

erred in this respect? Is it not possible that our brethren, whom we have appointed to conduct our Mission here, in consequence, gradually and perhaps unwittingly, fallen into an unwise policy?

A careful survey of their public acts will, I think, indicate that the policy of our Executive has been, it is feared, largely one of repression and contraction, instead of growth and development. This is shown by their evident determination to continue that course of silence respecting all transactions at their monthly meetings which has called forth these letters, and against which you, Mr. Editor, have so emphatically protested; a policy which I have to regret to say is arousing apprehensions and suspicions which must affect injuriously the interests of this sacred cause,—it ought not to be continued.

This same policy has prevailed in their administration of the affairs of the Mission in other respects. A few illustrations will, I think, make this apparent.

The great famine in India that opened the heart of the Christian world, and called forth benevolence unparalleled in history, cast a few orphans on the hands of Mrs. Armstrong. Nothing but starvation will drive fanatical Hindus to give up their children to Christians. Mrs. Armstrong, in the kindness of her loving heart, undertook to care for a few of these waifs, hoping to enrich some homes in that dark land with Christian mothers, and the Mission with native preachers. She appealed to the Board for help. What was the response? Mrs. Armstrong asked for bread, they gave her a stone! She asked for figs, she got thistles! What, Mr. Editor, do you suppose the mouthpiece of these forty thousand Baptists in these Provinces, said to this heroic woman, this missionary of large experience and great faith? With thousands of dollars in the treasury, there went back a doleful wail of poverty, that our people think that preaching the gospel is the great work of the missionary, and work of the kind she contemplated would interfere with the full sowing of gospel seed. This is wonderful to learn! Turn out the helpless waifs to starve in ignorance! To keep them interferes with gospel work! Did the Secretary of our Board mean to tell Mrs. Armstrong that she must abandon her work among the little boys and girls, and mount the rostrum and preach to crowds of Sudras? He seems to say so,—to say so not only for the Board, but to voice the opinions of all the Baptist churches. How did the Secretary know that the Baptists of these Provinces would call upon Mrs. Armstrong to abandon this work of the Lord, a work which has prospered notwithstanding the repression put upon it by the Board? Had the Secretary, instead of writing our missionary in this manner, published her appeal in our papers, the hearts of hundreds would have been touched, and she would not have wanted money for this good work, for caring for these few starving boys and girls. But he did nothing of the kind. Repression! Repression!

How think you, did our beloved missionary feel on receiving such intelligence as this? Is it any wonder that she was filled with the bitterness of disappointment, and that time was spent in weeping which should have been given to refreshing sleep? Had the churches known all the facts, the heart of our heroic sister would have been comforted not only with refreshing messages, but with money for her work as well.

Had it not been for the W. M. A. Societies, Mrs. Armstrong would have been obliged to have abandoned her work in Chicaco.

Is this the way to treat a sister of the faith, the courage and the ability of Mrs. Armstrong? A sister who has conquered two Indian languages, and has a record of ten years of labour in that field, that finds few parallels in the history of missions. Is not this the treatment that is sure to repress at home and worry abroad?

Again in the last report of the Secretary of Foreign Missions, published in the Year Book, it is stated that "Mrs. Armstrong forwarded to the Board an admirable and interesting report of her school work which she has carried on without any material support from her husband." Why has this report been suppressed? Brethren who were present at the Conference which the missionaries held last year in India, where

a similar report was read, have characterized it as a remarkably interesting paper. If I have been rightly informed—there have been many conversions and baptisms in this school, and one at least of its pupils has since been ordained to preach the gospel to his benighted fellow countrymen. This report I apprehend is just such information as you Mr. Editor would be glad to have given to the public, just such reading as is calculated to give encouragement and true impetus to the missionary cause. It has been intimated that our Executive contemplate unlocking "the secrets of the Board," and publishing something at an early date. I trust that they will then give us this report in full.

This policy of contraction has not only resulted in depleting our missionary corps out in the field, as has been seen, but it extends even to their annual financial statement. By reference to the Treasurer's report in the Year Book, page 48, it will be seen that the disbursements are nearly all embraced in one lump sum. Why have we no particulars of this large expenditure? It would indeed be interesting, and doubtless very useful for future reference to have full details given, shewing the amount expended for construction account, for salaries, and for incidental expenses at each of our mission stations.

