

in the Romans that believers are buried with Christ by baptism. I never particularly noticed the passage until recently, and I was at once satisfied that I had never been baptized, and I shall not be happy until I am."

Not long after this he fulfilled his convictions. It has been my privilege, during the course of my ministry to administer the sacred rite to about two hundred persons, and I have seen not a few of them go on their way "rejoicing." But I never saw one happier than our brother. Many who witnessed his baptism, may remember with what holy exultation he exclaimed as he came from the water "Glory be to God, glory be to God." Thus does God set the seal of His approval on His own ordinances, and bless those who keep them as they were delivered.

A few more years of patient suffering, firm trust in God, and holy endeavour followed, and then the Master called "Come up higher," and he went up in joyful triumph. Dear old Elisha rests with God, and amid the countless throng of the glorified, we believe there are none who love Jesus with intenser fervour, or praise Him in a loftier strain.

This simple story has its lessons. Let us in closing record them.

"Sin abounds," "grace much more abounds." So affirms Paul. The incident recorded sustains both assertions. With what security Satan appeared to hold his hapless deluded vassel in his iron grasp, yet how complete, lasting and glorious, was the rescue. So, more or less, will the saved realize, when from heaven, they look to the hole of the pit from whence they were digged, and the rock from whence they were hewn, and are "compassed about with songs of deliverance." Thus does infinite wisdom and goodness often place sin, in its degrading power, and grace, in its wondrous triumphs, in close proximity, that we may see the evil of one and magnify the riches of the other, and that we may never despair of a sinner's salvation, while life continues, and Jesus pleads.

## Religious Intelligence.

DIGBY CO.—Rev. L. B. Gates informs us that: "a series of meetings has been held at Hill Grove, which have resulted in a blessing to the church; difficulties have been settled, backsliders reclaimed, and a week ago last Sunday he baptized two rejoicing converts. Others have professed faith in the Saviour."

CANADA.—CHEERING NEWS FROM STORRINGTON.—Bro. J. M. Breaux writes to the *Canadian Baptist* from Battersea as follows:—"The Lord is still working here in convincing his people of the necessity of following the example of the Great Head of the Church in the ordinances of his house. Last Sabbath we were again called to visit the baptismal waters. One year ago last month there was a church organized in the township of Storrington, and I was ordained as their pastor. At the organization our number was fourteen, and now our number is over thirty; and we expect there will be more additions by baptism before Christmas. Two years ago I came into this township, and as far as I had any knowledge I was the only Baptist here, except my wife; and I did not expect that such great results would follow; but truly the works of the Lord are mysterious and his ways past finding out."

RITUALISM.—The Earl of Shaftesbury has written a letter upon Ritualism, in which he says:—"It is said—and truly said—that the laity have the power in their own hands. No doubt; but will they come forward and exercise it? Will they address their bishops, memorialize their clergy, leave no abuse unnoticed, sustain one another, and sink all minor differences to subserve the common cause? If they will do this, we shall be secure. If from a variety of reasons they decline to do so, a miracle alone, and nothing else, will save the Reformation in Great Britain."

The *Isle of Wight Times* gives a detailed account of the funeral of Archdeacon Wix (late of Newfoundland). We extract a few sentences by way of illustration:—"The body, surrounded by many lighted candles, remained in the church all night, being watched by several loving ones. On Thursday morning at ten there was a high choral celebration of the Holy Communion. Incense was used at the offertory and during the singing of the "Dies Irae," at the conclusion of the service, the body was duly incensed by the celebrant, the sub-dean holding the cross at the foot of the coffin, having on either side of him an acolyte holding a large lighted candle. At half-past three, previous to starting for the cemetery, the coffin was incensed again by the son of the deceased, the Rev. Hooker Wix. The "Nunc Dimittis" was then sung, and the procession proceeded to the cemetery. The processional cross was carried by the crucifer in violet cassock and cotta. At the cemetery the prayers were, of course, sung. Dr. Neale's splendid hymn, "Safe home," was sung with touching tenderness, and the mourners, clergy, and choir threw wreaths, bunches of flowers, and everlastings into the grave, until the coffin was nearly hid from sight. The hymns, "Jesus Lives!" and "O Paradise!" were then sung in procession, and the mortal

remains of Archdeacon Wix were left in his last home amidst the prayers and tears of a large body of the vast assemblage. Another report states that "the clergy acting as pall-bearers were attired in cassock, surplice, violet stole, violet sash, and biretta; the organist in violet cassock cotta, violet sash with scarlet tippet, and zucchetto; while the lay clerks, choir boys, and acolytes wore cassocks, cottas or surplices, and college caps or birettas."

