

Religious Intelligence.

ONTARIO.—The Canadian Baptist brings us several items of interest concerning the progress of the work there:

Brother W. H. Porter, of the First Church, Brantford, writes as follows: You will be pleased to learn that the work of grace still goes quietly on in connection with our regular weekly meetings and Sabbath school. I cannot but believe that Jesus has been truly pleased, and greatly glorified, by the sweetly interesting and touchingly simple testimonies of some of the dear children of the Sabbath school. Yesterday evening I baptized eight, making two hundred and seven baptized, and fourteen added by letter and experience, since my coming here. Many more have expressed a hope in the Saviour, and others are anxiously seeking Him. May the work still extend deeper and wider, in all our churches, is the prayer of your unworthy successor and fellow-laborer.

In Toronto, Dr. Castle, pastor of the Bond street church, had the privilege, on Sunday evening last, of baptizing six candidates on a profession of their faith, in the presence of a large congregation.

At Eversley last Lord's day, the neat, brick church edifice, was opened with appropriate discourses, preached to crowded congregations by Revs. J. Torrance and W. Stewart. On the Monday Evening a platform meeting was held, when addresses were delivered, and the entire indebtedness is provided for.

An Ordination service was held on Wednesday the 24th December, 1873, with the First Cranhe church of their lately chosen pastor, Bro. Wm. Ainsworth.

A Methodist Minister Baptized.—Pastor C. Y. Snell sends the following:—Since my last letter I have had the privilege of baptizing three more on the profession of their faith in Jesus at Lobo, making twenty-two added to this church by baptism during the past few months. Others are awaiting the ordinance, one being now received.

Bro. George Day obeyed Christ by being buried with Him by baptism last Sabbath. He has been engaged in the ministry for two years in connection with the Primitive Methodists. His credentials from their Conference state that he has been successful in the work, and are very satisfactory.

A council for the recognition of the Regular Baptist Church of Barrie, met there on Monday, Dec. 22, 1873. After due deliberation and enquiry, the brethren were recognized as a sister church of the same faith and order.

The good work of the Lord is still going on with unabated power in the Baptist congregation in Guelph, under the arduous labors of the pastor, Bro. Davidson, who, in gathering in the precious harvest, is ably aided by the brethren and sisters of the church, some of whom especially labour much in the Lord. On Sabbath last, the 23rd inst., Dr. Davidson writes us that he was privileged to bury with Christ in baptism, nine rejoicing and obedient converts, all recently brought to the Saviour, seven brethren and two sisters; seven of these heads of families, and two young men. The congregation was unusually large.

Very successful Anniversaries were held by the Baptist Church at Strathroy, on Sabbath and Monday, 21st and 22nd ult. A Tea-meeting was held on the following Monday evening, which was in all respects a great and gratifying success. The object of which was to aid in liquidating the debt on the Chapel. It was announced, at the Tea Meeting that \$1000 had been raised, and there was only about \$200 left, which, with the proceeds of the Tea Meeting (\$50), collections (37), and promises from other parties, will make up the whole amount.

The Wesleyans have arranged to send once one of their ministers, now stationed at the camp at Aldershot, to Cape Coast to minister to Wesleyans in the corps included in the expedition; and, at the request of the Government, they have placed at the service of Sir Garnet Welsley one of their most experienced agents on the coast, who has resided at Coomassie, and whose knowledge of the dialects spoken, of the habits of the people, and of the topography of the country, will be most valuable.

The Bishop of Oxford has been injured through having been struck by a train of hay thrown from a loft at the moment the right reverend prelate was passing, on his way to Oxford Railway Station.

