

A large increase.—When the Baptist Publication Society was formed the Baptists of America numbered 225,000. They now number six times that, or over 1,400,000.

The prospect brightens.—A revival of religion is in progress in Sweden, with a multiplication of Sabbath-schools, and prayer-meetings, by Baptists, Wesleyans and Lutherans, with crowds attending.

EURMAH.—Rangoon.—On the occasion, recently, of raising a new umbrella on the Shway Dagon Pagoda, at Rangoon, Mrs Ingals and Miss Gage gave away 20,000 tracts, besides some copies of the "Digest of Scripture" and the "Gospel of Luke," and also speaking a few words on the great salvation to those who received them. Often the crowd was so great that they had time for only a word; but there were those who sat down and listened to the story of the cross or the reading of the Bible. Only six tracts that were torn up were seen or heard of. Mrs. Ingals says: "It was a very wonderful time for the heathen, and it was a great time for us to sow the good seed." The missionary ladies were aided by two native young men.

November 19th, Dr. Stevens baptized, at Rangoon, four Burmese women, one of whom was 96 years old. She seemed to enjoy the service, and at the close said, "My ears are opened. I feel like a child thirteen years old."

The Telogoo.—Mr. Jewett's Sabbath-school, at the beginning of December last, numbered 130 pupils. Nine new converts were baptized in Nellore the first Sabbath in the month, and a fortnight later, five more.

Mr. Timpany writes that the ever-increasing number of church-members proves the necessity of more trained preachers. With sufficient help, he says, "we may expect to have a body of 20,000 native Christians here in ten years." Mr. Timpany was about Dec. 11, to go out to dedicate the first chapel in one of the villages.

A native colporteur.—A converted native of India has gone to the wild desert of Rajapootana with a camel load of Christian books to spread the word of Christ among a people who have never seen a Christian.

"Barnes' Notes."—"Their works do follow them." The commentaries of the late Albert Barnes have been ordered, by the Queen of Madagascar, to be translated into the language of that country for use in the schools.

Reformed Catholics.—The Reformed Catholics are spreading rapidly. They have now one hundred and fourteen congregations in Bavaria, with a church property worth a million of dollars, with one hundred and six congregations in the smaller adjacent states. In Austria the movement is gaining ground, while in Hungary they have now a majority.

PORTLAND, ST. JOHN.—We copy the following from the Visitor:

The special services in the Baptist church Portland, continue to be deeply interesting. Nine candidates, for church membership, received the hand of fellowship last Sabbath evening from the pastor; and baptism is expected again next Sabbath.

Two were added to the Germain street Church last Sabbath—one by baptism, the other by letter.

For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.

MRS. MARY CAMERON.

the beloved wife of Robert Cameron, Esq., of George Town, Prince Edward Island, departed this life on the 20th day of February last after four days illness, aged 57 years. The subject of this memoir was in connection with the Granville Street Church before her marriage in 1842, after which she removed to George Town, P. E. Island, and joined the church under Rev. Mr. Shaw, of which she continued a devoted member till her death. Loved and esteemed by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance, she was a zealous advocate for all missionary schemes for the spread of the Gospel. The Christian Messenger was always a dearly prized visitor by her. After, with wonderful energy, filling all the duties of a wife and christian mother, trusting in the merits of her Saviour, she left us in the prime of life. She leaves three children and a sorrowful husband to mourn their loss. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours and their works do follow them." Communicated.

George Town, P. E. I., March 24, 1872.

Provincial Parliament.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 17, 1872.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, April 9th.—The Halifax City Bills occupied the principal part of the day. An amendment was made but lost, and the bill as sent from the City Council was agreed to.

The following bills were also passed: To incorporate the Weymouth Marine Insurance Company, the Antigonish and Cape Breton Steamboat Company; the Cape Breton and Nova Scotia coal and Railway Company; the Pugwash and Spring Hill Railway Company, and the bill to amend the act incorporating the Acadia Iron and Steel Company at Londonderry.

WEDNESDAY, 10th.—A number of bills passed in Committee were read a third time and sent to the Legislative Council.

