

without danger. What is in reality cowardice and faithlessness we call charity; and consider it the part of benevolence sometimes to forgive men's evil practice for the sake of their accurate faith, and sometimes to forgive their confessed heresy for the sake of their admirable practice. And under this shelter of charity, humility, and faintheartedness, the world, unquestioned by others or by itself, mingles with and overwhelms the small body of Christians, legislates for them, moralises for them, reasons for them; and, though itself of course greatly and beneficently influenced by the association, and held much in check by its pretence to Christianity, yet undermines, in nearly the same degree, the sincerity and practical power of Christianity itself, until at last, in the very institutions of which the administration may be considered as the principal test of the genuineness of national religion, those devoted to education the Pagan system is completely triumphant; and the entire body of the so-called Christian world has established a system of instruction for its youth, wherein neither the history of Christ's church, nor the language of God's law, is considered a study of the smallest importance; wherein, of all subjects of human inquiry, his own religion is the one in which a youth's ignorance is most easily forgiven; and in which it is held a light matter that he should be daily guilty of lying, of debauchery, or of blasphemy, so only that he write Latin verses accurately and with speed.

I believe that in a few years more we shall wake from all these errors in astonishment, as from evil dreams; having been preserved, in the midst of their madness, by those hidden roots of active and earnest Christianity which God's grace has bound in the English nation with iron and brass. But in the Venetian, those roots themselves had withered; and from the palace of their ancient religion, their pride cast them forth hopelessly to the pasture of the brute. From pride to infidelity, from infidelity to the unscrupulous and insatiable pursuit of pleasure, and from this to irremediable degradation, the transitions were swift, like the falling of a star.

The great palaces of the haughtiest nobles of Venice were stayed, before they had risen far above their foundations, by the blast of a penal poverty; and the wild grass, on the unfinished fragments of their mighty shafts, waves at the tide-mark where the power of the godless people first heard the "Hitherto shalt thou come." And the regeneration in which they had so vainly trusted, the new birth and clear dawning, as they thought it, of all art, all knowledge, and all hope,—became to them as that dawn which Ezekiel saw on the hills of Israel: "Behold the day; behold it is come. The rod hath blossomed, pride hath budded, violence is risen up into a rod of wickedness. None of them shall remain, nor of their multitude; let not the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn, for wrath is upon all the multitude thereof."

Religious Intelligence.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION AT PLEASANTVILLE, LUNENBURG COUNTY.

In compliance with a call from the Baptist Church at Bridgewater, a Council was convened at Pleasantville on the 8th inst., for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Church in that locality.

The following Churches were represented:—

Bridgewater.—Rev. E. Roberts; Deacons B. W. C. Manning, Grinton, W. J. Gates; Bros. B. West, Slocomb and Wm. Frazer.

LaHave.—Deacon John Lantz, Brother Wm. Frazer.

Chester.—Rev. I. J. Skinner.

Mahone Bay.—Rev. John Williams.

The Council was organized by appointing Bro. Skinner, Moderator, and Bro. Williams, Secretary. Prayer being offered by Bro. Roberts, the Moderator called for the minutes of a previous meeting of the Bridgewater Church, when it was ascertained that on the first of May, a requisition, signed by about sixty of the brethren and sisters of the Bridgewater Church, residing at Pleasantville, had been presented to the brethren at Bridgewater, praying to be set apart as an independent body, which prayer was granted at their Conference in June. The Council then retired to another room, when, after some deliberation, they resolved to organize the brethren and sisters into a separate body, to be known as the Pleasantville Baptist Church. The Council then returned to the meeting house, and the Moderator

having declared the brethren and sisters duly organized, the church made choice of their officers, and requested the ordination of their deacons. The congregation was then dismissed, to meet again at 2½ P. M., when a very appropriate sermon was preached by brother Skinner, after which brother Roberts read a portion of Scripture and our Articles of Faith and the Covenant. Brother Williams offered the ordaining prayer. Charge to the Deacons by brother Skinner. Charge to the church by brother Roberts. Then followed a number of addresses by the brethren, after which the benediction was pronounced and all returned to their homes happy in the Lord.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Secretary.

