

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,—

A glance at your journal calls up the past and I remember the pleasant days of my boyhood and later years spent in the Province of Nova Scotia.

The names of Revs. Armstrong, Bill, Randall, Vidito, Cox, Day, Todd, Coleman and Cogswell were household words, and the memories of these servants of God are precious.

The Winter and Spring, which so soon give place to summer afforded me opportunity of sowing Gospel seed in various parts of the United States, and the scores of precious ones who gave their hearts to God both in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, where are gathered those who prove faithful unto death I shall meet.

In coming to Canada I find the people hungry for the Gospel, the food of which is ever sweet to the taste.

At this point (Brantford) from which I write, and which, by the way, is a city beautiful for situation, I quite unexpectedly met with a friend, of whom all your readers will be glad to hear. I refer to Rev. W. H. Porter, A. M., the cultured and highly esteemed pastor of the 1st Baptist Church. I find him generally beloved and regarded as a good specimen of the Gospel minister. His audience is large and comprises some of the finest social and religious element in the city. His church, fine in all its appointments, possesses perhaps the finest audience room in which I have spoken in the Dominion. May our brother long live to fill with honor the important position assigned him by the Providence of God.

In many places, both in the States and the Canadas, I meet with those who once resided in your fair Province.

A pleasant visit at the beautiful home of Sister Smith (a daughter of Rev. Thomas Spurr) called up the days in which in much weakness I used to preach the Gospel at St. Mary's Bay and Weymouth.

In this connection I may be pardoned if I make reference to my dear father, whose death occurred on the 9th of April in Halifax, England.

Many of your readers will remember him (the Rev. M. Pickles) and will be glad to know that the Gospel which he preached for more than 50 years, afforded him abundant consolation in his last illness. He retained up to the very last an unshaken confidence in the Redeemer, and with a holy joy resting upon his countenance in great peace departed this life. His body rests in a beautiful cemetery in his native land, where the precious dust awaits the resurrection of the just. Rev. xiv. 13; Num. xxiii. 10.

In reviewing his long, holy and useful life, your correspondent, bowing reverently in submission to the Divine Will, can safely sing,  
Servant of God, well done,  
Rest from thy loved employ;  
The battle fought, the victory won,  
Enter thy Master's joy.

F. M. PICKLES,  
Evangelist.

Brantford, Ont., May 30th, 1877.

For the Christian Messenger.

Notes from the Third Baptist Church.

Dear Editor,—In my last Notes, by an oversight a sentence read rather obscurely. I am glad the mistake was made because it allows me to make an explanation, and in so doing further to bring the Building Bee to the reader's notice. The sentence to which I refer read, "On Natal Day, June 21st, we hope to celebrate the occasion by having a Building Bee; in other words, by allowing friends to lay with their own hands."

Now as soon as the writer saw this announcement, the question was raised, What will you allow? what will they lay with their own hands? The answer was a 'BRICK.' Yes Mr. Editor that is what was meant.

Our Builder is kindly pushing the work forward so that on the 21st of June the walls will be sufficiently raised to allow our lady and gentlemen builders with comfort to do their work.

To make the subject more plain allow me to explain that the Building Bee means just this, that every one young and old who wish the cause of God well, and would like to help us to obtain a place of worship can, on, June the 21st, lay with their own hands a brick, or bricks, upon the wall, where they will

remain as long as the Church stands; For skilled workmen will be in attendance to superintend and give instruction to those who wish to lay a brick.

You can buy both bricks and mortar on the ground. All you need to bring is cash and good wishes.

We will try and provide refreshments and other attractions for those who visit us that afternoon.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

DEBERT RIVER.—Rev. M. P. Freeman writes:—On the 21st of May four were baptized at DeBert River yesterday making twenty-one persons in all since the revival commenced.

Rev. E. C. Cady settled with the church at Roseville, Ill., last October and reports it "a pleasant field and a prosperous church." Fifteen have been baptized lately.

BROOKFIELD, QUEENS CO.—Rev. F. O. Weeks writes us under date of May 13:—"On the last Sabbath in April, I received two into the Brookfield Church through the initiatory ordinance of the gospel, and yesterday it was my privilege to welcome three into the Caledonia church after "burying them with Christ by baptism."

PARADISE, June 4th, 1875.—Wilmot Church.—Two were received by letter at Clarence yesterday, and one by baptism and two by letter on a previous Sabbath. Our increase for the year has been sixty—fifty-two by baptism, one by restoration, seven by letter. Quite a number of aged members have passed away.

J. A. DURKEE.

LAWRENCETOWN, June 4th.—Eight more happy converts yesterday followed their Saviour in the ordinance of baptism. The Lord is blessing the personal appeals of His children.