Repression and contraction may do very well in some things, but they are destruction and death to Foreign Missions.
R. M. K.

For the Christian Messenger.
From Germany.

Berlin, Feb. 1st., 1881.

The German Emperor, after inspecting the new barracks of the Second Guard dragoons in the Pioneerstrasse a while ago, contrived, while chatting with the officers in the mess room, to write a few words with a chalk pencil upon the tunic of the senior regimental captain, unperceived by that officer. This done the Emperor left the room laughing heartily, accompanied by the colonel of the regiment, Prince Frederick of Hohenzollern, whereupon the senior staff officer present walked up to Captain Von S., and, to his utter consternation, proceeded to unfasten and remove his epaulettes. Unconscious of having committed any dereliction of duty, Von S. remained motionless while this ominous operation was performed, but his painful perplexity gave place to jubilant exultation when the lieutenant colonel produced a pair of major's epaulettes and dexterously buttoned them to his shoulders. The words hastily scribbled by the Emperor upon Captain Von S.'s uniform were "Zura major befördert" (promoted to major), and the subsequent details of this genial surprise, had been arranged by him beforehand with the lieutenant colonel. It is said that, in his rejoicing at his unexpected advancement, the newly-made major called up the senior non-commissioned officer of his squadron, and said to him, "Sergeant major, the squadron is relieved from duty for to-day. Let the men have as much to drink as they please. I pay for all."

The following numbers, which have been published in the educational organs of Germany, represent approximately the present state of the chief European nations in regard to school education. Germany, with upwards of 42 million inhabitants, has 60,000 schools, attended by six million scholars, giving an average of 100 scholars to each institution. The expenditure on account of schools in that country averages 2.96 marks per head of the population. Austria—Hungary, with 37 millions of people, has 30,000 schools, attended by three million pupils, or 100 pupils each, at an expense of 1.68 Marks per head of the population. France, with 37 millions of people, has 71,000 schools and 4,700,000 pupils, or 66 per school, the expenditure averaging 1.48 marks per head of the population. Spain, with 17 millions of people, has 26,000 schools and 1,600,000 scholars, or 56 per school, the expenditure averaging 1.40 marks per head of the population. Italy has 28 millions of people, 47,000 schools, and 4,900,000 scholars, or 40 per school, the expenditure being 0.84 mark per head of the population while Russia, with 74 millions of people, has 32,000 schools and 1,100,000 scholars, or 36 per school, the average, expenditure being 0.28 mark per head of the population.
Louis.

For the Christian Messenger.
Letter from France.

(From our Correspondent.)
Paris, Feb. 21st, 1881.

Eventually, no doubt, every great man of France will have his statue; Paris will be thickly studded with monuments of this sort in bronze and marble, and scarcely a French town will be without its celebrity standing wrapped in those rigid folds which statues generally assume, in the midst of the principal square. There are certainly many worse manias than the "statue mania;" and fortunately for France it seems that a long time must elapse before the number of its statues can exceed that of its statue-able men. The latest grand homme to be immortalized in bronze is Edgar Quinet, an author who really deserves homage for the depth and beauty of his philosophical writings, and who moreover was one of the most powerful champions of the Liberal cause in France.

At a moment when the encouragement of native shipbuilding is engaging the attention of the American Congress, it is of some interest to notice what the French Legislature is doing in a similar direction. The French Merchant Shipping Bill has now passed both Chambers. The following is the scale of premiums secured to French shipbuilders: Iron and steel vessels, 60 fr. per ton; wooden vessels above 200 tons, 20 fr. per ton. Engines of any kind placed on board steam vessels will entitle the constructor to a premium of 12 fr. per 100 kilogrammes. Shipbuilders will receive besides a premium of 1 fr. 50c. for every vessel making a voyage of more than 1,000 miles. This premium will be increased 15 per cent. for steam vessels constructed according to plans previously submitted to the Navy Department. Mails and post office agents are to be carried gratuitously by vessels whose owners receive premiums.

It will be remembered that quite a number of persons, during the carrying out of the Governmental Decrees for the expulsion of the unauthorized religious associations, drew upon themselves, by the insults with which they accosted the officers of the law whilst these latter were executing the orders of their superiors, the retaliation of the "powers that be," in the shape of fines and in many cases terms of imprisonment of more or less length. The judgment of the offenders took place quite a time back, but they were allowed to remain in liberty until last Saturday, on which date commenced the period of their incarceration. There seems to have been no absentees from the muster, and indeed the prison experience of these gentlemen does not seem likely to prove a very severe trial, as they will enjoy many privileges denied to the common herd.

