

Mr. Spurgeon on Bazaars.

In opening the bazaar at Westborne-park Chapel a week or two since, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon met and answered the various objections that are raised to bazaars generally. He did not himself agree with raffling or gambling of any kind on such an occasion, so that question was easily disposed of. But he found that many of those people who object to bazaars were people who object to any kind of giving. You apply to them for a pew rent, they object to that. You ask them for a Weekly Offering and they think the envelope is wrong. In short, they object to giving at all. Another objection was that bazaars afforded so many opportunities to ladies for display of dress, but he trusted the ladies present would believe that they were so comely already as to need only be adorned as were "holy women of old." (Laughter). It was also objected that there were many useless articles sold, the greater number being merely ornamental. He could sympathize with an objection to antimacassars, for his forehead had often enough been marked with them, and he never sat upon a chair having one without wishing that he might accidentally tear it into halves. To cover furniture with antimacassars was as bad as to tie it up in brown holland. If he had good furniture he liked to use it and when it is worn out buy some more. (Renewed laughter). Still there was something to be said for the ornamental. God provided things ornamental in nature. He did not set the stars in the heavens in rows, as a parish vestry would, but He set them in beautiful constellations. He did not mark out the world into squares, so much for wheat, so much for barley, so much for rye, and so on, as the Board of Works would have done (and a very good way too, for economy's sake) but He gave us a rich variety—forests of trees, meadows full of flowers, and all the tints of Autumn, as if a rainbow had fallen to earth and had been broken. If anybody made utility the rule of life, let him buy only the useful articles. Mr. Spurgeon further contended that very much could be said in favour of bazaars, and amongst other things pointed out that great spiritual good must result from the meeting together of Christian ladies for work in the Lord's kingdom. Of course they would talk; ladies were made to talk, as birds were made to sing, and if only they cherished the right spirit, not only would every stitch be a prayer, but every word they uttered would be blessed. Addressing some very earnest remarks, which he said concerned the universal Church of Jesus Christ, Mr. Spurgeon warned his hearers against what he termed the Christianized scepticism of the age. Their chapel was a handsome building and one adapted to the neighbourhood in which it had been reared, but unless they stood by and successfully taught the old and fundamental doctrines of the Gospel, those would enter their pulpit whose teaching, subversive of the truth contained in the Word of God, would fail to effect man's salvation—the purpose for which they were gathered together and were constantly at work. The total proceeds of the sale amounted to £430.

In Memoriam.

At her late residence, Sheffield's Mills, Cornwallis, December 23, 1877, sister Mary J., beloved wife of Watson Ellis, and daughter of Bro. Gurdon Eaton, of Hantsport, aged 36 years. Sister Ellis experienced religion when quite young, but did not make a public profession until she was about 21 years of age. All that can be said in commendation of a Christian daughter, wife, mother and neighbor may be said of our departed sister. "Virtue alone has majesty in death." She has now, through boundless grace, gone to join a loved babe and other departed friends, and her glorious Saviour, who doubtless awaited her on the other side of the river of death. She leaves a dear husband and three children, with a numerous circle of relatives, to mourn their sad loss. Our prayer is that each mourner may be able to say,

"To thee we look, to thee we bow, To thee for help we call; Our life and resurrection thou, Our hope, our joy, our all."

J. C. B.

Acknowledgements.

Members of the church and congregation of Falmouth, Hants Co., assembled at the residence of their pastor, Rev. J. A. McLean, on the 27th ult., and presented him with cash and goods to the value of more than a hundred dollars.

Very kind words accompanied the gifts. Bro. A. Shaw said their pastor recognized the fact that a church was more than a collection of babes; that in his preaching he aimed to feed the Church of God; that with all due respect for other churches, and other pastors, the Falmouth people thought they had the best pastor in the denomination.

Our observer could not help saying that if a pastor will feed the "flock of God" he will be appreciated, and that if a church will think its pastor the best man in the denomination he will soon be worthy of their praise.

