

For the Christian Messenger. From Nictaux.

Mr. Editor,

Pic-nics and tea meetings seem to be quite plentiful in our county this season. It has been my privilege to attend quite a number of them—and I can assure you I enjoyed myself extremely well. I understand all have done quite well, considering the hardness of the times. Our Sabbath School had their picnic with Pinegrove Sabbath School at Port Margareville. I learned they had a very pleasant time. I was disappointed in not being able to meet with them, having to attend a funeral on that day. It was my lot to meet with the Sabbath School from Meadowvale, at the Springs in Wilmot, and we had a delightful season. The sisters provided a bountiful dinner. The children and parents knew just how to receive it. Such seasons seem to make us almost young again. I must speak of the music especially, Prof. P. Spinney was on the grounds with us and gave us a rich treat, both instrumental and vocal. He has been deeply interested in the welfare of the School at Meadowvale this summer.

W. J. BLAKENET, Nictaux, Sep. 22, 1877.

In Memoriam.

ANNA CATHERINE NEWCOMB, Widow of the late deacon William Newcomb of Bridgewater, N. S., departed this life on the 18th ult., in the 80th year of her age. Mrs. Newcomb was born and reared in the Lutheran Church. When she was married to Mr. Newcomb, he was a Presbyterian. Subsequently, both of them became convinced that they had never received Scriptural baptism. After careful consideration and much study of the subject they were baptized and became identified with the Bridgewater Baptist Church. They adorned their profession, and remained worthy members of the Church till removed by death to the "better land." Mrs. N. survived her husband only a little more than one year. For the last four years she suffered much from paralysis, and during the past year she became very helpless. She was sustained in death by that religion which supported her in life. It may be said truly of her that she was a faithful wife—a devoted mother—a kind friend—a consistent church-member and one who "looked well to her household." She has left quite a numerous posterity to mourn their loss, but they are cheered by the assurance that "their loss is her great gain." The funeral was attended by the writer on the 20th ult., when a large number of mourners and sympathizing friends followed her to her last resting place, to remain till the trump of God shall awaken the sleeping dead.

Yours very truly, I. J. SKINNER.

P. S. The churches at Bridgewater, Pleasantville and Summerside are still without pastoral oversight. May the great Head of the church send them a faithful under Shepherd. The field is an interesting and important one.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—Lord Dufferin left Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Saturday, and is expected at Ottawa on the 7th of October. The Provincial Fair at London last week was a great success. Sixteen thousand of people visited the grounds on Tuesday. The Montreal Gazette issues a report of the harvests on the line of the Grand Trunk Railway, which shows a most satisfactory result. A registered letter bag from Toronto was stolen at the Bonaventure depot on Friday last, extent of loss unknown. There is no clue to the thieves. A Montreal physician, by lifting the depressed portions of the skull of an idiot child is restoring its faculties. Sixteen barges of wheat, containing two hundred and fifteen thousand bushels, have left Kensington for Montreal. Mr. Stevenson, a leading grain and provision merchant, of Montreal, has made an assignment. His liabilities amount to four hundred thousand dollars. A carter named Mayberry was convicted on Friday last of manslaughter while drunk, by driving against an old woman who died from injuries she then received. On Friday afternoon a fire occurred near St. John, Quebec by which seven children and a female servant were burned to death. A number of bears have been caught

lately within the neighborhood of Quebec.

Fales, a stevedore, at Quebec, was crushed to death by a stick of Oak while loading a ship, and two other men were fatally injured.

By the burning of a dwelling house at St. Gregoire, near St. John's, P. Q., eight children named Achete lost their lives; five were burnt to death and three suffocated by the smoke.

A constable belonging to the Provincial Police force was murdered at Tring, County of Beauce, Quebec, on Saturday. His name is Dore. He leaves a wife and several young children. It was done in making an arrest in a liquor case.

