

curr'd in Sydney.—The Prince of Wales Opera House—utterly destroyed, six houses were burned in Brougham place, and four or five in King Street, East. Before the flames could be checked twenty-six houses in all were burned or greatly injured, three persons were very seriously hurt, of whom two are since dead, a similar event occurred to the old Prince of Wales Theatre, situated on the same spot, some eleven years since. The present one was valued at £19,000, and no insurance. Over one hundred persons are thus deprived of the means of obtaining a living.

A New Baptist Chapel, purely Gothic in its style, is ready to be opened at Newtown, cost £1400 sterling, built of brick with stone foundation.

TEMPERANCE MATTERS—GRAND DEMONSTRATION, &c.

We have recently opened a new and magnificent Temperance Hall, also in Newtown, built for the Good Samaritan Division, Sons of Temperance, No. 3, the largest and handsomest Temperance Hall in Australia. This leads me to say a few words in regard to the order in this Island Continent, and amongst all the different Temperance organization, the Sons of Temperance hold the balance of power, and the years prosperity is a matter of astonishment to everybody friend and foe. We have great cause for thankfulness to Almighty God for his benediction and blessing on the Order. It is only 7 years or thereabouts since I received through your hands, from the parent society in Halifax, the first Charter and document to inaugurate the Order here, and No. 1. Day Spring consisted when organized of only 16 members, now there are 192 Subordinate Divisions, 6 Grand Divisions not including a number of Cadets and Cold Water Armies which makes over 200 division and sections and 26 Subordinate Divisions, of Sons, and 14 Unions of Daughters, and 7 sections of Cadets located at Victoria our sister Colony, under our National Division, also during the year we have established the order in Queensland and New Zealand. The whole number is not far from 20,000, (twenty thousand) and had you my brother been present on New Year's day at Prince Alfred Park and witnessed the vast assembly, their sayings and doings, you would have had no difficulty in getting up a leader for your excellent paper. This grand demonstration of the Sons and Daughters of Temperance was the great event of all our holidays viz. Christmas, Boxing day, New Year's Day and the Anniversary of the Colony, the landing of Captain Cook, which follow rapidly each other and are all public holidays on a large scale. But the demonstration of the Sons and Daughters exceeded them all in the Great Exhibition Building, the largest in the Colonies, capable of accommodating from 15 to 20,000, situated in Prince Alfred Park adjoining the Rail Road Depot at Sydney. The charge for the Building and Park was said to be £300, but as it belonged to the Council and the Mayor and a large number of the Aldermen being Sons of Temperance a reduction was made. The grounds being in excellent order, having been newly mown, the walks trimmed and the building ornamented with the flags of all nations from the galleries. All the preparations were on a large scale, for the reception of many visitors, under the patronage of his Excellency Lord Belmore and the Mayor, and the Aldermen of Sydney. The Programme was lengthy and varied for Monday afternoon and evening. Country Divisions came from Braidwood, Gouldburn, Pictou, Penrith, Richmond, Windsor, Worpath, both from north and south numbering several thousands. The procession to Government House and presenting of an address to the Earl of Belmore came off at 11 o'clock, after all had been marshalled into order they began to file off through Cleaveland Street Gate, there being two thousand five hundred Sons wearing the Regalia of the respective Divisions, making a procession half a mile long. Beside the flags of the National Division, the banners of the Subordinate Divisions being very handsome were carried at the front. Amongst them were those of the following branches "Day Spring," "Capt. Cook," "Rose of Australia," "Bethel," "British Lion," "Hearts of Oak," "Corn Stalk" &c., &c. The banners of the Juveniles took the palm. The naval brigade band was in the van, Sydney Rifles, the Parramatta Band, with others played very enlivening music through the march, the course was along George St. Bridge, and to the Government Gates. Shortly after 12 o'clock the procession arrived at Government House, and the various Divisions took up position and their banners were well

displayed. The Reception was admirably arranged. Mr. Clark, the Most Worthy Scribe then read and presented the address. After reading the address and reply cheers were given for the Queen &c., and the procession reformed and returned by the way of the outer domain King and Pitt Sts., to Prince Alfred Park with improved appetites, whilst abundance of provision had been provided by Mr. Campagnoni in his best style. Thousands sat down to a good substantial dinner in the galleries both for dinner and at tea, whilst thousands chose to dine in the Park which presented the appearance of an immense picnic ground. In the afternoon the great building was densely packed with those who had come to witness the amusements provided by the Committee. The Park exercises consisted of foot races &c., and successful competitors receiving prizes of £1,10s. for jumping and running races, &c., picking up such a number of Oranges—Apples, &c.

