

which schools are so numerous and all free to pupils between the ages of 6 and 21.

In 4,566 schools reported, 5,165 teachers were engaged. Their religious views classify them as follows:—Presbyterians 1589; Methodists 1509; Church of England 869; Roman Catholics 592, in all, Separate Schools included; other denominations, Baptists included, being comparatively "nowhere," as our cousins say.

The transition may seem abrupt, but a logical connection may easily be traced, if I turn for a moment to another report of a different character which is just now brought before me by some law of association, or other agency. I refer to the yearly report of the Chief of Police in our principal city. I find I have mislaid the figures but the fact, as astonishing, in view of the character and extent of the immigration to our commercial centres, as gratifying, is that there has been a marked decrease in the amount of actual crime committed in Toronto. This we hope is by no means an isolated case in the Dominion. Comparing small things with great, by placing this fact beside that conveyed in a recent report in reference to crime in England in 1870, we arrive at some conclusions by no means favourable to the views of those who are making a constant outcry in reference to the fancied increase of crime. It appears that there were fewer convictions and sentences to penal servitude in Great Britain during 1870 than during any year on record." To quote again from the Globe's summary of that report:

"In England and Wales there was a diminution of 10 per cent upon the previous year, and in the whole of Britain of more than 8 per cent. In 1845, with a population of seventeen millions in England and Wales, the total number of sentences passed was 17,000; in 1870, with a population of twenty-two millions, that number had fallen to 13,000. The sentences of imprisonment had fallen off 41 per cent; those of transportation and penal servitude, 58 per cent; and of capital punishment, 76 per cent. The number of recommitments had also diminished and the number reclaimed had greatly increased."

This is travelling I fear, if not beyond my record, at least beyond my longitude, but the subject is a most interesting one. I wish that some one, with the materials at command, would extend the comparison to other countries and nations.

Statistics are by no means my delight or my forte, but having somehow fallen upon them in this letter let me conclude by giving a few facts, gleaned from the Register just published, in relation to the Baptists in Ontario and Quebec. I find that during the year eight ministers have been ordained, seven new churches recognized, and eight new chapels dedicated. Four ministers have been welcomed from other countries, viz. Rev. R. Lennie from Lieth Scotland, at Fonthill; Rev. G. H. Griffin, from Padham, England; (late of Spurgeon's College) at St. George; Rev. W. Cheatham from Saratoga, U. S., at Montreal; and Rev. J. W. Thorne from Kingston, England, at Seaforth. The total membership of Baptist churches reported is 16,753, including additions by baptism 1270. Would it not be worth while for some of our leading brethren to devise a scheme by which we might publish a Register, or Year Book for the Dominion? We might thus, at least, be saved such geographical inaccuracies as the giving of lists of ministers and churches, and of other ministers in Ontario and Quebec under such headings as "List of Regular Baptist churches and ministers in Canada," and "other Baptist ministers in Canada." We in this big province are so accustomed, I suppose, to think of ourselves as "The Dominion," that we may be pardoned for occasionally forgetting that as Baptists we are yet the lesser half of it.

J. E. W.

For the Christian Messenger.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

CLEMENTSPORT, February 16, 1872.

Dear Brother,—

I am please to have the weekly visits of the Messenger. It brings us good tidings, of the grace and work of God, in different parts of his vinyard, I wish the Messenger was in every Baptist family, for I am convinced, by my own experience, and likewise by observation, that if such were the case, we would have less difficulties, and more godly zeal among our church members. The weekly visits of a good religious paper among Christian families is profitable for instruction in righteousness and might be reckoned, or regarded, as one of God's ministers coming to us, clad in his snow-white garment preaching

peace, by Jesus Christ. His voice may not be heard on high, nor may he have the awing eloquence of thunder, but his silent notes of song, like angel whispers, fall upon the drear regions of the soul and fill our hearts with joy and gladness, as week after week, he relates to us the gracious dealings of God with our fellow-men. He stands before us at our own fire-side,

and preaches to both old and young, and tells us of prison-dooms being opened to the captive delivered, the ears of the deaf, he says, are opened, and likewise the eyes of the blind. He tells us the lame are made to leap like an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing, the song of salvation is heard in the valley and on the mountain top, blending with the notes of angels, as they sing Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will towards men. O that the song of praise may be soon heard in this part of God's vineyard. We are toiling along as best we can. Our congregations are large and attentive, but no shaking among the dry bones. I wish to acknowledge the kindness and liberality of my people, who have during the winter, made us several visits, which indeed were very pleasant, and I trust profitable to both them and us, their donations in all amounting to 170 dollars. And may God bless the donors.

Yours in Christ,  
JOHN WILLIAMS.

