

For the Christian Messenger. Dedication of the New Albany Baptist Meeting-house.

About a year ago the foundation of this house was laid. Our holy house, where our fathers praised God, was not burned with fire, but time had worked decay until it was no longer decent for the service of the Most High.

The house did not go up without the sound of axe or hammer, but it went up without the least jarring note—no clatter no clash of tongues. With united effort they have carried their plans into execution, and to-day, May 22nd, 1877, it stands neat, commodious and inviting, and we enter it with joy and thankfulness to set it apart for divine service.

Friends from far and near have come up with us. Four ministering brethren occupy the pulpit. First there is the presentation by brothers Dimock Whitman and Gardner Tufts of a very handsome Bible, together with a hymn-book accompanied by a touching and congratulatory address.

Then the Dedication Sermon by the Revd. W. G. Parker from the words, "The Lord has done great things for us whereof we are glad." He reviewed the past in the history of this church, showing the "great things" God had done for it. It was a fitly chosen subject, expressing the very sincere emotions of the people on this day of gladness.

When God comes down our souls to greet, And glory crowns the mercy-seat, communication is being held between God and man. His delightful stay is where Christians meet to praise and pray. God is always in his Church for its protection.

The other ministering brethren took part in the devotional exercises.

Throughout the day Christians could say, "This is indeed the House of God."

In the evening a very encouraging social meeting was held. One who had long remained undecided came forward and took his stand for God and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place and I knew it not." We are looking to see others dedicating themselves to Christ.

"The Lord of Hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."—Com.

SYDNEY C. B.—It was my privilege on Sunday, 20th inst., to welcome two more members into the church here, through the initiatory ordinance of the gospel. It was a peculiarly interesting occasion. One of the candidates was a daughter of our dear brother, the late Rev. Arthur R. R. Crawley.

Another was her sister Mrs. Leonard, of like precious faith, also gone to glory; and another was Rev. George Armstrong, then a young man.

We felt on this occasion as if the spirits of the departed must be very near to us, and the words of Wesley's beautiful hymn were especially true.

"E'en now by faith we join our hands With those that went before, And greet the blood-bespinked bands On the eternal shore."

And our prayer was that those who had "put on Christ" may walk in the steps of those who "through faith and patience inherit the promises."

W. B. Boggs.

BLACK ROCK, CORNWALLIS.—Dear Bro.—Last Sunday was a high day at Black Rock. The Sabbath School, under the efficient superintendence of Bro. R. Rudolph, met at 9 o'clock a. m., presenting a most prosperous aspect, both as to numbers and exercises.

A British Celebration was held last week at Petersburg, Virginia. It commenced on Tuesday. Delegations from various Canadian cities, Chicago, New York, Connecticut, Philadelphia, Baltimore, &c., were received. Great enthusiasm prevailed.

These make 27 baptisms in that section of our church this spring. Many there are saying "Behold what God hath wrought."

Yours truly, ISA WALLACE. Berwick, May 22, 1877.

ACADIA, YARMOUTH.—The Church at Acadia sustains a heavy loss in the death of Dea. A. F. Whitman who was buried on the 18th inst.

A terrible accident happened at the launch of the iron steamship "Saratoga" at Roach's shipyard, Chester, Pa., on Tuesday morning; about forty men were under the vessel when it went over.

MEXICO.—The agent of Lerdo arrived at New Orleans on Saturday and says Escobedo is managing the pending revolution for Lerdo, and seven States are ready to pronounce in his favor.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—Preliminary arrangements are being made for the proper representation of Canadian products and industries at the Paris Exhibition of 1878; similar to those adopted for the Philadelphia Exhibition.

Forms of entry and classification will be ready in ten days, and should be applied for at the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa.

The bricklayers of Toronto struck last week for an increase of pay—from \$2.20 to \$2.50 per day. Contractors and builders have resolved not to accept.

Considerable dissatisfaction is felt here at the manner in which the Local Government are trying to deprive the city of the terminus and workshops of the North Shore Railway to Ottawa, a railway to which Montreal contributed a million.

