

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

For the Christian Messenger.

Dedication at Port Hood, C. E.

In accordance with a request from the people of Port Hood, we assembled on Sunday, the 4th inst., for the purpose of dedicating to the service of God a neat and commodious house recently erected by the different denominations in that place.

The efforts and sacrifices which must have been made by the few Protestants in Port Hood in order to the erection of such a structure are truly praiseworthy.

It is a neat little edifice of Gothic style, and is the first building to attract attention as one enters the village. The services of the day were as follows:

At 11 o'clock, A. M., we listened to a very interesting discourse delivered by Rev. J. B. Hemmeon (Methodist), of Port Hawkesbury, from Isaiah lx. and last clause of the 13th verse, "And I will make the place of my feet glorious." We assembled again at 3 1/2 p. m., and were much pleased and edified while we listened to a very interesting sermon by Rev. Wm. Thompson (Presbyterian), of Mabou, from Psalm xxvii. 4, "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple."

At 7 p. m., we met again, when it was the writer's privilege to address the congregation, who seemed to have been much affected by the able discourses to which they had listened in the former parts of the day. The day being very fine, and the services well attended, made the occasion pleasant to those of us who went there from a distance, and we hope that by the blessing of God it was made a profitable season to the people of the place generally. I will only add, that when the exercises of the day were concluded, I learned by experience the truthfulness of that passage, "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting." I called to see Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, of Newfoundland, who were badly frozen on a wrecked vessel in December. Mrs. R. (though suffering great pain from the amputation of both her feet,) was the happiest person that I have met for sometime. She spoke very comely of her two little girls who were washed from the deck, clasped in each others arms, and also her only son who was frozen to death on the deck of the ill-fated vessel. She said "they were now with Jesus, and she would soon meet them again." On enquiring how long she had been a Christian, she said that "she had always desired to love Christ, but had never made a full surrender to him until that morning on the rigging, she called upon God and he heard her cries and saved her out of all her troubles." Her words were very affecting. Although Mr. R. does not profess to have a hope in Christ, yet he seemed much affected as I endeavoured to point him to the Lamb of God.

I believe that God will bless this apparently sad providence to the conversion of many who go to see Mrs. Roberts during her stay at Port Hood, for none can enter her room without witnessing the power of religion to sustain and comfort in the hour of sorrow and affliction.

Yours in bonds of love,
E. J. GRANT.

DIGBY.—We are having some indications for good in this county. The 2nd Digby Neck, Freeport and Westport churches have each been holding special services with good results. The St. Mary's Bay Church is enjoying quite a revival influence. The labors of Bro. G. H. Goudey, who has been laboring with them for a few months is greatly blessed. I baptized four candidates in this place yesterday. Others have been received. The prospects of the continuance of this is very encouraging. In this town the Methodists have been holding services every evening since the week of prayer. Some of the young are rejoicing in a new found hope. Our own services seem to increase in interest. We intend holding some extra services this week.

Yours, very truly,
J. H. SAUNDERS.
Digby, Feb. 11, 1877.

New Annan.

It was my privilege last Sabbath to visit the brethren at New Annan, and to administer the Lord's Supper. The church had not enjoyed this privilege for about five years. Bro. W. P. Anderson, Lic., with whom I had exchanged for the day, is much esteemed by the people, and the field so long neglected, now gives promise of fruitage. They are proposing next summer to repair their place of worship; with help from without and corresponding effort on their own part we may expect to see the interests of religion once more reviving.

To provide for these destitute folds is the aim of our Missionary Board; and the more generously the churches respond to their appeal for help, the more fully will they be able to accomplish their purpose. Jesus sent a message to John to the effect that the poor had the gospel preached to them. Is it so in our day? Is not rather the case reversed? The rich enjoy to the full; the poor are sent empty away. Some will give for Foreign Missions, who do nothing to supply the want in their own land. Some justify their disobedience to the command of Christ to go into all the world, by the plea of destitution at home. Both are wrong. Their views are narrow and disjointed. We need for this day a full rounded, symmetrical christianity. We need men and women of enlightened and liberal views, who shall engage heartily in every good work.

It is evident that we have not provided suitably for the more destitute portions of our land, and that we are as a denomination suffering in many ways for our neglect. We have many brethren in these mission fields who are noble hearted, intelligent, and true. From our mission churches often come our most efficient pastors. These churches occupy the advanced positions in the conflict that is waging, and are therefore most exposed. If they are driven back, or their arms weakened in the strife, the whole denomination suffers loss. It is our duty to send the gospel abroad. It is our interest to protect and foster our weak churches at home. If we fail in either we shall be unworthy our name and place.

