

sadly, has female education been neglected, that there are, at the present time, few mothers who do not much more earnestly desire for their daughters, what are generally termed accomplishments, than thorough mental training.

All must admit that household duties, with the care of the sick, the aged, and those in infantile years constitute the proper profession of women. For these duties she is under the most solemn obligation to prepare herself. But is not a due preparation for these duties compatible with high literary attainments?

Having determined, Mr. Editor, that all my communications shall have one good quality—that of brevity—I conclude. With your permission I may refer to the subject at some future period.

P. S.—My thanks are due to the writer of "Pastoral Reminiscences" for what he has said "by way of explanation." It is to my mind perfectly satisfactory. Permit me to state that Silas Tertius is not responsible for what I write.

For the Christian Messenger.

Prince Edward Island Correspondence.

Rev. John Davis gives us a few items of interest from Charlottetown, dated Feb. 9. 1865.

We are busy just now with our General Election. Our Island politics, however, are just now in a chaotic condition—a condition which nought but Confederation can terminate; as it probably will ere long. A recent dispatch from Earl Carnarvon to Mr. Dundas presses this matter very seriously upon the consideration of the Colony, and can scarcely fail to give an impulse to the cause of Confederation on the Island.

You are aware, I presume, that, as in former years, the New Year's Week of Prayer was observed in this city, in a series of United Prayer Meetings. They were well attended, and sustained with much interest. So it ought to have been. What vital changes have come over the world, bearing upon the advancement of its best interests, since the Week of Prayer was initiated! And who shall say that its annual observance has had nothing to do with the production of those changes?

Brother Archibald informed you, that the City Baptists had proposed to hold a series of special services. We have been enabled to maintain such services night after night for the last three weeks. The meetings have been marked by good attendance, serious attention, and cheering results. We think of continuing them for yet a few days longer.

For the Christian Messenger.

Lewiston, Maine, Feb. 5, 1867.

MR. EDITOR,—

Allow me, through your valuable paper, to say to the friends of the American and Foreign Bible Society, that I collected in your Province, in my last tour there, the following sums:

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Includes Digby Neck, Long Island, Brier Island, Yarmouth, Hebron, Locke's Island, West. Association, Milton, Liverpool, Nictaux, Paradise, Wilmot, Aylesford, and a Total of \$319.19.

I have made my returns and received an answer back. We all feel much gratitude for the interest manifested by the Nova Scotia Baptists in this noble enterprise. I would also express my gratitude for the oft-repeated acts of christian kindness, in receiving me, a stranger in a strange land, to their churches and their homes.

The Society is prospering, funds are increasing, and demands are also increasing. I hope the friends will still continue to help us, and make it one of the best and most useful Societies in the land.

Respectfully yours, S. BOOTHBY, Agent.

P. S.—I am happy to say we are having some revival interest in our midst. In one of the Congregational Churches over one hundred are reported to have experienced religion; not by sprinkling, but by being dead unto sin and alive unto God. All the evangelical churches in the place (eight in all) are having more or less interest, and souls are being converted. There are at least three daily Prayer meetings held in the place. Christians are much revived. May it go on till

Not one rebel heart remains, But over all the Saviour reigns.

S. B.

Religious Intelligence.

HALIFAX NORTH CHURCH.—The Rev. J. E. Goucher has baptized five persons since our last report. In addition to which, four others have been received by letter &c.

WEST CORNWALLIS.—A correspondent writes:—"The Union meetings are still being held by the Baptists and Methodists in this vicinity. Good is being done. Rev. E. M. Saunders, Pastor of the Baptist Church, and the Rev. J. Read, Methodist minister, occupy the same pulpit alternately,—a state of things never before known in this place."

ST. JOHN, N. B.—We are informed that the Rev. W. S. McKenzie has accepted the invitation to the pastorate of the Leinster Street Church, and will enter on his labors there as soon as he has completed his present engagement at Miramichi—in October next. We heartily congratulate our brethren on this decision.

