

men. Luther, Calvin, Knox and Wesley have been properly honoured as God's servants; but they have been unduly trusted as authority in matters of belief and practice.

When Scotch Presbyterianism takes up the subject of believers' baptism; and submits it, with the usual fidelity of that body, to the crucial test of God's word, the mission of the Baptists will be largely accomplished.

Great joy awaits the world when pedo-baptists shall rise superior to this bit of superstition, this feeder of ritualism, this mother of infidelity, this corruptor of the house of God, this divider of Heaven's family.

Baptists have their honoured names as well as Pedobaptists. They hold dear the names of Bunyan, Roger Williams and Robert Hall. But in matters of belief they do not follow men.

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For the Christian Messenger.

MENTAL CULTURE.

To the Editor of the Christian Messenger.

DEAR SIR:—A little thing makes some people happy. Men who have a waning cause catch at straws. Let me assure your correspondents, and all others who may be anxious on the point, that I never dreamed of quoting Professor DeMille as authority against the classics, per se. I merely wished to give an admission from one of high authority that "Greek is fast dying out of our Universities."

This matter of mental training in the abstract, I have formerly observed to be something very vague in this practical go-ahead age. The "training of the mind" "mental discipline," and such expressions as these, have become hackneyed, and it is doubtful if half who use them remember to enquire into their real significance.

Doublets Classics will be retained in most Universities though students and all those in accord with the age protest against it, because school men dictate what shall constitute the curriculum of each of their respective Colleges. A question now occurs: Shall not the views of practical men have some influence in directing what subjects shall be studied in our Colleges.

It is said that a compact exists between the Ultramontanes and Bouges, by which the latter are pledged to disallowance. Three persons, a man, woman and boy, died on Thursday night by drinking from a bottle which they thought contained whiskey; five more are suffering, some of whom are not expected to live.

MODERN CULTURE.

Religious Intelligence.

Rev. Mr. Dicker, Baptist pastor at Bradford, Ohio, says he has a deacon who has called at least fifty times to know whether his pastor was in need of any service that he could render. "He never seems happier than when ministering to my comfort," said brother Dicker to us. More than a thousand deacons will read this, and of course, each one will begin to count up the times they have visited the pastor to cheer his heart.

At a recent meeting of the First Mission Baptist Church, Laight Street, New York, the Rev. John Love, of Albany, baptized two younger brothers. After which, standing in the water with hands united, he said—"The prayers of many years are answered; the teachings, the example, the hallowed influences of a pious home have had their desired influence—three brothers in nature, we are brothers in grace. Thank God, we shall be a whole family in heaven."

A NOTABLE MISSIONARY.—The death is recorded of the Rev. Levi Spaulding the oldest missionary of the American Board, which occurred in Ceylon, June 18, at the age of eighty-two years. With Pliny Fisk, Union Winslow, and Henry Woodward, he embarked from Boston in 1819 for his missionary field, where he remained in service for the almost unparalleled term of fifty years.

ROMAN CATHOLIC FOREIGN MISSIONS.—The Indo-European places the number of the Vicars-Apostolic in connection with the Foreign Missions of the Catholic Church at 118. The gross amount of subscriptions is £230,000 a year, the bulk of which is realized in France. The Society for the Propagation of the Faith owes its origin to some Lyons' factory girls who began in 1820 to collect among themselves for the support of Foreign Missions.

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A most singular coincidence occurred at Scarborough, Maine, Sept. 14th. Rev. S. H. Merrill, who was in perfect health, entered the pulpit and announced as his text, "There is but a step between me and death." He had proceeded with his sermon about five minutes, when he fell attacked by paralysis, and has remained unconscious since, with no expectation that he can recover.

The Church Missionary Society has lately received legacies amounting to £26,000. Nineteen new Missionaries were set apart for their work in July. Mr. James Baird has left the magnificent sum of half a million sterling to the Church of Scotland as a trust, bearing his name, to promote religious education.

Dominion & Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., DEC. 3, 1873.

CLOSE OF NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE EARLIER THAN FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.—The following table, giving the date of the last trip each year of the mail steamers from Quebec to Montreal during the past twenty years, will be of interest—

Table with 4 columns: Yr., Date of last year, Year, Date last yr. Rows include years from 1854 to 1883.

