

For the Christian Messenger. Tabernacle Notes.

The past six months of our church history has been one of the most important, and the following summary of our sixth half-yearly report will give the readers of the Christian Messenger an idea of our gratitude to the God of all grace, that is if our thankfulness is in any proportion to our indebtedness. The average of the 'Weekly Offering' has been \$26.82 per Sabbath, being 82 cents higher than the first half year of 1877. The total for the 27 weeks was \$760.23.

The running expense debts now due are as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes W. Roche, coal bill, T. A. S. DeWolf, cement, W. Tulley, for lumber, Store-pipe, etc.

Balance.....\$176 13

The reason for this is the 'Running Expense Fund' has lent the Building Fund \$148.06, to enable the Treasurer to pay the first contract in full. The following statement of Building Fund will also show that we are not only indebted to our Treasurer for skillfully engineering our finances, but also to him for kindly, in his own name, accepting a note, and advancing cash to Building Fund.

Debts.

Table with 2 columns: Debtor, Amount. Includes J. E. Irish, note for Farquhar & Forrest, J. E. Irish, for hardware, paid J. T. Edwards, etc.

By Cash in hand..... 7 87

Balance..... 201 34

So that something under \$400 will clear our indebtedness upon the present building.

Thus stand the collections for the past six months, from July 1st to Dec. 31st, 1877.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes 'Weekly Offerings', Communion Fund, Mission Fund, Building Fund, etc.

Total raised in six months...\$2072 95

Total as acknowledged in past reports, raised for all purposes.....\$7258 96

2072 95

Sum total up to Dec. 31st, 1877. \$9331 91

To the above might be added our Chair Cash, but it will go into the next year's items.

Dear brethren, we want to pay up the \$400, and then provide ourselves with class-rooms, will you not aid? You see how we work to build a house for Jehovah's service and praise. Remember us in your prayers.

Last Sunday we baptized a son of the Rev. Mr. Lawson of New Brunswick.

J. F. AVERY, Pastor.

P. S.—I had almost forgotten to mention the hearty vote of thanks passed to brother J. E. Irish for his devotedness and zeal in his capacity as Finance Minister and Treasurer.

Mr. Thos. Forhan has paid his third donation to the church building fund, \$30, making a total of \$70. God moves in a mysterious way, thus aiding us whence we had not looked, and shutting the doors of our expectation.

THURSDAY, 17th.—Now I must pen something cheering, for going down town the other day, I met a gentleman who had promised \$100 to the building some time since, and it was quite refreshing to hear him say, 'It will soon be paid.' Now, this noble donation of Alderman Hart's will very much aid and encourage us onward.

J. F. A.

For the Christian Messenger.

Notes from Londonderry.

A NEW WOMAN'S AID SOCIETY.

Bro. and Sister Boggs spent the Sabbath of the 23rd ult., at Great Village and Upper Londonderry. It was a rare treat to hear three sermons on one day, on the grand subject of Missions, in which the claims of the heathen were so ably presented. Our sympathies are with our dear brother in his desire to return to India, and to what he sincerely believes to be the work of his life. Sia-

ter B. conducted a woman's meeting at the village in the afternoon, elicited new aid and sympathy in behalf of the Society in that place. She went to De-Bert River in the evening, and succeeded after the service, in forming a W. A. Society of ten members with officers as follows:

- MRS. RUPERT VANCE, President.
MRS. THOMAS FLETCHER,
MRS. CHARLES McCULLY,
V. Presidents.
MRS. WM. McCULLY, Secretary.
MISS REBECCA CARTER, Treasurer.

We trust this new society will have the hearty co-operation of the whole church and congregation and that the sisters in their work for missions, will realize the experience of all workers for Jesus, who in blessing others, are blessed themselves.

M. P. F.

Great Village, Jan. 14, 1878.

In Memoriam.

MRS. THOMAS PERRY.

At Lower Sable, Jan. 3rd, quite suddenly, Mrs. Mary, wife of Deacon Thos. Pearce, in the 70th year of her age. This dear sister with her husband were baptized thirty-three years ago by Bro. Ebenezer Stronach. Right nobly have they held on their way. About fifteen years ago, they with twelve others were set off from the church of Louis Head into a separate church. Left for most of the time without a pastor, the church did not grow. About two months ago as we celebrated the Lord's Supper, she for the first time in her life took the cup and arose and spoke beautifully and eloquently as she was accustomed to do: "I bless God that I am permitted to sit at his table, once before I die. I shall not soon forget the joy I felt in feeding that little church in the wilderness that day with such spiritual food as is found at his table. Her end was peace. The Holy Spirit seemed to rest upon us as the pastor improved the occasion from Rev. vii. 9, 10. May all the dear family meet her there among that great multitude before the throne.—Com. by Rev. E. N. Archibald.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