The House in Committee on Bills took up one to amend chap. 3 of the Acts of 1871 to secure the independence of the House of Assembly, the object of which is to make an alteration in the oath required of Dominion officials offering to vote at the election of a member to the House of Assembly, rendering the oath more positive and the disfranchisement more certain.

Hon. Provincial Secretary and Hon. Attorney General spoke on behalf of the bill; Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Woodworth and Mr. Jas. McDonald spoke against the measure, demanding that the officials of the Local Government should also be disfranchised if those of the Dominion Government are. There were of course some exhibitions of pretty warm feeling in the course of the debate. Other members spoke briefly. The bill passed, as did also one to amend Chapter 118 of the Revised Statutes for the prevention of frauds and perjury and one to extend the provisions of the Act of 1870 relating to Justices of the Peace.

On the Committee reporting to the House, Mr. Blanchard moved that the bill to amend the Disfranchising Act be recommitted for the purpose of adding a clause including Fishery Wardens, Sheriffs, Prothonotaries, Registrars, and the clerks in the offices of the Provincial Secretary and Attorney General in the category of the disfranchised; but the motion was defeated by the following vote:—

Nays—Hon. J. McDonald, and Messrs. Vickery, More, McDougall, Blanchard, McRae, McDonnell, Cameron, Holmes, Pineo, Allison, Woodworth, Rettie.—13. Yeas—Prov. Sec., Atty. Gen. and Messrs. Eisenhaur, Archibald, J. Flinn, Wyde, E. P. Flynn, Ross, Robertson, J. McDonald, D. McDonald, Morrison, Johnston, Landers, Gayton, DesBrisay, Kirk, Doucette.—18.

THURSDAY, 11th.—Mr. Landers introduced, by special leave, a bill to incorporate the Bridgetown Cheese Manufacturing Company. The House then in Committee on Bills, took up a bill, introduced by Mr. Archibald of Halifax, to further amend the Act to regulate the election of members to serve in the General Assembly.

The object of this bill was to change the existing law in regard to the mode of qualifying in case a voter's name be omitted from the Revisor's list. It also involved other material changes in the present mode of proceeding in elections. The Opposition contended that the passage of such a law would be the occasion of corruption, and would encourage deception and fraud.

In the afternoon Session Mr. Blanchard moved that the bill be deferred for three months, which was lost by a vote of 13 to 16. It was subsequently agreed to allow the bill to lie over till the following day.

The House in Committee passed the following bills: To incorporate the H. H. Curling Club; to enable the county of Inverness to borrow money for the improvement of roads; to incorporate the Nova Scotia Steamship Company; to enable the City of Halifax to borrow the sum of \$30,000 on debentures; to establish an additional polling place in the county of Pictou; to incorporate the Louisbourg Extension Railway Company.

A lengthy and somewhat exciting debate was called forth upon the bill to extend to the City of Halifax the provisions of the Provincial Liquor License law.

The Speaker, in accordance with notice previously given, moved by way of amendment a bill providing that after the first of January 1873 the sale of spirituous liquors be prohibited, and that all liquors, found exposed for sale, either wholesale or retail be destroyed by the Sheriffs or other peace officers.

Messrs. Blanchard, McDonnell, Woodworth, Rettie, McDougall, Gayton, Kirk and DesBrisay spoke in opposition to the amendment, believing it to be impracticable and while accomplishing no good would defeat the license bill.

The Speaker subsequently agreed to withdraw his amendment.

Mr. Blanchard then proposed to amend the bill by adding a clause providing that the City Council shall have power to divide the Wards into licensing districts, no Ward to contain more than four.

Mr. Kirk moved to add that the Wards be divided East and West and that each district contain at least 250 electors. This amendment, was lost and Mr. Blanchard's motion passed. The bill as amended then passed.

FRIDAY, April 12th.—The Bill for extending the License Law to Halifax, and other bills, passed in Committee on the previous day were read a third time and sent to the Legislative Council.

