

MRS DANIEL ROBINSON

Died on Jan. 13th inst, aged 75 years. She and her aged partner lived nearly 40 years in one of our back settlements, called Castle Reagh, where both endured many hardships. About 36 years ago she embraced the Saviour, was baptized by the Rev. Samuel McCully, and united with the Baptist Church on West Chester Mountain. After the Baptist Church was organized in Portauquique she united with it, and maintained a very consistent character until her death. She was favored with clear views of divine truth. She experienced much pleasure in hearing the gospel, and possessed a firm and humble faith in the divine promises. She welcomed the ministers of Christ to her house, and delighted to assist them and speak concerning the kingdom of heaven. She was poor in this world, but rich in faith and an heir of the kingdom which God hath promised to those that love him. She chose a very suitable text for a discourse at her funeral in Psalm 17th, last verse: "As for me I will behold thy face in righteousness, and I shall be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness." May the Lord support her aged partner and family, so that all at length may enter into the rest which remaineth for the people of God is the sincere, prayer of the writer.—*Com. by Rev. James Reid.*

STEPHEN DIMOCK

Died at Newport, Dec. 31st, 1866, aged 80 years. Our departed brother was converted when quite a young man, and joined the Baptist Church at Newport, in which he then actively engaged in the service of God, but lived to see many changes and to experience much of God's goodness. Being naturally given to despondency, he at times passed through deep trials and robbed himself of much enjoyment, doubting his acceptance with God. At other times his faith was strong, and he seemed to know in whom he had believed, and rest wholly upon Christ's finished work. On visiting him a short time previous to his death, as we conversed on the hope of the Christian, his faith seemed strong and he expressed confidence in God. When about offering prayer, he requested me to read the 23rd Psalm, beginning, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." It was truly an interesting season. The Lord bless his mourning family both temporarily and spiritually.—*Com. by Rev. J. Bancroft.*

STEPHEN LAKE

Died at Newport on the sixth of January 1867, aged seventy years. Our departed brother had for many years been connected with the Baptist Church at Newport. He was an unassuming upright man. An esteemed brother in the ministry connected with the Presbyterian denomination once remarked to the writer, "Brother Lake is an honest man, I should not be afraid to trust him with uncounted gold." In an humble way he strove to adorn his profession, and often referred to the goodness of the Lord in disposing his mind to confess Christ before men, for which he would say "I have never been sorry." His conflicts have ended. May God abundantly bless and direct the bereaved family.—*Id.*

For the Christian Messenger.

MR. EDITOR,—

I have no wish to hold a controversy with "Siola" on the vexed question of "woman's rights" in matters of religion. The subject has been already sufficiently aired in your paper, and if it were agitated again, I fear it would soon descend to a mere war of words and personalities as has been too much the case in some recent controversies.

I may, however, be permitted briefly to reply to "Siola" by way of explanation. When I said "it may be that the course taken scarcely comports with apostolic usage," I referred not to the sisters who exhorted and prayed in those days, but to the Sister who took the lead in those meetings. They were services at which both males and females assembled, and it appeared to me, that such meetings should be conducted by a brother rather than a sister. This I regarded as more accordant with apostolic usage, from the fact that the officers of the primitive churches were almost entirely males, and to them it appears very probable the conducting of religious services were entrusted. In the case referred to in the "reminiscences," the brethren were remiss in their duty, and under the circumstances, I believed our excellent sister was right in the course she took. Ordinarily, however, especially when the assembly is promiscuous, in the absence of a pastor; a deacon or some other brother should preside in the social meetings of the church.

"Siola" asks "does the Lord bless any efforts which scarcely comports with apostolic usage." I would reply that He may and does sometimes, otherwise our faith must be small in reference to much success in christian effort, with which human infirmity, and even unscriptural practices have commingled.

I would add that I have no scruples about the sisters speaking and praying in our social meetings. It does not appear to me that they violate apostolic injunctions in so doing. When I say this however I do not throw down the gauntlet to Silas Tertius or any one else, but simply define my position that "Siola" may understand me.

Yours truly,
THE WRITER OF
"PASTORAL REMINISCENCES."

