

all our Magazines once a year. The Christmas story is a burlesque, and quite too thin. Mrs. Oliphant, unquestionably the first of living female novelists, commences a deeply-studied fiction, and completes the short-story of The two Mrs. Scudamores, in a style that entitles it to high rank as tragedy rather than story. Rev. George B. Bacon is pungent, as a Bacon can be, on some kinds of spiritual quackery. He lashes out at revivalists—or rather at a certain revivalist whom he barely stops short of calling by name—like a doctor of the old school freeing his mind on homoeopathy. T. W. Higginson, Christina Rossetti, Joaquin Miller, Bayard Taylor, and Cummings the lion-hunter, are among the other contributors. It used to be called a dangerous dose to swallow a periodical. Scribner seems to thrive on its fellow creatures; being now engaged in digesting the fourth; "The Mosaic," of Nashville, is or was a Southern Magazine which has just gone the way of Hours at Home, Putnam's Monthly and the Riverside Magazine, and is now component, with the rest, of our favorite whose noble Christian attitude, novel among popular and successful magazines, and demanding every Christian's warm-hearted support, is sole reason and reason enough for so much notice in this letter.

Vidi.

For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.

JOHN ISRAEL DIMOCK.

Youngest son of the late Deacon Oliver Dimock, of blessed memory, died at Newport on the 24th of June, 1871, aged thirty-eight years. Deceased was at work in the field on Friday, till about the middle of the day, when he complained of feeling strangely ill, and with some difficulty made his way to the house, and on Saturday about six o'clock, P. M., without any visible change suddenly dropped away, leaving five brothers and one sister to mourn the loss of a conscientious, firm, affectionate, loving brother. Although not a member of the church, he left satisfactory evidence of genuine conversion. When a boy he was deeply excited in reference to eternal realities, and members of the family were satisfied that the spirit of the Lord was moving upon the lad. A few years since, in conversation with the writer, he spoke forcibly of his unworthiness and unlikeliness to Christ, and in an humble and satisfactory manner remarked that he had no fears of death, and at times concluded that he felt as Christians talked of feeling. He hesitated as to the propriety of making a profession, while he manifested great anxiety for the advancement of pure religion, and his life gave evidence of conversion to God. The language of our Lord is full of encouragement, "By their fruits ye shall know them."

J. B.

Religious Intelligence.

THE WAY THEY DO IT.—At a recent meeting of Maryland Baptists:

Brother Allen, pastor of the First Colored church, Baltimore, thought Baptists did not praise their preachers enough. The Methodists are wiser than we on that subject, except that they go to the other extreme, and praise too much. The Methodists are everlastingly puffing their preachers. Their best men stand at the corner of the streets and cry, "Come and hear our preacher, the wisest and best of men." Every little Methodist circuit-rider in Maryland has more reputation than brother Thompson, though he has more brains and culture than any ten men they have.

On this the N. Y. Examiner & Chronicle says: There is some degree of truth in what our colored brother says. Many a reputation is made for Methodist preachers—and preachers who are not Methodist—by persistent puffing; and, on the other hand, many a man is defrauded of the reputation which he justly deserves—and which other denominations would give him—by the intense individuality of us Baptists. There is a just mean between these two extremes. "Honor to whom honor is due" is an apostolic injunction. By all means let us heed it; for there are far too many of us who can see nothing good unless it be in ourselves or our church. The old benediction, "Lord, bless me and my wife; my son John and his wife—us four and no more," is certainly a type of many of our praises, and possibly not a few of our prayers.

SOMETHING NEW AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON.—The Rev. Canon Gregory commenced a week or two since a series of lectures to the young men of the City of London on the question, "Are we better than our fathers?" The idea of lecturing in St. Paul's Cathedral is, we believe, new; but it was eminently successful as regards the numbers who attended. The religious element was not wholly absent, however, for some prayers were recited and hymns were sung.