Dominion & Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 14, 1874

The new Premier has given forth in an address to his constituents, the policy of the new government. It embraces a liberal adjustment of the franchise to suit the varying circumstances of the different sections of the Dominion; vote by ballot; the abolition of the real estate qualification for members. The Pacific Railway contract, "he says" has already been broken and the bargain is incapable of literal fulfilment. With a view to obtain a speedy means of communication across the continent, and to facilitate the construction of the railway itself, it will be their policy to utilize the enormous stretch of water communication which lies between a point not far from the Rocky mountains and Fort Garry and Lake Superior and French River, Georgian Bay, which will involve the construction of a short line of railway from the mouth of French River, Georgian Bay to the southeast shore of Lake Nipissing,

and a grant in aid of the extension to that point of existing and projected lines in Quebec and Ontario. He proposes to facilitate the construction of a branch line from Fort Garry to Pembina, already provided by Parliament. In dealing with the question of insolvency he says it will be the effort of the government to frame a measure to render more difficult the commission, and more easy the punishment, of fraud, and to simplify the machinery and lessen expenses of winding up estates: the closer union of various Provinces by creation of a general Court of Appeal for the Dominion, and to this subject the attention of Government will be directed. The militia to be revised, with a view of increasing its efficiency, &c., &c.,

UNITED STATES.

Senator Sumner on Friday morning introduced the Earl of Roseburg, the youngest member of the British House of Lords, to the floor of the House.

The President on Monday sent a message to Congress enclosing the correspondence over the "Virginia" case.

The President has nominated Caleb Cushing for Chief Justice.

A naval court of inquiry will be ordered to investigate the sinking of the "Virginia". It is stated that confidential diplomatic despatches were not included in the "Virginia" correspondence sent to the Secretary of State, and that the new ministry of Spain unpleasantly, without gaining anything on the part of the Government.

The severe storm of three days last week has done considerable damage throughout the Middle States. Freshets are threatened in many places.

Cincinnati, Columbus and other Western cities were cut off from telegraphic communication by the severe storm of snow and sleet.

The storm caused disastrous freshets in various sections of the country. In Connecticut the lower portions of the manufacturing villages of Derby, Birmingham and Ansonia were submerged; railroad travel interrupted and bridges carried away. The freshet was the greatest for 20 years. Manufacturing closed and the greatest excitement prevailed. The damage will reach several hundred thousand dollars.

Brisk snow storm on Friday at Cincinnati. Six inches of snow reported at Louisville.

Bacon, Cashier of Holyoke Massachusetts National Bank, is a defaulter for \$45,630.

A large conflagration occurred in Springfield, Mass., on Thursday. Loss \$200,000.

Fleetwood Park stable was damaged by fire to the amount of \$200,000 on Thursday night.

The city of Helena, Montana, has been nearly destroyed by fire.

The heads of most of the State Departments have submitted to the House of Representatives reports relative to the reduction of estimates for their several departments. The opinion generally expressed is against any considerable reduction.

There is a good deal of counterfeit fifty cent currency in circulation.

The British ship Ravensworth Castle, reported as wrecked, had on board a cargo worth £20,000 sterling. It was mostly insured. The officers and crew were saved.

On Saturday morning last an Eastward bound freight train ran into a freight train near Chequamegon Outlet on Erie railroad. Ten cars with contents were burned. The engineer and fireman of the latter train were seriously injured.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.—The Prince of Wales unveiled the statue of the Prince Consort at Holborn Viaduct on Friday, in presence of a vast crowd. A public breakfast was given at Guild hall.

The remains of Napoleon III. were transferred to the sarcophagus presented to Eugenie by Queen Victoria. A number of leading Bonapartists attended the ceremony, but Prince Napoleon was absent.

At the trial of Luis on Friday, for perjury in the Tichborne case, a police officer swore that the prisoner confessed he had been instructed how to testify by Onslow, Whalley, Capt. Brown, and others; that at the first he was adverse to appearing in Court, but that Onslow, who expected to receive the bulk of the Tichborne property if the claimant was successful, insisted on his testifying as directed, and promised him a stewardship in return for his services.

The Metropolitan Railway Carriage Works, at Birmingham, were burned on Tuesday 6th; loss £50,000. 490 hands are thrown out of work.

A SINGULAR DEATH.—A Telegram from Birmingham to the London Daily News, dated Sunday, Nov. 16 says:—

This evening, at the Athenaeum Assembly Rooms, Temple Row, a spiritualistic service was being held, and in the course of it a medium named Benjamin Hawkes, a toy dealer of New street, addressed the meeting. He spoke for fully half an hour, appearing to be in his usual health, and then he described with startling vividness a scene in which the Apostle Peter had manifested himself to the assembled spirits. Peter had clasped hands with him, and he (Hawkes) felt the close pressure of the

Apostle's grasp. From this he argued that it was quite possible to understand how Thomas of Didymus thrust his hand into the side of 'the Personification of Divine Love.' The instant these last words were out of the speaker's mouth he fell back on the chair behind him. There was great excitement for the meeting believed Hawkes was under 'spirit control.' A few seconds elapsed, and a surgeon came up to the medium and found him dead. The meeting broke up in wild confusion.