UNITED STATES.—After careful investigation, the results of the fire in the patent office at Washington, the loss does not seem so great as was apprehended. Of 182,000 models contained in the model room, about 10,000 were destroyed; all being valuable as entering into patent litigation or as curiosities. The rejected models, numbering 20,000, were entirely destroyed. The classes were of harvesters, agricultural implements of all descriptions, and all relating to railroads, hydraulics and pneumatics of every kind, and several other minor classes including models in fine arts, building, hardware, printing and sewing machines were saved. The original model of cotton was destroyed. The value of property destroyed in the abstract will aggregate about \$1,500,000; but as a large class of models cannot or will not be replaced, the actual loss will probably not reach over \$800,000.

A destructive fire broke out on Thursday evening in the centre of Providence R. I. It was burning two hours before it was got under control and caused loss to the amount of \$750,000. Fortunately there was no wind or the fire would have swept the whole city.

The steamship Isaac Bell, for Norfolk, has returned to New York. On the 27th, off Sandy Hook, during a dense fog, she was run into by the steam tug Cyclops, staving a hole in her port bow above the water line.

A train was thrown from the track on the Illinois Central railroad on Monday morning, near San Davool. Seven passengers were killed and a number injured. Masked men were seen by the passengers, and it is supposed they derailed the train but were frightened.

The boiler of a locomotive on a freight train lading on the Nashville road exploded on Thursday night at Rock Hill, killing engineer, fireman, a brakeman and wounding slightly 7 others. A. L. Church, conductor, was badly bruised, but crawled forward flagged the passenger train and averted a collision. A number of race horses were on the train. Bergamot was injured, Sazerac, killed, Sainet injured, and Darwin's Morgan filly killed.

Two freight trains on the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railways collided near Decatur on Sunday. Two engines and 15 cars were reduced to ashes, and a tramp stealing a ride was burned to death. The loss is estimated at \$150,000.

MEXICO.—Yellow fever is prevailing of the most violent type, and very fatal.

A Mexican letter says that 5,000 men are to be equipped to protect the Mexican border and that a New York firm has contracted for \$200,000 worth of rifles.

ENGLAND.—The weather in London and the various parts of Europe last week was unseasonably cold, denoting a severe winter.

The London Times' financial article says: "Business is very dull and inactive; nothing but complaints are heard on all sides of immovable stagnation."

Sir John Bennett, who was elected alderman for ward of Cheapside and rejected by the court of aldermen of the city of London, as a person not fit and proper to support the dignity and discharge the duties of alderman, has again been rejected by the court as an unfit person. A third election will be held and Bennett will again be a candidate.

The British ship Emily Augusta, which sailed from St. John's, N. B., August 31st, for Liverpool, was abandoned September 9th. The crew were picked up by the steamer Vanguard, from Baltimore, and landed at Liverpool on Friday last.

FRANCE.—Instructions have been telegraphed to the Prefects to interdict colportage for placarding of Thiers' posthumous address.

The electoral period, namely that in which public meetings may be held, has been open two days, but there is no excitement in consequence in Paris, where the meetings are not necessary to the success of the Republicans. It is almost a foregone conclusion. In remote provincial districts, however, no idea can be formed abroad of the bitterness already arising between the political parties. They are like two hostile nations confronting each other, and ready to come to blows. Never before did this painful animosity attain such intensity, which has been growing since the 16th of May.

It is announced that the Prince Imperial has passed through Brussels for Chateau d'Ave, near Namur.

A Paris despatch says the list of official candidates for election to deputies is all but complete, and placards have been issued by prefects for various arrondissements, headed "candidate of Government of Marshal MacMahon, President of the Republic."

An analysis of these lists shows that

the Marshal's candidates are divided into 131 Legitimists, 83 Orleanists, and 298 Bonapartists.

Remaining 20 arrondissements being in and around Paris are without any official candidate.

HOLLAND.—The Dutch budget shows a deficit of \$2,750,000, chiefly in consequence of the Acheen war. The Finance Minister proposes to cover it by issuing treasury bills.