HALIFAX.—On Tuesday, last week, Rev. J. F. Avery, pastor of the Third Baptist Church, Halifax, baptised 5 young men and women lately received by that church, in Granville Street baptistery. A large congregation assembled for prayer and to witness the ordinance. J. F. A.

GRANVILLE.—Dear Messenger.—The good work is still going forward at Litchfield and Hillsbourn. Bro. Edward Grant, (Lic.), who is laboring under an appointment of the Union Board, is prosecuting the work faithfully, and is much esteemed by the people. I spent Sabbath the 23rd of May with the above mentioned Churches.—Bro. Grant supplying for me in the Valley. I baptised two at Litchfield in the morning, and four at Hillsbourn in the afternoon, and one was received on profession; making seventeen added since the work began. I had the pleasure of baptising one in the Valley on the Sabbath previous.

Yours, &c., P. R. FOSTER.

May 28th, 1875.

EATONVILLE, CUMBERLAND CO., N. S., June 9th, 1875.—Dear Brother,—As many of your readers are unacquainted with this thriving village, I send you a few lines concerning the place, and our work among this people.

Four years ago Messrs. D. R. & C. F. Eaton of Cornwallis purchased a large tract of wilderness land, adjoining Advocate on the Bay of Fundy, and Apple River on Cumberland Bay, built a steam Saw Mill and commenced the lumber business two miles from the "Three Sisters" a shipping place on the shore of the Cumberland Bay.

As soon as business commenced, a neat and comfortable house was built for school and religious services. A Sabbath School was organized and conducted by our worthy brother D. R. Eaton. At this time there was not a second person to take part in religious service. The services of ministers of the gospel were secured occasionally during the first and second years. Regular Sabbath services have been conducted during the last two years alternately by Wesleyan and Baptist ministers.

Special services have been held during the last three weeks, the timely aid rendered by Rev. D. Freeman was very highly appreciated. Last Saturday evening we held our first Conference meeting, forty-three persons spoke, fifteen of whom were received for baptism. A large number of persons assembled at our Jordan on Sabbath morning and we enjoyed the privilege of immersing these happy believers.

As we welcomed them to our number, administered the Lord Supper to 34 happy recipients of divine favour, and thought of the happy change visible in these houses, in the mill and in ship yard where we find so many now who are willing and anxious to talk of Jesus and his love, we exclaim, "What hath God wrought. It is indeed his doing, and is marvelous in our eyes. To him be all the praise. The outlook is still encouraging. pray for us.

Yours thankful and encouraged, T. B. LAYTON.

MILTON, QUEENS.—The pastor baptised one candidate on the first Sabbath of June. Others are expected.

BEAVER RIVER, YARMOUTH CO.—Dear Bro.—It was our privilege to visit the baptismal waters on Sabbath May 16th, when one believer followed the footsteps of the Redeemer. And on Sabbath May 30th two more came forward in obedience to His command. Thus our hearts are made glad from time to time, in welcoming into the church the willing disciples of our Lord.

Yours very truly, J. D. SKINNER.

June 10, 1875.

GREENWICK.—Rev. J. L. Read writes, June 12th: "The work of grace is still progressing in this place, I had the pleasure last Sabbath of baptising eight happy converts."

SIGNS OF A TRUE REVIVAL.—First—The filling up of the seats in the prayer-meeting by the heads of families. Second—A spirit of devotion and prayer pervading the young men of the church. Third—An earnest study of the Scriptures, and a desire on the part of all the members of the Sabbath-school. Fourth—The revival of family worship among those who have neglected it. Fifth—A better attendance on the services of God's house on the Sabbath. Sixth, and last, but not least—A consecration, even of the mites of the widow, to the cause of God. These, we think, are evidences of no mean revival, when they begin to show themselves in any church. They will soon be followed by a striving on the part of the godless to be like-minded.