Yours ever,  
G. N. BALLENTINE.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—On Wednesday evening, while the Rev. Messrs. DeGruchy and Devneau were preaching in a French Protestant house in the East end of Montreal, a crowd gathered around the door, composed of French and Irish Catholics. The Rev. gentlemen opened the door of the house, when a number of the party came in, making all sorts of noises and interrupting the speakers several times, while those outside kept up a continuous howl.

Father Chiniquy is very ill. Thursday last was the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of Ottawa city.

Wm. J. B. Patterson, the Deputy Secretary of the Dominion Board of Trade, has received and accepted a call to the Secretaryship of the Young Men's Christian Association of Liverpool, England.

The village of Walkerton, Ont., has been almost wholly destroyed by fire. Loss \$100,000.

On Wednesday morning last a terrible conflagration broke out at Montreal. The flames, which originated in Conroy's stables, Dalhousie Street, attacked the rear of thickly inhabited houses on Nazareth Street, going southward, the wind blowing fresh from the West. It got beyond the control of the firemen. Fortunately the wind subsided and at about 3.45 p. m., the fire had been got under control. It continued to burn until 5 o'clock. Over one hundred families were at one time busily engaged pitching out and carrying away household effects into the streets. The loss is estimated at about \$150,000.

Nine Yankee pickpockets were arrested at Montreal on Tuesday, about Barnum's circus.

Sir John A. McDonald and Dr. Tupper have announced an address to the people of London on the 12th inst.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS of Ontario and Quebec propose holding a Dominion Convention in the city of Quebec, commencing Thursday, 13th September, closing Sabbath, 16th September. In order to make it a bona fide Dominion Convention the committee earnestly desire to see the Maritime Provinces Associations well represented. On Monday, 17th September, the Quebec Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition will commence, and will remain open to the public for the greater part of the week.

THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS have had a great deal of ice surrounding them during the past week. The mail steamer Albert reports being detained fast in ice for 24 hours on one of her trips.

The herring fishery has ended unfavorably for the fishermen. All the fleet have returned home with light fares. The fish were abundant, but the continued North-east gales prevented the hauling of seines.

Our sealing vessels have all returned with pretty good fares. The weather keeps cool for the season; owing to the floating ice in the vicinity of the Islands.

Montreal had a big—a "tremendous" Roman Catholic Procession on Sunday last in honor of the Pope's Jubilee with illuminations at night. "All religious orders, male and female, were out: the Jesuits, in their Roman cloaks, with their pupils; the Oblates in missionary garb, with their sodalities; the Gulpicians in Quaker trimmed hats, with their colleges; the Belgian Friars with their Reformatory boys; the Christian Brothers in shovel hats, with their innumerable schools; then the different societies of Nuns, Congregation, Providence, Grey Nuns and others, with their scholars and orphans in white veils; then the different Benevolent, Literary and Religious institutions for men and women in picturesque robes, with banners and music.

The Irish especially turned out in force; the green flashing everywhere. The Legate carried the host under a dazzling canopy.

The arches and way altars were very rich. Twenty thousand people were present.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—A fire broke out in the store of T. & E. Taylor, on Thursday last. Part of the Harris block, and the store of Messrs. Harris, were entirely destroyed. Only a few goods were saved. The origin of the fire is unknown. The stores destroyed included dry goods, grocery, paints, oils, &c. The insurance reaches \$23,000.

Portland was on Sunday last the scene of a serious fire. Price and Shaws carriage factory and about a dozen houses.

P. E. ISLAND.—The Presbyterians of Charlottetown are about to erect a new St. James' Church. The foundation stone is to be laid to-morrow by Rev. Thomas Duncan of Halifax, formerly minister of that church. It is to be built chiefly of Wallace freestone and is to cost about \$20,000.

UNITED STATES.—The Washington Cabinet last week determined that a letter be addressed to the Mexican Government by the Secretary of State, notifying them to take immediate steps to prevent raids across the Rio Grande into Texas will be instructed to follow the marauders into Mexico and punish them upon that territory.

It is said that there have been two unsuccessful attempts to assassinate J. B. Stillson, N. Y. Herald Utah correspondent, by mysterious strangers.

A democratic State Convention has been called at Columbus for July 25th, the week before the Republican Convention. It was decided to recommend to the Convention that no affirmative action for soft money be taken.

Emigrants are sailing by hundreds from New York for New South Wales.

Spanish officers in Cuba are only polite to the American flag.

The force in the New York Custom House is to be reduced 20 per cent.

General Miles surprised an Indian camp on Rosebud River, on the 7th inst., killing fourteen Indians, among them two chiefs. A large quantity of provisions and a number of ponies were taken. Four soldiers were killed and nine wounded. Miles narrowly escaped assassination by the chiefs, who were instantly killed after the attempt.

There was a serious panic on Friday in a Catholic Church in New York, caused by the ignition of a veil. Danger was averted by the promptness of priests and ushers.