The young Queen of Spain came very near being made a hapless widow. King Alfonso was skating near the Casa de Campo last week, when the ice suddenly broke under him and he was precipitated into the water. He was quickly and safely rescued, escaping with a thorough ducking.
August.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

DEERFIELD, YARMOUTH Co.—Rev. J. A. Stubbert writes Feb. 25th: "I had the privilege of baptizing last Sabbath. May many more be joined to the Lord, until the little one shall become a thousand, is my prayer."

Gasperaux. — Dear Brother, — No doubt you, and many of the readers of our paper, will be glad to hear of the good work of God in this place. Yesterday was a good day with us. In the morning at ten o'clock a large number gathered beside our "Jordan." (Gasperaux River), where thousands have been baptized, to witness the baptism of nine happy converts. After baptism the people filled the meeting house, and enjoyed the privilege of listening to an excellent sermon, preached by Brother King, (student of Acadia College). His text was, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." Isaiah lv. 6. After the sermon the right hand of fellowship was given to the candidates, after which about one hundred and twenty sat down to the Lord's table. The work appears to be very quiet but deep. The revival has been confined to the village of

Gasperaux; but it appears now to be spreading to other sections of the church. I have baptized thirteen since the revival commenced, three of whom were my own children. I expect to baptize again Sabbath after next.

Yours truly,
JOHN WILLIAMS.
March 7, 1881.

NORTH SYDNEY, C. B.—Rev. J. W. Bancroft writes, March 9th, 1881:—Dear Brother,—You will be pleased to learn that the Lord is reviving his cause at North Sydney. For several years the church has been in a dark cold state. Internal troubles and financial difficulties have at times threatened her with ruin, but the Lord has cared for his people. A precious work of grace is in progress at the Bar. For four weeks we have been holding special services, praying for a blessing. Last Sabbath I baptized three happy believers and welcomed them into the church. Several more have found the Saviour and others are seeking for pardon. We are praying and laboring for a more abundant blessing.

RAWDON.—A good work is being carried on in the Rawdon Church under the labours of Rev. Isa. Wallace. Christians are being revived and the spirit of the Lord is working in the hearts of sinners. The baptismal waters were visited on Sunday 6th, when seven happy converts were buried with Christ in baptism. These, with one restored, received the hand of fellowship the same day. Six more willing converts publicly put on Christ on last Lord's day, to whom, with one restored, Bro. Wallace extended the right hand of fellowship after the evening service.

The church is united, the meetings are well attended and interesting and the prospects are that more will shortly be added to our number. C.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—In the House of Commons on Tuesday Sir John A. MacDonald stated in reply to Sir R. J. Cartwright, that the Brazilian Government had appropriated \$50,000 toward steam communication. A steamer of 1,800 tons would be put on in May to run from the St. Lawrence in summer and Halifax in winter, making the round trip once a month. The agreement was for three years. With regard to the subsidy of \$50,000 for a line of steamers fortnightly between France and Quebec, he said there was no doubt that the French Government would make the appropriation \$100,000 for the same service.

In reply to Mr. Weldes, Sir S. L. Tilley said the steamers would leave St. John and Halifax respectively once a month for Liverpool. The service could not begin till the first of July. Tenders would be asked for the service.

Mr. Anglin protested against the Dominion paying for police in the harbors of Montreal and Quebec when it did not pay for those in St. John or Halifax.

On Wednesday on the item for a wharf and elevator at Halifax. Mr. Pope said the capacity of the elevator would be 250,000 bushels.

In reply to Sir R. J. Cartwright. Mr. Pope said the rates of carriage on the Intercolonial Railway were thirty cents for eight bushels from Quebec to Halifax.

Mr. Anglin said everything should be done to promote the grain trade via Halifax, if found practicable; if successful St. John would like an elevator.

On Friday in committee of supply under salaries and disbursements, fishery overseers and wardens, \$92,800. One item of \$30,000, was for fish breeding, fishery and oyster beds.

Sir Albert Smith said oyster beds was a new item. What was the appropriation respecting oyster beds for?

Mr. Pope said it was for surveys.