FRANCE.—The Assembly on Thursday unanimously voted to adjourn until Monday. No action was taken on the ministerial question. There was great excitement in the lobby during the sitting.

President McMahon on the 8th performed the ceremony of delivering hats to the newly appointed Cardinals. In his speech on the occasion he thanked the Pope for conferring those honors on citizens of France.

On Friday the "Journal Official" announced that the Cabinet had resigned in consequence of an absence from the Assembly of a large number of supporters, which resulted in defeat of the Government. President McMahon, begs the ministers not to retire, but to wait the vote of confidence which the Assembly would pass.

Diplomatic representatives of Spain at Paris, Brussels and Lisbon have resigned.

SPAIN.—Senor Castelar, in an address to the country, says he must protest with all his energy against the recent brutal coup de etat. He concludes: "My conscience will not permit me to associate with demagogues, and conscience and honor refuse to accept the situation created by bayonets." Several members of the majority who voted against Castelar now approve the stand he has taken. The capital is quiet, but there are rumors of disturbances in Valadolid.

A decree has been promulgated suspending the constitutional guarantees and putting in force throughout Spain the laws of 1870, for the maintenance of public order.

The new Minister of the Interior, Marcia Roca, ordered the publication of all Carlist and Intransigent newspapers to be stopped.

An armed rising of volunteers of liberty took place in Saragossa on Sunday, the 4th ult. After eight hours fighting the municipality took 200 Insurgent prisoners, six cannon and a large quantity of ammunition.

Senor Ruiz, Minister of the Interior, has issued a circular to the provincial authorities stating that the principal object of the Government is to re-establish order and show its compatibility with the Republic and liberty. To secure this object the Government will employ the most energetic measures. The new Government intends soon to add 100,000 men to the reserve.

Castelar has rejected the overtures of Figueras, Salmeron and Margall, asking him to co-operate with them in recognizing the Federalists.

Generals Hidalgo and Rigeall are placed under arrest.

The Province of Valencia is declared in a state of siege.

Telegrams from Cartagena says the burning of the man-of-war Tetuan was intentional; and that the Numancia and Mendez Nunez were to have been destroyed at the same time, but the plan was discovered.

A Madrid despatch to the Standard reports that 200 persons were killed and wounded before the disturbances in Saragossa and Valladolid were suppressed.

It is reported that the Government will remove the Captains General of the Philippine Islands, Cuba and Porto Rico. It is probable that General Concha will be appointed to Cuba.

The disarmament of disaffected Volunteers is going on quietly everywhere.

The Madrid Municipality has reorganized with Senor Cavajal at its head.

Despatches from Cartagena report that besiegers, inspired by the new order of things, will redouble their efforts to reduce the city. The defenders seem to have taken fresh courage from the belief that the present Government is unpopular and short lived. They have recently made several desperate sorties but without effect, and have hoisted a black flag.

Don Carlos and General Elio, with 25,000 men and eight pieces of artillery, have entered Santona, Morioncs and Astre-Jana have received reinforcements. A battle is expected soon, the Carlists making the attack.

The Spanish Ministry has issued a manifesto addressed to the nation, declaring their objects to be identical with the revolution of 1868.

A decree was promulgated on Friday dissolving the Cortes and announcing that the elections for a new body will be held as soon as order is rendered secure, and freedom and universal suffrage unhindered.

The column of the Republican for besieging Cartagena made an attack on fort San Julian on Friday last; but were repulsed with considerable loss, and returned. Heavy fire is now kept up on both sides.

A Madrid despatch announces the entire Spanish Reserve of 1874 is to be called into active service.

The overthrow of Castelar is favorably received in Havana. The volunteers are evidently in favor of a monarchy. The Imperial Spanish coat of arms is again over the palace of the Captains General, and also on all Spanish vessels.