For the Christian Messenger.

The Rev. D. D. Currie and the Methodists.

Dear Sir,—

My report of a meeting in Brookfield, Queens Co., published in your paper of the 19th Dec., ult., seems to have excited the ire of the Rev. D. D. Currie, and has led him to indulge in the use of personalities, which I shall not imitate.

Perhaps I know more of Methodism and its workings than the Rev. gentleman is aware of. At any rate I know enough to be prepared for any attempts to mislead either myself or others. Whatever "carion," (as he with doubtful taste terms it), I found in Brookfield was certainly picked out of "The Methodist idea, and what grows out of it," to which he so complacently alludes.

The third and fourth sentences of the paragraph he quotes I am prepared to prove by a certificate which I hold from credible witnesses, came from his lips just as certainly and witu just as much uncton and self-gratulation as the first and second.

The first and second sentences he makes the occasion of a long array of testimonies from Methodist Doctors of Divinity, a President's testimony, and one Presbyterian paper, to prove what no one denies,—that the Methodists are the largest protestant body in the United States. But he does not prove (which is the point at issue) that it is equal to all other Protestant denominations put together.

So with regard to the provinces, with the exception of correcting a numerical mistake in the Baptist population of Nova Scotia, into which I was inadvertently led,—he has not proved, nor can he prove, that the Methodists are equal to two-thirds of all the Protestant denominations in Canada, or to one-third of all the Protestant denominations in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Until this is done, every candid and conscientious reader will perceive that the facts and figures in my previous letter remain unimpaired and unimpeached.

Mr. Currie also states that I reported the population of several of the religious denominations in the United States. It will be easily seen by reference to my letter that the allusion was to the number of church members or communicants.

One word more: rapid growth is no proof of soundness either in the natural or theological world, else mushrooms would be equal to oak timber, and Mormonism the only true faith.

Yours, &c.,

GUSTAVUS E. BISHOP.

Greenwich, Jan. 29th, 1867.

Religious Intelligence.

REVIVAL INTELLIGENCE.—Good tidings have reached us from some circuits of our Connexion. In Aylesford the Rev. R. E. Crane has been favoured with tokens of the divine blessing. This has been the case also in Cansing under the labours of Rev. R. Weddall. The Rev. Jno. Prince writes from St. John's, N. F., that in that town the work of God is prospering, and that sixty persons have recently professed faith in Christ, and united with the Church. Similar information has reached us from our brethren in Bermuda, who are enjoying a season of gracious revival.—*Provincial Wesleyan.*

UNITED ACTION.—We learn from the *Ch. Visitor* that "The ministers of the several Baptist churches in the city are holding union meetings this week for the purpose of exciting a deeper concern for the salvation of souls. The first was held in Portland on Monday evening, the second in Leinster Street on Tuesday evening, the third will be held in Brussels Street this (Wednesday) evening, and the fourth in Germain Street on Thursday evening. So far they have been numerously attended, and the impression favorable. We are praying and striving together for the outpouring of the Spirit above. God grant a speedy answer for His name's sake!"

SUPPRESSION OF PROTESTANT WORSHIP IN ROME.—The Pope has put down Presbyterian worship in Rome. For some time the Rev. Jas. Lewis, a Scotch clergyman, has conducted divine service according to the forms of the Kirk in a room to which none but foreigners were admitted, and the fact, which must have been well known to the authorities, was connived at. A little while ago, however, he received from our consul at Rome, Mr. Joseph Sevan, the startling communication which follows:—It is my official duty to inform you that Monsignor Randi, Governor of Rome, has just communicated to me that you are holding illegal religious meetings in your house, which you must know are prohibited by the Roman law, and that you have thus placed yourself in the power of the Inquisition both for arrest and imprisonment. But, as the Monsignor permits me to give you this notice, I would seriously advise that you at once put an end to these innovations, and that you visit Monsignor Randi at Monte Citorio and assure him that you will never again repeat those illegal acts, and I hope