An accident occurred on Monday last on Lehigh Valley Railroad causing the death of two and wounding seventeen persons, six of the latter fatally.

Extensive forest fires were last week raging in the timber lands of Michigan, and great destruction of property is feared.

Seven hundred people are homeless in consequence of the burning of every house and building of Oneonta, on Lake Superior. The iron furnace was also burned. Loss one hundred thousand dollars.

A fifteen year old son of Samuel Kinny, of Greenbury, Pa., poisoned his father, his sister, Mrs. Patterson, and her child, and a visitor, Mrs. Harris, with arsenic in coffee. The lives of all, except Mrs. Harris, are despaired of. The boy was arrested.

ENGLAND.—The Mayor of Birmingham gave a dinner to Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright, and members of the city corporation on Friday last. Mr. Gladstone, in replying to the toast to his health, which was enthusiastically received, made a long speech. 30,000 persons listened to him. He took the same grounds as before, upon which to attack the Turkish government. At the close a resolution was adopted that it would be wise for England to use her influence in exacting from Turkey guarantees against the oppression of Christians.

Bismarck advises England to take Egypt, and to allow Germany to consolidate on the Danube by an arrangement with the Austrian Government. It is no secret that the sympathies of the Imperial family of Austria are strongly with the Russians.

There is an improved feeling in England as to prospects of peace.

The long over-due steamship City of

Brussels arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday last. The pilgrims were received by large deputations of Catholic societies.

The spinners of Oldham held a meeting last week, at which they decided to call a meeting to consider the advisability of working on short time in view of the present depression of trade. The Northumberland colliers struck work last week, and removed their tools from the pits. Twelve thousand men are idle in consequence.

Recent Russian successes in Asia excite new anxiety in England.

Trouble is threatened in the Established Church from a resolution to prosecute all high church ritualists. It is believed if the resolution is pressed it will lead to the dismissal of 250 persons.

The Queen has assumed the new monogram of "V. R. I." ("Victoria Regina et Imperatrix") upon her letter paper. This is the first personal indication of Imperial dignity.

General Grant is attracting much attention in England. A parish priest on Sunday preached a sermon against him, because he has shown himself a persistent enemy of the Catholic Church. He intends to go to France. On his return he will visit Scotland and Ireland, then to Denmark to pass some time with his sister, wife of Minister Krames; thence he will go to Sweden and Norway, and afterwards to Russia, visiting Switzerland en route.

The Queen has given orders to the Lord Chamberlain to waive the usual presentation ceremonies, out of regard to the nation's guest, and extend to General and Mrs. Grant invitations to all Court entertainments.

FRANCE.—Le Moniteur declares that President MacMahon will not resign in any event.

It is stated that President MacMahon has sent an autograph letter to the Pope, expressing confidence that in the serious position in which France now stands His Holiness would continue that benevolence he had always manifested.

Jules Simon has assumed the management of the Echo and publishes a letter saying that his ministry fell because he would not agree to the substitution of an authoritative for a parliamentary government. He appeals to all those who, abhorring civil and European war, desired to make the Republic beloved and powerful.

M. Thiers, in agreement with Gambetta, will be entrusted with the leadership of the Opposition in the present crisis.

The editor of the Marseillaise has been fined 40,000 francs for insulting President MacMahon.

Minister Fonton proposes to enforce the law forbidding more than a certain number to engage in private political meetings.

La Republique Francaise states that the Chamber of Deputies will not vote the budget while the DeBroglie Ministry remains in power. A despatch from Paris says this decision is in accordance with the advice of Thiers.

The government intends to prosecute the President of the Paris Municipal Council for remarks insulting to President MacMahon, during his speech at St. Denis.

The students of Paris have presented an address to Gambetta, thanking him for his efforts on behalf of the Republic. Gambetta congratulated the students on their firm and patient attitude.

The editors of Le Radical have been sentenced to three months' imprisonment and one thousand francs fine for insulting President MacMahon and defending the Commune. The publication of Le Radical is suspended for six months. At Perpignan, the editors of two Republican newspapers have been sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and four hundred dollars fine, and two years' imprisonment and four hundred dollars fine, respectively, for similar offences. A prosecution has been instituted against an Algerian newspaper, the Courrier of Oran.

SPAIN.—The Government has decided to forbid pilgrimages or religious manifestations which may form the pretext for a Carlist propaganda.

Senator Reni Zorilla has been expelled from France at the request of the Spanish Government, who accuse him of plotting against the peace of the country.

GERMANY.—The semi-official Provincial Correspondence of Berlin, of Wednesday, says: "The efforts of the German policy, which after the last year found expression and firm basis in an alliance of the three Emperors, have proved also in the present grave crisis to be a guarantee for pacific mediation reaching far beyond that narrower alliance. If, notwithstanding the outbreak of the Russo-Turkish war, the prospects of the preservation of peace in Europe have within the last few weeks rather increased than diminished, the German policy has an honorable share in this."