News of the Week.

ELECTION ITEMS.—The date of the Writs.—The Writs for a new election bear the date 2nd January, returnable 21st February, except for Gaspe, Saguenay, Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, which are returnable on the 12th March. Nomination suggested for Ontario and Quebec 22nd inst., election on the 29th. Government deciding on simultaneous polling for these Provinces, a few remote counties excepted. Nomination for P. E. I-land and Nova Scotia 29th January; election 5th February.

The names of the candidates in some of the counties are already out. Halifax County,—Power and Jones. Cumberland,—Geo. Hibbard—Dr. Tupper

Hants,—M. H. Goudge—H. Allison. Digby,—W. B. Vail—A. W. Savary. Annapolis,—Mr. Ray—T. W. Chesley. Guysboro,—S. Campbell, J. Whitman, J. Kirk.

Inverness,—Dr. Cameron—S. MacDonnell. Cape Breton,—N. N. R. McKay—H. McLeod, W. Young, and Wm. McDonald. Pictou,—Mr. Carmichael and J. A. Dawson—Jas. McDonald, R. Doull.

Antigonish,—Mr. McIsaac. Richmond,—Hon. E. P. Flynn. Victoria,—Hon. Mr. Ross. Kings,—L. De V. Chipman. Queens,—Dr. Forbes. Shelburne,—H. M. Coffin. Yarmouth,—F. Killam. Lunenburg,—Mr. Church. Colchester,—Mr. Pearson.\*

\*Late members, will probably offer for re-election. It will be seen that several of the above named are at present members of the Local House of Assembly. This will render it necessary that there be elections to the N. S. Parliament.

SOMNAMBULISM.—On Thursday last a woman named Foster, who lives in Grafton street, fell down stairs while walking in her sleep. A child that she carried participated in the accident and received some cuts in the head.

EVEN SAILING.—The briggs, Edna, Capt. Simpson, and Eagle, Capt. Swaine, both of which vessels arrived at this port on Friday last from Inagua with cargoes of salt, left the latter port on Christmas day last, the former an hour and a half before the other; the Edna came in, moored at the wharf, making the passage two hours quicker than the Eagle.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Thursday night a fireman of the Steamer Mastiff, named Tobias Merchant, while attempting to go ashore at the Richmond Railway wharf, fell into the water striking his head on the lower braces of the wharf. Next morning Merchant was missing, when a search was instituted, and the body found, the head being very much bruised and the face being badly disfigured. An inquest was held when the jury found a verdict in accordance with the facts. Deceased bore an excellent character for morality, sobriety, and industry. He was a native of Harbor Grace, N. F., where his widow and six children now reside.

LONGEVITY.—We learn that the Honorable S. Chipman passed his 84th birthday in October last; his mother-in-law, who resides with him, is over 80—and his trusty old servant Morris, 82,—making together, 245 years under one roof. Who can beat this.—Western Chronicle.

BOILER EXPLOSION AT MAITLAND.—At 8 o'clock on Thursday morning the boiler in Messrs. Curry & Thompson's steam saw mill, Maitland, Hants, exploded, killing one of the workmen named John Hushard and destroying the saw mill and Mr. Curry's new tannery. Large pieces of the boiler, weighing probably from 300 to 400 pounds, were carried from 150 to 200 yards. One piece in falling struck the corner of the Episcopal Church and did considerable damage. Large quantity of glass was broken in the windows of the shops. There were very few persons at the mill when the explosion occurred. Had it happened later in the day probably more would have been killed or injured. The loss of property is estimated at between \$4,000 and \$5,000.—Chron.

SEALS CAPTURED.—A monster seal weighing about 500 pounds was captured in a mackerel net at Ketch Harbor on Tuesday last, Simeon Fagin is the fortunate owner of the net.

The Express states that three seals were seen in Bedford Basin on Saturday, and one of the number was shot by Alexander Doyle, who took the prize ashore, and intends to present it to Dr. Honeyman for the Museum. It weighed about 90 pounds.