GREECE.—The Porte has ordered the expulsion of the Russian Monks from Mount Athos, and the reinstatement of Greek Monks.

ITALY.—A despatch from Rome on Friday last announced that Cardinal Spozza, who was believed to have the best chance of succeeding Pius the Ninth, was dangerously ill. He died on Sunday.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.—In the Hungarian Diet on Thursday last Prime Minister Tisza in replying to an interpellation on the Eastern question, said the foreign policy hitherto pursued had resulted in the fact that now no danger whatever threatened the interests of monarchy. He denied that the government exercised neutrality in a way unduly favorable to Russia, or that the policy pursued by the Hungarian government was contrary to the opinion of the Hungarian people. The government's policy consisted now as formerly in protection of the interests of the country without war if possible, but at the same time in protecting them in every contingency; also in seeing that nothing took place in the East without the consent of Austria and Hungary. If Serbia broke the peace Austria and Hungary would not impede Turkey's action against her. He said: "On our side it has been declared, from the beginning, that whatever the issue of the war may be, nothing shall be done of which we disapprove."

The seizure of a considerable quantity of breech-loaders, cartridges, shells, etc., for Hungarian sympathizers with the Turks, has caused considerable excitement there.

TURKEY.—Snow has been falling in Schipka Pass since Monday, and is now ten centimetres deep at the foot of the Balkans.

Austrian and German embassy, in name of Russian Government, have applied to the Porte, in virtue of Geneva convention, for permit to transport timber across the Danube for huts for Russian wounded. The Porte has since refused to permit the transit of timber across the Danube for housing the Russian wounded.

The London Times has a despatch from Thessaly as follows: "It is said that Turkish soldiers have received strict orders not to fire at any Russian General lest he be killed or disabled, and replaced."

It seems probable that the Turkish accounts are correct that Plevna was re-occupied and reinforced on the 23rd, by 20 battalions of infantry, 2 batteries of artillery, 2000 cavalry and an immense quantity of food and ammunition.

Osman Pasha reports three considerable engagements since the 12th, in all of which the Turks were victorious. Osman Pasha's position is believed to be secure.

The impression at Constantinople and Sophia is that the Russians and Roumanians are withdrawing gradually from the attempt against Plevna.

The Porte, in consequence of the urgent remonstrance of the German Ambassador, has consented to send back to their homes 160 Christian families who forcibly embarked at the time of the general emigration of Circassian insurgents from Sukum Kaleh.

The Roumanians were successful in the attempt to capture the second Gravitza redoubt, after having sapped close up to it. They displayed great gallantry but suffered severely.

There is a rumor that Sulieiman Pacha has intercepted the communications of the Russians between Shipka Pass and Gabroka, and that the Turks have also cut off the retreat of the Russians, surrounding them on all sides.

Osman Pacha is also reported as having repulsed a Russian attack on the Eastern redoubt at Plevna, the Russians being eight thousand men and four guns.

Another report at Constantinople is, that Prince Hassan has crossed the Danube below Silistria, with thirty thousand Turks, to intercept the Russian communication with Silistria, while Mehemet Ali assails the Russian front at Biela.

The Paris Memorial Diplomatique asserts that the Sultan will send Prince Hassan to London at the end of October to give the British Government an intimation of the conditions on which he would agree to peace.

It is reported that Russia demands that the Servian army enter the field when success at Plevna is obtained.

The newspapers here announce that in consequence of the large concentration of Russian troops and the difficulty of obtaining supplies on account of bad weather, Mehemet Ali on the 24th inst. commenced retreating to his former positions on Kara Lom.

Twenty-two thousand Russians arrived

opposite Mukhtar Pasha's centre and a battle is imminent.

The Times says the end of the campaign must be near and it promises to present something like a drawn battle, formally or informally. The Powers will then no doubt attempt to avert another campaign by Diplomacy.

RUSSIA.—It is stated on good authority that the losses of the Russians and Roumanians during the recent operations before Plevna exceed 25,000.

