

hope I may do so, and say, 'Here, Lord, am I and those whom thou hast given me.'

At these words the sisters came and nestled at their mother's knee by the divan on which Fleda lay, and John and Dwight stood one on each side in hushed and tender reverence.

'Blue is the flow'ret They call 'forget-me-not.' Wear it upon thy heart And think of me.

'My children,' said Mrs Hammond, 'let us join together in singing our hymn once more—'Jesus lover of my soul.'

This and the prayer, that followed led by Mr. Saybrook, served to steady each heart, and after the tender "good-nights" were whispered round, each one sunk to that refreshing slumber which God "giveth to his beloved."

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger. The Implacable Few.

In many of our churches there would seem to vegetate a certain few who appear to regard it as their special calling to keep their brethren in constant turmoil in the matter of pastoral changes.

As a rule the implacable few ultimately accomplish their purpose. Peace-loving members, however numerous, prefer to yield to a few belligerents rather than see the church rent by dissension.

Can any remedy be suggested for this wretched state of things? A late number of the Examiner & Chronicle contains an excellent article on "The Church Conscience," in which the root of the evil under consideration is laid bare.

"It has passed into a proverb that corporations have no souls. Perhaps it would be too much to assert that churches have no consciences; but just as the finer feelings of humanity seem to be eliminated from men when they act in any corporate capacity so the moral sense of a body of Christians is, we have often noticed, less scrupulous and exact than the moral sense of a good many individual members of the Christian body.

In this extract the case seems to be pretty plainly stated. The great need of the age is a healthy church conscience which will not tolerate wrong doing in any form.

1. Let a full inquiry be made as to what are the grounds upon which a

change of pastor is demanded. As a rule this is never done, and ministers are dismissed without having the slightest idea as to the reason for their dismissal.

2. Let the question be considered, whether the implacable few are likely to work any more harmoniously with a new minister than they did with the old one?

3. Is the best welfare of the church likely to be subserved by constantly submitting to the domination of an implacable few? We think not. The history of our churches furnishes abundant evidence that such submission accomplishes no good, but rather perpetuates a great evil.

In short, the implacable few, instead of being permitted to control the church, should be given no voice at all in their unjust agitation and dissension on their part render them liable to the disciplinary action of their brethren.

Jan. 29, 1879.

For the Christian Messenger. United States Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27, 1879.

This is what the Rev. Mr. Talmadge says of Washington, and its depravity, improvement, and so on: "What advance ment has gone on since the day when rum-shops were in full blast in the National Capitol building, and Congressmen went into them before making a speech, for inspiration, and after making a speech, for recuperation.

During the war there were 100 gambling houses and 500 professional gamblers in Washington. One of them boasted of having cleared in one year \$1,500,000.

A gambler once went to the doorkeeper of the House of Representatives and presented an order for the greater part of the salaries of many members. Now but 20 gambling houses remain, the poorer class patronized by Department clerks and the more expensive by Congressmen.

Duelling has been abolished also. There is no more clubbing of Senators for differences of opinion, no more drawing of knives and pistols, and unseemly brawls on the floor of the House."

Mr. Talmadge does not remember that within a year there have been such brawls on the floor of the House as necessitated the appearance of the Sergeant-at-Arms with his mace, when fists and feet were used if knives and pistols were not; that within a year Senators and Representatives have been drunk in their seats and on the floor, if they did not get their liquor in the Capitol building, which is doubtful.

So many reports have been going the

rounds of the press lately concerning Genl. Twigg's swords, that Genl. Butler took possession of at New Orleans in 1862, that a brief description of them will not be uninteresting.

One of these beautiful swords was given to Genl. Twigg by President Polk, agreeably to an act of Congress in March, 1847. The scabbard is of solid gold, and the hilt of the sabre is of gold inlaid with mother-of-pearl and set with a large diamond, topazes, sapphires and aqua marines, and surmounted by a gold eagle holding a scroll of fame in its talons.

The third of these remarkable swords was presented by the State of Georgia. The sabre is gold plated and in form represents unity—a bundle of sticks bound together with gold bands upon which the names of prominent battles of the Mexican War are engraved.

The city enjoys a very extensive trade. Since the war it has become an extensive cotton market. For trade in general it has the reputation of being better than any other city within the limits of the State.

For the Christian Messenger. Emerson. Manitoba.

Mr. Editor,—

I presume that many of the readers of your highly esteemed paper will be pleased to read a few extracts taken from The Western Journal, a weekly paper published in Emerson, Manitoba:

"The first building in Emerson was erected late in the season of 1874, and now there are numerous stores carrying heavy stocks, and all doing a profitable business; four religious denominations have churches and ministers. There are three hotels, school-house, infantry company, lively stable, brick yard, two lumber yards, two weekly newspapers, post office, custom house, steam grist mill, land office, library association, different lodges, &c., &c., &c.