La Nouvelle Monde publishes correspondence between the Bishop of Three Rivers and the Pope of Rome, relative to the New Brunswick School Act, in which the Canadian Ultramontanes are commended to demand disallowance of the law by the Dominion Government, and are required not to vote for any Government refusing compliance with the demands.

It is said that a compact exists between the Ultramontanes and Bouges, by which the latter are pledged to disallowance.

Three persons, a man, woman and boy, died on Thursday night by drinking from a bottle which they thought contained whiskey; five more are suffering, some of whom are not expected to live.

Two more victims died at noon, making seven deaths out of eleven persons attacked. The medicine taken for wine was vintum colicum, the bottle having been stolen from an express wagon, by Flaherty, one of the crew.

The thermometer at Ottawa on Monday, marked 20 degrees below zero—the coldest ever known at this season.

The City of Montreal has appropriated, 500 acres of land on "the mountain" for a Park, at a cost of \$800,000.

Mr. Dorion, after his election, said the government would leave the New Brunswick school law to be settled by the British Privy Council, as agreed by the Council of Bishops.

An Irish Home Rule Association has been formed in Toronto.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Much injury was done at Bay Verte by the storm on the 24th ult. The dykes were broken and the marshes flooded.

The Burke mills near Indiantown were burnt down on Wednesday last.

POLITICAL.—The Hon. A. J. Smith was elected for Westmorland, on Friday last by acclamation.

Messrs. Burpee and DeVeber were elected by acclamation on Monday.

Mr. Skinner retired from the contest with Mr. DeVeber for the vacancy in the representation of St. John in the House of Commons.

A TEMPERANCE GOVERNOR.—The St. John "Freeman" says.—Mr. Tilley has resolved it is said, to allow no wine or spirituous liquors to be used in Government House while he is Lieut. Governor. Mr. Tilley has always proved himself a consistent teetotaler.

P. I. ISLANDS.

Mr. William Welsh, of Charlottetown, has been elected to the House of Assembly for the Belfast District, in place of Mr. Laird who vacated the seat for the purpose of becoming a candidate for a seat in the House of Commons.

UNITED STATES.

A telegram from Washington on Saturday last said Spain had agreed to the demands of the United States so far as to surrender the Virginias and the surviving prisoners captured with her, and to salute the American flag. The latter ceremony has been postponed until the 26th December, and may be modified by negotiations still in progress. This is regarded by the administration as a complete settlement of the difficulty.

It is asserted that Minister Sickles has left Madrid.

It is estimated that thirty thousand Canadians returned home from the United States during the last three weeks, owing to stoppage of manufactures.

The navigation of the Hudson River from New York to Albany suspended last week; steamers gone into winter quarters; the earliest closing of navigation during the present century.

A discovery of a swindle in the tobacco trade in New York is reported to have reached \$3,000,000.

Ingersoll and Farrington, two of Tweed's pals in robbing the City of New York, Tammany Ring thieves and forgers, have been committed and sentenced, the former to five and the latter to eighteen months imprisonment with hard labor.

Judge Davis fined Messrs. Graham, Fullerton and Bartlett, counsel for Tweed, \$250 each for contempt of court.

During a law suit at Harrodsburg, Ky., last Thursday, between Theodore Davies and P. B. Thompson, a pistol fight in the court room resulted in the death of Davies and two sons, and wounding of Thompson and one of his sons.

Jay Cooke & Co. have gone into bankruptcy.

Two brothers named Munroe were arrested in New York on Tuesday while robbing the Methodist church in Jersey City.

The new Wizard gun was tried in Boston on Friday last. It sent a shell through fifteen inches of iron plating and several feet into the bank behind it.

"Boss" Tweed, who was sent to Blackwell's Island on Saturday, is dying of inflammation of the brain. Not expected to live through the night.

The terrible disaster to the "Ville de Havre" causes a general feeling of sadness.

Congress met and organized on Monday, re-electing Speaker Blaine. The President's message was to be delivered yesterday.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Gold 83. Sterling Exchange 84.9.