It is reported by Czar's order that the question of war or peace has been discussed by a Council of Ministers, of St. Petersburg. Grand Duke Constantine, who presided, and the Minister of War pronounced for the continuance of the war; the other Ministers were in favor of peace negotiations. This seems sensational and is altogether contrary to the general tenor of the news.

A tremendous number of wounded from Plevna have over-crowded the Russian hospitals, and much suffering is experienced by the wounded in transit to Russia, in consequence of the insufficiency of surgeons and dressers. A number of German surgeons on leave have gone to Russian headquarters.

At Gorusko the Montenegrins took 300 regular prisoners and captured three cannon and 500 rifles. The Montenegrins have also occupied Piva, captured Cerkvica and now hold the whole territory as far as Fotcha. They have totally burned Bilek and surrounding villages after sending sick and wounded and non-combatants to Tebringe.

The Russian campaign is considered ended for this season, and heavy rains now falling on both sides of the Black Sea will probably preclude any serious injury to the Russians by the Turks.

Dissatisfaction is reported in the Russian ranks at the course and result of the campaign.

On Sunday the Roumanians approached by a flying sap within 80 yards of the second Grivica redoubt. An assault will be made in two or three days. The Turks are not pushing counter saps and if an assault is delivered with resolution and the rebutt should fall, there is another, a half mile distant, then two or three entrenched camps, along the Northern bridge, whose western termination is an elevated position overhanging the River Vidi. The Russians mean to pursue the same tactics on their side of the Turkish positions as soon as they get saps.

A levy has been made on the Russian landwehr. Fifty-two battalions are now proceeding to the front.

The Times Bucharest letter says there is an abundance of wheat and barley remaining in Bulgaria. Every Hamlet is crowded with stacks of these grains, while a very large crop of Indian corn is awaiting the husbandman. Very little of the crops raised in Roumania have been touched by the Russians, consequently they have provisions in abundance for man and beast; and if they can surmount the difficulty of obtaining fuel they can winter in Bulgaria very comfortably.

INDIA.—The famine report for Madras on the 1st inst., was highly favorable. There has been a good rainfall throughout the Presidency. Agricultural operations are active, and summer crops nearly harvested. The number on the relief works has decreased 64,839 during the week ending Sept. 22nd; but the number seeking gratuitous relief increased 120,000.

Local News.

MAYOR RICHEY received a very flattering address from the whole of the Aldermen, inviting him to allow himself to be nominated for another year's service as Mayor of the city. They say to him: "While you have held the position of Mayor every department of municipal affairs has received the supervision and assistance so necessary to the harmonious working of the various committees, and at the same time we are rejoiced to know that in every instance your intercourse has been characterized by the utmost courtesy and urbanity." "We therefore request that you may allow yourself to be nominated on the 1st day of October next, for another year's service as Mayor, and we venture to hope that should you accede to this request, your official experience during the coming year may be less arduous and unpleasant than that of the year which is about to close."

Signed as follows: Alexander Fensyth, David McPherson, M. J. Power, J. B. Graham, Thos. P. Connolly, L. G. Power, Charles J. Macdonald, John S. D. Thompson, William Nisbet, Allison Smith, John D. Mackintosh, William Murray, Francis O'Connor, John M. De Wolfe.

This was a high compliment after two years' occupancy of the civic chair.

The Elections took place on Monday and resulted as follows:

- Mayor Richey re-elected without opposition. Ward 1.—George Fraser..... 181 William Dunbar..... 73 Majority..... 108 Ward 2.—Wm. Murray (no oppos'n)..... 90 Ward 3.—A. P. Reid, M. D..... 106 M. Kearney..... 49 Majority..... 56

- Ward 4.—G. L. Chipman, (no oppos'n)..... 378 H. H. Blight..... 251 Majority..... 127 Ward 6.—William Nisbet..... 146 George Guy..... 47 Majority..... 99

An election took place in Ward 2 yesterday. The candidates were Dr. Tremaman and W. H. Hart, Esq.