The Berlin Post declares that no confidence ought to be placed in the professions or intentions of the French cabinet, and that hopes of peace rest chiefly with the prudence and sagacity of German statesmen.

The Herald correspondent in Berlin telegraphs that semi-official papers in that city continue to prognosticate the speedy end of the war between Russia and Turkey.

The Catholic church in Wieschen, in the Duchy of Posen, was struck by

lightning on Sunday. Six persons killed and seventy seriously injured.

At the last moment the Emperor of Germany approved of the proposed strengthening of the German forces on the French frontier, as a compensatory measure for the alleged placing of a French army on the frontier of Lorraine.

TURKEY.—The foreign ambassadors have been formally assured by the Porte that the state of siege will not interfere with the privileges of foreign subjects.

Among those exiled for participation in the Sofias demonstration are Aghrah Effendi, Councillor of State; Ismail Bey, Chief of the department in the Foreign Office; Emin Bey, formerly Chamberlain to the Sultan; Abdul Asiz; Kemal Bey and Moukir Bey, journalists.

A special to the Times from Constantinople says "In consequence of the demonstration of 3000 Sofias the Grand Vizier has consented to the dismissal of Redif Pasha."

On the 29th ult. the Russians attacked the Turkish position on the shore. Notwithstanding the large force that the Russians brought to the attack and their persistency against the galling fire of the Ottoman artillery and infantry, they were finally repulsed, leaving a great number of dead and wounded. The engagement lasted ten hours, during which time several close combats took place.

Up to the present time Russia has paid to Roumania 1,000,000 roubles. On May 25th, the financial officials of Roumania applied to the Russian chief of staff for an additional instalment. They were informed that nothing could be done until further orders were received.

The palace clique at Constantinople seems to have renounced all idea of yielding. The formation of a council of war is a sign that it has reasserted its position in the palace. This measure will probably prevent the Sultan going to the army. All rumors of ministerial changes have ceased. The first step of the council of war has been to obtain an authorization from the Sultan for the formation of a Hungarian legion.

Great discouragement exists in official circles in Constantinople, because it is not known how an efficient force can be collected to resist the Russian advance. The hopes that the capture of Sukum Kaleh would lead to an insurrection in the Caucasus have now disappeared.

On Thursday the Turks made the fifth attempt to establish a battery opposite Islaz, but were driven away by the Roumanian guns.

The Porte has issued a notice warning mariners of its intention to place torpedoes in certain portions of the Dardanelles and Bay of Smyrna.

It is charged that a number of Bosnian refugees in Serbia who, confiding in Turkish promise of amnesty, crowded to the frontier in hope of returning home, were immediately seized by the Turks and driven to Derbenda, thrown into dungeons, and nine murdered in cold blood. The massacre has spread terror through the Bosnian population; they are arming and looking to Russia for help.

It is stated that a marauding party of Montenegrins were all killed at Ploer by an explosion of a mine by the Turks.

Plans for the proposed fortification of Constantinople are being prepared with all possible care.

A St. Petersburg special confirms the report of an engagement outside Kars between the Russian besieging force and the Turkish garrison. The action was very sharp and resulted in a decisive advantage for the Russians. The Russian loss 36 men killed, and Turks lost 100.

The statement that the Turks consented to allow the navigation of the Danube is premature. The Turkish commander at Oda Kales still bars the way with his cannon.

A correspondent at Constantinople writes: "Corruption and bribery, which are rife everywhere, destroy all chances of Turkish success. There are no horses, no money and no order in the management of affairs—all carriage horses in the country have been seized by the government for war purposes. Another body of Sofias were exiled on Saturday, who were accompanied to the vessel on which they took their departure by a large number of sympathizers. The Sultan is a nonentity—with 300 women and 5000 persons of all classes in the palaces to feed daily the strain on the treasury is intense. There is not a particle of patriotism among the officials to give ground for the slightest hopes. Contracts for army stores and equipment are awarded by means of bribery by officials having the matter in charge. The Sultan has given up all hope of aid from the English Government."

Great excitement exists in Crete, and patriotic meetings are being held. It has been decided to wait twenty days for an answer from the Turkish Government to the demands of the people, after which an appeal will be made by the Cretans to the great powers, asking the appointment of Gladstone as Prince of Crete.

Coarbia was shelled for eight hours on Monday. Nine sailing ships were destroyed and also a steamer of the Austrian-Danube Navigation Company.

The Vienna Toyball says Mukhtar Pasha is dismissed and will be court-martialed for representing he had an equipped army of 60,000 men where he had only 30,000 at his disposal. Malversations on an enormous scale is said to have been discovered.

The fortifications of Sofia, on which