Other addresses were given and music of the finest quality furnished by Mr. C. L. Weeks.

Jan. 4th, 1878.

PLEASANT VISIT.—Having been invited to Bro. Robert Allan's, River John, myself and Mrs. Crandall were most agreeably surprised to find ourselves during the evening surrounded by almost the entire Baptist Church of that place accompanied by a number of others. A table was bountifully spread with delicacies rich and rare, of which we partook with an extra relish after our drive from Tatamagouche. Musical entertainment and social converse ensued; and after thus spending a most pleasant evening in company with these kind friends they presented us with cash and other useful articles, including a beautiful silver mounted harness, to the amount of \$86.00.

Addresses were made by Bro. N. Sutherland, Rev. Mr. McCunn, (Presbyterian), Dr. Cauley, the subscriber, and other.

Many of the friends of New Annan and Tatamagouche Bay have also given like tangible proof of their good will.

D. W. CRANDALL.

Tatamagouche, Jan. 1, 1878.

Cash received towards the "Fund for rebuilding Acadia College."

From Mrs. J. W. Lovett, Yarmouth.....\$500.00

A. D. W. BARRS,

Treas. Acadia College.

Wolfville, Jan. 7th, 1878.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

One of the brethren from the church at Five Islands and Lower Economy, calling at our office the past week, informed us of the very gratifying state of things in that church since the visit of Brother Wallace. The Divine blessing had evidently rested on his labors while with them, so that twenty-one had since been baptized on a profession of faith, and two others had been received, whilst still others were intimating their deep concern in matters relating to salvation and everlasting life.

OSBORNE, SHELBURNE CO.—Rev. E. N. Archibald writes:—"I have been cheered of late by baptisms in both churches of my charge."

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—The Dominion Parliament is to assemble on the 7th of February.

Lord Dufferin was quite unwell last week.

The first real snow storm at Montreal, was on Friday and extended all over the Provinces.

At Ottawa a grave difficulty exists between Governor Letellier and Mr. Angers, member of the Quebec Government. The latter is said to have replied to an invitation to dine in anything but complimentary terms. The Governor has demanded an apology, which is not forthcoming.

The shareholders of the Canada Agricultural Insurance Company will petition Parliament to wind up the company. They are all badly bitten.

At the election of Mayor for Ottawa city there were eleven candidates, after the nominations four retired.

Rev. Mr. Collison, pastor of the Reformed Episcopal Church at Ottawa has resigned on account of differences with his congregation, many of whom have returned to the Church of England.

On Monday, a man fell off the Railroad cars near Point Claire and was killed.

One of the great features of New Year's celebration at Montreal was the running of the Lachine Rapids in a canoe by Caughuawaga Indians.

The Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, and Accidental Railway Co., took a suit against the Warden of Ottawa County to oblige him to deliver the Railway Commissioners the lands promised by the County, to the extent of \$15,000, since 1875; the balance of lands are payable when the road is completed to Alymer.

A suit for \$500,000 has been institu-

ted by the Company against the Corporation of Ottawa County for loss caused by delay in handing over the bonds which were needed to help floating loan in England and for interest since bonds were due.

Pensioners of the British army near Montreal have been called on by the war office to send in return of their residences and other particulars. It is supposed to be a precaution necessary in case the men are required in the event of war for garrison duty at home.

On Thursday last, at Ottawa, the thermometer registered six degrees below zero.

Lord Dufferin will retire from the Governor-Generalship next October.

At Ottawa on Sunday night the thermometer stood at 30 below zero.

Penalties will be enforced against members of the House of Commons who take their seats in defiance of the Independence of Parliament Act.

Mr. Bangs was elected Mayor of Ottawa and Angus Morrison Mayor of Toronto.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—A very serious blow has befallen Petticoat, in the loss by fire of Connors' sash and door factory.