But the heat of the afternoon made the inside of the building the pleasant place for the majority, stalls were fitted up with great taste and supplied with various fancy articles, such as usually find a ready sale at this season of the year. The Japanese troupe, and others gave some wonderful acrobatic performances. In the evening there was a panorama of the Franco-Prussian and the American Wars. A company of Christy Minstrels then sang a number songs and brought the advertised list of amusements to a close shortly after 10 o'clock.

The great festival was a complete success, especially so when we take into account the counter attractions almost on every hand. A monster Pic-nic by the Sons was held at Geelong, a new division, the same day, at which not less than two thousand were present, and astonished the natives.

Not the least interesting part of the day's proceedings at the Park was in the open air. Temperance meetings were numerous, addresses short and pithy were delivered by various gentlemen both from city and country, and on the blessings and advantages of the temperance reformation, and triumphantly alluding to the present successful gathering as a striking proof of the progress made in the spread of Temperance principles throughout the Colony. But as you will doubtless see the *Abstainer*, the organ of the Order in the Colony you will thus find a more elaborate account of this monster gathering.

BOTANY BAY.

Our party having arrived not only with specimens, but with sun-burnt faces and sharpened appetites are ready to do ample justice to the good things provided. It is here that the monuments of Capt. Cook and La Perie are situated, the two celebrated navigators, and here Capt. Cook planted the British Ensign and took possession of the country in the name of the then reigning sovereign. Their monuments are situated on opposite sides of the Headlands or entrance to Botany Bay and are in a fine state of preservation. The Government have constructed a fine road here which is well patronized. Busses, Coaches, Hansons, Euggys, and every variety of vehicle being brought into requisition to convey pleasure parties to these romantic grounds, who prefer a drive to a trip by the steamers. This is our first visit, our former attempts previous to the new road being failures, although residing in sight of the place for 12 years. The upper Botany some 4 miles from this, has long been a favourite resort—it was here our friends accompanied us on our arrival in the Colony, the beauty of which surpassed any place we had seen. Here is located Sir Joseph Bank's Hotel, the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Menagerie of wild beasts, Tea Gardens &c., and every convenience for Boating &c. on the Bay. Steamers have been running from here up the river, which is a most beautiful stream some 20 miles long, to Liverpool, conveying parties for pleasure. Great improvements during these 12 years are visible at Botany especially in Church erections. Six different Churches having sprung up during that time, viz. a new Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, 1 Primitive Methodist, 1 Roman Catholic, and the Tabernacle. In the last named place I have not unfrequently conducted worship, but I regret to say that the number of Churches is not a correct criterion by which to judge of the piety at the Antipodes, any more than in other parts of the world. There is a Temperance Hall, the Water Works are also here which sends the water to the City by steam power, 7 miles distant. The National School has a building that would be an honour to any City, besides there

are quite a number of Hotels, Felmongering, Glue, Bone mills, Tanneries, Slaughtering Establishments and other industries Fisheries &c., Kerosene works &c., &c.

Although we are not able to tell of any great revivals in New South Wales, yet we rejoice that our sister Colony Queensland has shared in revival influence, the Baptist and other Churches in the City of Brisbane have been revived and many souls have been converted there through the labours of a Mr. Walter Douglas an Evangelist. Brother Kingsford a particular Baptist has been greatly revived and his church has been much enlarged. I did expect ere this to have paid a visit to Nova Scotia, but circumstances wholly beyond my control have prevented as yet. Nothing would be so pleasing as to see all my friends in N. S. once more.

Truly yours,
W. HOBBS.

For the Christian Messenger

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

DONATION TO REV. DAVID MCKEEN.

Dear Brother,—As others are acknowledging the kindness of friends, I wish to do so also. The Baptist Church of Lower Economy and Five Islands, agreed to unite with the Upper Economy and Portauquique Church, for the purpose of making us a donation visit. Accordingly they met at the Lower Economy Meeting-house, on Feb. 16, and although the day was very unpleasant, right well did these communities turn out. Other denominations also were generously represented. The Rev. Mr. McKay and lady favored us with their company. Our good Presbyterian brother McKay, with Capt. Thompson, A. Fail, Esq., (Methodist), also members of our own church, gave interesting addresses. At the close of the gathering we found ourselves the richer by \$151.27 in cash, and valuables equal to \$24.35, in all \$175.624. This donation seems to us the more generous when we know the failure of last summers fishing there, and consequent scarcity of money, and that I am there only three quarters of my time, and my salary is paid punctually every quarter. Our friends of the Westbrook and Upper Maccan, met at the house of Mr. Thomas Blenkhorn on Dec. 8th, 1871, and presented us with donations to the amount of \$38.23, although there were but few present, the day being unfavorable, and the appointment insufficiently known. May the Giver of all good bless the people an hundred fold.