OHIO, YARMOUTH Co.—Mr. Editor,—A good work of grace has been enjoyed by the church in this place for several weeks. We began protracted meetings the 23rd of last month. The Rev. G. H. Goudy came here to visit some friends and rest a few days, but instead of resting he united with us in the work, in his whole hearted way. Soon after the meetings began anxious ones were seeking the way of life. The news reached the Rev. Horatio N. Parry, who was spending a few days at Beaver River, who came and helped us. Sunday, Dec. 30th, Bro. Parry baptized two happy converts. The work kept growing more interesting, and the 6th of Jan. Brother Goudy baptized thirty, and yesterday the 13th Bro. Parry baptized seven more. Thirty-nine rejoicing converts have been "buried with Christ in baptism" since the work began, and we hope that there are many more to follow.

Jan. 14th, 1878. J. W. WEEKS.

SMITH'S COVE, DIGBY COUNTY.—Dear Editor,—Doubtless some of your readers will be pleased to hear that the cause of God has been revived once more in this place.

I came here on Dec. 19th, and we began a series of meetings which have continued up to the present time.

When the meetings began, the church was in a very cold and dark state; only one or two persons were willing to take a stand for the Master; but the Good Shepherd has blessed us in bringing professors up to duty again and in saving the lost.

On Sunday 6th inst., Bro. J. H. Saunders from Digby was with us and led two forward in the ordinance of baptism; and yesterday eight more followed their Lord and Master. Twelve have been added to the church, and two more have made a public profession of faith in Christ. Eight of these are heads of families, who, we trust, will be a strong help to the church.

A minister is very much needed here now, as I have to return to my studies this week.

We hope that what we have seen is just the beginning of better days.

Yours in Christ, A. N. ROSCOE.

Jan. 14, 1877.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—The Dominion Board of Trade was sitting at Ottawa during the past week. They had before them several important commercial questions.

Mr. Wm. Elder moved that the Government be requested to take steps to have Canadian built ships, sold in France, placed on the same footing as British ships. Carried.

Mr. Patterson presented the report of the special committee on sugar refining. It recommended that the Government be requested to put a tariff on refined sugar sufficient to counteract the present bounty given by the American Government to their refiners on sugars exported, inasmuch as the fish and shipping trade of the Maritime Provinces was largely dependent on the success of trade with West Indies and other sugar producing countries. Reduction in duty on raw sugar was suggested.

A resolution that every effort be made to make Halifax the winter port of the Dominion, providing no injury be inflicted on existing commercial interests, was proposed.

Mr. Wood, of Quebec, moved in amendment that Halifax be not declared the winter port until winter navigation of the St. Lawrence is decided impracticable.

The amendment was lost and the original resolution carried.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:

President—Mr. Joseph.

Vice Presidents—W. F. McMaster, Ontario; J. Kerry, Quebec; J. J. Bremner, Nova Scotia; R. S. DeVeber, New Brunswick.

A paper on the Nova Scotia coal fields was read by the Secretary, R. Haliburton read another paper on the same subject. Another from Mr. Routledge was considered as read.

Mr. Green moved that a duty of 50 cents per ton should be placed on coal and one dollar per ton on pig iron.

After debate the chairman decided the reference to iron out of order, and it was struck out of the resolution, which was lost, after a long debate by seventeen to fourteen.

A resolution passed that the Government be requested to use its influence in having sailing vessels leave Montreal for Australia semi-annually, in order to build up a trade between the two colonies.

A motion to change the pilotage Act, as relates to the lower St. Lawrence and lakes free to competition by pilots, was carried.

A proposition to re-open the discussion on the tariff was lost.

The report on fish inspection was adopted.

The jury disagreed in the Oka Indian case. The Crown demands a change of venue.

The programme of entertainment to Lord and Lady Dufferin, on their visit to Montreal in February, is a round of festivities for five days.

At last the ice bridge has taken its place and there is now crossing at Longueuil, near Montreal.

A terrible Railway accident occurred near St. Hyacinthe. A man was struck on the track, mangled and left to freeze to death.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Capt. Chisholm, agent of the International Line of Steamers, was on Thursday last presented by the Lieut. Governor with a gold chronometer, chain and seal for services at the late fire.

On Thursday morning some cotton in the packing room of Park's cotton factory caught fire. It was speedily subdued without much damage being done.

A new Victoria Hotel superior to the one destroyed by the fire, will be erected on the South Western corner of King and Charlotte Streets.