"Ned Wright" so called, who before his conversion was a great fighter is now a successful preacher in Penrose Street, Walkworth, London. On a late occasion—the 12th ult.—he baptised twenty-five persons, thirteen men and twelve women. Baptismal nights under Mr. Wright's conduct are always crowded services, and the night in question was no exception to the rule, as for some time before the commencement of the service every available space of the so-called chapel was packed. With Mr. Wright's people their nights are nights of singing, and, indeed, we must fairly confess that never before did we hear such loud, hearty strains proceeding from any congregation. On each side of the baptismal pool were two rows of the candidates for the ceremony; the clean white shirts of the men and the neat attire of the women contrasting agreeably. Mr. Buckridge delivered a simple yet comprehensive address upon the subject of baptism, touching upon its Scriptural origin. Then Ned Wright descended the steps of the pool, and administered the ordinance. A touching instance of deep feeling was the request of one of the candidates, formerly, we believe, a costermonger, to speak a few words, which he did in a deeply pathetic, albeit rough and uneducated, manner. "I'm only a poor, feeling young fellow," said he, "and I don't know when I may go home, but I know Christ saved me; and if I go, I shall go straight to the arms of Jesus." At the conclusion of the ceremony the hymn, "O happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away," was sung with great earnestness, and shortly afterwards Mr. Wright came upon the platform and delivered a stirring appeal to the unconverted, and afterwards, before the conclusion of the service, a number of newly-baptized candidates gave some particulars of their conversion.

JAMAICA.—The report of the Jamaica Baptist Union read at the late meeting held at Montego Bay gives some very gratifying facts concerning the present position of the Baptist Churches in that Island. The receipts reported amounted to £1,643, an increase of £88 upon the previous year. 118 schools have been at work in connection with the day-school society, against 110 in 1873, and the Government grants earned amounted to £2,349, an increase of £564. The Sunday-schools number 77, containing 15,174 scholars. 482 scholars have joined the churches during the past year, and there are 887 inquirers. 2,146 persons have been added to 92 churches. The total number of members is set down at 25,000, and of inquirers at 3,557.

A SIGN OF PROMISE.—It is stated that a Hindoo society has been formed at Lucknow, having for its object "the reading and explanation of the sacred books of the Hindoo religion, the publication of a Hindoo religious journal, and the promotion of the social and religious welfare of all classes of Hindoos." The leading Hindoo journal of that city warns parents against sending their children to Mission schools. The Mohammedans of Lucknow have also formed a society to employ itinerant preachers and support a journal in defence of Islamism against the attacks of Christian missionaries.

It has been often asserted, and is believed by a great many people, that missionaries in India labor in vain; that they are meeting no success worth estimating; and that no sensible impression is made upon either Hindoo or Mohammedan society. There is much in the outward aspect of things to confirm this impression. The avowed Christians are a little flock in comparison with the immense populations that adhere to the Brahminical and the Mohammedan faith. But when we see the adherents of those powerful religions establishing their missions to counteract the work of Christian missionaries, putting forward their sacred books to rival the Christian Scriptures, agitating against mission schools and starting religious papers, we may be sure that more effect has been produced by Christian labors than they affect to believe. We may regard it as certain that they see signs of the progress of Christianity which escape the perception of worldly-wise observers.—N. Y. Ex. & Chron.

FORT MASSEY CHURCH.—The annual business meeting of this Church was held on Wednesday evening, when the Managing Committee submitted a most satisfactory statement for the year. \$9,325.76 were contributed by the people for running expenses, missionary collections, and for debt extinction. The voluntary system of weekly church door collections is practised, and an average of \$83.59 taken up each Sabbath. Fort Massey Church has raised for all purposes since its foundation \$42,000. The congregation, is in a most flourishing condition, enjoying the ministrations of a most faithful and talented pastor—Rev. Dr. Burns.—Witness.

Home and Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE 16, 1875.

It is reported that the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne will visit Canada and the United States this summer. The correspondent who sends the above also says that it is whispered in England that the Marquis of Lorne will come to Canada as successor to Lord Dufferin.

The Government has given notice to the Banks to be ready to pay a portion of Dominion deposits after the 1st of July, the money being required for public works.