BIBLE REVISION.—The Revisers of the New Testament Company met Nov. 14, at the Jerusalem Chamber for their fourteenth session. Seventeen members were present—viz., the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who presided; the Bishop of St. Andrew's, the Deans of Westminster and Rochester, Archdeacons Bickersteth and Lee, the Master of the Temple, Canons Blakesley, Lightfoot, and Westcott, Professors Eadie, Milligan, Moulton, and Newth, Prebendary Humphry, Mr. Hort, and Mr. Scrivener. The company sat for seven hours, and concluded the latter half of the 14th chapter of St. Mark and the early part of the 15th.

AN ITEM OF INTEREST TO METHODISTS AND BAPTISTS.—At the meeting of the Des Moines Conference of the M. E. Church, recently held in Iowa, the delegates to the General Conference which meets next year, were, by resolution unanimously carried, instructed to endeavor to secure the striking out of the word "immersion" from the article in the Discipline which describes the mode of baptism. That article now reads: "Let every adult person, and the parents of every child to be baptized, have the choice either of immersion, sprinkling, or pouring." Striking out immersion of course discards it as baptism, and leaves the choice only of sprinkling or pouring. One naturally queries upon what ground immersion is to be discarded,—that it is not baptism? Then, what will be done with the hundreds of thousands of immersed Methodists? If immersion is not baptism they are not baptized. Will the church insist on sprinkling them? Or is it on the ground of expediency, without respect to scriptural authority? One who has a proper respect for the authority of Scripture, could not but have been pained to see in the discussions and action of the conference an almost entire want of respect for Scripture authority. Indeed, the editor of the Christian Advocate, at St. Louis, made the remark publicly in an address at the conference, that "the scripturalness of their church organization was a matter of no concern to them." If the scripturalness of this church organization is a matter of no concern why should the scripturalness of an ordinance of the church be, or the "Scripturalness" of their articles of faith in any respect. It is painful to feel that this only shows the direction in which this great body is drifting. Will the General Conference strike out immersion for its Article on Baptism in 1872?—Macedonian.

A GREAT REVIVAL has of late taken place in the Church of England, at Newport, Mornmouthshire. The visit of the Rev. Robert Aitken on the invitation of the Rev. J. T. Wrenforth, the incumbent of St. Paul's in that town. A full account of the meeting is given in the London Freeman. The writer says "Public attention was called" to the meetings by handbills and almost at once, or in a very few evenings, the church was filled to overflowing. Mr. Aitken was accompanied by two of his sons, also clergymen; and the three gentlemen preached, we think, alternately at St. Paul's and at Trinity, of which last the Rev. Samuel Fox is vicar. We happened, on one occasion, to have the opportunity of hearing one of the sons preach at St. Paul's. The text was "Adam, where art thou?" and, though the manner of the preacher was perhaps a little too dramatic and sensational for conventional pulpit propriety—

we observed once or twice clouds of dust fly up from the cushion, as if it were not accustomed to be so vigorously beaten, and rather resented the same—yet, upon the whole, a more earnest, thoughtful, and practical sermon it has seldom been our lot to hear. Every class was challenged, and every conceivable excuse for evading the claims of the Most High torn to shreds. What followed was, as to the method, in some respects not so much to our taste. The clergymen present, three or four in all, assisted by others, went up and down the aisles, from pew to pew, soliciting many of those present to come up to the "altar." "Are you saved?" "Have you found peace?"—these were the questions put and vehemently urged. One of the Mr. Aitkens, from the middle of the church, quietly said, "Sing Come to Jesus," and immediately the hymn, with its oft repeated refrain "just now," was sung, the congregation standing. The effect was marvellous—many were in tears, some audibly. When the hymn ceased, prayers, all of them extemporaneous, were offered by various persons in the congregation, chiefly laymen, and from all denominations. Wesleyans, Independents, Baptists, freely took part, and that without any formal invitation to do so. Indeed, one thing that has characterized this remarkable movement throughout has been its catholicity. There has been, so we are credibly informed, no attempt to make proselytes; no desire, apparently, on the part of those with whom it originated to aggrandize their own church. Mr. Wrenforth again and again has publicly and privately advised the new converts to keep to their own churches and ministers, and, in the great majority of instances, the exceptions we believe being but few, this advice has been acted upon.