JOHN G. WHITTIER ON THE CUBAN QUESTION.—John G. Whittier, the poet, whose sympathy with the best interests of humanity was never doubted, writes from Amesbury this letter to Senator Sumner:—

"Thanks for thy manly and just letter on the Cuban difficulty. It was the word needed. The summary shooting of the passengers of the 'Virginus'—filibusters as they may have been, and probably were is shocking and unjustifiable. So have been the wholesale butcheries in France, both by the commune and the Government. But in this case, no man among us so regrets and deprecates the bloody deed as do Castelar and the intelligent republicans of Spain. If we seize this occasion to strike at them we give direct aid and comfort to ultramontane popery, to Don Carlos and

the cruel priesthood who are fighting against Republicanism in Europe. We do a deed in crushing out the Republic in Spain, under its noble president, which can only find its parallel of atrocity in the crushing out of the Roman Republic by the so-called French Republic of 1849. Heaven preserve us from such infamy! I hope and believe wiser and worthier counsels will prevail, and that the only demand of our Government upon Spain shall be the speedy emancipation of the enslaved in Cuba, and the rights and liberties pertaining to citizens of the Spanish Republic secured to people of all classes in her dependencies. Believe me always and truly thy friend, JOHN G. WHITTIER."

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.—The vessel wrecked off Valentia, Ireland, was the ship "Clyde," from St. John, N. B., for Sharpness Point, British Channel. Ten of the crew were drowned.

The London "Daily Telegraph" compares the "Virginus," with the "Trent" affair. Although it fears that the rumored ultimatum of the American Government would be fatal to peace, it thinks that President Castelar, in view of internal troubles in Spain, could honorably follow the example of President Lincoln and Government of the United States.

FRANCE.—The French Assembly rejected M. Leon Say's interpellation in regard to the illegal delay of elections, by 364 to 314.

The explanation given by the French Government in regard to the pastoral of the Bishop of Nancy, ordering prayers for the recovery of Metz and Strasburg, is rejected.

The French Cabinet has been reconstructed. Duke Decases is a new minister. M. Beulx, who was Minister of the Interior, has retired, and the Duke de Broglie takes his place, relinquishing the Foreign Ministry to Duke Decases. These are the only changes in the Cabinet, as it existed before the last resignation of the Ministers.

In the trial of Bazaine on Monday, Gen. Boyer, testified that Bismark told him he was willing to grant an armistice if the army of Metz would declare in favor of Napoleon.

The Steamship Ville de Havre from New York to Havre, was lost at sea on the 23rd of November. Two hundred and twenty-six lives were lost.

She collided with the British ship Lochearn, from London for New York, and sank shortly after.

Seventy-seven were rescued and brought to Cardiff. Among the lost were many prominent citizens of New York and Boston. Five delegates to the Evangelical Alliance meeting in New York on their way back to Europe. The ship saved included the Captain, 5 officers, 54 of the crew and 27 passengers.

The ship which ran into the "Ville de Havre" was an iron ship of 1,200 tons burthen.

SPAIN.—On Wednesday the arsenal and barracks of Cartagena were the chief marks for the besiegers' artillery, but the cathedral and hospital were also struck.

A Madrid despatch on Thursday evening reports another bombardment of Cartagena, after which the rebel leaders, through the Admirals of the Foreign squadrons, requested a truce of two hours. It is believed that propositions for the surrender of the city will soon be made.

On Friday the theatre, Protestant church, and the entire street was destroyed, and 200 persons killed and wounded within the city. The insurgents have raised the black flag on the forts. The loss of the besiegers has been exceedingly small.

The officers of the foreign squadrons succeeded in obtaining an armistice of four hours on Friday night.

Firing was renewed fiercely by both sides, after the termination of the armistice.

A Cabinet Council was held on Tuesday, at which the note to be sent to the Government of the United States was under consideration. It is denied that the Spanish Government is disposed to submit the "Virginus" question to the Emperor of Germany for arbitration.

Captain General Jouvellar assures the Home Government that the authority of the Republic will be obeyed in Cuba.

The Cartagena rebels have been compelled by the German fleet to restore what they extorted from the German subjects residing in that city.

PRUSSIA.—The Vienna Government has ordered Archbishop Ledowowski to resign and the Pope tells him to "stick."

A fresh sentence is pronounced against Archbishop Ledowowski, for continuing unlawfully to institute priests. He is condemned to two years' imprisonment and an additional fine of 5400 thalers.

ITALY.—In the Italian Chamber of Deputies a resolution recommending the introduction of an Arbitration clause in all future Treaties with Foreign Powers was unanimously adopted.

The "Augsburg Gazette" says that the King of Bavaria has signed a decree repealing the Concordat with the Pope.

RUSSIA.—The Rothschilds announce a Russian loan of \$75,000,000.

News of the Week.