The immense country trade which must come to Emerson, makes this a point which can offer superior inducements to energetic men of all professions or occupations to any other in the Province."

Emerson is situated near the centre of the great wheat growing district. A quarter of a million bushels of No. 1 hard wheat to-day seek storage at Emerson.

Business seems active at Emerson. From the Western Journal I copy the following: "Wheat;—the streets are crowded with loads of grain, mostly belonging to the Mennonites.

From all accounts it really appears that a more inviting field for the surplus population of Nova Scotia, who have youth, health, and industrious habits, cannot reasonably be expected.

With much respect, Yours truly, AN OLD MAN

For the Christian Messenger. From Georgia.

ATLANTA, GA., Jan. 25, 1879.

The present winter in the Southern States has been perhaps the severest experienced for many years. The thermometer here has ranged as low as 6 degrees above zero, and at mid-day not much more than 12 degrees above, during the cold snaps.

Atlanta has become one of the largest and most enterprising cities in the State. It has an altitude of 1,087 feet above the level of the sea, and is located upon a water-shed which divides the waters flowing into the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico.

The city enjoys a very extensive trade. Since the war it has become an extensive cotton market. For trade in general it has the reputation of being better than any other city within the limits of the State.

During the rebellion the city was burned, but after peace was made it large as before. Much northern capital has been invested here, and the people are fully infused with the spirit of progress.

For the Christian Messenger. Letter from Germany.

(From our correspondent.)

THE UNHAPPY "FATHERLAND"—THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND HIS IMPETUOUS CHANCELLOR—BISMARCK'S INTRIGUES AND PERSONAL RANCOR TOLERATED FOR THE SAKE OF POLICY—RESTRICTIONS IN THE EXERCISE OF FREE SPEECH IN THE PARLIAMENT—THE KAISER'S GOLDEN WEDDING—PROSPEROUS FRANCE.

BERLIN, Jan. 21, 1879.

Dark as these wintry days is the gloom that is spreading over Germany. General despondency and bitterness prevail. The depression of industry and trade is worse than ever, so that the Bankruptcy Court has to enlarge its buildings; the distress amongst the lower classes is extreme; the papers tell heart-rending stories about starving people; the clergy and the poor-law guardians appeal every day to the public for contributions in order to stave off the worst sufferings of the very poorest.

Only one ray of light pierced the clouds, with the return of the Emperor. There can be no doubt that the joyful demonstrations with which the public welcomed him were thoroughly genuine, and intended to make him forget that the infamous deeds of Hodel and Nobiling were perpetrated at Berlin.

France, prosperous and Republican, has at last shaken off all fear of the Reactionary party who have so long tried to hamper her and throw discredit on the form of government she has selected for herself by such large majorities.

Only one Bonapartist has been elected to the Senate for eighty-two vacancies, and he is rather a [doubtful] one. The magnificent results of France's last work is to give an actual majority of fifty-six, and a fair working Republican majority of about forty in the Senate, and thus permanently secure to the country the blessings of a peaceful,

petrated at Berlin. The Emperor (on this occasion again behaved admirably: he said that he should have preferred less costly preparations, but he accepted them as a proof of his people's loyalty; that in the hour of trial which God had sent him he had found a call to examine whether he had done his duty; that if his sufferings should bring the people to a consciousness of the common danger, he could not deplore his wounds. Nothing could be more touching than the simple earnestness with which the Emperor spoke—everybody felt that he meant what he said.

Yet in his speeches there were several rather startling passages. In deploring the present state of things, he said that he had foreseen it ten years ago, (that is to say, he had foreseen the consequences of the late hasty legislation,) and that it must be amended by new and better laws.

The Lower House of the Prussian Parliament met on Wednesday for the first time after the holiday recess. The debates were of no general interest. A bill has been submitted to the Federal Council by Prince Bismarck giving to the Reichstag a right of punishment over its members.

Prince Bismarck has received a letter from the agriculturists in the district where he resides expressing their opposition to free trade. In reply the Prince says he considers their complaints well founded, and adds that the remedy is in their own hands by voting for men who will support their views.

The German Emperor gave a grand dinner on Saturday to the Ambassadors accredited to his Court. The Crown Prince has addressed a letter to the Minister of the Interior, desiring him to make it understood that reports having reached the Emperor and Empress of movements for the purpose of making personal gifts to their Majesties on the occasion of their golden wedding celebration on the 11th of June next, they would deem all such manifestations of loyalty wholly against their wishes.

They would, however, regard it as a fresh and valuable proof of loyal affection were the significance of the festival day to find fitting expression in the founding of charitable institutions or other works of benevolence.

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