

MRS. PHEBE MASTERS.

It pleased God on the 14th of September last in the 69th year of her age, to release from the sufferings of this mortal life Mrs. Phebe Masters relict of Abram Masters. Our departed sister walked with the Church of Christ about forty years, having been baptized by Rev. George Dimock. During her last illness she was calm and peaceful in the prospect of death. It afforded her great delight to hear her friends sing some good old song of Zion, which she had learned in her youthful days. She was surrounded by her own children till her last moments here. As a Church our numbers are being diminished. One by one they are falling. May God, who we trust has taken our sister to himself, fill up the breach he has made in our ranks by adding to his Church of such as shall be eternally saved.

On Lord's Day a sermon was preached by the writer to a large congregation of relatives and friends, from Psalm lxxiii. 24.—*Com. by Rev. George A. Wethers.*

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from New Brunswick.

SAINT ANDREWS, Dec. 27, 1856.

Dear Messenger,—

I have been laid by from public ministrations for a number of weeks by ill health. These afflictions are doubtless designed by the Master to be borne patiently by the sufferers.

I must not omit to mention certain solaces which have a counterbalancing effect in times of trial. My brethren of St. Patrick's and St. David's churches, to whom I preach the gospel, have come forward with good will and donations to the amount of \$80.00 more than threefourths of all in cash, God reward them many fold.

In my confinement I have beguiled the time by poring over my books, I have passed through D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation from the commencement to the death of Wolsey, five volumes; Dr. Cramp's Reformation in Europe, referring occasionally, where points verged, to Hume's History of England, and other good works until my eyes complained that they were over taxed. But let me be reading what I may, with weak vision or strong, when my old acquaintance, the Messenger, comes, all is laid aside until I am in possession of its report for the past week.

[Our friend here offers some compliments on the management of the Messenger in matters of controversy &c., which we must be excused for omitting. It would be really too much for our feelings of modesty to publish them in full. Had it not been for this we should have inserted it two weeks since. He gives us credit for receiving the missiles of our antagonists, so that they fall to the ground shattered in pieces, but do us no real harm. He proceeds:]

With all your armor on, Bro. Messenger, we would be foolish to consider you invincible or invulnerable, but then there is a very ancient material of intrinsic value and unbounded virtues, it is abundant yet very much too little in use, it is having your armor plated with this material that accounts for your success in conflict. The article is not so much unknown as it is neglected—it is TRUTH. It comes forth with expressions of force and power, Thus saith the LORD.

We live in an eventful period, the reigning Pontiff losing his temporal power at home, and the right arm of his strength paralyzed by Prussia. Great Britain and America in daily conversation. God is at the helm; the Scripture is being fulfilled, Has He said it and will he not bring it to pass?

Yours truly,
A. D. T

For the Christian Messenger.

New York Correspondence.

One of our friends in New York has given us a few thoughts on things as they are in that city and country, which may be acceptable to our readers. He did not probably write them for publication, but as they will indicate somewhat the interest taken in communications made to our pages, we venture (although it may severely tax our modesty) to lay them before our readers, without appending the writer's name.

New York, Jan. 7th, 1867.

DEAR BROTHER,—

I had, long ago, intended writing a letter of thanks [in addition to the cash in advance enclosed.—Ed.] for the regular receipt of your welcome excellent Messenger. I use the adjective "excellent," because I mean it. Not merely because of that peculiar excellence first seen at a glance. The systematic execution, carried out even to the wrapper,—yet I stop not here; as did the lady connoisseur, when called into the studio for her opinion of the just-finished and framed group of a distinguished family in Boston: A coterie, composed of the originals and friends, the artist and his friends,

waiting, in portentous silence, the verdict of Mrs. Aristocratos, who, after having viewed the picture in the best light, exclaimed—"What an excellent frame!" The party adjourned in genteel silence. But sir, I am not inclined to adjourn upon the description of the frame only. Albeit, I take the "New York Observer" which is excellent in everything both spiritual and material. "Irenæus" is one of the salt of the earth. I take the "Independent," the "Atlantic Monthly," a periodical without its rival for its varied intelligence, I take other papers and periodicals also exhibiting genius of the true stamp. But I file the Halifax "Christian Messenger," with the best of those above named, all for something in the picture more excellent than the frame." I call to mind your laconic uncompromising style in your careful analyses of thought, exhibited in your editorial commentaries.