RARE BIRDS, &c.—Mr. Thos. J. Egan, who is so deeply interested in natural history pursuits, has secured several new and rare specimens to add to his already interesting and valuable collection. On Saturday last he obtained on the Eastern Shore a fine specimen of the Golden Eagle (Aquila Canadensis) It measures 6 feet 9 1/2 inches from tip to tip of wings. Mr. Egan has it on exhibition and many persons have called to see it. He also obtained a specimen of the Black Hawk (Falco Sancti Johannes) in Dartmouth. And by Alhambra he received from Ottawa, Illinois, a specimen head of a Wapiti (Cervus Canadensis) a species of Elk; and also, in exchange from Judge Caton, two heads of Virginia deer. Mr. Egan will preserve and place those new specimens in his collection, which he is always willing to exhibit.—Express.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The Quarterly Session of the Grand Division is to be held, this month, beginning Tuesday 27th, at 3 p. m. in Middle Musquodoboit with Rising Sun Division. The 25th Anniversary of this old Division is to be celebrated at the same time.

Excursion tickets on the railroads. Cheap transit from Shub-nacadic Station 14 miles to the place of meeting; the warm-hearted reception promised by the good people of the Musquodoboit Valley; the friendly meeting of friends and brothers in the Cause, together with the solid business for Temperance prosperity bespeak a goodly gathering at this Session of Grand Division.

Notices.

The ANNUAL MEETING in connection with the WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AID SOCIETIES of the North Baptist and Granville Street Churches, and of the NOVA SCOTIA CENTRAL BOARD will be held in the North Baptist Church, Gottingen Street, on Thursday evening next, commencing at half past 7 o'clock.

Hon. Dr. Parker will preside. Reports from the Societies and of the Central Board will be presented. Addresses by Clergymen and others.

A collection will be taken for the Mission Fund.

Table with columns: RECEIVED FROM WOMAN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES, and list of donors and amounts.

BRITISH AMERICAN BOOK AND TRACT DEPOSITORY.

Mr. T. E. Smith asks us to send him S. S. Books but gives no address. Will he kindly write again. A. McBEAN.

COLCHESTER CO. BAPTIST SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The quarterly session of this Convention will be held at the Baptist Church, Debert River. Commencing on Thursday 22nd inst., at half-past two P. M. The second session will commence at 7 P. M. The third session on Friday morning at 10 o'clock. A sermon may be expected from Rev. J. E. Goucher at the beginning of the first session, a paper from Rev. M. P. Freeman at the second session, and the subject of Missions among the children to occupy all the time of their session. We hope to see a large gathering of delegates and others who are or should be interested in Sabbath School work.

A. J. WALKER. Thursday Jan 1st, 1874.

CENTRAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE.

The next meeting of the Central Ministerial Conference will be with Rev. J. Murray of Hantsport, Jan. 19 and 20. Monday evening, devotional conference of Ministers at 7 o'clock. Public Meeting at 8. Meetings through the day and in the evening of Tuesday. These days will permit the members to come and return by express trains.

Papers may be expected from Rev. S. B. Kempton & Rev. D. M. Welton. A subject for discussion will be presented. By order of Committee, A. W. SAWYER.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

SUNNYSIDE AT MACKNAQUACK, N. B.—Dear Editor,—Will you please give the following a place in the Christian Messenger:

On the 31st ult., the last night of the old year, that has told so many tales of sorrow and of gladness, our house was taken possession of, and that without the least opposition. The people of my church and congregation at Macknaquack, and many other kind friends from the surrounding communities poured into our home with baskets and trunks of various descriptions. A table was soon loaded with everything adapted to the wants of the inner man, and all present satiated themselves with the bounties of a heavenly providence. Different Christian Societies were represented in this gathering, but the most perfect union prevailed especially around the table. No denominational spite was manifested only at the cake and pies.

Every thing in order. The Rev. J. Tupper was chosen Chairman for the evening, who after some apologetical remarks called upon the following gentlemen to give addresses. Revs. Mr. Sikes, Congregational; Mr. Rand, Free Baptist; Bro. Hall, Licentiate, and Deacons T. Jewett, and Z. Estey whose speeches added much to the interest of the occasion. The Chairman subsequently presented me with the handsome sum of \$105 of which sum \$83 were in cash, accompanied with a suitable address, to which the receipt responded with a thankful heart.