

possible, and arranging them in a large building inside of the palace inclosure. This they called a 'museum,' and invited nearly all the Europeans to be present on Saturday evening to meet the king.

"We went in company with Mr. Chandler, who, with Mr. Alabaster, an English lawyer in the king's service, had all the work of arranging things. We reached the palace landing about 8.30 P. M., and though early there was a very large number of boats there. Some of the buildings along the river in front of the palace were beautifully illuminated.

"Passing up from the landing between two lines of soldiers on guard we came to the city wall, through which a gate admitted us into a space perhaps fifty yards wide, which separates the city wall from that of the palace. A gate in the latter admitted us into an open square in front of one of the royal temples. Crossing this square we passed through another gate, beautifully illuminated, into a large square surrounded by buildings connected with the palace, mostly built in the old Siamese style. Everything here was illuminated, and the effect was really very fine. Crossing this latter square half-way, we came to an arch very beautifully lighted up."

After describing the arrangements of several rooms through which they passed, Mr. Churchill continues:—

"But the sight of the evening was of course the king. He came about 10 P. M.; borne in his chair of state on the shoulders of some of his servants, accompanied by a large retinue of attendants. He entered the middle room and passed around, shaking hands with the ladies, and here and there a gentleman whom he knew. Mrs. C. and Miss E. were introduced and shook hands with him.

"The king is a slender, rather pleasant and good-looking young man. He is said to be very intelligent, but there is not half the character in his personal appearance that there is in some of the nobles—especially the second king, who is a large, well-formed and fine looking man. He is regarded as the best statesman in the country.

"The king was dressed plainly, quite in European style, with the exception of the 'panung,' which takes the place of pants. This is a square piece of cloth, about four feet long and wide. It is put on by wrapping it round the waist, bringing the ends in front. The upper corners are twisted together and tucked in under the upper edge, and then, stooping, the lower corners are twisted together, and brought back between the legs, and tucked in at the back, the same as in front. This is worn by all classes of Siamese. It reaches a little below the knees; and to make up for this the upper classes wear long stockings, and so make quite a respectable and becoming appearance.

"All the Siamese present, of whom there were two or three hundred, and among them three or four brothers of the king, were dressed in this manner, except that many of them were profusely decorated with badges of honour and office. This is the first time we have seen the nobility together, and it was very interesting to us on that account. On the whole it was an attractive assembly. There were some fine intelligent faces. The difference between the nobility and the common people is quite marked, even in the expression of their features. In colour there is no perceptible difference. There are as many shades among the upper classes as among the lower. The general colour is nearly that of our Micmac Indians, perhaps not quite so dark. In size they are considerably smaller than average Europeans.

"We left at eleven. There were thousands of people outside, part of them servants of those who were inside and part, those who had come to look at the others. There was a large band of music, which played beautifully all the evening. At the landing there were acres of boats, and it was some time before we could get ours and get through the others."

For the Christian Messenger.

THE NEW ACADEMY BUILDING.

Dear Mr. Editor,—

We are glad to be able to report progress. True, it is not so marked and rapid as we should like, but many things show that the members of our churches are in sympathy with the work before us, and are resolved that

it shall go forward. Last Lord's day after coming out of the pulpit which we had engaged to supply, fifty cents were placed in my hands, sent by a sister as a contribution to the new building. Two minutes after another sister handed us an envelope containing five dollars for the new Academy Building." Yesterday we received three dollars more from the wife of one of our ministers. These contributions demonstrate the readiness of our sisters to do their part towards this object. Of course, if the work devolved entirely on them they would not be long in doing it. But they have no desire, by appropriating more than their share of the luxury of giving, to inflict an injury on their brethren, by leaving them little or nothing to do.

With your kind permission we shall occupy a small space in your columns from week to week in the acknowledgment of subscriptions as they are made, and of contributions as they come in.

Beginning with Wolfville where the ground has been partly gone over, we have as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries like 'Jas. S. Morse \$100 00', 'J. L. Brown & Co. 75 00', 'F. & H. Brown 40 00', etc.

Total. \$759 00

The work of completing the building will probably be soon let by contract, but before advertising for tenders the Committee wish to be able to meet obligations already assumed.