Allow me through the Messenger to give expression to the happiness I have enjoyed of the gathering fruit from our beautiful donation trees. The one at Cheverie yielded fruit worth \$92, and the one at Summerville, \$50.

G. A. WETHERS.

Dear Bro. Selden,—Our spacious parsonage at North Sydney was filled on the evening of Feb. 6th, by our loving people, together with a few kind friends from Sydney, who made us happy with their presence, and on departing left us the grateful recipients of a purse containing \$32.50 in cash and about \$30.00 in useful articles, which, together with a fine new sleigh presented by Bro. Geo. Dobson, made up the sum of \$92.50,—all of which we thankfully acknowledge and pray God to bless the cheerful donors.

Respectfully yours,  
S. J. NBLEY.

North-Sydney, Feb. 12th, 1872.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

ORDINATION AT CAVENDISH, P. E. I.

In accordance with an invitation from Cavendish church to sister churches, the following delegates met in council on the 8th inst., in the Baptist Meeting House at Cavendish, to consider the propriety of setting apart Bro. W. H. Warren, P. A., to the work of the gospel ministry.

Persons representing the churches.

Cavendish,—Deacon Jeremiah Simpson, Brothers Geo. McMill, Arthur Simpson.

Bedeque,—Rev. J. B. McDonald, M.D., Bro. Stephen Van Borkirk.

North River,—Deacons Alex. McKinlay, Jas. Warren, Bro. W. B. Bradshaw, B. A.

Charlottetown,—Rev. John Davis, M. A.

Digby and Alexandria,—Rev. F. Kidson, Bro. Davis was appointed President, and Bro. Bradshaw, Clerk of the Council.

After an examination with reference to the candidate's conversion, call to the christian ministry, and religious belief, it was unanimously resolved to proceed to his ordination.

The ordination service took place at 3 o'clock, P. M., when the following arrangements were carried out:

Candidate questioned by Rev. J. B. McDonald.

Ordination Sermon by Rev. J. Davis.

Charge to Minister by Rev. F. Kidson.

Charge to Church by Rev. Dr. McDonald.

Benediction by Rev. W. H. Warren.

The service was performed in the presence of a large and interested congregation. The preacher chose for his theme:

I. "The ministration of righteousness." 2 Cor. iii. 9.

II. "Who is sufficient for these things?" 2 Cor. ii. 16.

III. "Our sufficiency is of God." 2 Cor. iii. 5.

Our Brother enters upon his work with bright prospects. It is our earnest prayer that his path may be that of the just which shines more and more unto the perfect day.

W. B. BRADSHAW,  
Clerk of Council.

Quincyboro Co.—Manchester, Feb. 13th, 1872.—Dear Brother Selden,—You and many of your readers will be glad to hear that the work of the Lord is again revived in this place. Years have passed away since there was any indication of better times; but evidently "The set time has come to favour Zion." Many have been reclaimed and restored to fellowship and

sinners are rejoicing in the love of Christ to their souls. On the first Sabbath in this month I baptized two persons, and last Sabbath two other happy souls were buried with their Lord in the holy rite in one of the loveliest places I ever yet saw. The congregations are very large and anxiously looking for salvation. I preached once a day for more than six weeks and feel as well as when I began to labour. Preached in Tor-Bay, New Harbour, Coddle Harbour, and Seal Harbour. All seemed glad to see a minister and sorry to have him leave. Will we not have an interest in the prayers of God's people? As ever,

AGGUSTUS SHIELDS.

ECONOMY AND PORTA PIQUE.—Interesting religious services are being held here. Rev. D. McKeen, says "I hope we may soon have good news to send you."

PORT MEDWAY AND MILL VILLAGE.—Rev. J. Melbourne Parker is encouraged by tokens for good. Union meetings are continuing. He administered the ordinance of Baptism to one believer a few weeks ago.

QUINCYBORO AND MANCHESTER HAVE SOME cause of rejoicing over sinners saved.

METHODISM IN ROME.—In addition to the ordinary income of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, says the Methodist Recorder, nearly £24,000 have been subscribed for a specific purpose during and since the last Conference, being just three-fourths of the amount required to enable the Committee to complete its new scheme. A valuable property in the best part of the city of Rome has been obtained for the use of the Wesleyan Missionary Society. The property consists of a large building, facing one of the principal thoroughfares leading from the Tiber, and in a prominent position at the junction of two streets. This building was formerly a palace, but is at present let off in sections; the basement consisting of shops, and the upper stories chiefly of apartments inhabited by a superior class of families. By a few slight alterations, all that is required in the way of building, for the effective carrying on of the good work which has been so auspiciously commenced in Rome, can be secured. A commodious chapel, with plenty of accommodation for schools, and residence for the minister in charge, are ready to hand, while several shops or other apartments will continue to be occupied as at present, yielding an annual rental.