The Provincial Secretary, by special leave, introduced a bill relating to Mines and Minerals, the object of which was to require the royalty on coal and gold to be paid in Dominion currency.

The House in Committee passed the following bills:—To incorporate the Rolling Stock Company; to incorporate the Bridge-town Cheese Manufacturing Company; to amend Chapter 58 of the Act providing for assessment of property for educational purposes; to provide for the payment in Dominion Currency of the royalty on minerals; to incorporate the Liverpool Branch Railway Company; to incorporate the Halifax Gas Consumers Company; to amend Chapter 45 of the Revised Statutes of County Assessment. The last mentioned bill provided that ships on the stocks shall be taxed upon only half their value. The House divided upon it, but it was sustained by a considerable majority.

Mr. Archibald's bill to amend the Election Law was then taken up, and brought forth a long debate.

Mr. Blanchard and other members of the Opposition argued that the effect of the measure, would be to induce unscrupulous parties to set their own valuation on their property, and that it would offer them a premium to the committing of perjury.

Mr. White was not fully satisfied with the bill, and moved an amendment, That any election taking place before the next session be held under the Revisor's List of last year.

In the evening session the debate was resumed when Mr. Blanchard said he was not in favor of Universal Suffrage, but would prefer it to the present bill, and made a motion to that effect in amendment to that of Mr. White. Several members expressed a similar opinion. The House continued in session till 1/2 past 10 and adjourned to Saturday at 1/2 past 2.

SATURDAY, April 13th.—The report of the Committee on the petition of Martin I. Wilkins, Prothonotary of Halifax, recommending that the Government pay him a sum sufficient to make his income \$2800 in any year in which his fees do not reach that amount, was, after a short discussion, rejected by a vote of 14 to 8.

The House went into Committee on Bills and took up the bill for amending the Election Law.

Mr. Blanchard spoke against universal suffrage but would infinitely prefer it to the present law with the proposed amendment. There were several expressions of opinion from both sides of the House. Mr. Holmes asked Mr. Blanchard to withdraw his amendment, which he consented to do. He Mr. H. then moved a resolution that no amendment be made in the present law which was lost by 18 to 12. The amendment made by Mr. White for adopting the last year's list of electors was put to vote and lost by 22 to 6. Mr. Archibald's bill was then carried by 19 to 11.

At a suggestion of a member of the Opposition, a clause was added providing that parties desiring to have their names placed on the electoral lists in accordance with the provisions of the bill shall be required to file their affidavits not later than the 20th of July—65 days after the lists had been returned by the revisors.

Mr. DesBrisay presented a petition from a lodge of Templars respecting an Inebriate Asylum.

Mr. White reported from the Committee on the Normal School Buildings. The principal points in said report were: That the committee do not recommend the erection of new buildings for the Normal School but to repair the old buildings; and that the south end of the land be laid off in lots and sold at auction. The report was adopted.

MONDAY, April 15.—The subject of road monies occupied the greater part of the morning sitting but no action was taken. Mr. Woodworth by special leave introduced a bill to incorporate the Nova Scotia Transportation Company. The object of the bill is to enable parties to put road steamers on our country roads. The bill passed two readings.

Mr. DesBrisay, by special leave, introduced a bill to incorporate the Nova Scotia Canning Company. It passed two readings.

In the afternoon after a number of bills had been read and sent to the Legislative Council the Prov. Secretary, by special leave, introduced a bill to incorporate the Central Railway Company. It passed two readings.

The Franchise Bill was reported from Committee. A motion to refer it back to Committee was rejected by 11 to 22. The bill was then put and carried by the same numbers reversed. Provincial Secretary submitted a supplementary road scale as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Roads and Bridges by Counties, Amount. Includes Annapolis (\$2000), Antigonish (2000), Cape Breton (3320), Colchester (2000), Cumberland (1000), Digby (2000), Guysborough (2330), Halifax (3000), Hants (1500), Inverness (1000), Kings (1000), Lunenburg (2100), Pictou (3000), Queens (2000), Richmond (2000), Shelburne (2000), Victoria (2330), Yarmouth (2000).