A man named Schelue fell through a bridge at the Drummond Colliery on Saturday night, broke his arm and perished.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—The following resolutions have been adopted by the Central Agricultural Board:

"1 That the public opening of the Exhibition shall take place on Tuesday afternoon, 6th October 1874, and that the various departments on the Exhibition shall remain open during the following Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

"2 That if each of the Fruit Growers Associations will agree to contribute \$100 towards the Exhibition Fund for Fruit Prizes, the committee will recommend a supplement from the Central Board of \$400, making a total Fruit Prize List of 600; the Prize list to be submitted to the Fruit Growers Associations for suggestions."

SAD ACCIDENT.—Mr. Fredk. W. Blaiklock, son of Mr. George Blaiklock, builder, met with an accident on Monday morning which resulted in his death next morning. He was running down North Street to catch a car going to Richmond, and fell, striking his head on a stone and fracturing his skull. Although his injuries were known to be very severe they were not regarded at the time as dangerous. He suffered much, became delirious, and at 8 o'clock on Friday morning died.

"WESTERN CHRONICLE."—We have received the first No. of this new weekly published at Kentville. It is a very respectable looking sheet, and creditable to the County.

THE SEASON.—Winter appears now to have fairly set in upon us. The severe storms of last week were succeeded by very hard frosts. A heavy fall of snow on Thursday night was succeeded by rain which almost wholly cleared it off. Sunday was very much with a strong northerly wind, the thermometer marked as low as 27°, very cold for the 1st and 2nd of December! The indications of winter in Quebec and the United States were earlier this year than usual whilst we have had at least two or three weeks added to our open fall weather.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Provincial Secretary's Office—Halifax, 24th Nov., 1873.—To be one of the Governors of Dalhousie College—Rev. George W. Hill in the place of Hon. Joseph Howe deceased.

Shelburne Co.—To be Commissioners of Schools for the district of Shelburne—Revs. Paul Prestwood, Ebenezer Miller and E. N. Archibald.

Digby Co.—To be Commissioners for giving relief to Insolvent Debtors &c., in the District of Clare—Anselm M. Comeau and Bonnaventure Robichan, Esq.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—On Sunday morning about half past twelve an alarm of fire was given. It was found to proceed from the clothing store of Messrs. Harris Bros. in Barrington Street. The fire soon took possession and worked its way into the dry goods store, on the site of the old Baptist Chapel, northward, and eastward into the stores of J. R. Jennette & Co., and Baldwin & Co. The firemen were soon on hand and subdued the flames before doing much mischief in the last named stores; but the water used for extinguishing the flames was more destructive than the fire.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.—A frightful accident took place on Thursday morning last which resulted in the instant death of John Stockall who has been employed for several years at the Railway Depot at Richmond. While he was crossing the railway track above the station, the Truro express train, which had just arrived, backed out, and at the same time a freight train, which was shunting, came up on the adjoining track. In attempting to get out of the way of the freight train, he got in the way of the express train, was knocked down and instantly killed. His head and both legs were entirely severed from his body by the wheels of the cars.

On Friday of last week two men, Andrew Welsh and Wm. Hendriksen, went down the slope in the Vale Colliery and after being down half an hour, they with an employee named Daniel McDonald, jumped on a trolley loaded with coal, to return. When about half way down the slope the draw bar broke away from the trolley, which descended to the bottom, and Daniel McDonald was killed, and the others seriously injured.

Six black foxes are reported caught in Cumberland County this fall.

TRURO.—The Stipendiary Magistrate John King, Esq., has offered a reward of \$20, for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the parties who recently broke the windows of the Roman Catholic Church in that town.

BISHOP BINNEY.—The Reporter intimates that "Rumour says that his Lordship Bishop Binney does not intend returning to Nova Scotia, but he will remain in England."

FROZEN TO DEATH.—A young man named Roach, son of Mr. Richard Roach, who resides on the Margarets Bay Road, was found last week frozen to death on the North West Arm Road, a short distance below Leahyville. The deceased who lived with his grandfather, was addicted to drinking.

The schooner "Royal" of Provincetown Mass. was towed in Cape Cod, on Tuesday night, the 18th ult., and sad to relate all on board were lost, five in number, their names were John Ellis, Capt.; Ephraim Ellis, brother of the Captain, they belong to Digby, N. S. The other three belong to Provincetown, Mass, names not known. The vessel loaded at Digby Joggin.—Com. by William Aymer, Esq.