

Of Dr. Brock it is said:—"Dr. Brock is in all respects the very type of the ordinary English intellect. He preaches with a good deal of vigour. His success is however due to the weight of his presence and manner. Common place ideas are thrown into a bombastic form, and uttered with a confidence in which a timbre of doubt or hesitation even is never heard. Sesquipedalia verba abound in all his discourses. He never says any thing; he always preaches it; never speaks of what is earthly, but only of what is 'terrestrial'; ignores heavenly for 'celestial'; and delights in 'things submarine,' as opposed to things under the sea. He cannot be said to educate or enlighten; he contents himself with 'comforting' his people. Dr. Brock has always adhered to a severe style of pulpit eloquence, never indulging in jokes or eccentricities of any kind; and we believe when Mr. Spurgeon first startled the south of London from its propriety, the preacher of Bloomsbury Chapel formed one of a deputation which waited on the young innovator to reprove him for his quaint ways and irreverent demeanor in the pulpit."

Dr. Brock's friends are not likely to accept the Westminster Reviewer's description as correct. "Mr. Hinton is by far the nearest approach to an original thinker the Baptists have produced since the time of Hall and Andrew Fuller; and Charles Stovel the man with most native ability." That is a just verdict—unless John Foster's name be introduced. Fuller—Hall—Foster, a grand trio—the "first three" in this Century. Which of them was "first" may not be easily decided; perhaps, Fuller, for massive thought—Hall, for classic elegance—Foster, for acute correctness.

Mr. Spurgeon's turn comes next:—"He bestrides the denomination like a colossus; his influence is immense every where within its borders; his chapel is the largest in the world; his congregation and church in proportion, and thousands think him the greatest preacher that ever expounded a text. He found, some fifteen years ago, Park Street chapel deserted; he filled it, then began to preach in Exeter Hall and ultimately had the Metropolitan Tabernacle built to accommodate the thousands anxious to hear his jokes or his powerful appeals. He is a natural orator, and has exercised vast influence on his own body, and even on society generally. His energy is unbounded; no success damped his ardour with content; and each new effort has been preliminary to another to push his ideas and his own sway further. We know on good authority that some of his own deacons describe him as a "regular pope," popular though he be with them, and that he at one time had thoughts of introducing the Presbyterian form of church government among this Baptists. His career has been far from an unalloyed advantage to the church or any section of it. He has persuaded many persons to lead better lives, has helped to extend education after a fashion, and his Orphanage, an imitation of George Müller's, in providing a home for houseless infants, is a useful contribution to the sum of benevolent action until more scientific and economical methods are appreciated. Yet it may be questioned whether these are not mere incidents of his general influence, which has been pernicious in regard to his denotation and society generally, not only amongst the Baptists but amongst the entire Christian community, the church of England not excepted. He has lowered the standard of ministerial education, and diffused a taste for vulgar and illogical representations of Christianity. He has flattered the delusion of the fanatical bourgeoisie that God has set his heart upon him from all eternity, and fostered all those gross conceptions of the Divine Being, that growing and flourishing on the rank soil of superstition, mar and poison the reflex influence which flows back on the mind and character from our idea of what we deem highest, whether hero, or idol, or impalpable Godhead. The result of such teaching is ignorant content, magnified egotism, gigantic selfishness, and a dwarfed divinity. He undoubtedly did good service by breaking the spell of Robert Hall, the imitation of whose classical style by men without his fervid eloquence, and addressing congregations very different from those of Cambridge or Bristol, nearly destroyed the Baptist denomination. But having said this, we have exhausted Mr. Spurgeon's merits."

Here is some misrepresentation, some caricature, with a few particles of truth. It may be useful to us, in many circumstances, to know what outsiders say of us. Evens libel-

ler may be a benefactor to society, though justly punishable for assaults on private character.

The Reviewer would have us believe that "science is making such rapid strides that divines in all churches and sects, and in the Baptist sect, among the number, see that it will no longer do to take up their stand on plenary inspiration, which, once abandoned, there is no rest for the sole of the foot until we reach total, black scepticism as to the divine authority of the sacred writings." This is doubtless a foul libel—or rather an unmitigated falsehood, for he who believes this must believe that Christian ministers, Baptists included, are rank hypocrites. Assured, therefore, that this writer slanders in the gross, we may be prepared to reject his testimony in details, and feel quite safe in affirming that when he asserts that "there is at least one eminent preacher to a Baptist congregation who holds that even after death the doors of salvation will be open," he defames. No such man is to be found.

Neither are we troubled by his prediction. He thinks that "it is not probable that the Baptists will continue to increase." Clearly, "the wish is father to the thought." It is likely that many of his readers will agree with him, for the same reason; for some people have an unworldly facility for believing what they fancy to be desirable.

