

—We commenced our travelling the first week in November, and anticipate a long season for village work. O for a baptism of the Holy Spirit, for the continual presence of the Divine favor for the pillar of fire by night and the cloud by day.

We are on the north bank of the river now for a few days. Have not met many Garos yet, though I hear quite a number have settled on this side of the river. The sun is too hot and the swamps too large to venture back near the hills till near the close of the month. It seems that this place was the head of this district when first taken possession of by the English, more than a hundred years ago; a long time before Assam proper was captured by them. We find the remains of three brick tombs; but the marble slabs have been removed by ruthless hands, and we get no clue to names or dates.

I find two schools here,—one supported by government and composed of Hindu lads. Here we preached Christ and distributed books and tracts in the Bengali. The other school is for Mussulman boys and girls, where they study only Arabic so as to be able to read the Koran. Here also we made known Christ and gave away some Bengali tracts. We found many eager for books; and as this appears to be the first visit of a missionary, many of the books may be read.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

AN INTERESTING DAY IN HALIFAX.

Dear Brother Selden,—

Yesterday was to me a very interesting day throughout. At ten o'clock I met at the New Baptist Meeting-house in Gottingen Street, at ten o'clock, and saw Brother Goucher baptise twenty young persons, some of them 'little children,' not infants, but old enough to understand the gospel and to believe in Christ. The ordinance was administered in the font, in the upper and unfinished portion of the house. There were a good many people present to witness it, and the greatest quiet and seriousness prevailed. The congregation then repaired to the vestry in the basement story, where after spending about half an hour in singing and prayer, the regular service commenced, and I had the privilege of addressing a large and attentive congregation on the 'Common Salvation,' taking for my text the fifth chapter of 2 Kings, the story of Naaman the Syrian.

In the afternoon I accepted an invitation to visit the Hospital, to 'preach' to the invalids and sufferers there. I was informed that two christian ladies are in the habit of visiting the Hospital every Sunday, to read the Bible to the patients, and 'preach the gospel' to them. From one of these ladies I received the invitation to go, and went with her. She assigned me my wards, and I received a cordial welcome. I read several Psalms in each ward.—I visited two—expounded and talked as I read, then sang a number of hymns, prayed, and afterwards conversed personally with the patients, the latter part of the exercise being—as I suppose ministers and others generally find it—the much more difficult part of the labor; and requiring more grace than merely to 'preach.' In one of the wards I learned the names of the patients, and the nature of their complaints—two had broken legs, one a cut knee, one a sore eye &c. I really enjoyed the exercise. It was quite in accordance with the way in which I am in the habit of preaching the gospel to the Indians, the mode pursued by missionaries to the heathen, and the method usually pursued by our Saviour when an earth—in formal and familiar.

In the evening I attended a somewhat more formal meeting with the boys of the Industrial School—who, with a few more friends were assembled somewhere in the city, in what seemed to be a Schoolroom. The boys came tumbling in somewhat in School fashion, and there was buzzing and some shuffling all over the room until the service was about to commence. Then silence and order prevailed, and the greatest quiet during the service. After singing and prayer, a christian brother addressed us for about twenty minutes, from John xix. 35, "And when Jesus had tasted the vinegar, he said, 'It is finished,' and he bowed his head and gave up the Ghost." At the close of his address a hymn was sung. I then spoke by invitation for about the same length of time. Then another brother read a part of Luke xv, and spoke about as long as we had spoken, urging with great earnestness and force, the importance of immediately accepting salvation as it is freely offered in the gospel. After which the meeting closed with another hymn and prayer.

I was sorry to learn that Mr. Grierson was absent, owing to the failure of his wife's health. I understood that he had taken her to spend a few weeks with her friends somewhere in the United States, with the hope of recruiting her health. The work in which

he and others are engaged among the 'wild Arabs' of the Streets of Halifax, is a very important one, quite in harmony with the Parable of the Lost Sheep, and the direction to 'go out into the high ways and hedges,' to 'preach the gospel to every creature' and to 'compel them to come in.' This work has already been blessed and made a blessing to all concerned, and every devout heart must wish and pray that it may continue and abound still more and more. Truly there is work in the harvest field for all hearts and hands, "for the harvest is great and the laborers are few."