With some, as a matter of course, the whole affair is a subject for ridicule; with some its spiritual reality is doubted; and not a few are greatly scandalized that the *otium cum dignitate* of the Established Church should have been thus openly violated. From all that we can gather, however, the large majority of thoughtful and devout persons in Newport are of opinion that, notwithstanding all drawbacks, all objectionable details, and all

mere animal excitement which may have accompanied this work, a great amount of good has been done: not only in the number of converts, but also in the quickening and stimulating of those who had before professed and called themselves Christians. It should on no account be overlooked that this movement, though originating with the Episcopalians, has by no means been confined to them. There is not, we are led to understand, a congregation in the town of Newport which has not, more or less, been affected by it. Special services in most of the chapels have been held, and with results of a most decided character.

As to the actual number of those who, in connection with these means, have been led to make some public profession of their faith, this is a matter on which we would express ourselves with diffidence. Perhaps one of the least satisfactory features in the whole has been the daily or at least frequent publishing of the numbers who on the previous evening had "found peace."

At a very early stage of these proceedings it was declared that 500 had already been converted. It may be so, but so far as we can ascertain, the data on which this conclusion was based would be, to us at least, insufficient. It is, however, an undoubted fact that after the excitement had subsided, after these special services had ceased to be held, very many did deliberately, and we hope advisedly, make a distinct religious profession.

Nor have these results, it would seem, been altogether confined to Newport. The villages around are some of them aroused, and frequent visits are paid to them by some of the most earnest leaders of this movement, who are themselves convinced, and surely they may be allowed to judge, that this wind that thus bloweth where it listeth is no other than the Spirit of God! As to the town itself, the Young Men's and the Young Women's Christian Associations, the latter of which has recently been favoured with a visit from Miss Morley, continue to hold large and vigorous meetings, and a special evangelistic service is held every Sunday evening at eight o'clock in the largest hall in the town. The work thus begun in the Established Church at Newport is in the eyes of the inhabitants marvellous. The devout among them are praying that time may prove it to have been the Lord's doing.

HAMILTON, ONTARIO.—The Canadian Baptist gives an account of the special services at the recent re-opening of Park Street Baptist Chapel in this town. In the absence of the Rev. Dr. Hotchkiss, of Buffalo, Rev. Dr. Hurd, of Brantford, preached in the forenoon from 1 Peter ii. 5, 6. Prof. Inglis, of Toronto, preached in the afternoon, from Galatians iv. 4, 5; and Dr. Hurd preached again in the evening from 1 John ii. 15. The congregation and collections were large, and the Hamilton Times characterizes the sermon as powerful and eloquent.

On the Monday evening a very successful tea meeting was held, attended by fully 600 persons. After an excellent tea, which was served in the newly renovated basement, able and appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Bates, Woodstock; Rev. C. Perren, Georgetown; Revs. J. Alexander and J. C. Hurd, Brantford. The speeches were interspersed with some excellent music by the members of the choir, who were ably assisted by the new and powerful organ.

MONTREAL FIRST CHURCH.—A very interesting installation-service was held on Friday evening of last week, when Rev. Wm. Cheetham was publicly welcomed to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Beaver Hall, Montreal. Appropriate addresses were delivered by several of the city ministers and other friends. Bro. Cheetham has met with a most cordial reception from his new charge, and we hope soon to hear that his labors in his very important field are being largely blessed.—*Id.*

Dominion & Foreign News.

In the Ontario House of Assembly on Thursday night, Mr. Blake announced that the formation of the Cabinet had been completed by the appointment of the following:—

- Mr. R. W. Scott, Commissioner of Crown Lands.
Mr. Peter Gow, Provincial Secretary, Mr. Mackenzie taking the Treasurership, instead of the Secretaryship, as at first arranged.
Mr. Currie, of Welland, was unanimously elected Speaker, in the room of Mr. Scott, who vacated his seat on acceptance of office.

The Government, thus completed, stands as follows:—

- Hon. Edward Blake, of South Bruce-Premier, without office.
Hon. Adam Crooks, Toronto, Attorney General.
Hon. Peter Gow, Wellington, Provincial Secretary.
Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Lambton, Treasurer.
Hon. R. W. Scott, Ottawa, Commissioner of Crown Lands.
Hon. Archibald McKellar, Bowwell, Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works.—Chronicle.