in this way you possibly suspend your exile, which is now hanging over you." Agreeably with his advice Mr. Lewis waited upon Monsignor Randi, and thought it right to inquire of him whether he was charged with a violation of the tacit understanding upon which Protestant worship is tolerated in Rome, that understanding being that none but foreigners should be admitted in the congregation. Monsignor Randi replied that there was no charge of any kind against Mr. Lewis, that it was the simple fact of illegal worship that had been brought before him, and that involved Mr. Lewis in the threatened penalty of arrest by the Inquisition or exile. He did not explain why a service so long tolerated, and of which the existence must all along have been well known to the authorities, should be thus suddenly and arbitrarily suppressed. The interview took place on the 29th of December, on which day Mr. Severn's letter had been written and received; the next day was Sunday, and Mr. Lewis told the Governor of Rome that he could not discontinue the service on that day, as there was no time to warn the congregation.—The service accordingly took place as usual.—Mr. Odo Russell was appealed to, and he brought the matter before Cardinal Antonelli, who said much as he personally regretted the circumstance he could not interfere. The suppression it seems had been ordered by the Pope himself. It appears says the Roman correspondent of the *Times* that Antonelli expressed to Mr. Russell his personal regret that he could not give a more favourable answer to his application. He is clear-sighted enough to foresee the indignation this sudden outbreak of intolerance will arouse; but he has to deal with a power stronger than his personal opinion, and he can maintain his position only by deferring to it.

The members of the Church of England have to pass out of the Porta del Popolo to their devotions. There are two Scotch churches in Rome one of the Free Kirk, in the Via Babuino, the other of the Established Church of Scotland, in the Via del' a Croce, and the notification sent by the Governor of Rome through the British Consul was to both of them. They have both had good congregations, varying, of course, in numbers according to the season, but freely contributing for the support of their little establishments in the shadow of St. Peter's. Of late (during his recent stay in Rome) the Duke of Argyll has been a regular attendant.

Cardinal Antonelli has given notice that the American service, which is not new held in the house of the United States Legation, but in a separate hired room, will also be put down.

From a letter dated Florence, January 11th, it appears that the Scotch Church question in Rome has been satisfactorily settled by establishing the services outside the walls, next door to the Anglican church at Porto del Popolo. There was a good attendance last Sunday in the new place of worship, and all parties are content.—This satisfactory result, of course, does not render the intolerance of the Roman priests less glaring, but that is an old story, and needed no new illustration.—*English paper.*

Colonial and Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY DISSOLVED.—We understand that at the meeting of the Executive Council, held on Monday last, the House of Assembly was dissolved. The General Election, we learn, will take place on Tuesday, the 26th of February, Nomination Day being on the 19th.—*Patriot 24th.*

New Brunswick.

Great dissatisfaction is expressed in St. John at the irregularity of the mails between that city and Digby, N. S. On one occasion, recently, there was but one mail in three weeks.

The *Telegraph* says the fall of snow in the woods at some points up-river has been so great that the lumbermen are coming out, as they find it impossible to carry on their operations.

Williams the messenger of the House of Assembly in Fredericton, who was charged with stealing the Furniture, &c., has been acquitted.

We stated in our last issue that 150 men were employed in the work on Western Extension. Quite recently a considerable addition has been made to the number, making in all 220. Notwithstanding the holidays, the pay sheet for last month shows payment of \$5,000. A number of teams have also been employed, and we learn that as the days lengthen a large additional force will be put on and the work pushed forward energetically.—*Telegraph.*

Canada.

FENIANS.—It is reported from Montreal that the trials of Fenians at Sweetsburg lasting four weeks, cost the Canadian Government \$100,000.