At St. John a large meeting was held under the auspices of the Reform Club on Wednesday last. His Honor Lieut. Governor Tilley and several other prominent speakers took part.

On Tuesday while Mr. Henry Titus, of Rothsay, was driving on the ice near Gondola Point, his team broke through, and his horse a valuable animal worth about \$500, was drowned. His sleigh and harness also went under, and he had on exceedingly narrow escape himself.

Daniel Keefe and his wife, of Portland, in a drunken row, on Tuesday last, snatched up a little child and threw it at each other, which resulted in the infant being killed between them.

At Sackville on Saturday last a dwelling house, owned and occupied by Willard Lawrence, took fire from a defective flue, and was burned to the ground; loss about \$1000.

Rufus Casey, who was severely injured by a train, at Moncton died on Wednesday. The coroner's jury found nobody to blame.

At Upper Brighton, lately, a lamp exploded in the hands of a Miss Tibbits and the burning oil scattered over her sister and set her clothes on fire. The unfortunate girl lingered about thirty hours and died. She was about eighteen years old.

UNITED STATES.—A telegram from New York on the 17th says Col. C. H. Houghton, collector of Perth Amboy, N. J., has in his possession a box picked up on the coast of New Jersey, containing a lot of clothing, a bill of the Bank of Nova Scotia, and some silver and knives, to-

gether with a few articles usually carried by sailors. There is also a hankerchief, marked with the name of Mrs John Schmiedeberg, and a letter, dated January 12th, 1876, addressed to the sister but having no signature. In the letter the name of John Reid is mentioned. Information is desired as to the owner.

The following is a telegram from Hartford, Connecticut on Wednesday last:—By a railroad accident at Taraffville, on the bridge crossing Farmington River, last night, an excursion train broke through. Two engines, a baggage and three passenger cars went down into the water, three feet deep. Twelve persons were killed and about forty wounded. The passengers were returning from a Moody and Sankey meeting here.

A boat with 9 boys, was swept over the dam on Simes' Creek, near Huntington, Va., on Thursday. Four boys were drowned.

The whole Roanoke River country, Virginia, has been devastated by the recent floods causing general ruin of farmers.

ENGLAND.—The British Parliament assembled on Thursday last. The Queen's speech was peaceful, and is generally acceptable to the press in London.

In the House of Lords the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech, was moved by Lord Wharncliffe, seconded by Earl Loundown.

In the House of Commons the address was moved by Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, seconded by Robert Tennan.

Lord Beaconsfield repudiated the newspaper statements concerning the Government's policy, and strongly repudiated the accusation of divisions in the Cabinet. When the Government, after mature deliberation, decided upon a policy of neutrality they were not influenced by considerations in regard to the value of Kars and Batoum, but had to consider the policy and condition of many countries.

Lord Granville did not think the Government, by defining, British interests, were deserving of the imputation of selfishness, as all countries frankly declared they were actuated by the same motives. He concluded as follows:

"If in the negotiations British influence increased, (as God grant it may) I will express as the sentiments of the government, that that influence will be used for the greatest good of humanity, and for securing an enduring peace, but if we are called upon to defend the rights and interests of England, if our present hopes and prospects of peace are unrealized, if there are circumstances that demand that we should appeal again and again to Parliament, for the means of vindicating our honor and the interests of the country, I am certain the Government will never fail to take that course." (Loud cheers.)

The Duke of Argyle said Lord Beaconsfield's speech was brilliant but evasive.

The Marquis of Salisbury emphatically denied that the Cabinet was divided or England isolated. The summoning of Parliament could not encourage the Turks to resist, as they had been repeatedly told to expect no assistance from England. He concluded: "If you will trust the government, provide it with the proper means of carrying out your confidence."

The address was then agreed to.

The Marquis of Salisbury, Secretary for India, says the Russian army was encroaching on British interests.

In the House of Commons Sir Stafford Northcote complained of the opposition's persistent misrepresentations of the Government's policy in alleging that the Government had a fixed determination to go to war on behalf of Turkey. They had no proposals to make at present. The Government had no secret intentions, but could not hope for success unless they had the proper support of Parliament.

Mitchell Heney moved an amendment to the address praying examination into Irish grievances.

The vote being taken on this motion on Friday evening it was rejected by a vote of 30 to 48. The address was then agreed to.

The London Times of Friday last commenting on a document contained in the Blue Book says:—"In Lord Derby's recent despatches we cannot find a trace of apprehension such as alone could have justified the late outbreak of war feeling in certain quarters. It is now abundantly clear that the feeling was confined to a small, though a noisy minority, but it will be a satisfaction and relief to the whole country to know that it found no echo in the official utterances of the Government."