The Point Pleasant Park is gradually being carried forward. During the summer several new roads have been laid out and young trees planted. There is a nursery of young trees for this purpose in the Public Gardens. The Park Commissioners paid a visit of inspection on Wednesday last on closing the summer operations.

The Temperance Reform Club in Halifax has been greatly cheered by the reports brought back from Truro by Messrs. Carey, Neal, and Hyde. It is a blessed thing to have these noble sympathies awakened in the hearts of persons who have before been strangers to such impulses. This is the best way to prepare for total suppression of the traffic in intoxicating beverages.

Pugwash suffered greatly by the recent storm, the tide overflowing large tracts of land, and carried off its products. Typhoid fever is prevailing in the neighbourhood.

Great inconvenience is being endured by the delay at Windsor, caused by the change of cars between the Windsor & Annapolis Railway Company and the Western Counties Railway. Each party endeavours to protect its own interests, and the people suffer! It is to be hoped that such a state of things will not long continue.

Cumberland County seems to be greatly afflicted with diphtheria. The town of Windsor has also suffered greatly from diphtheria. Fifty-five cases have been reported there.

On Tuesday morning of last week a woman named Langille, at Richmond Settlement, Cumberland County, who had been sleeping with a kerosene lamp burning on the table in her room, got out of bed in the morning and approaching the lamp sought to blow it out, but it having been burning low ("turned down") had generated gas, and immediately exploded, burning her in such a manner as to cause her death in about twenty-four hours.—Truro Sun.

The Intercolonial Railway earnings for the month of August were as follows:—Passengers, \$53,549.87; freight, \$62,516.31; mails and sundries, \$7,386.24; total, \$123,452.42; as compared with passengers, \$53,107.25; freight, \$43,554.68; mails and sundries, \$4,096.27; total, \$100,758.20, for August, 1876. This is an increase of \$22,694.22.

The County Exhibition at Pictou was on Wednesday and Thursday last. The weather was exceedingly favourable and more than one thousand persons were in attendance. The stock shown, though rather limited in quantity, was very fine in quality. Some of the animals were very fine, the horses, both carriages and draft, being the finest ever exhibited here. Grain is very good; the display of roots and cereals is pronounced as fine as could be seen in any part of the Province. Apples both in variety and quantity are the finest ever exhibited in this county. Prizes will not be awarded till to-morrow.

At a meeting of the Colchester Reform Club at Truro on Thursday last 126 persons came forward and signed the roll, in addition to 879 previously enrolled, making in all over one thousand to date.

INDIAN HARBOR, WEST HALIFAX.—Notwithstanding the scarcity of fish, and depression in other business, Indian Harbor is making rapid improvement in building. Charles Covey, Jr., has built a handsome dwelling of the latest improved style. James S. Richardson is now finishing a large summer hotel.—James E. Shatford, Esq., has opened a fine country store, well filled with a good selection of Groceries, Boots and Shoes; Ready-made Clothing, &c., &c., situated on the post road. The Portland Packing Co. has a large Lobster Factory running at this place, giving employment to a large number of people. Samuel, Norman, and Isaiah Covey are each building fine dwelling houses. Peter B. Iner has enlarged on his very comfortable dwelling. He has a number of folks from Halifax during the warm summer months. Every preparation is being made to accommodate folks from the city during the hot weather. Sept. 24th, 1877.

ELEGANT HAIR is woman's crowning beauty. When it fades, she fades as well. While it is kept bright, her personal attractions are still maintained. By preserving the hair fresh and vigorous a youthful appearance is continued through many years. Those who grieve over their fading hair turning grey too early should know Ayer's Hair Vigor prevents it, and restores grey or faded hair to its natural color. It is a clear and healthful preparation, containing neither oil, dye, nor anything deleterious, and imparts to the scalp what is most needed—a sense of pleasant and delightful freedom from scurf or dandruff.—New Bern (N. C.) Times.