We observe that the Organ Question is exciting attention in the Canada Presbyterian Church. Congregations are introducing the Organ and then asking leave to use it, and in some cases using it without leave from Presbyteries.—It is great pity that the peace of congregations or of the church at large should be sacrificed for the sake of musical instruments.—Witness.

AN UNUSUAL SCENE.—The Boston Recorder mentions the following touching incident:—

At the church of Rev. Dr. Thompson in Roxbury, on last Sunday, when several persons, all females, were received to the church, one of them was noticed absorbed, not with what the pastor was saying, but with the signs and gestures of a gentleman near. To the audience these signs and gestures were not only destitute of meaning but in themselves even ludicrous; but to the young lady they conveyed ideas of the most sublime and solemn import. She was deaf and dumb.

As the services proceeded, the pastor extended the hand of fellowship to each of the candidates. When he came to this young lady, giving her his hand he said in affecting tones to the audience:—"No human voice has ever reached the soul of this young woman, but Christ has spoken to her heart." There was not a dry eye in the house. All felt how merciful are the ways of God, who in his providence, by the ingenuity of man, thus causes the deaf to hear the wonders of redeeming love.

Colonial and Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

CONFEDERATION.—The following important despatch from the Earl of Carnarvon, Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of the Confederation of the British North American Provinces, is published in the last P. E. I. Royal Gazette:

Downing Street, 19th Jan., 1867.

[No. 3.]

Sir,—

The negotiations respecting the proposed Confederation of the British North American Provinces have reached a point at which I think it right that you should be generally apprised of the mode in which that proposal is viewed by Her Majesty's Government. They are not unaware of the difficulties which must attend any attempt to consolidate in one body politic, a variety of Provinces whose habits, laws, and interests must be in many respects, different, and in some perhaps not wholly compatible. By far the most important part of those difficulties has been removed in the present instance by the wise and loyal foresight of the public men of Lower Canada, who, in their treatment of this subject, have shown themselves able to reconcile a manly support of their hereditary customs and institutions with a generous confidence in the justice and friendly feeling of their more numerous fellow subjects of British origin. The questions which remain in controversy will be approached by Her Majesty's Government with anxious and careful attention, but I must add, in no spirit of indifference.

That in time of war or tumult the armed force of British North America should be one, under one Supreme Command—that in time of peace, their commerce, their post, their great lines of communication, and, with due regard to local usage, their civil and criminal jurisprudence, should be governed by the same rules: that an extended public opinion should be brought to bear on the settlement of narrow local controversies, and that the most important affairs of British North America should be administered by a combination of the ablest men whom it can furnish—these benefits appear to me so indisputable, so pervading, and so permanent in their character, that I should be wanting to my duty if I did not express to you, and through you to the community over which you preside, my earnest hope that no trifling obstacle will be allowed to interfere with their full attainment.

As my object is not to express my opinion on the details of this measure, but to give to the principle on which it is founded, that frank support which Her Majesty's Government consider to be due from them, I shall only add, that you are at full liberty to communicate this despatch to your Executive Council.

I have, &c., &c., (Signed) CARNARVON. Lieut Governor Dundas, &c., &c.

New Brunswick.

THE ST. JOHN AND PORTLAND CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION is now organized and in operation. The following are its principal features:—

All persons who give their time and labor in visiting and collecting, or who subscribe \$4 annually to the funds, shall be members, a subscription of \$25 shall qualify a life member, and \$100 a life member of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee is to consist of the ministers who may join the Association, and two laymen from each of their congregations, and subscribers of \$100 as above. These shall select their own office bearers and sub-committees. In relation to congregations whose ministers don't join, the Executive Committee can admit the ordinary number of laymen.

Visitors are to tender useful economic advice to the poor, to seek to elevate their moral condition, and to induce them to attend their respective places of worship.