Sir Charles Dilke does not believe in any line of policy which will make intervention in the existing war necessary. He is decidedly opposed to assisting Turkey. If England is once engaged she cannot extricate herself. Russian influence in the affairs of Europe has risen; English influence has declined.

It is reported that England has told Turkey to get from Russia the best terms of peace procurable, as England must now look after herself.

"Nothing more satisfactory to the country with respect to the immediate course of public affairs could well have occurred than the declarations made in the Queen's speech, as well as by the ministerial leaders in Parliament. The alarms recently raised respecting the possibility of a warlike policy being adopted by the Government may not be finally dismissed."

The Coussett Iron Company, the largest makers of ship plates in the

world, have blown out one of their blast furnaces and the men employed at another furnace have received notice that their services would not be required at the end of a fortnight.

In the Home Rule Conference held in Dublin last week Mr. Biggar supported a resolution that, should intervention in the Eastern war be brought before Parliament, the Irish party should repudiate sympathy with England by quitting the House in a body. Dr. Butt declared that the passing of such a resolution would be a deadly blow to Irish nationality. The resolution was ultimately withdrawn.

The Post states that the British army and navy estimates are framed on a peace footing, and will be represented at the earliest possible moment.

Reports from St. Petersburg and Berlin unite in declaring the Queen's speech and debate on the address, though regarded as pacific, have not pleased the Russian Government.

It is semi-officially announced that Russia, as a condition of peace, demands a large war indemnity and the occupation by the Russian forces of Turkish Provinces outside of the annexed territory until the indemnity is paid.

FRANCE.—The Paris correspondent of the Times telegraphs that at the forthcoming postal congress, France will propose international post offices at one per cent. tax rate of exchange, to be adjusted by congress.

Gambetta at a banquet delivered an address in favor of more prudence on the part of the Republicans.

Members of the Right were deliberating whether they would resign en masse or simply enter a protest against invalidation by a majority of elections of many of their party. The election of their Deputies was annulled on Friday.

ITALY.—The Queen of Portugal daughter of Victor Emmanuel, arrived at Rome on the 15th.

The Pope ordered a celebration of solemn funeral service for Victor Emmanuel in the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Rome had not been so full of people for years. Troops came from all parts of the kingdom, and the Colosseum was converted into a cavalry camp.

The funeral of the late King Victor Emmanuel on Thursday was very impressive. The procession was an hour and a half passing a given point. In addition to the official portion of the procession, which was a mile long, were 2700 deputations from all parts of the kingdom.

SPAIN.—The Cortes has by a vote of 309 to 41, approved of King Alfonso's marriage which was to be to-day 23rd. The Ambassadors from England, Germany, France, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden and Norway will be present, but neither Italy, Portugal nor Russia will be represented.

A telegram from Ferrol states that the tug Angla, towing the Cleopatra obelisk, left there on Tuesday morning. The weather was fine.

GREECE.—A special from Athens says the Ministry does not intend at present to obey the popular warlike feeling. Important negotiations are pending between Greece and England upon the issue of which depends whether Greece shall or shall not at an early date play an active part with and at the side of England.

There is a ministerial crisis at Athens.

SERBIA.—A special despatch from Belgrade says Serbia intends to claim the following peace conditions. Independence of the principality, the cession of old Serbia and indemnity for Turkish devastations in the last war.

Prince Milan has telegraphed to the Students' Legion that he will not entertain the thought of peace until he has captured Prizeren.

TURKEY.—Queen Victoria's speech caused considerable disappointment at Constantinople.

An official account of the capture of Shipka Pass states that four Pashas, 280 officers, 25,000 prisoners and 81 guns were captured. The Russian loss in killed and wounded was 5,464 men.

The Sultan on Thursday presided at a Council at the Seraskierate and invited a deputation from the Chamber to participate in the deliberations.

A message from the Grand Vizier was read, asking the Deputies to appoint five of their number to share the deliberations of the committee of Senators.

The British Consul at Adrianople has asked permission to leave, but Minister Layard ordered him to remain at his post. Mrs. Layard has given assistance to 40,000 refugees within the last five days.

A Constantinian despatch to the Standard says Suleiman Pasha, after fighting Tolar Bazardjih to Philippopolis, found the Russians there in great force, and fought a desperate battle on Tuesday. He finally succeeded in clearing the road to Adrianople and continuing his retreat thither.

A great battle was fought on Monday between Tartar Bazardjih and Philippopolis. Suleiman Pasha afterwards took up a position nearer Philippopolis and ordered the inhabitants to leave the town.

The London Standard says it is reported from Constantinople that should the armistice negotiations fail, the Porte will unfurl the flag of the Prophet or permit the English fleet to pass the Dardanelles.