There is a Christian church in Southern India, the bell of which was made of the metal idols brought by native converts to the missionaries for that purpose.

## American and Foreign News.

### LATEST FROM UNITED STATES.

RAPID GROWTH IN THE WEST.—We learn from the *Winona Ma. Democrat*, that the population of the state of Minnesota was in:

1850.....	U. S. Census.....	5,345
1857.....	Territorial Census.....	160,037
1860.....	U. S. Census.....	172,022
1865, June.....	State Census.....	250,000
1866, December.....	Estimated.....	360,000

From this it appears that in the last year and a half there has been added about 110,000, or about 44 per cent., to the population. It is supposed that in 1870 there will be not less than 7 or 800,000 people in that state.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Congress reassembled yesterday after the holiday vacation. The constitutional amendment passed the New York State Senate yesterday.

Jan. 7.—At a Fenian Convention held last night, the astounding disclosure was made that James Stephens had retired from the Fenian Brotherhood and that he is still in New York. His conduct is attributed to cowardice. Brig. Gen. Gleason was appointed his successor.

The *St. Paul Press* says the quality of the wheat in Minnesota this year is much inferior to that of former years. The grain is shrunken. The average yield per acre, it is feared, will fall below fifteen bushels.

MEXICO.—*City of Mexico*, Dec. 27.—An imperial decree has been issued, ordering a new enrolment of property, to be taxed for the support of the Government, embracing every known description of property within the jurisdiction of the Empire. Taxes are to be paid every other month of the year, under penalty of compulsion and payment of costs.

Gen. Donai commands the French forces at Puebla, where Maximilian was living in a most private manner. The City Council welcomed him in an address, praying for the prosperity of the Empire and the consolidation of the nation.

Col. Bravo and three of his chiefs, Mexicans, have been shot by the Imperialists.

### LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—*Northampton*, Dec. 26.—The yacht *Henrietta* arrived at the Needles, off the Coves, at 5.45 last evening.

The *Fleet Wing* arrived at 2 o'clock, and the *Vesta* at 3.30 this morning.

The Board of Admiralty gave orders that every facility should be tendered the yachts by the officers on duty in the English Channel.

The members of the Royal Yacht Club extended a magnificent and cordial reception to the crews—the American yachtsmen being invited to visit the Queen at Osborne House.

The *Henrietta* won the race in thirteen days and two hours.

The *Fleet Wing* lost four men in a gale. The owner of the *Henrietta* challenges any yacht in Europe.

COWES, Dec. 28.—The yachting party visited Osborne House, one of the residences of the Queen, this morning, and were courteously received by Major General Seymour, who conducted them about the Palace and grounds; after which a sumptuous lunch was served for the party.

This evening the Commodore of the New York Yacht Club, Captain Bennett, and their yachting friends will dine with Lord Lennox.

His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, who manifests great interest in marine sporting matters, will be present.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—We have a repetition of the rumour that the Christian powers will intervene in the affairs of the Greek subjects of Turkey. The *Times* of this morning expresses a belief that a collision is daily growing less likely, but adds, "If the eastern question should come up, England will be disposed to let events take their course without any effort to shape them to her wishes."

Dec. 31.—Capt. Bennett and Mr. McVicker have visited the Queen and dined with the Duke of Edinburgh. He has been invited to the Mersey Yacht Club's ball at Liverpool, which is to follow the regular yearly review of the squadron.

A large portion of that part of the Crystal Palace which has been used for the exhibition of Tropical plants, was destroyed by fire early this morning. The damage amounted to nearly one million and a half dollars.

The *Times*, this morning, has a complaining editorial on the toleration of the Fenians by the United States Government.

The British American Conference, which has been in session here for a long time, has, at last, removed all difficulties, and agreed on a basis for a Confederation bill to Parliament.

Jan. 2.—The case of the ship *Tornado*, which was seized near Callao, during last October, upon the charge of attempted blockade breaking, has been up in the Spanish Court of Admiralty and the seizure confirmed.