M. P. FREEMAN.

ARGYLE.—Dear Bro. Selden,—The Building Committee of Argyle Church acknowledge with thanks the donation of \$38 by the brethren and friends in Lockport, towards the erection of a Baptist Meeting House in Argyle.

O. W. SLOOMB.

P. S.—We wish to state for the information of the public, that the church in this place have commenced the building of a place of worship. They have been working at a great disadvantage since their Meeting House was consumed by fire. Contributions for the above object from other sources will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the undersigned.

O. W. S.

Argyle, January 18th, 1877.

HANTSPOUR, Feb. 19th, 1877.—Dear Messenger,—We are still enjoying the Divine favor. I baptized three young persons, yesterday. The special meetings are still continued, and we are enjoying the reviving influence of God's Spirit. Our young people are working nicely, and the older members are standing at their post. The congregations are exceedingly good, solemn, and attentive, and we are hoping that many will be able to step in whilst the waters are troubled.

Oh! what is so good, pleasant, or safe, as to see "both men and women" following Christ?

Ever yours, &c.,
J. C. BLEAKNEY.

Acknowledgments,

Donations to Rev. N. Vidito.

Mr. Editor,—

On Friday evening, Feb. 2nd, the friends of the Rev. N. Vidito assembled at the residence of Bro. Jas. Cornwell, Clarence West, for the purpose of presenting some substantial tokens of their regard to him as an aged and faithful minister, and one who has preached the gospel with saving power for nearly fifty years, and truly judging from the large number present, the amount donated, and enthusiastic christian feeling manifested by all, we are safe in repeating that it was one of the happiest occasions of the kind ever enjoyed, and must have been a pleasing assurance to the rev. gentleman that he never had more

or warmer friends—it being one of the largest donations ever received by him.

At an early hour the friends began to assemble from far and from near, and ere the shadows of evening closed in the spacious dwelling of Bro. Cornwell was filled to overflowing with friends happy in the thought that it was "more blessed to give than to receive." After partaking of a substantial repast, Bro. Wm. Miller was called to the chair, and Bro. Chas. Cleveland presented the purse with a voice tremulous with emotion. The presentation was responded to by Bro. Vidito whose heart was truly too full for utterance. The Rev's. Blakeney, Murray, and Miller, and a large number of other brothers followed with addresses, overflowing with kind Christian feeling, and the warmest expressions of personal friendship and regard for the donee, all which made his heart beat quick with gratitude to his Divine Master for his manifold blessings.

The amount given on that evening was \$106.00. Many who could not attend themselves, sent their donation by the hand of some friend, and many have since rendered in their tribute of good feeling both in money and in goods. He is constantly receiving labor and materials for the erection of a dwelling which is now building in the vicinity of Bridgetown. He has now received the sum of \$195.00 in cash and in goods (in this calculation the goods have been reckoned at a very low rate) which sum is constantly being added to by good Samaritans. That the Lord would abundantly bless the host of friends of his old age, was the prayer of the donee.

Yours &c.,
ONE PRESENT.

Clarence, Feb. 16th, 1877.

Dear Messenger,—

Permit me to acknowledge the kindness of friends who made us their annual donation visit Jan. 19th. A valuable parcel from DeBert River had previously been laid at our door, and friends at Eastville had also kindly remembered us. These generous acts, that according to Scripture bless the giver more than the receiver, greatly help a minister's family over rugged places. They cheer his spirit—they enable him to obey a scripture precept, they send light and comfort into his household that linger there for many a day.

That pastor is to be pitied who is not made the recipient of favors beyond what is paid him to him to make up his salary—so called; and which, in many instances are miserably inadequate.—Brethren, cheer your minister's heart. You little know his trials, and how these acts of kindness refresh his spirits.

The friends of the Rev. J. H. Saunders, assembled at his residence last Tuesday evening, and tendered their appreciation of the rev. gentleman's labors, by a handsome purse of \$80.00. A large number were present; and the evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner.—Digby Courier, Feb. 9.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—In the House of Commons on Tuesday of last week, Mr. Blake in reply to a question said it was not the intention of the Government to repeal the Insolvent Act this session, but amendments were under consideration.

Mr. Macdonald, Toronto, moved for a committee to report on the advisability of opening the proceedings of the House with prayer.

Mr. DeCosmos moved the three months' hoist, but got no seconder. The motion was adopted, and the House adjourned till Thursday.

Mr. Goudge is reported in correspondence with the Post Master General with a view, if possible, to change the sailing of weekly mail steamers from Halifax, so as to avoid the present running of mail trains on the Sabbath day.