Mr. Daniel Campbell was driving home on Thursday evening, and when crossing the railway track at Aiton's crossing, 2 miles West of Sussex, the Quebec express from St. John came along striking his wagon, throwing Mr. Campbell out and killing him instantly. His body was mangled fearfully. The deceased gentleman was a resident of Campbell's Settlement.

Chief Engineer Marter has resigned, retiring on the allowance of \$600 a year.

On Thursday evening the usual quiet community of Indiantown was startled by the report that the body of a man had been found floating near the public wharf at that place. The remains proved to be those of Michael Minehan, who lived at Point Pleasant. When last seen he was intoxicated, and it was thought that in endeavoring to make his way down the ferry floats to cross over to his home he walked off the wharf, where his body was found shortly afterwards.

St. John papers report the discovery of gold in New York County.

John Wilkes, an employe in the Coldbrook Rolling Mills, and living at Coldbrook, has been missing since Christmas day. He had dinner with his family and then went out. He was afterwards seen in the vicinity of the Three Mile House, but no tidings of him since then have been received.

On the afternoon of Christmas Day, George Hennessy while crossing Musquash River below Sherwood Lake, broke through the ice and was drowned. His cries were heard by some men working in the woods, near the river, but before they reached him he had disappeared beneath the ice.

Caterpillars and butterflies are reported at Chatham last week. This week has probably settled them.

The family of Mr. Massey, janitor of Normal School building at Fredericton, have been afflicted with diphtheria for some time past, and one of the children that had nearly recovered, by some means got hold of a vial containing poison, and drinking its contents, was soon a corpse.—Reporter.

Charles Estey, a mason, working on Carmarthen Street, fell off the staging of a house on Friday, and received very serious injuries.

A very serious case of shooting occurred in Portland on Friday last. Thos. Richardson it appears had been playing with a number of other boys Jas. Collins had a pistol and asked Richardson to hold out his hat so that it could be shot at, but Richardson refused to do so and turned about to go away; as he did so Collins pointed the pistol at him and fired. The ball with which the weapon was loaded passing through Richardson's clothing and entering the flesh at the base of the spine. The bullet is still in his body. Collins was arrested.

On Saturday, a French doctor at Dorchester, attempted to get upon the freight train in motion, after being warned by the conductor not to do so; he fell between the cars and platform, dragging the conductor with him. The train passed over one of the doctor's legs, crushing it off between the ankle and knee. Fortunately the conductor escaped with a few bruises.

We understand that Rev. Mr. Sprague does not feel himself to a position to accept the honorable position of President of Mount Allison College, to which he was recently nominated. Probably the delicate state of Mr. Sprague's health has something to do with this decision.—St. John Telegraph.

At Upper Brighton, Carleton Co., a Miss Tibbitts was badly burned by the explosion of a kerosene lamp, Tuesday evening, 1st inst. She fled from the house in her burning dress, and before help could overtake her she was literally roasted.—Sentinel.

St. John had 73 fires and alarms of fire in 1877—13 more than in 1876.

P. E. ISLAND.—A very proper movement is on foot here. A company is being formed in Charlottetown for the manufacture of starch from potatoes. The wonder is that it has not been done years ago.

UNITED STATES. The number of failures for the year in New York city were 874, with liabilities amounting to nearly fifty-two million dollars and assets about twenty-one millions; manufacturers numbering 44, followed by 35 bankers and

brokers, who went down under more than six millions.

Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution reports that Professor Foster, of Berlin, announces the discovery by Palisa, on the 24th of December, of a planet of the eleventh magnitude.

At Norfolk the storm on Saturday night 29th and Sunday was the severest since last April. Hampton Roads was thronged with vessels.

The Superintendent of United States Life Saving Service, reports 134 disasters to vessels within the limits of their operations. Value of cargoes and vessels lost, \$3,293,333; number of lives saved, 1,461; number lost, 36; property saved \$1,713,647.