In consequence of the large price demanded for tonnage of freight ships on Lake Ontario to Montreal, merchants are proposing to forward grain via U. S. Atlantic ports or Halifax, N. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Hayden's steam saw mill at Woodstock, was burned to the ground on Saturday last; valued at five thousand dollars. There was no insurance.

UNITED STATES.—The Grand Lodge of Good Templars of the World was in its 23rd Annual Session at Portland, Maine, last week. It comprises 62 Grand Lodges and is supposed to have 450,000 members.

The transmission of private telegrams in the interior is prohibited, unless despatches are written in the Turkish language.

The French Consortium, headed by M. Fremy, has offered the Porte a loan of 50,000,000 francs, in consideration of a right to issue and circulate small coins from the produce of the Turkish mines.

Evarts responds that in view of neutrality obligations the Department cannot render any assistance of the nature indicated.

The Pennsylvania Railway have reduced the salaries of their employes ten per cent.

A brick block at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, fell on Monday, and injured more or less fatally seventeen persons.

At New York freights by outgoing European steamers have advanced 5 per cent. recently, and all go with full cargoes.

A despatch of May 16 from the city of Mexico says the popularity of the Diaz administration is apparently increasing. Diaz is generally credited with a determination to act according to the constitution.

It is by some supposed that a change in the Turkish Ministry is inevitable, in consequence of the demonstration of Sofias. It is likely to embrace the Grand Vizier, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of War.

A special despatch to the Times says that the Sheikh-ul-Islam is proclaiming a holy war against Russia.

It is said that the Grand Duke Nicholas intends to enter Constantinople, to make the Turks feel that they are crushed, although he does not intend to retain the city.

A conscription of all able-bodied men between 19 and 25 has been ordered. Sheep tax doubled.

The Turkish troops which fled from Ardahan have been defeated in a mountain pass near Dars. The passage of the Danube is not expected before the 8th June.

Mahammed Damand Pasha has been openly denounced at Constantinople as a traitor during a public discussion relative to the advisability of recalling midhat Pasha, which is seriously discussed.

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There was a tremendous cannonade at Batoum on Thursday from the Russians.

The battle has just commenced, and firing became general along the entire line. The Turkish batteries replied vigorously. The utmost enthusiasm prevails among the Ottoman troops.

The Bashi Bazuks are preparing for action. Everything indicates a desperate effort on the part of the enemy. It is stated that the Russian forces assigned to the assault of Batoum have been strengthened by 20,000 men just arrived from Ardahan.

It is reported that the Grand Duke Michel commands the attack in person. The Turks are sanguine.

A Turkish squadron consisting of 2 monitors, three iron-clad frigates, several smaller vessels and a whole flotilla of barks supposed to have volunteers aboard, is cruising in the waters of Sebastopol and Eupatoria.

The Russians again bombarded forts Tohnaz and Kara Dogh, 2 fortresses at Kars, on Tuesday. The Krupp guns in the forts replied well.

The Sultan has ordered the purchase of 20,000 revolvers, to be paid for from his private purse, for distribution in the Caucasus.

Orders have been received at Portsmouth that five great Indian troopships are not to be subject to any alterations which cannot be completed in a few days, so that they may be ready to proceed to sea if required.

During the Whit-Monday amusements at Hull a balloon about to ascend was blown against a gas jet and exploded. Eighty-six spectators were injured.

It is stated that England has given notice to Turkey that she will oppose every thing that might hamper the passage of merchant ships or men of war of neutral powers through the Suez Canal.

It is believed in diplomatic power circles that an alliance between Germany and Italy is on the point of being concluded. Italy is evidently disinclined to see the Mediterranean converted into an English lake, which it would virtually be if England should get complete possession of the Suez Canal.

It is believed that Russia will first recognize the independence of Roumania, and that Germany, France and Italy will follow; England and Austria are expected to delay recognition.

President MacMahon visited the Exhibition building on Friday last. In conversing with Commissary-General Keraviz and others he said: "Rumor of a postponement of the Exhibition has induced me to pay this visit. The exhibition will open May 1st, 1878, as announced. I am especially desirous of protecting the freedom and security of great national enterprises."