I call to mind an excellence which pervades the pen of that erudite theologian Dr. Cramp—His commentaries upon the revision of the Scriptural translations,—also an able communication of his to the London Baptist Magazine (several months since,) upon the subject of "Inspiration," &c. A letter to the Messenger a few weeks ago signed "Sigma," should be read in all the Christian Churches. We often have in your Messenger the true language of Canaan, emanating from various, seemingly unfavourable, sparsely settled, regions of Nova Scotia. These also sparkle like "diamonds in the desert;" and shed a glorious halo through its medium. I remember to have noticed a few weeks ago a letter from this State, the gentleman who claimed country's birthright with yourself, by recalling youthful scenes and halcyon bygone days down at "Margate" and its adjacent shores, verifying the sentiment of the poet;

"Dear is the spot to which his soul conforms,
And dear the hill that lifts him to the storms—
So the loud whirlwind and the tempests roar
But bind him to his native mountain more."

His description of the political condition of the United States and our comparative relationship with the British Provinces were well and prettily written—and were then correct enough. But he might have told you the singular fact that we cannot claim the privilege in these days, (yes, in these years) to have any present; or any certainty of what may be termed a Status, or certainty of facts in future. All we can claim is, a better reason for hope, while we survey the more promising and still brightening political horizon.

Our present Congress, both senators and representatives, are, (with but few exceptions) highly intelligent, truly patriotic, and fully adequate to the trying task of that seeming impossibility; a reconstruction of the late rebel States, and bringing them into harmonious action with what must be for a time at least, the general Government. While unparalleled lenity and Christian forbearance are being extended to them. Yet you see by exchanges that a reorganization must and will be effected. Our southern neighbors are looking for chances to "turn up" from a war with England about the Alabama claims—or with France in relation to Mexico,—or something else. They have all the Democrats at the North to count upon. I have adopted the prefix *Demon*, as it may apply to a large devil-power. Its name is legion in New York city,—and although a large majority of the whole people of the U. S., are comparatively intelligent and truly patriotic, and many of this class truly honest and virtuous, yet there is a perpetual undercurrent worked by recreant leaders who have long since sold their birth-right, and whose entire trade is in the spoils—great beyond conception. You, sir, no doubt wonder at reading in the N. Y. Herald the result of our political status here. This is owing to universal suffrage and a large majority of votes from rowdies, pet-house politicians—whose whiskey caucusing is held in the eight thousand rum-holes. But the State overpowers them in votes—and we are under Albany protection. Although these with every evil in this great city with its 5000 thieves pickpockets, &c., and every drunken influence, yet the moral atmosphere overpowers all this. New York has its vast numbers of an intelligent refined, benevolent, and virtuous, whose noble attributes are at work continually. New York merchants are high toned and honorable.—Everything is taxed—but those for the national debt are paid cheerfully. Our wretched city government however, is monstrous—the city is now annually taxed the sum of from sixteen to twenty millions of dollars! And more than half the money divided in spoils,—these are called perquisites. A man must live in the U. S., as long as I have to understand the kaleidoscopic, political changes in the great panorama.

Yours truly,
B. H.

Religious Intelligence.

HALIFAX, NORTH CHURCH.—Rev. J. E. Goucher baptized two persons on a profession of faith, on Lord's day last, and received them, with three others, into fellowship, in the evening. An effort was made a short time since by that church to purchase the Tabernacle, and an offer made for it, but the Commissioners of Schools outbid them, and purchased it for a public School. As, however, the Church find their place too strait for them, they have resolved on getting a new edifice, and have purchased a highly eligible site for a new church in Gostingen Street, running through the block from street to street.