At Garland, Col., a reign of lawlessness and bloodshed prevails. Four men were shot on Sunday the 30th in a saloon, and Geo. McLay, a lawyer, entered a concert hall and had a dispute with the bar keeper, whom he cut with a knife and was then himself shot in the temple.

CUBA.—A Cuban, charged with wilfully setting fire to the International Hotel in Port au-Prince, has been tried, convicted and sentenced to death.

ENGLAND.—The Times and other journals estimate that the fourth quarter of the year will leave a deficit of about a million pounds in the budget.

The Queen will not open Parliament in person.

The following is stated to be the text of England's note to Russia:

"Her Majesty's Government beg to inform the Emperor that the Porte is ready to open peace negotiations. The Emperor's wisdom and repeatedly expressed love of peace justify Her Majesty's Government in the hope that he will lend a favorable ear to the Sultan's request."

The Times' Vienna correspondent hears that Russia has already replied to England's note that if the Turks desire an armistice they must apply direct to the Russian commander-in-chief.

The Pall Mall Gazette's Paris despatch says Russia has ordered of an establishment in London a large number of locomotives. The same concern was asked to furnish three iron bridges deliverable on the Danube in April, but declined on account of the scanty time.

The same establishment is founding heavy guns for an unknown purchaser.

The whole Channel fleet and all commissioned ships under repair are ordered to be ready for sea by January 16.

The Earl of Carnarvon's conciliatory speech to the deputation of South African merchants, will be generally accepted as determining in the affirmative the question whether England will consent to the principle of separate negotiations between Russia and Turkey. All the other signatories of the Treaty of Paris have admitted the claim of Russia to begin and carry on separate negotiations, but reserve their rights as co-signatories of that treaty and for protection of their own interests, to participate in the final settlement.

A London despatch to New York says a split in the English Cabinet is imminent. Lord Beaconsfield insists upon his own retirement or the resignation of Earl Carnarvon. The Cabinet is divided on the question of the Government's Eastern policy.

The London Gazette announces the creation of an Imperial Order of the Crown of India, for ladies only. The order has been conferred on all princesses, eight Indian highnesses, and 18 other persons of distinction.

A Londonderry (Ireland) despatch says there was great rejoicing over the release of the Fenian prisoners; there were several outbreaks in the streets, and Londonderry church windows were smashed.

John Dixon says he proposes to tow Cleopatra's needle to England from Ferrol, Spain, about the 10th inst. The litigation as to salvage has been arranged.

The Times' leader says:—"Russia has, by her answer, entered into no controversy with England. Her answer is really addressed to Turkey. To suppose that England should feel itself rebuffed because the Porte had been invited to send an envoy to the Russian commander-in-chief would be to raise the suspicion that our Government has gone out of its way to provoke a quarrel. Yet it would be useless to hide the existence of influences which, if unchecked, would involve us in a quarrel. A section of society with some advantages of position is using all its power to array England on the side of Turkey."

Reports are current in foreign newspapers that England intends to occupy certain points in the East, among others Gallipoli, Constantinople and Batoum.

A correspondent of the Manchester Guardian says there is no idea of the acquisition of Egypt, which would be an abandonment of policy opposing the partition of Turkey. It is believed should Russia reject mediation, that Lord Beaconsfield is prepared to appeal to the country on the question of declaring war for the defence of British interests.

An American draughtsman has been employed in Woolwich Arsenal for some days sketching the latest improvements. It is in virtue of permission accorded the American minister by the British war office.

The Manchester Guardian's despatch on the 7th from London says Lord Carnarvon has resigned.

The Liverpool Post's London corres-

pondent telegraphs that the opinion is gaining ground that a general election for members of Parliament is near.

The British Government has embargoed 2000 cases of cartridges on a steamer at Cardiff, destined for Constantinople.