NEW GUINEA.—In this large and beautiful island, containing at least a million of people, wholly uncivilised and ignorant of the gospel, the London Missionary Society have recently established a mission. Messrs. Murray and Macfarlane are the European brethren in charge, assisted by eight teachers. When God wants a man for His work, He knows where to find him. This is illustrated in the following case of meeting with a native, who will be invaluable to the missionaries in the new work they are undertaking. Messrs. Murray and Macfarlane thus write:—

Our falling in with the man who had charge of the boat is a thing to be especially noted. It is one of those wonderful providential arrangements which we have so often had to mark in connection with our evangelistic efforts throughout Eastern and Western Polynesia. In all probability there is not another man who could have rendered us the service which this man did, and yet he was just put into our hands without any seeking or planning of ours. A few particulars of his history will interest, and serve to show how he is fitted to render us such important aid. He gives his full name as Joseph John, but he goes by the name of Joe. He is a native of Nukualofa, an island of the Tongan group—the Friendly Islands of Cook. He has been away from his native land for thirty years or more, and during that time, he has made an extensive acquaintance with both the civilised and the heathen world. At the time of the Crimean war he was in an English man-of-war, and for nearly six years he was connected with the British navy. He resided in London for a time, and he has been to Sydney again and again. He has a very extensive island experience, especially in the well acquainted with the islands of the Torres Straits and the Papuan Gulf, and his acquaintance extends, moreover, to many parts of the coast of the mainland of New Guinea. Among the Islands, and on the coast, he is better known and has greater influence than any other living man; and whilst he is shrewd, sensible, and observant; and being himself an islander, and belonging to a group into which Christianity was introduced a number of years before he left his home, his sympathies are strongly with the native races, and with us in our desire to evangelise them, and he is able to deal with them in a manner which few, if any, white men could do.

On Sunday afternoon Dean Stanley preached in Old Greyfriars Church (the Rev. Dr. Wallace's), Edinburgh, to a crowded congregation. The Dean chose for his text John 13, 34—"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Dr. Wallace read the prayers and lessons for the day. In his concluding remarks, the Dean said:—"On this spot, where a vast congregation of every age and rank pledged themselves to the death—to extirpate every form and shred of proslavery, the Scottish Church in these latter days has had the courage to revive ancient forms of liturgical worship, and to welcome the ministrations of Episcopal clergymen. These contrasts are themselves sufficient to remind us how transitory are the feuds which have in former days rent asunder the Churches of these islands—how eternal are the bonds which unite them when viewed in the light of history and before the judgment of a better world. And if the ghosts of these ancient disputes have been laid to sleep—never, we trust, to return—if the coming of a brighter age and the opening of a wider horizon has dawned from time to time on the teachers, famous in their generation, who have ministered within these walls—then I trust it will not have been altogether unsuitable, in this place and on this occasion, that a Scottish congregation should have heard from an English Churchman the best New Year's blessing, in the form of his sacred text—"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another."—English Paper.

Dominion & Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., FEB. 21, 1872.

It is feared that the Canadian Surveying party of twenty-five persons, under Col. deVale, who left Duluth a month ago, have perished; they were last heard from January 24th, making for Isle Royal.

THE OHIO AND CANADIAN CANALS.—Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 13.—In the Senate to-day a resolution was adopted granting the use of the Ohio canals to residents of Canada on an equality with the citizens of the United States, provided the Dominion government grant a similar use of Canadian canals to the citizens of the United States.

The Rotsey Hotel at Toronto has been burnt. Loss \$25,000; insurance, \$13,000.

A fire in Toronto on Wednesday last, burned nine of the eleven wholesale stores known as the "sun block." Loss estimated at half a million dollars. Among the principal sufferers are Stanton & Co., Dalbre & Co.; John Robertson; Jennings & Brandon; John Charlesworth; Barclay, Evans & Co.; Work, Fisher & Co.; Livingston & Johnson; Thomas Wall & Co.

The Dominion Parliament is expected to assemble for the despatch of business on the 11th inst.

The Manitoba Legislature rejected a motion to offer a reward for the apprehension of Scott's murderers.

P. E. ISLAND.

THREE PERSONS KILLED BY POISON.—The Charlottetown "Examiner" of the 12th inst., says:—"We have to record to-day the most dismal tragedy that has, perhaps, ever happened in this Island. On Saturday last, two boys—Melsac and Ellis—belonging to Tracadie Sand Hills, on returning home found a bottle by the roadside, containing brandy. They drank some of the contents. Ellis took the bottle home, and told his mother it was brandy; she drank some and gave a portion to her child. In less than a quarter of an hour Mrs. Ellis, her son, and the boy Melsac were found dead. The child, we hear, is still living. It is supposed the bottle contained poison. As we go to press, these are all the particulars we can get."