We are pleased to hear that several of the Churches are preparing for the collection on the first Lord's day in January, and will try to realize the equivalent asked for. We hope that no church, however small, will pass the matter by. We have no desire to trespass upon the claims of other objects. Brethren Skinner, Ingram, and others want help to finish their respective places of worship, and their appeals are worthy of being regarded. The treasury of the Missionary Union needs replenishing it must be admitted by all. The College Endowment fund, too, ought to be raised to a much higher figure. But the denomination is able to meet all these wants, and at the same time, to provide the means necessary to finish the new Academy building.

We understand that Bro. Paint is disposed to move immediately in the matter of the long contemplated Female Seminary. This should not certainly be postponed an hour after the completion of the building now on our hands, as at that time, judging from present appearances, the one now in course of construction will be nearly all required for the male department alone. But until the Female Seminary becomes a reality, a portion of the present building will be assigned to the young ladies. For the purpose, therefore, of meeting a present need, a need becoming every day more pressing, we trust our friends will feel it a privilege to assist the Committee in their present undertaking.

On behalf of the Agency Committee, D. M. WELTON.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N.S., DECEMBER 23, 1874.

DAY OF PRAYER.

The Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island, at its late session at Portland, St. John, N. B., appointed as a special Day of Prayer—the first Monday of the New Year, on which our brethren were recommended to come together and offer fervent prayer to Almighty God for an enlarged manifestation of the Holy Spirit's power during the year, seeking that the churches may be quickened and revived, that sinners may be converted to God and souls in larger numbers saved.

Our Foreign Mission Secretaries in another column suggest also another subject for prayer and intercession on that day.

The Secretary of the Convention was prevented by sickness in his family and other hindrances from preparing the Minutes as early as he would otherwise have done. This has retarded their publication but they are now being published in St. John, N. B., and will shortly be ready and be forwarded to the churches without delay as soon as finished.

The labor in preparing the YEAR BOOK we well know is very considerable, and occupies no small amount of time—known only to those who have had it to do.

The ELECTIONS came off on Thursday last. There could hardly have been a more quiet contest either in the city, or, as we hear from the country, in any part of the province.

The following is a list of the gentlemen elected to form the new House of Representatives:

- Halifax.—Hon. P. C. Hill, Dr. E. Farrell, Donald Archibald. Digby.—Olin Campbell, Jr., H. M. Robichau. Yarmouth.—Albert Gayton, Jno. Lovitt. Shelburne.—Hon. R. Robertson, Thomas Johnston. Queens.—Samuel Freeman, J. Newton Mack. Annapolis.—Avar Longley, W. B. Troop. Kings.—J. B. North, D. B. Woodworth. Lunenburg.—M. B. DesBrisay, James Eisenhauer. Hants.—W. H. Allison, Alfred Putnam. Colchester.—John B. Dickie, W. A. Patterson. Cumberland.—Hiram Black, Edward Vickery. Pictou.—S. H. Holmes, Hugh Cameron, Alex. McKay. Antigonish.—Hon. D. McDonald, John J. McKinnon. Richmond.—Charles Boudrot, Murdoch McRae. Cape Breton.—Hon. A. J. White, E. T. Moseley. Victoria.—D. McCurdy, J. Fraser. Guysboro.—W. A. Wylie, — Frenchville. Inverness.—Dr. Campbell, — McKinnon.

Attempts are of course being made by either party to shew that the majority is on their own side. The Chronicle classifies them as far as heard from: For the Government 22, Opposition 8, and Independent 4. The Colonist declares them to be but 14 for the Government, 3 Independent, and Opposition 21.

It will be perhaps be hard to determine what shape parties will take till the Legislature assembles, and a test question is brought before the House. We shall probably soon hear of the vacant seats in the Legislative Council being filled.

The numerous friends of our Brother Rev. James Parker, will be sorry to hear of his sad affliction as noticed by Rev. J. L. Read in another column. His restoration from a similar attack a year or two since was regarded as somewhat remarkable. We fear that there is but small probability of his soon recovering so well from a second attack. His family will please accept our deep sympathy under this trying dispensation of Divine Providence.

We wish we had been able to insert in one issue the whole of the Correspondence between the North Baptist Church and the Council called by the Brethren meeting in Gerrish Hall, instead of dividing it into three parts. It would have been so much more satisfactory and understood more clearly if read consecutively without interruption of a break of a week between one part and another. We have however done the best we could, and shall give the conclusion next week.