The Paris papers declare that a rupture between the sublime Porte and the Kingdom of Greece is too likely to take place at any moment; and the *Morning Herald*, commenting on the probability of such an event, says England will remain rigidly neutral in the matter, and adds that the British Government has already warned Greece of the consequences.

Jan. 4.—The American yachtsmen by royal invitation went to Windsor Castle to-day. The doors of all the London Clubs have been thrown open to the yachtsman and they are warmly welcomed wherever they appear in this city.

Great preparations are being made by the Royal Thames Yacht Club for the banquet which they will give to their brother yachtsmen to-morrow.

The *Times* of this morning, in an editorial on the relations of England with various powers, says that with the powers of Europe their relations rarely if ever, have been better. The only difficulty, it says, seems to be with the United States, and with them it is most desirable that the greatest friendship should prevail. It urges upon the Government a speedy and amicable adjustment of all outstanding difficulties.

A telegram from the East announces that the Porte has consented to allow foreign ships of war to convey away any such persons as wish to emigrate from Candia.

It is also reported that the Turkish forces have been successful in another battle with the Candians.

There has been a great snow storm here, the highways and railroads are blocked up. The snow having drifted badly. Vessels have been delayed, the fisheries suspended, and the poor are suffering.

Jan. 5.—A grand demonstration in behalf of reform is projected for the first Monday of the meeting of Parliament, by the presentation of petitions for reform by individuals in person.

COWES, Jan. 4.—Prince Christian made a visit to the American yachts yesterday and was received with all the honors.

The *London Freeman* says: England is not to go to war with Russia again; the heirs to the throne of each country have married sisters; and more than that, Messrs. Baring have confidence to introduce a Russian loan of £6,000,000 to English investors. To these it matters little to what purpose the money is applied. Five per cent, for £86, and certain small additions, it is thought, will seem better now than railway debentures and preference stock. Of course, the greater part of the money will be spent on breech-loaders, iron-clads, and turret-ships, and 600-pounders, and another part in completing the conquest of Central Asia. But we are not to fight over the Eastern question and better have Russian governors for our neighbors in India, than barbarians who behead English visitors.

By the arrival of the *Australasian* at New York on the 29th ult., we learned that the Queen had subscribed £200 for the relief of the sufferers by the colliery explosions.

No more Fenian arrests had been made, and the alarm was subsiding.

The United States had brought an action in France against M. Armed, for the restitution of two million two hundred and eighty thousand francs, which it claims as the price paid by the Confederate agents for ships of war.

The French police had seized a proclamation said to have emanated from Gen. Prim, calling upon the people of Spain to rise and revolt.

IRELAND.—*Dublin*, Jan. 8.—Six suspected persons were arrested here last night by the police. They came to this city from Liverpool, at which port they arrived a few days ago from America. It is supposed that they are emissaries of the Fenian organization.

FRANCE.—*Paris*, Dec. 28.—It is rumored that the U. S. have entered into negotiations with the Spanish Government for the cession of the Island of Minorca.

Jan. 1.—The *Moniteur* publishes a telegraph from the United States, which declares that French ships are placed on the same footing as American vessels. In which cases the *Moniteur* says that vessels bearing the American flag will be free of all navigation fees in French ports.

Jan. 3.—The *Moniteur de Soir* officially says, the relations of France with all the powers are most satisfactory, and that Mexico will be evacuated by the French troops as soon as March 1st, without regard to anything Maximilian choose to do.

Jan. 4.—Napoleon presented Mr. Bigelow with a copy of his works on the latter retiring. The American residents have invited the gentlemen of American yachts to a grand banquet in this city.

Jan. 5.—Despatches received this morning announce the occurrence of a terrible earthquake in Algeria. Many villages were destroyed and a large number of lives lost.

Jan. 6.—The *Patrie* newspaper denies the truth of the widely circulated report, that France has asked England for a conference on the Eastern Question, and asserts that France has arrived at an agreement with Turkey, such as the preservation of the peace of Europe imperatively demands.

SPAIN.—*Madrid*, Dec. 31.—The Cortes has been dissolved by the Queen.

Jan. 2.—The Spanish Government has decided to send a fleet of four Iron Clads to the Pacific.

PORTUGAL.—*Lisbon*, Jan. 4.—The King of Portugal opened the session of the Cortes yesterday. In his address he invited their attention to the organization of the army and expence of slavery in the colonies.