The appointments of J. H. Dunlop, Liverpool, N. S., to be Landing Waiter and Searcher, and Major H. Becken to be Quarter Master of the 90th Kings County Battalion of Infantry, vice Barnaby (whose services in militia are dispensed with), are gazetted.

On Saturday last a man and woman were struck dead by lightning at Lachine.

It has been declared by the Assessment Commissioner that grain in storehouses at Toronto is not subject to taxation.

SIR GEORGE BROWN.—The London correspondent of the "Sooteman" has learned on good authority that Her Majesty lately caused the Hon. George Brown to be informed that she was desirous of conferring upon him the honor of Knighthood.

Sir Hugh Allan has secured the iron and other material required for the continuance of the north Shore Railroad, to the extent of one million dollars.

The pilgrimages of the several Roman Catholic churches were continued on Sunday last.

OTTAWA.—The following telegram was received from London on Wednesday last: "Sir Hugh Allan has not been successful in his efforts to raise money necessary for the Northern Colonization Railroad. He leaves for Canada to-morrow."

TORONTO.—A disastrous fire occurred here on Tuesday last in the heart of the city. The flames burst from God's stove foundry on Adelaide street. About half a block extending from Yonge to Victoria street, and north to Shuter street, has been destroyed. The Metropolitan Church was on fire several times. The loss will probably be about \$50,000.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—St. John.—The New Brunswick Paper Company (Messrs. Francis & Jackson) were declared insolvent last week. The liabilities are said to be \$60,000, and they claim that their assets are double.

On Saturday morning the stone building owned by Messrs. J. & F. Burpee, on Prince William Street was found to be on fire. The ground flat is occupied as a Jewellery and retail store by Messrs. Kerr and Thorne. The fire originated in the cellar.

The loss by fire and water to the wholesale hardware and the retail store and the buildings is considerable. The property was partially insured.

St. Stephen.—Mr. Gardner has discovered a vein of gold bearing quartz at Moore's Mills.

P. E. ISLAND.—A destructive tornado passed over Brackley Point, Covehead, and vicinity, on the 27th ult., levelling fences in all directions. At the farm of Mr. John Matheson, Black River, it completely destroyed a barn 64 feet long by 26 feet wide.

UNITED STATES.—The steamer "State of Georgia," arrived at New York on Thursday last from Glasgow, reports that on the 5th inst. lat. 46, lon. 47, they picked up boat No. 1 of the steamship "Vicksburg," from Quebec for Liverpool containing five men, who reported that the steamer was out through by ice and sunk. The "Vicksburg" left Quebec on May 27th, with a crew of sixty men, eight saloon (three of them ladies), and twenty steerage passengers (of whom four were females). A second boat was lowered with the chief officer and about thirty people, but has not yet been heard from. The captain and another person were seen floating on a bale of hay, and boat No. 1 tried to rescue them but unsuccessfully, owing to the boat being half full of water and in drifting ice. It is thought that forty persons went down with the steamer. The "Vicksburg" is valued at \$325,000 and was fully insured. The cargo was worth \$85,000. She had 60,000 bushels of grain, 92 oxen and a general cargo.

Twelve more survivors from the sunken steamer Vicksburg arrived at St. Johns Newfoundland on Sunday last.

A fire among the oil works at Pittsburg Pa., on Saturday and Sunday, destroyed over \$180,000 worth of property.

On Wednesday last Parson O. Cheney was elected Governor of New Hampshire Charles H. Powers, was chosen Railroad Commissioner for three years.

Three men were drowned in Broad Canal, in Cambridge, on Wednesday by the sinking of a scow.

CUBA.—Havana papers say that the bandit Garcia, who recently escaped from prison, is again the terror of the country people.

SOUTH AMERICA.—News has been received via St. Thomas of an earthquake in New Granada. The destruction is greatest in the Valley of Cucuta in the Venezuelan

frontier. It is reported that 16,000 lives were lost by the calamity.

In the city of Cucuta a large part of the church fell, several houses were destroyed and some people killed. The city of Cucuta is entirely destroyed, only a few families being saved. The Botica Alemana (German drugstore) was set on fire by a ball of fire thrown out of the volcano, which is constantly belching forth lava. This volcano has opened itself in front of Santiago, on the ridge called El Alto de la Grucha. San Corieta was destroyed, and Santiago in a large part. In Gramalote there was great destruction. Arboletes, Cucetilla and San Cristobal are nearly destroyed.