CHATHAM, MIRAMICHI.—The Rev. W. S. McKenzie communicates to the Visitor an account of his labors in this region. We are glad to find the following as regards his personal benefits:—

"There is so much physical exertion required along with mental, and so much more of the former than of the latter, that I feed and fatten upon this style of life. Sometimes a sharp regret steals upon me, and for a moment harrows up my feelings, as I reflect that not a few important studies are being neglected, and that my books are becoming dust-covered."

We are glad to hear of progress even in this direction. If all our ministers become in this respect Spurgeonic, if it be but the effect of labor, it is well.

But he has another story to tell. A narrow escape—himself, Mrs. McKenzie, and his horse and sleigh by breaking through the ice attempting to cross the Miramichi River.

We congratulate our friends on their escape. Mr. McKenzie adds: "During my first quarter I travelled 75 miles and preached 31 sermons."

If perils by land and water are signs of Apostolical Succession, our brother may enjoy them in the region he has chosen in which to labor.

American and Foreign News.

LATEST FROM UNITED STATES.

BOSTON, Jan. 18.—The severest snow storm for ten years, commenced at 2 A. M. yesterday, and continued for twenty four hours, without intermission, accompanied by a north east gale, causing immense drifts in the streets, and almost suspending travelling—about 2 feet of snow fell. Several vessels are reported ashore in the Bay, and two men of the crews are said to have been frozen to death yesterday.

The Maine penitentiary was managed last year with a profit of \$100.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Information from North Carolina says a secret organization with revolutionary object exists in Marion County, aggravated outrages are perpetrated on negroes and law officers. Congress themselves afraid to prosecute the perpetrators.

Steamer Ellen S. Teny running to Newbern N. C., was badly damaged by fire this morning.

MEMPHIS, Jan. 17.—Steamer Platte Valley which left here for Vicksburg, this P. M., struck the wreck of a sunken gunboat, and sunk almost to the hurricane deck in about three minutes. She was crowded with passengers, a large number of whom were lost. It is estimated by the survivors that 100 persons were drowned.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, Jan. 17.—Mexican dates of the 15th state that Marshal Bazaine has issued a circular to the French soldiers in the Mexican service, announcing the return home of the French corps and advising them to decide whether to remain or not. Bustamante had proclaimed for Juarez, and the city of Tampico had declared for Ortega; great preparations were being made at San Lins for the reception of Juarez.

A VALUABLE LOAD OF BRICKS.—The San Francisco Times of November 29 says:—

"Quite a crowd of people were collected in front of the Bank of California yesterday, watching the struggles of a powerful team of horses in their attempts to move a wagon load of silver bricks. The load was so heavy that the wheels sunk into the cobble stones nearly to the hubs. After a long struggle, and the assistance of several of the bystanders, the team started the load, which consisted of about one hundred large silver bricks from the State of Nevada."

THE U. STATES IN MINIATURE.—There is a project on foot for constructing a park at Washington upon a plan, to say the least, quite novel. It is proposed to make a park which shall represent the United States in miniature, a proportionate portion being set apart for each State and Territory, and the position of these parts to correspond with the actual location of States and Territories which they represent.

IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.—On the 6th Inst. Mr. Ashley of Ohio submitted the following to the House, of Representatives at Washington:—

"I do impeach Andrew Johnson, Vice President and acting President of the United States, of high crimes and misdemeanors; I charge him with usurpation of power and revolution of laws, in that he has corruptly abused the appointing power; in that he has corruptly disposed of public property of the United States; in that he has corruptly interfered in elections and committed acts and conspired with others to commit acts which, in contemplation of the Constitution are high crimes and misdemeanors; therefore, be it resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be, and they are, hereby authorized to inquire into the official conduct of Andrew Johnson, Vice President, discharging the duties of the President of the United States, and to report to this House whether, in their opinion, the said Andrew Johnson, while in said office, has been guilty of acts which were designed or calculated to overthrow, subvert or corrupt the Government thereof, and whether the said Andrew Johnson has been guilty of any act, or has conspired with others to do acts which, in contemplation of the Constitution, are high crimes and misdemeanors, requiring the interposition of the constitutional power of this House; and that

said Committee have power to send for persons and papers, to administer the customary oaths to witnesses."