GOLD.—The Quebec *Mercury* says it has information from Mr. Pope, inspector of mines on the Chaudiere, that a miner has lately turned up a nugget six inches in length by four in breadth, and weighing about 40 ounces. This treasure was about 32 feet below the surface, and is estimated at the value of \$800.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On the night of the 9th inst., a western bound express train on the Great Western railroad met with an accident, which detained it for three hours! Shortly after leaving Komoka station a short distance west of London, C. W., two cars on the rear end of the train by some means were uncoupled, and the locomotive, with the balance of the train, went rushing forward a distance of about three miles before it was discovered that some portion of the

train was missing. The engine was then reversed and stopped with the intention of returning for the missing cars. Shortly afterwards they came along the track, the grade being a downward one gaining momentum all the time. Before a collision could be avoided, the coming cars ran into the train, making a general smash up, but very fortunately injuring no one. The force of the blow was sufficient to throw two cars off the track, smashing them up badly.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—A despatch from Ottawa says official information has been received to the effect that Confederation, on the conditions agreed on at Quebec, is sanctioned by the Imperial Government. It is also said that Prince Alfred will be the first Governor of all the Confederated Provinces.

LATEST FROM UNITED STATES.

By the arrival of the *Asia* on Thursday last, we received a few items of general intelligence.

N. P. Willis, the author is dead.

Five thousand citizens of Western North Carolina have petitioned the House of Representatives asking the formation of a new State in that region, or the reconstruction of North Carolina on a loyal basis.

A marked decrease in the negro population is apparent since 1860, amounting, on a rough calculation, to 190,000 less at present than before the war. Murder and plunder are of daily occurrence in Alabama.

Jan. 31.—Panama dates are to the 23rd inst. It was probable that Mr. Burton, our minister at Bogota, would receive a suitable apology from the Government for the offensive language used by one of the President's generals. The Allied fleet was at Valparaiso. It was reported that the Brazilian army had gained an advantage over five or six thousand Paraguayans. The revolution in Mendoza has not spread to any of the other provinces in the Argentine Republic. There is nothing of importance from Peru.

MEXICO.—San Francisco, Feb. 3.—The Mexican Consul in this city has received official information of the capture of the important town of Carnavatz, 4 miles from the city of Mexico, together with the Imperial forces, commanded by Col. Mandina, who was shot by order of a court-martial. General Pallaccio routed the Imperialists at Morelia, in the State of Mechocon, and captured the city.

Gold 136 5-8.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—London, Jan. 28.—Lord Derby is ill. Mr. Gladstone has returned to England. On his way home he passed through Paris and had an interview with the Emperor Napoleon.

The Great Eastern sails for America on the 20th of March.

Jan. 28.—It is reported that the Greek Hero Lanaris intends to go to America to thank the people of the United States for their sympathy, and asks the Government to send a fleet of monitors to the assistance of the Cretans.

Jan. 29.—It is considered certain at Constantinople that the Eastern complication will result in war.

Turkey has called out 500,000 reserves, and the Government of Prussia has ordered that all military furloughs shall end the 1st of March.

Jan. 30.—It is stated that members of the British Cabinet freely express the hope that peace in Europe will be preserved, in spite of the threatening appearance of affairs in the East. The searching of baggage of foreign travellers in England and France, hereafter, is to be merely nominal.

Jan. 31.—It is asserted that Lord Derby's Administration will fall to the ground if the forthcoming speech of the Queen at the re-opening of Parliament should not recommend Reform.

Mr. Bright has made a speech at Rochdale, in which he said the recent reforms announced by the Emperor Napoleon should be interpreted in a liberal sense, that the authority for suspending newspapers would be abandoned, that public meetings could be held twenty days before an election, and the Tribune would be restored.

Despatches from Constantinople announce that a fleet of twelve American war vessels was daily expected there.

Feb. 1.—It is now certain that the Queen in her speech at the opening of Parliament will propose reform measures. There is a rumor that Mr. Laird himself offers to pay the Alabama claims.

Feb. 1.—It is announced that the Austrian troops in Mexico do not leave that country with the French forces.

Feb. 2.—Garibaldi discountenances any rising at Rome, and has written a letter to discourage the scheme for the present.

Advices have been received, which state that the Government of Russia is protesting against the gathering of Poles in Gallacia.

It is now said that the plans of the Government don't embrace the introduction of a Reform Bill, and the subject of reform will be merely recommended.

The snowstorm in the North of Scotland has dismayed ever the Highlanders, as nothing like it has been seen for many years. The railways have been blocked up, and communication between towns almost cut off. Several cases of persons being frozen to death are reported.

Considerable distress prevails in Liverpool