On Wednesday and Thursday motions for various papers and returns on a great variety of subjects were made, on which discussions occurred. On one for returns of refined sugars. Mr. Cartwright said there are 50,000 tons consumed in Canada, or about one per cent. of all the sugar produced in the world. The increase of the price of sugar was caused chiefly by the failure of the beet sugar crop in France, where 500,000 tons were annually consumed. If it was supposed that the price of sugar could be affected by the closing of a refinery at Montreal or elsewhere it was a mistake. The question of whether this House desired to encourage the refinery of sugar in Canada, was a fair subject for discussion, and it was for the House to consider whether they would encourage it to the extent of paying the 600 to 800,000 dollars which were now derived from imported sugar.

On Friday, Mr. McKay offered a remonstrance against the Speaker's refusal to admit the petition on the coal question from Cape Breton. The Speaker subsequently changed his decision.

Amongst the many motions for papers, Mr. Domville made about thirty motions for statements respecting the construction and management of the Intercolonial Railway.

On the question of Insurance companies coming up for consideration, Dr. Tupper regretted that the Government

had not taken a wider view of the insurance question, so as to provide absolute security to the policy holders. He thought it would be found entirely practicable to establish a system of Government Life Insurance, and then we would not have to go abroad to borrow money, and instead of two millions going away from us every year, more than that amount would flow in on account of the absolute security offered.

The estimates for 1877-1878 were received from the Governor-General. They show a decrease of expenditure of \$4,153,881.33.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—On Wednesday last four houses in Brussels Street, St. John, were burnt down. It is believed to have been the work of an incendiary.

UNITED STATES.—The Electoral Commission on Friday, decided, 8 to 7, to count Louisiana for Hayes and Wheeler, the same as in the case of Florida.

The action of the Electoral Commission is the subject of universal comment. The Republicans are rejoicing; the Democrats correspondingly depressed.

Several Republican members of the Commission say the decision not to go beyond the returns of a State settles the Oregon question, Judge Bradley having decided that it makes no difference whether an elector is eligible or not when elected, provided only he casts his vote.

Congress has passed a bill to encourage additional telegraphic communication with Europe. The bill provides for cheapening rates one-third from the present charges, and prohibits amalgamation with other companies. Baltimore is spoken of as the terminus.

At New Orleans about noon on Thursday in an altercation in his office in the State House, with a man unknown to the police, Governor Packard was shot in the knee-cap. The man who did the shooting was fired upon by bystanders and wounded in the arm. The shooting proves to have been a deliberate attempt at assassination. A fellow named Wm. H. Welden gained admission by falsehood, came close and aimed at his head. The Governor knocked down the weapon and the ball made a painful wound in the kneecap.

A sleeping car on the Troy and Boston Railway was telescoped near Hoosac Junction, on Thursday, by a locomotive "running wild," killing one man and wounding several others.

Billy Connors, a notorious burglar, and three accomplices, were arrested on Wednesday, for robbing the Northampton Bank, Mass., of \$720,000 about a year ago.

It is rumored that a four hundred thousand dollar defalcation has been discovered in the War Department, Washington.

The strike of the engineers of the Boston and Maine Railroad continues to cause great inconvenience and delay.

ENGLAND.—The probability of an early rupture between Turkey and Russia produces great depression in commercial circles.

The Eastern question was discussed on Thursday and Friday in the House of Commons. Mr. Gladstone declared Turkey's course was such as to alienate the sympathy of England; and Her Majesty's Government in the event of an attack by Russia would find it impossible to protect Turkey. Gathorne Hardy refused to enter into any engagement relative to the future. He hoped the moral pressure of England and other powers would not be without its result. England was not obliged to make war, but she was obliged to maintain her treaties.

In the House of Lords on Thursday the Duke of Argyle gave notice that he would on Tuesday direct attention to the Government's instructions to Lord Salisbury regarding the Conference, and ask the Government what measures are contemplated for attaining the end meditated in those instructions.

In the Commons the bill centralizing and economizing the administration of prisons—one of the principal measures of domestic legislation proposed by the Government—passed its second reading 279 to 69.

In the House of Commons Lord Derby in reply to Earl Granville, gave details regarding the Extradition controversy. Negotiations are now pending for a new treaty.

FRANCE.—Statistical returns of the product of vines in France, in 1876, show that the vintage has fallen off exactly half from that of 1875. The reduction was caused by the ravages of insects.

A terrible explosion in a coal mine has occurred in France. Fifty-five miners are known to have perished.