Yours truly,

S. T. RAND.

Halifax, April 26th, 1869.

CHEGOGAN, YARMOUTH, Rev. N. L. Parker writes April 21st, "I spent last Sabbath at Chegogan and had the privilege of baptizing—making in all nineteen since the revival began."

Dominion and Foreign News.

OTTAWA.—Kinsella and Doyle, charged with being accessories to the McGee murder, were brought up at the Assizes on Monday, and a jury was empanelled, when the Crown Prosecutor said the evidence against them was too weak to warrant his proceeding further, and the Judge ordered their acquittal.

Great damage has been done by the heavy freshets in the rivers in various parts of Ontario and Quebec. Mill-dams and bridges have been carried away in places.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, the Hon. Mr. Galt gave notice that on Friday he would move for the papers relating to the cost incurred in defending the frontier in 1863 and 1864, and a subsequent expense of a similar kind arising out of the threatened Fenian invasion, as constituting a claim for indemnity against the United States. He said the object he had in view in making the motion was to give members of the Commons an opportunity of speaking on the subject, and of expressing their views upon the speech of Senator Sumner, and the proceedings of the United States.

In answer to a member of the House, Sir John A. McDonald said that it was not the intention of the government to recommend the commutation of Father McMahon, and the other Fenian prisoners, now confined in the Penitentiary. In the House of Commons a Bill to amend the Act authorizing the Extradition of Criminals charged with offences against the United States, was introduced, and read for the first time.

April 23.—The inundation of Montreal is nearly as bad as in 1861, and no prospect of ice breaking. Many of the streets are flooded, and cars on the Grand Trunk are compelled to stop at Lake St. Charles Longueuil, and Laprairie are flooded to an alarming extent. The water at the latter place comes up to the eaves of houses. Much loss of life and farm stock is feared.

The track of the Lake Huron and Buffalo railroad East of the Danielles, Canada, is covered with water to the depth of six feet. An immense destruction of property has been caused in that section.

A despatch from Granby, Canada, says that while a number of persons were congregated on the principal bridge at that place last evening, watching the flood, one end of the bridge gave way, precipitating eleven persons into the water. The river being very swift, and the water unusually high, no assistance could be rendered, and the whole number were quickly carried out of sight and drowned.

A despatch from Montreal on Tuesday, 23rd inst., says the ice began to move out of the River on the previous morning. Griffintown is again left dry, but terribly dilapidated. Danville, St. Hyacinthe and St. Andrews are badly flooded; two men were drowned at the latter place. At Longueuil several houses were swept away, and two men drowned; also two men drowned at Upton. The Grand Trunk embankment between Waterville and Lennoxville is washed away.

In Parliament on Thursday in reply to Mr. Young the Premier said it was not true that the Government had employed any person to act in its behalf to endeavour to secure passage of the new Reciprocity Treaty to Congress.

April 24.—Five Halifax Rifle Companies authorized by Dominion authorities, and four at Annapolis.

The Dominion notes in circulation, payable at Halifax, 7th April, were three hundred and forty thousand dollars. Specie held at Halifax, sixty-eight thousand dollars.

Senator Aikins is likely to be Secretary of State for the Provinces.

The Inland Revenue Department is not to be filled for the present.

The New Brunswick members are agitating election by ballot, and one day elections.—Tel. to Chron.

MITCHELL.—A fire in the business portion of this town destroyed property to the value of \$600,000, partly covered by insurance.

New Brunswick.

The Legislature was prorogued on Wednesday last, after getting through a large amount of business. A bill with an excellent title "the Purification Bill" was before the house and we believe passed. It is intended to operate in reference to elections.

Maple sugar is being made in considerable quantities. Our contemporary the *Visitor* acknowledges some complimentary cakes, and pronounces them, "of very excellent quality and deserving the highest commendation."

Three affidavits were made against parties implicated in the brig *C. Colson* fraud, but all of them have absconded. The cargo has been discharged by the United States Marshal, and only 200 bales of trashy cotton were found to represent 889 bales, for which bills of lading had been signed.]