D. MCKEEN.

DONATION TO REV HENRY EAGLES.

Dear Brother,—I wish to acknowledge the kindness of our Sabbath School and friends, a goodly number of whom met at our house on the evening of the 9th of March, for the purpose of giving us in tangible form tokens of respect and kindness toward us. After partaking of a bountiful tea provided and prepared by the ladies, we had presented to us by one of our Brethren present in behalf of the Sabbath School and friends assembled, a purse containing a nice present in cash, accompanied by suitable music, after which short and appropriate addresses were made by our brethren and friends present, interspersed with sweet singing. The evening passed very pleasantly indeed, and I think the feeling of all present was that such meetings have the effect of strengthening the ties between minister and people. May the Lord bless the donors.

Yours truly,

HENRY EAGLES.

St. Mary's, Melrose, County of Guysboro.

For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.

DEACON THOMAS MILLER,

departed this life at his late residence in Hillsburgh on the 7th inst., aged 65 years. Our dear brother has been unusually well and happy during the past winter, and although in past years he had been subject to heavy sickness at times which caused his friends to fear that his stay with them was short, yet we have hoped when seeing him enjoying his good health of late, that he would be spared to us many years; this hope was fondly cherished to within two hours of his death, he being as well as usual up to that time. He died about 7 o'clock in the morning. The day before his death he attended to his business as usual, spent a very pleasant evening with his family, and slept well during the night until five o'clock in the morning, when he awoke feeling unwell. The family was called, and in the short space of two hours

his redeemed spirit had taken its flight to join the triumphant throng around the Throne of God in glory. His last words to his dear Family were—Do not be afraid, It is all right.

"The voice at midnight came;
He started up to hear;
A mortal arrow pierced his frame,
He fell, but felt no fear.
Tranquil amid alarms,
It found him on the field,
A veteran slumbering on his arms
Beneath his red-cross shield."

The sudden and unexpected death of our dear brother has caused universal mourning; in his family, in the Church, and in the community where he has lived so many years. He was beloved and much respected by all, for he was a friend to all, and every person who speaks of him is pleased to say that "he was a good man." He was a very kind husband, and a very affectionate and faithful father. The church here of which he was an honored "Deacon" for many years feels his death very deeply. As a christian he was very sincere and a true lover of religion and the cause of God. As a Deacon he was very faithful, always at his post, and would do his duty whether he felt like it or not, he served God from principle, and because he loved God. He was a father in the church. Oh, that his mantle may fall on many in our churches is my prayer.

His funeral took place last Sabbath, and although the roads and weather were very unfavorable, the attendance was very large and solemn. A discourse was delivered by the Pastor from 2 Thes. ii. 16, 17. May God sustain and comfort the mourning friends and bless his sudden death to us all is my prayer. Amen.

("Christian Visitor" please copy.)

MR. OBADIAH SAUNDERS.

There are certain events in the life of every man which form important dates in his history. In giving you a brief notice of the life of Brother Obadiah Saunders, I have not been able to ascertain the exact period from which many of those epochs date. He was born, however, Feb. 17th 1796. In early life he obtained a hope in Jesus and united with the Baptist Church at Nictaux. Subsequently he removed to Aylesford and in doing so united with the Church there. It was, I think, while a member of that Church, that his brethren, having full confidence in his christian character and mental ability and believing that the desires he expressed were of the Spirit's promptings, gave him a License to preach the gospel. For a number of years our brother "labored in the work," zealously and efficiently. About 27 years ago he engaged with the Church at Springfield, Annapolis Co. to serve them in the gospel and soon after moved his family to that place. For several years he has not been able to preach, still he has continued to be a worthy member of the Church in that locality; and so far as the influence of a consistent christian life and the wise counsel of a judicious thinking mind are concerned they have sustained a great loss.

His death which took place March 21, has caused a number of children, grandchildren and other friends to mourn. His wife had preceded him to glory five years ago.—Communicated by Rev. W. E. Hall.

Religious Intelligence.

WEST YARMOUTH.—Dear Brother,—The friends of Zion no doubt are always well pleased to hear of her prosperity in any place. It has pleased the Lord to hear the prayer of his elect people, in all ages of the world. We have great cause to bless and praise the name of our exalted Redeemer, that he has not forsaken us as a church. I have had the pleasure recently of baptizing 18 into the fellowship of the West Yarmouth Church. Also received one by letter, and two by previous baptism.

Yours truly,
W. L. PARKER

Cheguggin, Yarmouth, March 23rd, 72.

On last Sunday, the 25th ult., there were seventeen baptized in the Fifth street church, Troy; twelve in the First church; five in the Second church, and several in the Vail Avenue Church.