TURKEY.—Turkey has notified the Powers that hostilities will commence the moment the Russians pass the Pruth.

A revolt is threatened here and the troops have been confined in barracks. Many members of the young Turkish party have been arrested.

A coup d'etat is daily expected from Constantinople. Steamers are anchored before the palace, ready to aid the Sultan's escape.

The Times' correspondent at Pera writes February 5th: "The only business of the Turkish Government seems to be to send soldiers and get more soldiers to the Danubian frontier; every

nerve is strained and every farthing lavished to prepare, as if for the inevitable contest. Muskets arrive from America by hundreds of thousands, and cartridges by the million. It is perfectly fearful to contemplate how the demand for more money and more men can be met even until spring."

It is rumored in Belgrade, on good authority, that Montenegro has not accepted Turkey's proposition of peace.

A new insurrection has broken out in Bosnia.

The Sultan has again changed Prime Ministers; Mahmoud Dahmad is the new man.

The Russian army is making energetic preparations to cross the Pruth. The march is to be accomplished without needlessly encumbering the railroads, which transport artillery and ambulances. Eight thousand military engineers are changing the gauge of Roumania's railways to that of the Russian roads. The work will be completed in 20 days.

Seventy five thousand Turkish troops are quartered in villages along the Danube.

ITALY.—The Rome correspondent of the Times states it has been resolved that any Cardinal may be elected Pope on the death of Pius IX. irrespective of nationality. This decision was not reached without discussion between the Pope and some of the Cardinals.

RUSSIA.—Advices from St. Petersburg, Kichenef, and Berlin, indicate a decided tendency in the direction of war.

A correspondent of the Daily News states the army at Kichenef, which will first move against the Turks, numbers 130,000 infantry, 8,000 cavalry, and 428 guns. It would be immediately followed by two corps now at Odessa, making a total army of advance of 80,000 infantry, 12,000 cavalry, and 720 guns. The correspondent continues: "As far as I can ascertain, everything is ready to take the field at a moment's notice. A thousand horses have been bought; the train bridge is already constructed, capable of passing a whole army over the Danube in a day. There are also thirteen enormous steam launches, large enough to cross the Atlantic; two large barges, 7 smaller boats, and masses of other things showing everything looked after to the smallest detail."

All the Russian nunneries have received orders to prepare to send delegations of nurses to the Pruth.

The Russians are distributing notices in Poland, threatening with severe punishment all persons who join the Turkish army.

Local News.

On Saturday morning we were visited by a terrific gale for about two hours. The wind from the South-east brought the surface of the harbor to a mass of white foam—it was so bad that the Ferry steamers suspended several trips.

The gale was felt very severely at Pictou and Truro. At River John several unoccupied houses and barns were blown down. At Truro two new houses built by Mr. James Foley were demolished and parts of them carried away for some distance.

A severe gas explosion took place on Saturday night in the residence of Mr. Mulcahy, Maynard Street. The leak was caused by rats gnawing the pipe. Mrs. M. was thrown a distance of about 25 feet by the force of the explosion.

A man named Joshua Marshall was found on the 5th inst. by a party of lumbermen, frozen to death, at West Dalhousie. The coroner's inquest could discover no further particulars than that he left Arlington for Nictaux about two months ago.

THE MOST VALUABLE GIFT—RESTORATION OF THE HEALTH.—During the past ten years the proprietor of the Great Shoshonee Remedy has faithfully redeemed every promise and guarantee made to the public over his signature. Alarming and apparently hopeless cases of Lung Diseases, Dyspepsia, Liver Complaints, Afflictions of the Kidney and Chronic Complaints of every description, including Scrofula and Skin Diseases of life-long duration, have been permanently removed and eradicated. Those who volunteered their testimony to the efficacy of the Remedy are not bogus people in unheard of localities of foreign states, but respectable citizens of this Dominion, easy of access and open to question, upon whose verbal recommendations we are willing to rest the reputation of the Great Shoshonee Remedy. If you are afflicted do not delay until medicine may be powerless to aid you. No injurious effects can possibly follow the use of these Indian Remedies, as they contain no minerals, by which the fate of the invalid is so often sealed under the form of some temporary sedative or stimulant. These Indian Remedies are widely known and still possess the public confidence after the lapse of sufficient time to test their efficacy.

The Shoshonee Vegetable Sugar Coated Pills have won for themselves the most favorable reputation of any pill before the public. Their efficacy has been fully proved as a remedy for Bilioousness, Sick Headache, and inactivities of the stomach. Price of the Remedy in pint bottles \$1; Pills 25 cts. a box. Jan. 17. Im.