Of the other items the following are the principal. Bridge at Acadia Mines 1500. To survey a line of railway from Gold River to the City of Halifax 1,000. Addition to Lunatic Asylum 30,000.

Dissatisfaction was expressed by some at what they regarded the unfair distribution of these monies. Others contended that it was fairly divided.

The House resumed in the evening, and sat till 1/2 past 11. A memorial from the Windsor and Annapolis Railway Company, asking a loan occupied some time.

The Bill relating to the Equity Court was discussed at some length and passed.

A Bill to incorporate a Company to build the Railway from Yarmouth to Annapolis occupied attention for a good while. The subsidizing of railways East and West, was embraced in the debate and brought forth charges, recriminations and retorts from the leaders on either side.

Dominion & Foreign News.

The Dominion Parliament was opened on Thursday last by His Excellency the Governor General. There were but few of the members from the Lower Provinces present at the opening. The Governor General's Speech referred to the illness and recovery of the Prince of Wales, and gave an invitation to make the 15th, Monday last, a Day of Thanksgiving for the same. We give the remainder of the paragraphs in a somewhat abbreviated form.

Your meeting has itself been postponed to a later season than usual, upon considerations of Imperial, as well as Colonial interests, and at the instance of Her Majesty's Government.

The young Province of Manitoba was, last September, threatened with an invasion of lawless persons from the United States. Prompt measures for resistance were adopted by the local authorities, and attended with the best results. In order to re-assure the people of the Province, and to prevent a recurrence of the outrage, I ordered a force of 200 Militiamen to be sent to Fort Garry. Notwithstanding the inclement season of the year, the troops surmounted the difficulties of the march with energy and success.

A copy of the treaty made at Washington last year between Her Majesty the Queen and the United States of America, in which the Dominion has so great an interest, will be laid before you. The papers &c., will be at once submitted for your information.

A conference was held at Ottawa in September last, on the subject of immigration, at which the Government of the Dominion, as well as those of every Province were represented. I do not doubt that you will be induced to make ample provision for the encouragement of immigration.

Since last session the union of British Columbia with Canada has been happily consummated, and her representatives will now take part in your deliberations.

In order to open up and settle the fertile territories of the North West, and to link British Columbia therewith, it will be necessary for you to make provision for the construction of a railway to the Pacific Ocean, in conformity with the terms of her Majesty's order in council uniting British Columbia with the Dominion.

The long contemplated improvement and extension of our system of canals ought to be vigorously prosecuted. The rapid increase in the trade of Canada and the importance of competing for and accommodating the commerce of the Great West, render it necessary that the means of transport by water should be cheapened and facilitated.

The decennial census having been taken last year, the duty of readjusting the representation in Parliament of the four Provinces originally constituting the Dominion devolves on you now, according to the terms of the Union Act.

Among other measures, bills will be presented to you relating to Judges of the Superior Courts; to the regulation and management of the public Lands and Mines of the domain of Manitoba and the North West territories, and for the amendment of the laws relating to the public health.

It is gratifying to me to be able to announce to you that the Revenue for the past as well as that for the current year will be considerably in excess of what was estimated and that consequently there is no reason to apprehend embarrassment from the immediate commencement of the contemplated public improvements.

I have all the more satisfaction in recurring to your counsel and assistance at this period, inasmuch as I may congratulate you on the general prosperity of the country and the fortunate issue of the steps taken to unite and consolidate the vast territories which now form the Dominion. I feel assured that you will continue to develop the same assiduity as in the past, to the augmented labors which the exigencies of more numerous constituencies and a wider sphere of operations demand at your hands; and I earnestly pray that your efforts in that path may be so happily guided as to maintain peace and justice in all the borders of the land, and ensure the happiness and lasting welfare of all classes of its inhabitants.

Hon. Mr. Archibald has resigned the governorship of Manitoba.

Judge Johnson has since been gazetted Lieut Governor of Manitoba and the North West Territory. It is understood that the appointment is only temporary.