This Westminster Review article confirms us in the persuasion that where there is an unbelieving mind there is also often a sacred conscience. SENIOR. Jan 2, 1872.

For the Christian Messenger. IN MEMORIAM.

DORCAS GRAVES. Died at Port William, Annapolis county, Dorcas, beloved wife of Dea. Phineas Graves, and daughter of Bro. Uriah Johnson of Harmony, Queens county, aged 28 years. Sister Graves was early impressed with the need of a saviour. At the tender age of seven years she was accustomed to retire alone to pray, seeking that blessed saviour who is never sought in vain. "They that seek me early shall find me," and she found him to the joy of her soul. She did not make a public profession until she was seventeen years old, she then united with the Baptist church of which she remained a consistent member until her death; which was to her only the transferring of her love from which nothing can separate her. She has left a sorrowing husband and two children mourning over their irreparable loss. But they sorrow not as others who have no hope; for the lost words which were uttered by her, were—"I know that my Redeemer liveth." May the Lord enable the afflicted husband and friends to comfort one another with these words. L. B. GATES. Port William, Annapolis Co. } Jan. 1, 1872. }

Religious Intelligence. For the Christian Messenger.

CHRISTMAS AT YARMOUTH AND SETTLEMENT OF MINISTER AT BEAVER RIVER. YARMOUTH, Dec. 28th, 1871.

Dear Bro. Selden,— It might be interesting to some of your readers, to learn a little further of the doings of their brethren in this county. The Apostle "boasted to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago," and assured the church of Corinth, that their "zeal had provoked very many." If our communication should have similar effect, we would be amply rewarded.

Christmas, among us, was cheated of its merry jingle of sleigh-bells, by the previous thaw, but it brought its usual amount of merriment, gifts and gatherings, and happy interchange of family and friendly greetings. One of the most remarkable phenomena of nature at this season is the exceeding fruitfulness of spruces. It was my privilege to witness one on Christmas evening, whose fruitage was truly marvellous. Among the boughs were fairy forms, like wood-nymphs, resting in their bowers. And from the branches hung the various fruits, from the Annapolis Valley and the Indies. Many also were the fruits of industry and love. Upon the topmost boughs, where robins pick the finest cherries, hung a golden hunter, keeping "note of time," a family present to the husband and father. The fruitful spruce, among the happy family circle, could not but remind one of

the final family-gathering, where the "trees shall yield all manner of fruit," and the bliss be unalloyed, infinite, and eternal.

Interesting religious services were held by Bro. Wallace and myself, at Arcadia in the morning, at Milton, in the afternoon, and the Temple Church in the evening. At the latter place, and interesting young man cheered our hearts by telling of a new found hope in Jesus. May the ore, be but the first fruit of a glorious harvest. What higher blessing can be sought and yet what lower aims or expectation should we have, as ministers and churches, than the salvation of immortal souls? God grant to us and to our churches, more of a travail of soul, for the multitudes around us, as well as for those in heathen lands, that are "ready to perish."

On Tuesday the 26th, the Ministerial Conference met as previously noticed.— In the afternoon, were the recognition services of Bro. J. H. Saunders, as pastor of the church at Beaver River. Reading of Scriptures and prayer by Bro. J. Rowe. Sermon by Dr. Day. Addresses, on Ministerial authority by Bro. J. Stubbart, on Ministerial duties, by the writer, and on the duties of the church and the need of the Holy Spirit, by Bro. I. Wallace. The sermon, on the Phillipian Church, from Phil. iv. 15 was admirably suited to the occasion, and the exercises throughout were deeply interesting and profitable. Indeed the question forcibly suggested itself to all of us, Would not such services by highly advantageous in connection with the settlement of our Pastors generally?

In the evening our Missionary meeting was again successful. The collection and subscription for the French Mission, amounted to upwards of \$70.

Bro. Saunders enters on a field of much interest and promise, with the hearty sympathy and best wishes of his ministering brethren. One, I believe has already professed to have found Jesus. May the one become a thousand.

The Baptist ministers of Yarmouth Co. have much cause for thankfulness in the liberality of the churches, and in their own mutual good will and sympathy. May this grace also continue. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Bro. Day, especially, has led us in the noble example of unselfishly "devising liberal things," and has signally proved for our encouragement, that "by liberal things we shall stand." May the Lord increase the zeal, harmony, and liberality of all our ministers and churches, and "add to our number" greatly "of such as shall be saved."