A broken rail on the Grand Trunk road near Brockville, Canada, threw the palace cars, in which Duke Alexis and suite were riding, off the track. The party were badly shaken, but not hurt.

An address of welcome was delivered to the Grand Duke Alexis to-day, in the name of the citizens of Ottawa. The Duke made a pleasant reply expressive of gratitude.

The Reporter's despatch on Saturday stated that Premier Blake explained the Ministerial policy. He contended that the Provincial Governments should take a position of neutrality in regard to the Dominion Government. There should be the utmost Parliamentary control over the public funds and public institutions. More stringent laws to secure the independence of Parliament will be introduced; also a bill to secure extension of Franchise will be brought down.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.—Mr. Pryor, President of the Chamber of Commerce, has received a letter from the Under Secretary of State at Ottawa, informing him that the petition from the Chamber in reference to the location of the Intercolonial Railway terminus at Halifax, has been received, and transferred to the department of the Intercolonial Railway.—Reporter.

MANITOBA.—Three French half breeds were recently tried for treason, and for being concerned in the late Fenian invasion. One, who went into the country with O'Donohue at the time of the raid, was convicted and sentenced to death. The others were acquitted, the evidence against them being insufficient to convict.

P. E. ISLAND.

The Governor has refused to dismiss his ministry though requested to do so by a majority of the House of Assembly. He says he will dismiss them if the Assembly after it meets at the usual time will pass a vote of want of confidence in them. This seems to be the constitutional way of dealing with such cases.

A woman named McDonald died recently in Prince Edward Island, aged one hundred and three years.

UNITED STATES.

President Grant's endorsement of the Civil Service Reform meets with the general approval. Under this law, office holders will be exempt from political assessments, and hold office during good behavior.

Two persons were fatally and fifteen seriously injured by a mail train near West Newton, Penn., running off the track. The express car went into the river.

Jesse R. Grant, father of President Grant, was stricken with paralysis on Thursday afternoon in Cincinnati, but in the evening he was able to converse.

Such severe weather on the coast has rarely been known.

Senator Sumner has proposed an amendment to the constitution, limiting the President to one term.

The Civil Service Bill, agreed upon by the Special Committee, meets with the approval of the President and Cabinet, and its passage will be urged upon Congress.

Letters from South America state that the earthquake at the town of Oran lasted nine hours, with forty different shocks. The streets were split open and every house tumbled into the ruins. The inhabitants all fled to camps outside the town.

Both Houses of Congress have adjourned to 8th January.

Ulysses Grant the present President, and Mrs. Woodhull are two of the candidates for the Presidential chair.

Gail Hamilton delicately hints her Presidential preferences, at least as between these two of the candidates:

"When Greek meets Greek, I prefer Ulysses the Silent, fighting it out on his own line, to Demosthenes the Eloquent, hiding under a woman's gown."

President Grant received a despatch on Saturday from Queen Victoria announcing the convalescence of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The President sent a return telegram offering the congratulations of the people of the United States and his own, for the recovery of the Prince.

CUBA.—A Havana letter published in New York on Saturday states that there have been more rebel deaths of late.

Spanish troops are constantly arriving from Spain. The Spanish inhabitants of Cuba anticipate cheerfully war between the United States and Spain.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

There is still some anxiety concerning the Prince of Wales, although for several days during the past week he was pronounced, "convalescing."

Public rejoicings took place on the 19th at Windsor over the convalescence of the Prince. A number of oxen and sheep were roasted by order of the town authorities, and a general feast was held, to which the poor and many others were invited.

The Queen has received the congratulations of the ex-Emperor of France on the recovery of the Prince.

It is reported that of the physicians who attended the Prince, Dr. Gull, is to be made a Baronet, and Dr. Lowe receives a Knighthood.

Gregg, the Prince of Wales' groom, died on Monday the 18th.

Earl of Ellenborough, formerly Governor General of India, died on Thursday last, aged 81.

Dr. Livingstone is again heard from. He was deserted by his men and had been obliged to hunt to support himself.

This statement is made so emphatic that one can hardly entertain a doubt about its truthfulness, and we have so frequently been deceived by such reports that we shall wait for the confirmation of this before giving it our entire credence.