PRAYER FOR SIAM.

To the members of the Baptist Churches, comprised in the Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island.

Dear Brethren,— It was decided, at the last meeting of the Convention, to request the Churches to set apart the first Monday in the year for special prayer.

We ask you to make our mission to Siam the subject of that special prayer. Our missionaries in that country are engaged in an arduous work. It is not necessary to speak of the Karens in Siam, because you have been long acquainted with the Karen character, as it appears in Burmah;—but we are particularly desirous of calling your attention to the Siamese and Laos, probably about eight millions in number.

All these people are merit-mongers, that is, they are taught that they can procure merit before God by their gifts and offerings to the priests or to the images in the temples, and so deserve the divine favour, and ultimately the Siamese heaven, or N'Tupan, which is neither a holy nor a happy place, but "an endless state of existence, susceptible of neither pain, pleasure, knowledge, nor emotion of any kind."

They have no knowledge of sin, as such, apart from outward acts—no consciousness of guilt—no sense of the need of salvation. They seem to be sunk in impenetrable stupor, indifference, and hardness of heart. How shall they be reached? God can reach them. The grace which has saved so many thousands of Hindoos and other heathens, as far from God as the Siamese, can save them. Very many Buddhists have been converted in Burmah, in Ceylon, and in China. The bestowment of grace may follow the prayers of the churches.

Let us meet together on the first Monday of the New Year, and pray for our missionaries in that land, that the gospel which they preach may become "the power of God unto salvation." Who can tell? "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

On behalf of the Board of Foreign Missions.

J. M. CRAMP, Secy. W. P. EVERETT, Treas.

December 16th, 1874.

P. S.—It is respectfully and earnestly requested by the Board that Collections for Foreign Missions be made by the Churches on the Day of Prayer. A large outlay will be shortly required for the purchase of property and the erection of buildings in Siam.

OBSERVE!!!

From this date to the end of 1874. NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR 1875

WILL HAVE

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER from the date of our receiving their subscription to the end of 1874 FOR NOTHING.

ONE THOUSAND MORE.

Now is the best time of the year to begin. We want a thousand new subscribers added to our list to commence the New Year.

Reader, will you not try to obtain for us, at least, one new name?

Notices.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE.

The King's County Ministerial Conference will meet at Kentville, Dec. 29th and 30th. Public meeting Tuesday evening, meeting of Conference Wednesday, 9th, A. M. Criticism of plates and discussion of assigned questions may be expected. A full attendance is desired. In behalf of Committee, A. W. SAWYER.

CAPE BRETON MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE.

The next Quarterly Conference of the Baptist Churches and Ministers of Cape Breton, will be held at Cow Bay, commencing Friday afternoon, Jan. 8th, 1875. Will those friends who intend being present please forward their names to the undersigned as early as possible. We hope a goodly number will meet us, and meanwhile, we ask the prayers of God's people that much good may follow the meetings. T. BR. WN.

REV. JOHN WILLIAMS has removed to Bridgewater, and wishes all papers and letters for him to be sent there.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

Halifax, North Church, — Mts. Steele, \$10.50. Amherst, — Miss Florence A. Page. 15.00. M R. SELDEN, Sec'y. Halifax, N. S., Dec 23rd, 1874.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

MAH NE BAY, N. S., Dec. 17th, 74. Dear Editor,—The following sums have lately been received in aid of our New Meeting-house. Many thanks to the friends who have thus been mindful of us. Biltown—per Rev. D. W. Dimock, Wm. Bill, Esq. \$ 4 00 Northwest—A friend. 4 00 Iron Bound—Do. 50 00 John Morash. 1 00 Further contributions will be thankfully received, and acknowledged by Yours faithfully, A. E. INGRAM.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

John Lantz, \$2—6 copies of the minutes were sent before to your address, we now send six copies again. W. W. Phinney. Rev. A. Shields. Rev. A. E. Ingram. Rev. J. C. Morse, 1 sub. \$2. A. G. Purdy. A. Munroe, \$2. Rev. W. Sommerville. Rev. John Williams. J. M. W., 1 sub., \$2. Rev. J. Brown. Rev. Dr. Tupper, \$4. Rev. E. N. Archibald, 1 sub. W. D. Carter, \$2. Rev. J. L. Read.