FRANCE.—The French Government refuses to modify its opinion as to what subjects shall be submitted for discussion at the Conference of France and Belgium.

AUSTRIA.—Pesth, 24th April.—At the opening of the Session of the Diet, yesterday, Francis Joseph, King of Hungary, made a peaceful speech; said there was much important legislation to be accomplished. The internal reforms of the country, he said, required the concentration of the entire power of the nation, and the good sense and moderation of the people. The relations between Austria and the other powers of the world afford a peaceful prospect. In concluding, he reminded representatives that it was necessary to carry out important reforms.

GERMANY.—A meeting of the Federal Council of the Zollverein has been called for the 28th inst.

During a debate on the Educational Bill in the Bavarian Chambers on Tuesday the 20th, the Prime Minister, Prince-Hohenloe made a remarkable speech after protesting against the entrance of any party feeling whatever in the consideration of questions concerning the Church. He proceeded to stigmatize the encyclical letter of the Pope as contrary to the spirit of the age, and as one of the causes of the differences which have arisen between the Church and the State.

The United States.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Serious freshets have occurred in Western New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire, involving heavy loss of property. The Welland Canal was opened for navigation yesterday.

WANTING A KING.—The second number of a new journal, the "Imperialist," has appeared. It announces that its object is to prepare the people of the United States for revolution, which is alike desirable and inevitable. Democracy, though theoretically plausible, has resulted in failure, has been found to mean nothing but lawlessness and insecurity to person and property; robbing of personal creditors and civil war; while monarchical institutions, on the other hand, mean law, order, and security, public faith and peace. We quote, verbatim, as follows:—"That the Government of the United States is as thoroughly corrupt as the skilful villainy of knaves, swindlers and thieves, placed in office by the will of the people, can make it, is a fact that none can deny. That we have reached a crisis in our national affairs, when the establishment of a pure, strong, central government, is essential to the prosperity of our national life, is equally apparent. The only question to be decided is, How can this change be effected?"

April 23.—The United States Senate adjourned this morning sine die.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—New York, April 24.—A terrible accident occurred on the Long Island Railroad near Jamaica yesterday, by which six persons were instantly killed and 15 wounded. Among the killed, were Wm. C. Rushmore, President of the Atlantic National Bank, Brooklyn.

April 26.—A steamer was sunk in the Missouri River, Saturday morning, near the Sioux city, and while sinking her boiler exploded. She had on board a large number of discharged soldiers, fifty of whom are reported lost. Gold opened at 133½.

Prince Edward Island.

THE LEGISLATURE have passed thirty-four Acts during the session which closed on Monday the 19th inst., with the usual formalities of His Excellency.

FATAL QUARREL.—By the western mail received this afternoon, we hear that a woman named McNeil, of Lot 11, was killed on Wednesday. Report says a family were moving to another farm, and the deceased claiming some articles which the other members of family refused her, a quarrel ensued, and they beat her to death. The suspected parties have been arrested, and are now in Jail.—Patriot.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.—London, April 19.—In the House of Commons this evening, the consideration of the Bill for the disestablishment of the Irish Church was resumed in Committee. An amendment postponing the time at which the Bill shall go into effect, until 1872, it was lost by the following vote: for the amendment, 194; against it, 301; Government majority, 107. The clause disqualifying Bishops of the Irish Church from sitting in the House of Lords was amended, to allow prelates, appointed previous to the passage of the Bill, to retain their titles and rights of precedence for life, and was then agreed to.

DR. LIVINGSTONE SAFE.—April 20.—Accounts which go to prove the safety of Dr. Livingstone, the celebrated African traveller, respecting whose fate so much uncertainty has prevailed recently, have just been received in this city. It is reported to-day that Dr. Livingstone left Zanzibar, eastern Africa, in January last, for England, and that he would go overland to Cairo, Egypt.

The Oxford boats crew has accepted the American challenge for a four oared race in August.

The bullion in the Bank of England has increased sixty-four thousand pounds since last week.

April 25.—It is rumored that the Government will adopt a new and bold policy as to the Spanish Cuban question. Belligerent rights are to be conceded to the Cuban insurgents, assistance rendered, and the independence of the Island assured. This, it is argued, will prevent annexation to the United States, and give a show of consistency in the Alabama claims and belligerent rights question pending with the United States Government.