FRANCE.—General de Rochebeant, Chief of the late Ministry, in receiving the Mayor of Bordeaux, emphatically declared that neither the Marshal nor the late Cabinet ever contemplated a coup d'etat.

M. Faye has been definitely appointed Director General of the Paris Observatory.

It is rumored before the meeting of the Chamber that Waddington may become Minister of Public Instruction, and Cardeaux, Minister of Justice, Dufaure taking Ministry of Foreign affairs.

The Spanish Ambassador at Paris has formally notified Minister Waddington that the Spanish Government has broken off all relations with ex-Queen Isabella, whom it regards as insane.

ITALY.—The Pope declined to accept any diplomatic congratulations on New Year's Day. His Holiness conferred Hats upon five Cardinals, including Cardinal Manning. He proclaimed eleven Bishops, none of which are American. Victor Emmanuel gave an audience to Gambetta on Thursday last.

The Pope has authorized Cardinal Manning to negotiate with Great Britain for the removal of certain difficulties, which delay the re-establishment of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Scotland.

It was reported in London that the King of Italy, in addressing the members of the Italian Parliament at the New Year's reception, made a threatening speech which is interpreted as directed against Turkey or England.

The Italia denies that the King used warlike language, and says that he was merely referring to the difficulties of the European situation, and recommended the national representatives to preserve concord among themselves, and it might be necessary for Italy, which is desirous of peace, so to act as to make herself not only respected, but feared in case any power should wish to consult its own interests alone.

GERMANY.—Negotiations between Bismarck and the Moderate Liberals are not yet concluded, either on account of Bismarck's views concerning taxation, or because of the difficulties in carrying out his scheme for merging the Prussian Imperial Government, by an arrangement in accordance with which Prussian Ministers of Finance, Commerce, Justice and Foreign Affairs shall administer the corresponding departments in the Imperial Cabinet.

The supplementary estimates for next year's budget, swell the probable deficit to 89,000 marks.

TURKEY.—An amendment in the address adopted by the Turkish Chamber of Deputies, declares that ministers have not done their duty either in a military or political point of view.

The peace party are making strenuous efforts. It is reported that they have been joined by Mahmoud Damad Pasha, who has hitherto been the mainstay of the war party. The peace party have gained ground considerably, both in the Palace and the Senate, and it seems possible that Turkey will come to make direct overtures to Russia.

Reuter's despatches from Constantinople say the Turkish Chambers of Deputies have adopted an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament relating to the Government's military policy. The minister of War, Marine and Foreign Affairs are invited to explain. The Government has demanded a vote of five million Turkish pounds for the requirements of the army.

From letters written the 28th December by Lady Strangford, who is superintending the hospitals at Sofia, the Turks had at that time determined not to attempt to hold the place. Lady Strangford writes that she will remain and, she believes, be able to continue her duties without interruption or annoyance. The Turkish nurses have agreed to stay. It was feared that there would be disorder in the town, but the Turks got away quietly and there was not the slightest panic. The town will be taken without resistance.

Suleiman Pasha telegraphs that the army from Kamarte arrived safely at Slatisea. Baker Pasha with six battalions and four guns, covered its retreat, sustaining throughout Tuesday attacks from thirty battalions of Russians with ten guns, on whom he inflicted heavy loss. Baker Pasha lost six hundred in killed.

Nine hundred horses perished in the vicinity of Sistova during the recent storm; total loss of draught animals.

A despatch says that Austria in reply to the Turkish circular, reserves its right to intervene on the opening of peace negotiations, as a guaranteeing and frontier power.

In compliance with a summons by telegraph Midhat Pasha has started for London. His journey is said to be connected with England's acceptance of the Porte's request for mediation.

On the 2nd inst. great excitement was caused by sensational news from the island of Crete. A number of Christian families attempted to enter Retimo, a small town of about 4000 inhabitants on the northern coast of the island, but were prevented by the Turkish populace