THE YOUNG WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION of Boston seem to have entered on a new career in their history, judging from the exercises at the annual meeting. The salient resolve of the meeting was the proposed erection of a new home for indigent young women at a cost of \$80,000.

It is stated that, by order of the Pope, several distinguished priests have been entrusted with the duty of attending Protestant meetings in Paris to discuss doctrinal points with the ministers.

Provincial Parliament.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 3, 1872.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, March 26th.—Hon. Attorney General introduced a bill to establish County Courts by which the Province would be divided into seven Districts, each of which would be under one judge, thus rendering it necessary to create seven new County Court Judges at a salary of \$2000 each. These Districts are each to comprise three counties with the exception of Halifax Co., which with the city is to comprise one District.

Mr. Blanchard concurred in the principle of the bill, and said he thought some such measure had become a necessity. It was read a first time and Thursday appointed for the second reading.

Hon. Provincial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Commissioner of Public Works. The department received from the Provincial Treasurer during the past year the sum of \$63,524.48, the amount expended. Paid to the Treasurer the sum of \$30,633.59; received almost entirely on account of the Hospital for the Insane. The expenses of the new Provincial Building were, for the past year, \$1001.72, comprising salary of the keeper and attendants, cost of heating, lighting, cleaning, water rates &c.

The expenses of the Lunatic Asylum for the year amounted to \$48,789.31.

The expenses in connection with the old Provincial Building for the past year were \$3696.57, and of Government House \$3473.48, and of the Provincial Museum, now located in the new Provincial Building of \$1541.10. It suggests an appropriation for this institution of \$1500. Appended to it was the report of the Superintendent of Works; and also of the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane.

A number of private or local bills were advanced a stage. The House in Committee passed the following: A bill to incorporate the Albert Lodge of Free-masons, Shelburne; to incorporate the Halifax Club Building Society; to incorporate the Halifax Visiting Dispensary; to incorporate the Acadia Co-operative Society, Stellarton; to establish Farmers' Clubs, under the control of the Board of Agriculture; to amend Chapter 26 of the Revised Statutes, relating to Crown Lands.

Mr. Kirk presented a petition from the inhabitants of Halifax for an assimilation of the License laws of Halifax with that of the Province, and introduced a bill in accordance with the prayer of the petition. Some exception was taken to it because the bill had not received the sanction of the City Council. At the suggestion of the Provincial Secretary, it was read a first time,—the question of its admissibility to be settled before further action.

WEDNESDAY, 27th.—Mr. Holmes introduced a bill to alter two polling places in the County of Pictou.

Mr. Campbell presented a petition from a ferryman at Cape North, for increase of salary; also a bill to extend the franchise, which was read.

Mr. DesBrisay reported a number of bills from the Committee on Public and Local Bills.

Mr. Wyld introduced a bill for a road from Salmon River to New Harbor in the county of Guysboro.

Mr. McRae asked the Government for a statement showing the amount of unexpended road money for Cape Breton, and also the sum spent upon Grandique Ferry, Richmond County.

Mr. J. Flinn introduced a bill to authorize the corporation of the city of Halifax to sell real estate.

The Provincial Secretary submitted the accounts of the Poor's Asylum and Hospital for the past year.

Mr. J. Flinn introduced a bill to authorize a loan for the city of Halifax.

The House in Committee of Supply, passed several of the principal items of expenditure as in the estimates. On the Salaries being proposed Mr. Blanchard called attention to the fact that the expenses for salaries in the Crown Land Office had been increased, and wished to know on what ground the increase was made. The Provincial Secretary stated that an increase of work in the office had rendered it necessary.

Hon. James McDonald briefly reviewed the Estimates, and congratulated the Provincial Secretary upon the fact that he had been enabled, owing to the prosperous condition of the province, to appropriate for the public services of the country, about nine thousand dollars more than had been provided for the same services in the year preceding Confederation.

Mr. Blanchard said that the expenses for salaries in the office of the Provincial Secretary had been annually increased for the past four years. The Salaries passed without division as also did some other items. The appropriation for Education passed without discussion, also, that the Poor's Asylum, that for Roads and Bridges, and that for Steamboats, Packets and Ferries.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28th.—Hon. Provincial Secretary introduced the Revenue Bill. Also, a memorial from the Provincial Examiners, setting forth that the remuneration they receive for their services is inadequate, and asking for an increase of pay. Also, a report from the Central Board of Agriculture, which was referred to the Committee of Agriculture.

Mr. DesBrisay introduced a bill to tax non-resident owners of tracts of wilderness lands, and also a petition from the inhabitants of Chester praying for the abolition of the Royalty tax on gold.