UNITED STATES.

In the Stokes case on Wednesday the court was occupied in listening to technical objection to jurisdiction by prisoner's counsel. In the Oyer and Terminer Court the following day, evidence was continued on behalf of Stokes, as to irregularities in empanelling the Grand Jury.

Mr. Thornton the British Minister, says he apprehends no difficulty between the United States and Great Britain. He believes that everything will be satisfactorily adjusted.

A London special to a New York paper says no English Government continuing negotiation in regard to Treaty of Washington, as the case now stands, could hold office twenty-four hours.

It is rumored the Tammany thieves propose to compromise with the New York Reform City Committee by paying five million dollars.

The Workingmen's Union is getting ready to enforce the eight-hour law, beginning April 1st.

The proposed abolition of the tariff duties on tea and coffee is hailed with general applause.

Another severe snow storm was prevailing on Thursday last in the North West. The mercury fell 50 degrees in two hours. The wind is blowing a hurricane.

A Buffalo despatch says the Lake fishermen are to hold a meeting at Detroit, on March 26th, with a view to consider means to secure their rights to fish in British waters, which is denied by the Treaty of Washington.

The steamship "Republic," from Liverpool, February 3, encountered a furious hurricane and mountainous seas, lasting forty-eight hours. All the boats except one were washed overboard. Mr. Williams, second officer, was struck by a sea, breaking his left thigh, dislocating his ankle and otherwise injuring him.

In the Senate on Monday Mr. Conkling, on the French arms resolution charged Mr. Sumner and his friends with conspiring to defeat the nomination of President Grant. A long and bitter debate is expected.

The Congressional Committee of Ways and Means has decided to report in favour of continuing the personal income tax.

A proposition to place salt and coal on the free list was defeated.

Gold 104. Money 6 per cent.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

Assassination of Lord Mayo.—In the House of Lords on Monday the 12th the Duke of Argyll announced that the Government had official information of the assassination of the Governor General of India, the Earl of Mayo; and with several other lords, pronounced eulogies on the deceased.

In the Commons, Mr. Gladstone stated that on the evening of the 8th inst., the Earl of Mayo was stabbed by a Mahomedan convict, and soon after receiving the wound, expired. The Premier proceeded to express the regret the whole country would feel at the loss of so distinguished a statesman. He was followed by Mr. Disraeli, who referred to the great public services of the deceased in terms of the highest praise. The assassin has been tried, convicted, and sentenced to be hanged.

Mr. Bancroft, the American Minister in Berlin, has completed his reply to the British case on the San Juan boundary question, and will submit it to the arbitrator, the Emperor William.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the Commons, stated that the case of the American Government, submitted to the Geneva arbitration, had not been printed, and it would be unjust to publish the document here at present.

The Anglo-American Question.—An attempt was made on Tuesday to bring the Alabama Claims before the House of Lords, but Earl Granville said that discussion at the present juncture was undesirable. Several Lords regretted that Parliament was the only place where the Treaty could not be mentioned. Earl Granville replied that if a motion was made for the prolongation of the English case, it would be laid before the House. The motion was accordingly made and adopted.

The English case in the matter of the Alabama claims, submitted to the Geneva Tribunal, was submitted to the British Parliament on Friday. The document concludes with the following:

"While England regrets the departure of rebel cruisers from her ports, she cannot acknowledge the justice of the claims against her for pecuniary damages for their acts. The United States must solidly establish the fact of England's negligence. England is ready to accept of the Tribunal of Arbitration, whether it is favourable or unfavourable, she desires only that it shall be just."

In the House of Commons, in reply to an inquiry of Disraeli, Gladstone said that nothing official had been received, but that Mr. Schenck, the American minister, thought that the reply of his Government would reach London by the first of March.

Mr. Cockburn, the British member of the Geneva Board, approves of the Government's refusal to admit claims for indirect damages.

The "Times" considers the situation more satisfactory. It denies that the quarrel sprang up because Mr. Gladstone feared the effect of the intrigues of Disraeli and Dilke, for nothing could be more unpopular in England.

The Anglo-American Association, at a meeting in London last week adopted a resolution that it would not publicly discuss the Alabama difficulty while there was hope of its being settled in a friendly spirit.

The daily News has a special from Rome which says that Gen. Sherman, in his reception by the King of Italy, assured His Majesty the Alabama question would be peacefully and finally settled by the Geneva Tribunal of arbitration.

A reduction in the cable tolls is proposed. The coolie trade is being discussed, and is denounced as a greater evil than the slave trade.

Small-pox is declared epidemic at Edinburgh.

Lord Napier of Magdala, Governor of Madras presidency, succeeds to the Governor Generalship of India pro tem. He is expected at Calcutta on the 24th.