Yours truly, W. H. PORTER. Bro. Porter writes at a later date: "We had the privilege of baptizing one young man last sabbath, in the presence of a very large and attentive company of spectators. Hope to baptize others very shortly. The prospects of an ingathering at the Temple Church seems very encouraging, as also with Brother Wallace at Arcadia. Brethren pray for us."

MAITLAND, HANTS CO.—Rev. R. R. Philp, writes January 3rd, 1872:—"On last Lord's Day, it was my happy privilege to administer the ordinance of baptism in the presence of a large assembly, whose deportment on the occasion was all that could be desired. The candidates were sisters, both in the bloom of life, who felt themselves constrained by the love of the Saviour thus publicly to profess Him. This was the third time during 1871 that I enjoyed the happiness of administering the ordinance, there were two on each occasion."

R. R. PHILP. Maitland, Jan. 3rd, 1872. REV. A. MARTELL.—We learn from the Canadian Baptist some interesting particulars of one of our Nova Scotia brethren, now in Canada.

DEDICATION AT AILSA CRAIG.—Pastor A. Martell thus writes:—"Our new church was dedicated to the service of God on Lord's day the 17th inst. with appropriate services. Rev. Dr. Davidson, of Aylmer, preached in the morning. Rev. D. W. Rowland, of Denfield, at half-past 2; and at 6 o'clock Dr. Davidson. The entire services of the day were excellent and appropriate. The other denominations in the village gave up their services, and gave all the aid they could. The collection on the Lord's day amounted to over \$70. In consequence of my own ill health the baptisms spoken of did not take place, but will, (D. V.) on the last Sabbath of this month, when two or more will follow the Saviour in this impressive ordinance. A very favourable impression was made on the community, and the infant church received much encourage-

ment, and enters on the work of another year with bright prospects of success. The new Chapel is 50 ft. by 35, with two robing rooms in rear connected with the baptistry.

We hope to open our Chapel in Park Hill on the second Lord's day in January, but we are not quite sure yet.

From the same paper Brother Martell writes:—

Quite a number of friends of all denominations met at Bro. Dormond's on the 9th ult., and after a sumptuous dinner presented me in goods and cash with the sum of \$54. Rev. D. W. Rowland and Rev. J. W. Clarke were present, and made very appropriate speeches. The friends at the Craig take a very deep interest in the welfare of their pastor.

In a P. S., Mr. M. adds:—

In returning in the evening, with Mrs. Martell and daughter, we were driven off the road by a burly teamster, our Buggy upset, very much hurt, horse ran away, and about \$50 damages done to all concerned. We hope to make the fellow pay for his exploit before he is many weeks older, and teach him better manners for the time to come. A. M.

BURMESE NUNS AND THE GOSPEL.—The Bible women in Rangoon last year repeatedly visited the Burmese nuns occupying zayats at the foot of the pagoda. They are ignorant and bigoted, but nevertheless they have been interested listeners.

Foreign News.

UNITED STATES.

The New York City Hall on Monday the 1st inst., was the scene of the wildest excitement. Two Boards of Aldermen were contending for possession of the offices, the old board and the one elected last November. The old Board went out but was to have been re-appointed under charter from the Mayor.

Ex-Controller Connolly has been released on bail in on thousand dollars one each of fifteen indictments.

A quarantine of fifteen days has been established at Porto Rico ports of vessels from Hamburg, New York, Halifax and Philadelphia, notwithstanding they bring clean bills of health.

HARTFORD, CONN.—A man named Billings, his wife and an unknown man were found murdered in Windsor Locks, on Tuesday last. No clue to the perpetrators.

The Clifton Spring Hotel was burnt last week. Loss \$120,000.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The recent severe storms have cleared away, but no trains are running yet between San Francisco and Sacramento.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 30th.—On Saturday night a negro committed a terrible outrage upon a child 10 years of age and then attempted to murder it. The child was able to describe him and he was arrested and identified, and it was all the police could do to prevent his being lynched. A riot ensued, and several persons were killed. The colored people were afraid to venture out of their houses for fear of their lives. The main portion of the crowd has been dispersed. The feeling of indignation against the military was very great, and their action in firing upon the crowd when called out, is condemned.

On Wednesday there were four companies of the 54th regiment guarding the jail and approaches. Loaded cannon were stationed to command the bridges. At half-past 11 o'clock some one placed on a canal boat in the slip a flag on which were the words "avenge your brothers," Brigadier General Clarke took it down and the crowd rushed for him. He was in great peril, but was rescued and firearms handed him by friends. The sheriff ordered out the remaining six companies of the 54th regiment.