This is a bold movement, and a pretty serious business involving consequences of weighty import. The impeachment was received by the House, and by a vote of 106 to 36 and was referred to the standing Judiciary Committee, composed of the following gentlemen:—

"Mr. Wilson of Iowa, Ex-Governor Boutwell of Massachusetts, Ex-Governor Thomas of Maryland, Mr. Williams of Pennsylvania, Mr. Woodbridge of Vermont, Mr. Morris of New York, Mr. Laurence of Ohio, Mr. Cook of Illinois, and Mr. Rogers of New Jersey."

It is likely that there will not be any hasty action taken on the matter. It however places the country in an undesirable condition, and shews that the opposing parties are determined to stop at no half measures in carrying out their designs. Of course the party papers are speculating on the probabilities as to what the report of the committee will be.

The New York Herald thinks the committee will report in favor of impeachment, and that the House will demand that the President be brought to trial, and that on the 4th of March ensuing, the Senate will elect Benjamin Wade President in place of Andrew Johnson, in case he is removed from the presidency. Two months it is predicted will see these changes in the Head of the U. States government.

It is however difficult to form any conjecture as to the course of affairs. It may be merely a party movement which may be set aside by some concession on the other side.

THE FENIANS.—A late Toronto despatch contains the following:—"The sentence of seven Fenian prisoners, including Lynch and McMahon, condemned to death at the last assizes, has been commuted to 20 years imprisonment in the Provincial penitentiary according to orders. The prisoners will be sent tonight to Kingston."

It appears to be the prevailing opinion in the U. States that the organization of Fenianism is fast becoming extinct. The following from the N. Y. Times of last week shews that the danger from the fraternity is pretty well passed.

"Our neighbors in Canada are enjoying a quiet at present, and an immunity from the dread of a Fenian invasion, which they have not had for a year past. The branch of the Fenian organization, whose patriotic duty it was to despoil and slaughter them as a means of overthrowing the British Government, has been so quiet for the last three months that everybody supposes it to be quite dead. Roberts fulminates no more sanguinary proclamations; we hear of no wafflike preparations at his headquarters; and he has no new plans of invasion published in the newspapers. Even the contributions, we understand, have ceased to flow into his coffers, and such an apathy has come over his followers as might be supposed to follow the fearful excitement in which he has so long kept them. The shameful treatment he has meted out to the poor prisoner Lynch and others, incarcerated in Canada, and the outrageous way in which the unhappy wretches are now spoken of by the Fenian organs which bounded them up, have disgusted all decent and generous Irish men and women, and turned a strong tide of feeling against Roberts and his gang. We judge the people of Canada have heard the last of them, and we congratulate our long harassed neighbours upon the fact."

James Stephens, the Fenian chief organizer, was in Boston on the 11th. He vanished, it is said, by the Worcester Railroad, although there were many anxious enquiries about him.

A large and enthusiastic Fenian meeting was held in New York on the evening of the 11th. The meeting was called for the purpose of denouncing Stephens and his colleagues. A number of Resolutions were adopted—all to the effect that Stephens had proved himself a "cheat, a scoundrel and a rascal, and wound up a career of deception and fraud in a most ignominious fizzle, in the city of New York—three thousand miles from the place where he promised to offer up his life upon the altar of his country."

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—London, Jan. 15.—The British Government has sent a note to Greece, advising her to preserve strict neutrality, in the affairs of Candia.

Jan. 16.—A Florence letter, published in the Times of this morning, says Gen. King, the American Minister at Rome, has been invited to remove the American Church outside the walls of that city. Mr. King complied, and has hired a villa for that purpose.

Capt. Samuel of the "Henrietta," Mr. Lorillard, owner of the "Vesta" and Col. Taylor of the United States army leave to-day by steamer for New York.

Jan. 17.—The Reform League are preparing for another Monster trade demonstration. The affair will come off in this city on the 11th of February, and is expected to surpass any demonstration of the kind ever made in England.

It is reported from the continent that a desperate plot has been discovered to assassinate the Pacha of Egypt. The plot included the subversion of the Government, and the investing of the reins of Government in the hands of Selim Pacha, who is said to be at the head of