ENGLAND, SPAIN, AND UNITED STATES.—It is understood that the American Minister, in accordance with instructions from his Government, has made a formal demand on Lord Clarendon for explanation in relation to the case of the American brig *Mary Lowell*, captured by a Spanish frigate off one of the Bahama Islands, while in charge of the British revenue officials. This fact, taken in connection with the report of an increase of the American fleet in the waters of the West India Islands creates a sensation in commercial circles, and is likely to seriously affect the Spanish loan about to be put on the market.

The projected loan to the Spanish Government of eight million pound sterling, was introduced on Thursday last in the London market by J. S. Morgan, and was a great success.

SPAIN. CHOOSING A KING.—Madrid advices state that another informal meeting of members of the majority in the Cortes, was held on Wednesday, to nominate a candidate for the throne. So great was the diversity of opinion, that the meeting broke up without result, leaving the subject more widely divided than before, on the subject. Prime Minister Serrano declared that the choice of Montpensier for King, or a declaration of a Republic, were the only possible alternatives. Gen. Prim, who was also present, remained silent throughout the proceedings. His conduct has given rise to a wide spread belief that he would not be unwilling to accept the Presidency of a Spanish republic.

Senor Figueras, one of the leaders of the Republican party, strongly urged the point that the only alternative left to the majority of the Cortes, was either to restore the Bourbons to the Throne or inaugurate a Republican form of Government.

Senor Senella, one of the majority, replied at length, taking ground that the restoration of the Bourbons was absolutely impossible, and that a Republic would be a national calamity. He assured them that the majority would certainly succeed in obtaining a King.

Senor Orense, one of the Republican deputies, introduced a measure calculated to forever exclude all the Bourbons from the throne of Spain. An amendment was proposed and carried by the majority, whereby the ex-Queen Isabella and her children only are excluded.

Senor Serma introduced a bill for promotion of general education.

Senor Figuera, the Minister of Finance, proposed the negotiation of a treaty of commerce with Great Britain.

The Debate in the Spanish Constituent Cortes on the new Constitution was continued on Thursday and the article relating to newspapers etc., were finally disposed of. An amendment for establishing a moderate censorship of the Press was rejected, and the original provision granting the liberty of the Press the freedom of meeting and association, and the right of petition was carried by a large majority.

It is expected that the duties on cotton and coal will be abolished by the Government.

The Cortes is considering a project for the reorganization of the army on the Prussian system.

April 25.—Despatches from Madrid report that a great popular demonstration took place yesterday in favor of a Republic. Salustina Olosga, during the session of the Cortes yesterday assured the members that France would respect the future Government of Spain whatever form might be adopted.

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

LONDON, April 23.—The *London Morning Post* has an elaborate editorial article on the Cuban question. The writer says it is asserted that President Grant has a longing eye on Cuba, and is unwilling to distract the attention of the people from their internal affairs by a foreign war. The issue of a conflict between the United States and Spain cannot be doubtful, unless England and France interfere. A blow at Cuba would be a blow at all the West Indies, and the acquisition of Cuba might be followed by the acquisition of Jamaica and Martinique, etc.

The *Post* goes on to quote the recent acquisition of territory by the United States, in proof of her desire to acquire piecemeal, the possessions of the European powers in America. It would be natural to begin with Cuba, belonging to the weakest of the three powers holding possessions in the West Indies. It may be that France and England will determine whether in the event of the execution of the designs upon Cuba, they will aid Spain to retain her colony or calmly look on. The French papers agitate the question in much the same view. Special meetings of the French Cabinet were held yesterday and on Tuesday on the same subject. A special agent was despatched to London on Thursday night to communicate with the English Government in regard to the complication.

FILLIBUSTERING.—At an interview between the Spanish Minister and Secretary Fish on Tuesday, at Washington, the latter refused to issue a proclamation discouraging fillibustering expeditions to Cuba. He also informed Senor Roberts that the United States Government considered the British Government liable for the capture of the brig *Mary Lowell*, and reparation had therefore been demanded through the British