At a reception yesterday at Elysses the President said: "I am conscious of having fulfilled a great duty. I have remained and shall remain absolutely within the bounds of loyalty. It is because I am guardian of the constitution that I acted as I have; to attribute to me an intention of assailing the constitution is a misconstruction of my character. The country will soon comprehend that my sole aim is the salvation of France and the Government she has given to herself."

A plot to overthrow MacMahon has been discovered in Paris, and he will make the discovery a pretext for harsh measures. All Republican telegrams are now stopped.

The legitimist and clerical newspapers continue to express a desire for modification of the Cabinet in conformity with their views.

Don Carlos has started for Linz, in Austria. Prosecutions have been instituted against provincial papers of Marseilles and Paris for insulting President MacMahon. Many sub-prefects have resigned.

The Times' Paris despatch says France will doubtless pronounce overwhelmingly against President MacMahon at the election, even if the Senate gives a majority in favor of a dissolution, which is very doubtful.

GERMANY.—Bismark, during his recent short visit to Berlin, had an interview with the French Charge d' Affaires in which he repeatedly expressed his great disapprobation of the change of Cabinet.

The North German Gazette reprints passages from previous speeches and despatches by Prince Bismark, to the effect that the opposition to a clerical and monarchial Cabinet in France might

be prejudicial to German interests and maintenance of peace between France, Germany, and Italy.

AUSTRIA.—The question is being discussed whether it is not advisable to incorporate Bosnia, Herzegovina and Servia into one State under an Austrian Archduke.

In consequence of Austria's remonstrance only a small Russian detachment will remain in Little Wallachia.

BEELGIUM.—The strike of colliers at Seraing is assuming a serious character. A large force of troops has arrived. The cavalry cleared the streets on Thursday, and several arrests were made.

GREECE.—A telegram from Athens says that the Porte has sent a harsh reply to Greece's strong representation relative to the recent release of Turkish brigands from prison. They have been forced to return to Turkey.

ITALY.—The Pope received the American pilgrims on Thursday last. The Archbishop of Philadelphia read an address to His Holiness expressing the devotion and affection of the American Roman Catholics, and affirming that the sufferings of the Pope are theirs, and that distance increases their devotion.

On Wednesday night some Cantonalist conspirators were arrested. Documents implicating them were found on their persons, and they were handed over to the judicial authorities.

RUSSIA.—A Bucharest telegram confirms the intelligence that the Roumanian Deputies unanimously adopted a resolution declaring war against Turkey and proclaiming the absolute independence of Roumania.

There is not much probability that any of the great powers will raise objection to Roumania's declaration of independence.

Prince Charles of Roumania is already addressed by his royal title in Russian official documents.

The Grand Duke Nicholas has congratulated Prince Charles upon the independence of Roumania.

The Times' Vienna despatch of the 22nd says: "An Odessa letter says that since the fall of Sukoom Kaleh, panic reigns not only at Odessa, but all along the Black Sea. All confidence in the shore batteries and torpedoes is lost. The Governor of Odessa has endeavored to calm the public mind by issuing proclamations."

A telegram from Eupatoria says most of the families belonging to the wealthy classes have fled to Simferopol and other towns in the interior. All shops are shut. The roadstead is deserted and all merchantships have left. Smaller vessels have been sunk or hauled ashore. In the town there is a perceptible want of provisions.

The Czar starts for the Danube on the 2nd of June. He will be absent about three weeks.

General Todeleben has arrived at Sebastopol to take command of the defences.

The Russians state that they have secured advantageous positions commanding both Kars and Erzeroum and that the surrender of both places is certain.

Great preparations are being made by the Russians for an attempt to pass the river between Rahova and Nikopolis. They are erecting large fortifications at Islatza and Turna Magureli. Continual concentration of troops in the direction of Simnizta is observable. The Turks are fully prepared to resist the attempt.

Recently the marriage took place in Paris, of M. Lockroy to Madame Hugo, the widow of Charles Hugo one of the sons of the poet. The ceremony was attended by an exceptionally large number of friends, and at its close about 2000 persons pressed forward to shake hands with the newly-married couple.