News of the Week.

RESULTS OF THE TRAFFIC.—On Wednesday evening a man named Connors was thrown from his truck on Lockman street, and had one of his feet badly crushed by one of the wheels passing over it. He was intoxicated.

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR.—The annual meeting of this Association was held on Friday last. The following persons were elected officers for the ensuing year:—President, John Doull; Vice-President, W. H. Neal; Secretary, C. Fletcher; Treasurer, W. S. Stirling; Chairmen of Districts—1, Henry Romans; 2, W. S. Doull; 3, R. J. Sweet; 4, Jas. Farquhar. Subscriptions and donations thankfully received by the Treasurer, at the Union Bank.

THE LATE HIRAM BLANCHARD, Esq.—In our list of deaths this week will be found that of Hiram Blanchard, Esq., who as a lawyer and leading politician was for some years past occupied a prominent place in this province.

At a meeting of the Bar Society on Thursday afternoon a resolution of condolence to the widow and family was passed. Several members of the Bar gave expression to the loss which the Society had sustained, and eulogised the professional attainments and social qualities of the deceased.

THE LATE MISS COGSWELL'S WILL.—We learn that Miss Cogswell, by her Will, which has not yet been presented for proof in consequence of the absence of her executors, disposes of her property as follows:

- \$4000 to the Colonial Church Society. 4000 to the Home of the Aged. 4000 to the Orphan's Home. 4000 to the Trinity Church. 4000 to the Industrial School for Boys. 4000 to the Industrial School for Girls. 4000 to her brother Dr. Chas. Cogswell for improvements in the city of Halifax.

\$21,000 in legacies of various amounts to friends and relatives—and the residue to the children of the late Rev. Wm. Cogswell in equal shares.—Recorder.

The Annual Session of the Provincial Teachers' Association will be held in Dalhousie College next week on the 29th, 30th, and 31st. It promises to be more than usually interesting.

We notice among the speakers the Revs. A. S. Hunt, G. W. Hill, Dr. Clay, Ex-mayor Richey, Principal Calkin, besides several of the best teachers of the province. As Railway travelling can be done at about half fare during the holidays we presume there will be a large attendance.

MELANCHOLY AND FATAL ACCIDENT FROM A LAMP EXPLOSION.—A terrible accident happened on Friday night at Christie's Mills, about 3 miles from Valley Station. Mr. Gratio who is the mill tender was in his house, filling a lighted lamp with oil, the oil in the lamp ignited and an explosion followed. The flames spread to the end of the table where Gratio's daughter was sitting, set her clothing on fire and as she cried for help, entered her mouth, badly burning her throat and otherwise seriously injured her so that she died on Sunday morning at 11 a. m. The poor girl's body is described as literally cooked all the clothing being incinerated and her father and brother were also badly but not fatally burned. The accident has its lesson and demonstrates the necessity for the greatest care in the management of lamps.—Truro Sun.

SAD DROWNING ACCIDENT.—A telegram from Weymouth, announces the death of Mr. John S. M. Jones, of that place, near Bear River, on Monday last, the day of the dreadful snow storm. Mr. Jones was a surveyor, and it is supposed he lost his life in an air hole in the ice crossing a lake, while engaged in a surveying party. He is the son of Alpheus Jones, Esq., of Weymouth, was married to Miss Morse of Bridgetown, and leaves a widow and one child. He was greatly esteemed for his kindness of disposition and amiable character, and his sudden death will cast a gloom over a large circle of relatives.

BRIDGEWATER.—The house of James Fitch, at Conquerall, was destroyed by fire on Friday morning. The owner, while attempting to get out some papers, remained too long in the building, and was burnt to death.—Chron.

LAME BACK.—CAPT. GEORGE WOODS, Hopewell, River Side, N. B., says:—"I suffered with a Rheumatic Pain in my back for twenty years till I used GRAHAM'S PAIN ERADICATOR, three applications of which cured me. I have kept it in my house for the past ten years, and find it the best article I have known for removing pain.

PHYSICIANS having Consumptive patients and having failed to cure them by their own prescriptions, should not hesitate to prescribe Allen's Lung Balm. It has cured cases when all other remedies have failed. It is harmless to the most delicate child. Price \$1.00 per bottle. See special notice.