POSTAL.—The Postmaster General is taking steps to reduce the postage rates on letters to and from the United States, from ten to five cents. The same rates will be established between the United States and the other British Provinces.

LIBERAL OFFER.—The St. John News says that a party in that City has offered \$200 towards defraying the expenses of a boat's crew to engage in the aquatic contest at Paris on the occasion of the Exhibition.

Canada.

The total number of Fenian trials held in Toronto since June to the 1st inst., is 107, with the following result:—22 convictions, 20 acquittals, 49 cases dismissed for want of evidence, 18 prisoners discharged on bail, and 3 remaining for trial.

The Canadian Government has granted pensions to the widows and orphans, and in some instances to the mothers of the volunteers who were killed at the battle of Ridgeway, or who have died from diseases contracted in the service. There are ninety-six claimants. Pensions have also been granted to those volunteers who are incapacitated from attending to their ordinary occupation in consequence of wounds or sickness contracted while on service. The whole according to a fixed and more liberal graduated scale than that followed in the imperial service.

LATEST FROM UNITED STATES.

CLASS LEGISLATION.—In the House of Representatives at Washington on Tuesday last—

Mr. Darling of N. Y., offered a resolution, which was adopted, that whereas the commercial marine of the United States is reported to be in a languishing condition, and there exists also great depression in the ship-building interest, owing to the legislation and action of foreign governments, and causes, therefore

Resolved, That the committee on ways and means be and it is hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the tariff act by a provision to the effect that all goods imported in American bottoms shall be entitled to a rebate of ten per cent. of the duties imposed by said act.

Charleston, S. C. Feb. 14.—Four men lately belonging to the crew of the steamship "City of Bath," arrived here from Georgetown this evening. They report their steamer burned at sea on Sunday morning off Cape Hatteras. Of twenty-six persons on board, all are believed to be lost excepting these four. The "City of Bath" was on her way from Boston to Savannah.

The temperance men in Michigan propose to make prohibition of the liquor traffic a decisive issue in the next election.

A bill has been introduced into Congress for the suppression of polygamy.

A Bill has passed the U. S. Senate authorizing William Orton and his successors to lay telegraph cables between New York and France.

New York, Feb. 18.—Gold 36 1/2.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—London, Feb. 9.—A letter from Garibaldi, published to day in Vienna, expresses sympathy for the struggling Cretans.

Feb. 10.—A despatch from Constantinople announces that the Sultan has resolved to emancipate his Christian subjects from political disabilities and has issued a call for the assembling of a Turkish Parliament. This intelligence has caused a rise in the Turkish funds.

Feb. 11.—Advices from Madrid report that three editors of that city have been condemned to imprisonment at hard labor.

It is stated that D'Israeli will introduce in Parliament a plan of Reform to be adopted by resolution. The act is favorably received in political circles.

The Reform procession came off this afternoon, and was a grand affair. The turn out was immense, but there was not the slightest disturbance anywhere along the route. A delegation of Reformers headed by John Bright waited upon Mr. Gladstone to day, and were favorably received.

No riotous proceedings took place at Chester, as was apprehended, and the city is quiet. The

presence of a number of supposed Fenians, who had recently crossed over from Ireland, gave rise to the apprehension, but they left the town without creating any disturbance. Resolutions were passed denouncing the Derby Government, and demanding manhood suffrage.

On Monday afternoon the House of Commons was crowded, to hear the expected announcement of the Government programme. M. Disraeli delivered a long historical essay on Reform and the English constitution, and towards the close of his speech he said that the Government would introduce resolutions to test the sense of Parliament before presenting a Reform Bill, and fixed the 25th as the day for offering them. The resolutions are vague and unsatisfactory, and merely state general principles.

Feb. 13.—More trouble is expected at Liverpool. Sympathizers with the Fenians say the docks are blown up.

The Liberal organs generally, denounce the plan of Reform announced by D'Israeli on Monday afternoon in the House of Commons.