The Steamer "Delaware," from Liverpool for Calcutta, was totally lost yesterday off Scilly Islands, and all hands are supposed to have perished.

5 A. M.—Parliament is prorogued until 6th February.

Count Von Baet presented his credentials as Austrian Ambassador to the Queen yesterday.

The Empress Eugenia has arrived at Southampton from Spain.

A national subscription has been proposed to assist in the rebuilding of Warwick Castle.

The apprentices in Londonderry attempted to parade on Thursday under the leadership of Mr. Johnston, M. P., but were dispersed by a force of cavalry. Several were imprisoned.

Small-pox prevails alarmingly in Birmingham. Special hospitals will be established for the sick; also quarantines and other precautionary measures.

FRANCE.—The French Government refuse to sell the Crown Jewels to private parties.

The Duke de Aumale and the Prince de Aumale and the Prince de Joinville took their seats in the National Assembly on the 19th. They sat in the centre of members of the Right. Their appearance created no sensation.

Thiers, in an interview with French Protestants, promised continued religious equality.

GERMANY.—The students in College of Metz diminished from five hundred to three persons since German occupation; and in the College at Colmar from four hundred to sixty, of whom forty-eight are Germans.

The American Minister at Berlin has delivered to the Emperor of Germany, who had accepted the arbitratorship between Great Britain and the United States, the memorandum of the American Government with regard to the North-Western boundary question.

A despatch from Bismarck to Von Armin excites the French press to bitterness against the Germans.

The Emperor has prorogued the Session of the Prussian Diet till the 8th of Jan.

SPAIN.—Malcampo's Ministry in Spain has resigned, and the crisis continues.

RUSSIA.—Fifty thousand of the Russian army have been granted furloughs.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The Sublime Port and the Khedive of Egypt refused to purchase the Suez Canal, and DeLesseps is now applying to other governments to effect the sale.

Registration of Births and Deaths.—Every Birth should be registered within 60 days after it has taken place. PENALTY for neglect, Two Dollars. Every Death should be registered before interment, or within 10 days after death. Penalty for neglect, Five Dollars. HALIFAX OFFICE—No. 50 GRANVILLE ST.

Marriages.

At Weston, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. E. O. Read, Mr. John M. Jacques, of Aylesford, to Miss Lois, daughter of the late Benjamin Skinner, of West Cornwallis.

At-o at the Paragon, Berwick, on the 6th inst., Mr. Mayhew Griffin, to Miss Annie M. Caldwell, both of Cornwallis.

By Rev. C. Tupper, D. D., on the 13th inst., Mr. David E. Peiron, to Miss Charlotte Smith, daughter of Mr. George Smith, all of Aylesford.

At St. Andrew's Church, Little River, Musquodohit, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. John McMillan, Mr. Charles A. Webster, of Ingram River, to Miss Sophia A. Oglive, of Little River, Musquodohit.

At Brace, Lunenburg, on Wednesday, the 20th, by the father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. E. McNab, and the Rev. D. McMillan, the Rev. John Forrest, Pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Halifax, to Anna Prescott, eldest daughter of the Rev. Wm. Duff.

At Bridgewater, on the 20th inst., by the Rev. S. March, George G. Sande son, Esq., Merchant of Yarmouth, to Fannie, eldest daughter of B. W. C. Manning, Esq., of the former place, and grand daughter of the late Rev. James E. Manning.

Also, by the same, on the 21st inst., Mr. Samuel See, to Miss Emma Lloyd, all of Bridgewater.

At Newaux, Dec. 20th, by the Rev. M. P. Freeman, Mr. Watson Chipman, of Wilmot, to Mrs. Caroline Morse, of Newaux. Also, by the same, Dec. 21st, at Torbrook, Mr. William E. Viduto, of Bloomington, to Miss Isabella Wilkins, of Aylesford.

By the Rev. D. Freeman, in Peregau, Dec. 20th, 1871, Mr. John L. Sanford, of Medford, to Mrs. Sophia A. West, daughter of Deacon Gould Davison.

Also, by the same, Dec. 21st, 1871, Mr. John M. Greenough, of Peregau, to Miss Floretta Cox, of Woodside.