The New York Tribune says there are 200 gambling houses in New York, and that at least 2,200 persons of known bad character make their livings through their connection as owners, bankers, dealers, robbers, and servants, with these illegal establishments. The number of victims cannot readily be ascertained, but perhaps there are not less than 100,000 of them. Ninety-five of these dens are kept quite publicly, and without any regard for the police.

A message boy was robbed of \$11,000 in checks and coupons while in the Central National Bank on Wednesday.

James Fisk, jr., was shot early on Saturday evening on the stair-case of the Grand Central Hotel, by Edward S. Stokes, with whom he was involved in a bitter law suit. The weapon was a revolver. The first shot lodged in Fisk's shoulder; the second missed his head, but the third was in the abdomen, inflicting a fatal wound from which he died on Sunday afternoon at 10.45. He retained his senses to the last. Stokes was arrested. Fisk made a will giving the bulk of his property to his wife. She was summoned from Boston, and arrived a few hours before his death.

The body lay in state in the grand hall of the Erie Railway office up to one o'clock on Monday, when the Episcopal service was read by Chaplain Flagg, of Fisk's Ninth Regiment. Many thousand people visited the remains and followed with the procession to the depot.

The U. States Government is strengthening its usual force in Cuban waters. A Madrid letter says the tone of the Spanish press is very belligerent with respect to the attitude of the United States on the Cuban question.

Congress reassembled on Monday. The House voted against repealing the income tax.

Gold 94. Exchange 93.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

The storm on Friday night threw down the telegraph wires in the neighbourhood of Amherst, and interfered with the usual daily telegrams.

Latest reports state that the Prince of Wales is continuing to improve in health and the fever has almost wholly subsided.

The town-council of Windsor presented the Queen with an address of congratulation on the Prince's convalescence.

The floor of the court room at Kittyloger, in Leitrim, Ireland, gave away while a trial was in progress, the room was crowded, and 300 persons were precipitated thirty or forty feet; the number killed is unknown; some thirty were badly injured, most of them fatally.

A proposal has been made to transfer the Atlantic Telegraph Cable to the joint control of the governments of Great Britain and the United States.

The ship "Spirit of the Dawn," which sailed last week from Liverpool for San Francisco was driven on the rocks off Holyhead during the gale on Thursday last and became a total wreck. Only five of the crew saved.

The total number of deaths from small-pox, in London during the last year was 8000; average of the thirty-one years preceding 600. The medical journals call attention to the alarming increase of the disease. They warn the public to take all precautions, and appeal to the government to interpose rigid sanitary regulations and establish special hospitals and carefully quarantining infected districts.

The London Geographical Society, in consequence of refusal of Government aid, has appealed to the public to assist in the search for Dr. Livingstone.

FRANCE.—The Duke d'Aumale intends making a political tour through the Central and the Western departments of France.

A commission of the French Assembly has made a report approving of the project for the steam ferry between Dover and Calais.

The French Assembly was greatly excited on Saturday over the reading of a large number of petitions for the restoration of monarchy. Some wanted Count de Chambord; others Count de Paris for king. Republicans and Radicals made noisy opposition.

GERMANY.—Orders were recently issued from Berlin for the arrest and detention of French citizens as hostages where outrages were perpetrated on German soldiers, and they have been rigorously carried out. About one hundred prisoners are now in the hands of the Germans, and a warning will be given by summary proceedings in all cases of murder or assassination.

A subscription has been commenced for the erection of a monument to Gen. Von Moltke in his birthplace.

It is supposed that the trouble arising from the assassination of Bavarian soldiers in France will be settled without resort to vigorous measures.

TURKEY.—Four Greek brigs were wrecked in the Black Sea and all hands on board have perished.

ITALY.—Cyrus W. Field entertained the members of the Telegraph Companies in Rome at a Banquet, on the 2nd inst. There were present in the Hall the Representatives of twenty-one countries, six hundred millions of people, and twenty-six different languages. The private companies present represented capital to the amount of three hundred million francs.

Victor Emmanuel received the Ministers and Members of parliament and officials of the Government at the Quirinal on New Year's Day. The King thanks them heartily for their patient labors, and expressed the hope of a continuance of the spirit of concert to which he contributed the accomplishment of the unity of Italy.

Marriages.

Dec. 20th, at New Germany, by the Rev. W. E. Hall, Mr. Robert McK. Gisham, of Bridgewater, to Miss Louise M. Crossman. At Yarmouth, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. W. H. Porter, Mr. Charles W. Johnson, of Plymouth, to Miss George A. Vanenburg, of Pentic. At Port William, Annapolis Co., Jan. 1st, 1872, by the Rev. L. B. Gates, Mr. Isaiah S. Murore, of Millford, to Miss Sarah Ann Brown, of Port William.