BURMAH.—The British Envoy to Burmah has been instructed to demand of the King an immediate explanation of the friendly reception given to the Chinese General implicated in the murder of Margary, the British explorer. The Burmese are cutting the telegraph wires.

WEST INDIA ISLANDS.—Small-pox is raging with violence in Ponce, P. R. Vessels from there are quarantined in West Indian ports.

ENGLAND.—In the House of Commons, on Thursday, Mr. Cross, Secretary of State for the Home Department, introduced bills amending the labor laws. They provide that breaches of contract calculated to cause public injury by the work of people employed in a public capacity, as in the supply of gas and water, shall be regarded purely as matters of civil contract, to be settled by county court. The law against picketing is to continue in force. Defendants, however, are to have the option of trial by justices or jury. In regard to strikes, no agreement to do any non-criminal act in relation to disputes between masters and workmen shall be punishable as a conspiracy. The bills were read a first time.

It is estimated that 12,000 persons were present on Thursday night at the opening of the hall at Camberwell by Rev. Mr. Spurgeon for revival meetings. Thousands were unable to gain admittance.

The British naval authorities have sent a vessel to enquire into the massacre of the crew of the brig "James Binnie" at Howe's Island.

The Sultan of Zanzibar arrived last week and was received at Westminster by a guard of honor; he will remain in England a month or so. The expenses of his visit will be defrayed by England. There was a heavy hailstorm in London on Friday last.

FRANCE.—A terrific gale visited Paris and other parts of France on Wednesday last. In Paris thousands of chimneys were blown down and other damage done, involving a loss of 11,000,000 francs. Several lives are reported lost.

On Sunday last President MacMahon reviewed 36,000 troops at Longchamp in the presence of 300,000 spectators.

A bill for the regulation of the press, is published. It provides that attacks on the form of Government and the President of the Republic shall be punishable with imprisonment for not less than two months or more than three years, and fines of from \$100 to \$1000. Penalties are also attached to the publication of false news and of petitions asking for modifications of the constitution.

RUSSIA.—The town of Morskaneh, on the right bank of the River Tana, has been entirely destroyed by fire. It had a population of 20,000 and contained three churches and several manufactories.

The "Daily News" reports that several Russian men-of-war at Odessa have been ordered to Greece, and three others are expected at Greek ports from the Baltic.

GREECE.—It is reported that a crisis is imminent in Athens, which may result in the abdication of the King. Five Turkish men-of-war have been ordered to cruise in Greek waters. The Russian Minister has advised the King not to abdicate without securing his rights on his heir to the throne.

A probability of intervention of foreign powers is discussed at Athens. Referring to the rumors on the Central Asian question, it is reported that the suggestion of a neutral tone has been revived, and favorably received by Russia and England.

ITALY.—In the Chamber of Deputies there have been violent debates over the Government Public Safety Bill, which amends the law for the suppression of brigandage and other disorders in Sicily and elsewhere. The Bill is approved by the Left. The sitting on Friday night was abruptly closed on account of the disorder which accompanied the discussion.

SPAIN.—Arrangements have been made between the Carlists and Alfonsists for the exchange of 1000 prisoners.

The Carlists announce a great victory by Gen. Saballo over Alfonso's troops at Blanes, a seaport, after two days fighting.

The Carlists captured guns and stores of the Alfonsists and took 140 prisoners. An attaché of the Spanish Embassy in Paris reports that the Carlists muster 45,000 good soldiers, besides an equal number of second-rate men and will continue to be victorious so long as the war is conducted as at present.

There are rumors of a Republican movement in Madrid in consequence of recent military events which prove that the troops are unable to gain any advantage over the Carlists. It is probable that these rumors are the forerunners of a revolutionary movement.

The Carlists claim that their victory over the Alfonsists at Carinera was an important one. They say 500 Alfonsist infantry, and 300 cavalry, together with their arms and stores, were captured.