnon, (Widow's son), Charles McDougall, William Cameron.

Halifax Co.—To be a Health Officer at Portuguese Cove—Thomas Pryor, M. D. To be members of Board of Health, Portuguese Cove and Ketch Harbour—Richard Fleming, John Whelan, John Farcell,

Edward Bear. To be members of Board of Health, St. Margaret's Bay—James Croucher, Wm. E. Brim, Thomas Meagher, James Fraser, John E. Slatford, Frederick Hubly, George Daugherty, George Garrison.

Victoria Co.—To be a Board of Health—Charles J. Campbell, Esq., Joseph Hart, Dr. Cameron, A. B. Morrison, William Kidston, Junr. To be Justices of the Peace—James Crowds, Junr., Levi Hart, C. N. Campbell, Neill Hillis, George Ingraham. To be Registrar of Shipping for Baddeck—William Kidston, Junr., in place of A. F. Halliburton, resigned. Lunenburg Co.—To be Issuers of Marriage Licenses—G. Publicover, Blandford, William Nichols, New Germany.

The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance met at Windsor on Tuesday evening 23th ult. A number of brethren from Halifax were present; about sixty representatives were in attendance from different parts of the province. The prospects of the Order are highly encouraging.

There has been almost a famine of paper in Halifax lately, arising from supplies not having arrived from England. We have in consequence been paying an enormous price rather than disappoint our subscribers or diminish our issue.

We are informed that herring have recently been taken in large quantities in Northumberland Straits.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—A few days ago a man named McCarty was accidentally killed at the Acadia Company's wharf at New Glasgow. He fell a distance of some twelve or fifteen feet, and only lived a few minutes afterwards.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The Commission for the Nova Scotia department in the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1867, began its work by a meeting in the Legislative Council Chamber on Thursday last. Hon. Dr. Tupper was elected Chairman, A. McKinlay, Esq., Vice Chairman, Dr. Honeyman, Secretary.

THE CHOLERA PATIENTS are reported fast recovering and ready for removal from the Quarantine ground. No new cases have occurred. Dr. Pryor reports from Portuguese Cove the cases are progressing satisfactorily.

We learn from the Reporter that Dr. Wickwire had been nominated, assistant Health Officer for boarding vessels coming into the harbor, by the late Dr. Slayter before he went to the Quarantine ground. Dr. W.'s offer to go and attend the Cholera patients could not therefore be accepted.

WAVERLY.—Four Churches and a Market-house are now in course of erection at Waverly. All these buildings are said to be of respectable dimensions. A number of dwelling houses are also being built at this flourishing locality.

A woman named Boughton, of Dartmouth has been committed to jail on a charge of infanticide.

ACCIDENT.—A man and woman were thrown from a vehicle in the vicinity of the Ball Court, Cogswell street, the former having a collar bone broken, and the latter rather severely bruised.

Advertisements are out for tenders to complete the outfit of the steamer Druid, now lying at Dartmouth.

THE LEGISLATURE is expected to rise to-morrow Thursday.

Two of the country constituencies Lunenburg and Guysborough have been making demonstrations of hostility to their members, for the votes given by them on the Union question.

Some benevolent individual who declines publicity for his good deed, has presented the Episcopal Church, Dartmouth, with an Organ, valued at £150.

The list of deaths in our present issue includes that of W. W. Bent, Esq., of Amherst. He was highly esteemed, having filled several offices of importance, and represented that township eight years in the Provincial Parliament. We tender our sympathy to the family and friends.

Our militia Naval Brigade met in the Dock-yard last week for outlast drill. There were 138 men in attendance. It is said that the Vice Admiral intends to have a water-side Battery erected at Point Pleasant for this branch of the Militia service.

Canada.

All Petrolia might have been bought a few years ago for \$200,000, and it is now considered worth \$250,000,000.

The Volunteers are being recalled from the frontier. The apprehensions of Fenian attacks are subsiding.

Two volunteers, belonging to a company in Quebec, who conducted themselves in an insubordinate manner, were sentenced to seven days confinement in the military prison at hard labor.