The formation of a company of infantry is authorized at Sydney, Cape Breton, Arms and equipments will be furnished when the Militia Department is in a position to do.

The following articles have been added to the free list:—Three, four, and six ply white and coloured unfinished cotton thread, in hanks not under number twenty, yarn.

The Welland Canal is expected to be open by the 20th inst.

CAPTAINS AND MATES ON THE CANADIAN LAKES.—It is the intention of a number of Captains and Mates of Canadian vessels running on the Lakes and Rivers of the Dominion, to wait upon the Minister of Marine to urge the propriety of establishing some system for protecting them against the influx of American Captains. It appears that the marine of Lakes is now almost wholly in the hands of Canadian shipping companies, and the consequence is that American lake captains and mates are thrown out of employment in their country, but to the detriment of our native sailors they have obtained command of Canadian steamboats, although, in direct contravention of the Imperial statute, they are not British subjects.

A tornado in Jasper Co., Ill., demolished several dwellings, killed three citizens, and injured many.

UNITED STATES.

Senators Trumbull and Schurz and Horace Greely spoke at a mass meeting in New York on Thursday last, favoring the Cincinnati Convention.

The car depot, stables, paint, and repair shops of Third Street Horse Railroad, Philadelphia, were burned on Saturday last. Also, a large number of harnesses, horses, all the cars but seven were saved. Loss \$10,000.

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A convention in Massachusetts on Wednesday last elected delegates to the National Convention at Philadelphia, and passed resolutions recommending Grant for reelection; also, suggesting Senator Wilson for Vice President.

The Mormon conference has re-elected Brigham Young President of the Church.

The Brig "Anna," of Bermuda, was found abandoned off Highlands on Thursday last. She appeared to have been run into; a crew was put on board to bring her in.

The earthquake in California moved the whole of Owen's Valley southward, fourteen feet.

On the Midland road, near Hackensack, the Saddle River Bridge gave way, throwing a train into the River, killing one and wounding thirty.

The steamer Oceanus, from Red River to St. Louis, when near Brook's Point, 20 miles above Carly, at four o'clock on Thursday morning, exploded her boiler, tearing the boat fore and aft, and making her a complete wreck. Out of a hundred or more souls on board, only about thirty are known to be saved, others having been scalded to death or drowned.

A snowstorm at Chicago on Monday last.

MEXICO.—The Revolutionists in Mexico are advancing on Matamoros, and were within fifty miles of it last week. Martial law is proclaimed, and the greatest excitement exists.

Recent acts of Mexican invaders on the frontier of Texas are strengthening the hands of those in favor of a Protectorate over Mexico at Washington.

On Saturday night the business portion of Ayer, Mass., was burned, and the loss is estimated at \$1,500,000.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

The trial of O'Connor for an assault on the Queen took place on Thursday last. The defence set up was insanity, in support of which the prisoner's father testified that he (the father) was a nephew of Ferguson O'Connor, and several members of the family beside the prisoner were insane. However, the jury were fully satisfied of his sanity, and brought in a verdict of guilty, and he was sentenced to be imprisoned for twelve months, at hard labor, and receive twenty lashes.

A very mild but wholesome sentence. If such thing had been done fifty years ago the perpetrator would doubtless have been transported for life or worse.

The Times of Friday last said that England would deliver its counter case at Geneva on the 15th, but would not regard that act as prejudicing the position taken in opposition to the amount of indirect claims. If the United States should, before the tribunal is ready, withdraw its award, and abandon claims for consequential damages, England will not withdraw her ratification of the Treaty.

On the same evening in the House of Commons Mr. Rathbone, of Liverpool, asked whether the Government had sent the counter case respecting the Alabama Claims to Geneva. Mr. Gladstone replied affirmatively, but said there was nothing relative to the claims for "indirect damages" in the document. A note accompanied the "case," and contained the declaration of the Government, for the purpose of reserving all rights appertaining to the Queen in the Arbitration; so that any future Government would not be fettered by any implied compromise. Minister Schenck had been duly informed of the course taken, and had notified Earl Gran