An American ship has left a Spanish port bound to Candia for the purpose of removing suffering families of Christians from the Island.

The newspapers ridicule the Fenian scare in Chester, and say the crowd of passengers there only went to see a prize fight.

In Parliament last evening the fact was stated by the Government that Lord Elcho had received a telegram from Lord Grosvenor, commanding the Chester volunteers saying that the affair was serious, and timely information it was thought had saved the town.

Feb. 14.—The British Government will assume the legal expense of the defense of Governor Eyre, of Jamaica, whose trial is now progressing. The Bill for the Confederation of the British North American Provinces only embraces the two Canadas.

The Government has been advised of the landing of two ship loads of Fenians at Valentia. Sir Hugh Rose, the Commander of the troops in Ireland, and Lord Naas, leave for Ireland at once. There is a wild rumour that the Fenians will attempt to cut the cable.

The Government denies the widespread story of the landing of ship loads of Fenians at Valentia and in the Shannon. That there has been serious revolt at and near Killarney is admitted. The telegraph wires near Valentia have been cut and destroyed for a large distance and in all directions. Riot and pillage are the order of the day, and several establishments have been sacked. A coast guard policeman has been killed.

Feb. 15.—About eight hundred Fenians under command of Col. O'Connor, have retreated to the Hills lying about Killarney, County Kerry.

The British Government posted troops under the command of Col. Horseford, at Mallow Junction, in Cork County, commanding the Hill district. The excitement in the neighborhood is intense, and many people living in those counties are precipitately leaving.

Feb. 17.—It is now considered certain that the determined resistance of the Cretans, and the spirit of concession, recently shown by the Turkish Government, will result in the complete independence of the Island of Candia.

IRELAND.—Dublin, Feb. 13.—Seventy supposed Fenians were arrested yesterday on the arrival of the mail boat from Holyhead.

The following telegram was received from Valentia, Ireland, Feb. 13.—via New York:—The telegraph wires ceased working between Valentia and Killarney at half past seven o'clock last night and are still down. Two large despatches which were sent through the cable to-day were received by mail from Killarney.

Feb. 17.—The outbreak at Killarney has come to an end, and the band of insurgents have disappeared. One hundred and forty Fenians have been arrested in this city, and are now in jail.

FRANCE.—Paris, Feb. 9.—An understanding has been arrived at, by which the Turkish forces are to evacuate Servia.

It is stated that the Pope will soon make an appeal to the Catholic powers to sustain him.

Feb. 11.—It is announced that all the French soldiers will leave Mexico on the 25th of Feb.

Feb. 17.—The Budget, presented in the Chambers, yesterday, by the Minister of Finance, gives a very favorable report of the condition of the finances. Rentes, in consequence, recovered from their recent depression, are advancing.

ITALY.—Florence, Feb. 9.—Humbert, Crown Prince of Italy, and Commander-in-Chief of the Italian Army, is soon to marry an Arch Duchess of Austria.

Feb. 10.—Baron Ricasoli is about to introduce in the Italian Parliament a new bill in regard to the property of the church.

Feb. 13.—By a decree of King Victor Emmanuel the existing Parliament which had been previously prorogued, is dissolved, and elections for a new parliament are ordered to take place on the 10th of March next.

HOLLAND.—Antwerp, Feb. 11.—It is confidently stated here that the Belgian Legion now serving under Maximilian in Mexico will soon return home.

SPAIN.—Madrid, Feb. 12.—The Cortes will be opened by the Queen on the 30th of March. It is reported that the Government intends imposing a forced loan.

GREECE.—Athens, Feb. 11.—Intelligence from Candia is to the effect that 600 Green Volunteers have surrendered to the forces of the Porte. King George is about to send an Autograph letter to the Emperor Napoleon, Queen Victoria, and the Czar Alexander, asking for assistance for Greece.

PRUSSIA.—Berlin, Feb. 11.—The Prussian Government has determined upon the evacuation of Dresden, which will in future be gar-