RUSSIA.—*St. Petersburg*, Jan. 4.—Great interest is felt here in the recent ocean yacht race. The Imperial Yacht Club proposes to extend an invitation to the adventurous gentlemen to visit Russia.

PRUSSIA.—*Bremen*, Dec. 28.—Official orders have been received to arrest Prussian subjects about to migrate from the Kingdom, thus intending to evade the national militia.

Jan. 4.—The effort of Napoleon to form a quadruple alliance failed.

England favors an alliance with Prussia, provided the independence of Belgium is guaranteed.

Jan. 6.—The Duke of Augustenburg has given in his allegiance to the King of Prussia, and relieved the people of Holstein from their oath of allegiance.

ITALY.—*Florence*, Dec. 29.—The bad feeling between Greece and Turkey is increasing, and war between the two powers is seriously threatened. The Italian parliament has adopted the address of King Victor Emmanuel by a large majority.

The Pope, in his address to the Corps Diplomatic on New Year's Days, significantly dwelt on the hypocrisy of his pretended friends.

Jan. 6.—Advices from Rome state, that Signor Tornelli has so far progressed in his negotiations with the Papal Government, that he is enabled to make a verbal agreement on certain religious points.

The King of Italy has opened his Chambers with a speech which strikes us as remarkably able, in regard both to his Italian and his European audience. It is with justice described by the *Daily News* as—

Adroit without dissimulation, frank without indiscretion, severe without offence, conciliatory without weakness, resolute without rashness.

It has the accent of that restrained content with which a leader not unconscious of many faults and failings, congratulates his comrades and followers on the felicities of fortune, and warns them gently but firmly of the obligations which the bounty of fortune brings. As far removed from arrogance as from a false humility, neither coldly reticent nor idly exultant, it takes courage from the efforts—not always the successful efforts—of the past, and addresses itself without discouragement or ostentation to the great problems of the present and future.

The King naturally rejoices in declaring to twenty-five millions of his subjects that they are henceforth free from all foreign domination, and that with the sympathy of all civilized people.—The good understanding with the French Emperor, the moderation of the Romans, the wisdom of the Pope, and the Catholic sentiments of the Italian people, will "aid us to distinguish and conciliate the Catholic interests, and the natural aspirations which are interwoven and contending with each other in Rome." He wishes that "the Sovereign Pontiff should remain independent at Rome"—there can be little doubt he will be more independent than he has been for centuries, and Protestantism will feel the difference to its injury unless spiritual religion and growing intelligence counteract the activity of priestcraft working through superstition and asceticism. The King reminds the people that now Italy possesses as the bulwark of her independence the ramparts which once served to oppress her, her people's efforts must be directed to her internal prosperity, and that they must not fail in that activity which created the wealth and power of their ancestors. Self-control, self-reliance, conciliation, order, industry, are the advice of the speech.—*Freeman*.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

The correspondent of a Plymouth journal complains that in his previous letter, when published, "Tom Beest, the Christian minister," was by a typographical error, substituted for "Von Beust, the Austrian minister."

THE JAMAICA MASSACRE.—Ramsay, the Provost Marshal, of Morant Bay, notoriety, has (says the *Kingston Morning Journal*) "been dismissed not simply from the police in which he held the appointment of inspector for the precinct of St. Catherine, but from the public service."

GAVAZZI.—It is stated that Father Gavazzi has mysteriously disappeared. He was last heard of as being present with a portion of the Italian army moving against Austria in Venetia. Since then, though diligent inquiries have been made by his friends, no intelligence whatever has been received of him.

The military tribunal of the canton of Berne has been appealed to, to decide on a singular case of conscience. M. Merri, tailor, refused to serve in the National Guard from the motive, that, having joined the Anabaptists, he had become convinced that to carry arms was contrary to the injunction of the Holy Scriptures. M. Merri was condemned to banishment from the canton as long as he should refuse to serve.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—The longest message yet transmitted through the Atlantic Telegraph was a despatch from the United States' Government at Washington to the American Minister at Paris. It was sent through and consisted of more than 4,000 words. It occupied ten hours in transmission, and was sent at the average rate of seven words per minute. The cost of the message was over £2,000. The message, if printed, would occupy about three columns of a daily paper.