Mr. Pope explained. The House laughed about oyster surveys.

Mr. Ogden said that in Bras d'or Lake the oysters grew on trees and the vote was a proper one.

Mr. Killam said the vote included nothing for the four Western Counties of Nova Scotia. There were several good rivers there which should be stocked with salmon. If Mr. Pope wanted to survey for oysters he would recommend St. Mary's Bay.

On Wednesday in the Senate on the motion for the third reading of the bill to amend the Canada Temperance Act. Mr. Almon moved to amend it by providing that the dealing in ales, porter, lager beer, cider and light wines under ten per cent of alcohol, be exempt from the operation of the Canada Temperance Act of 1878. This amendment was adopted by a vote of 28 to 26.

Mr. Vidal then declared he would abandon his bill, whereupon Mr. Almon accepted the bill and himself took the responsibility of moving the third reading. Mr. Vidal then moved the three

months' hoist of the bill as amended. This was lost 29 to 26. The Senate refused to adjourn and the third reading was passed by a vote of 25 to 21.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The sealing fleet, embracing 23 large steamers, left St. John's, at midnight on the 10th inst. on the ice fields. The prospect for a good voyage was never better. Seals are abundant in Bonavista Bay. Hundreds were killed and hauled ashore on Tuesday last.

132 vessels, ranging in size from 15 to 63 tons, and aggregating 4,998 tons, were built in Newfoundland during 1880, and \$14,896 bounty paid on them by the Government.

P. E. ISLAND.—The resolution of the Premier to abolish the Legislative Assembly and Council of P. E. Island, and to substitute therefor a body composed of 22 members, to be known as the "Legislative Assembly of P. E. Island," passed the Assembly by 19 to 6, and a bill founded thereon was introduced.

UNITED STATES.—PRESIDENT GARFIELD'S CABINET.—The following nominations, made by President Garfield, have been confirmed by the Senate:—James G. Blaine of Maine, to be Secretary of State; Wm. Windom, of Minnesota, to be Secretary of the Treasury; Wayne McVeagh, of Pennsylvania, to be Attorney General; Thos. L. James, of New York, to be Post-master General; Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa, to be Secretary of the Interior; Robert T. Lincoln of Illinois, to be Secretary of War; Wm. H. Hunt, of Louisiana, to be Secretary of the Navy.

An important arrest of counterfeiters, who have been flooding the market with bogus coin, was made at New York on Friday last. The ice in the Hudson from Sing Sing to New York broke up on Friday last. At the Philadelphia Academy of Music, on Friday evening, J. W. Simonson, general agent of the New York Associated Press, delivered a lecture on "How we get the News" to a large audience. The Academy was connected by telegraph with London, New Orleans, San Francisco, Montreal and Washington, to illustrate the manner of collecting news, and during the evening despatches were received giving the latest news from these points.

While an old boiler at Buffalo, N. Y. was being tested at the Phoenix boiler works on Friday, it exploded, killing six men and wounding seven others. The buildings were completely destroyed; loss \$15,000.

A large mass meeting of sympathizers with the Boers was held on Friday.

ENGLAND.—In the debate on the Arms Bill in the House of Commons on Friday night, Sir Wm. Harcourt, Home Secretary, moved to recommit the Bill, in order to amend clause one, by providing compensation for arms voluntarily surrendered. Mr. Parnell moved an amendment proposing to recommit the bill, also in regard to clause eight, in order to limit the operation of the bill to June 1884. But this amendment was negatived by a vote of 208 to 57, Sir Wm. Harcourt's clause was agreed to. The third reading of the Bill was carried by a vote of 255 to 36.

Boynnton has forwarded particulars regarding his U. S. citizenship to Minister Lowell, with a letter claiming the intervention of the American Government.

RUSSIA.—THE CZAR ASSASSINATED IN THE STREETS OF ST. PETERSBURG.—As the Emperor was returning from parade in the Michael Garden about two o'clock Sunday afternoon, a bomb was thrown which exploded under the Czar's carriage, which was considerably damaged. The Czar aighed unhurt, but a second bomb exploded at his feet, shattering both his legs below the knee, and inflicting other terrible injuries. The Czar was immediately conveyed in an unconscious state to the Winter Palace, where he died at 3.25 in the afternoon. Two persons were concerned in the crime, one of whom was seized immediately. The explosion also killed an officer and two Cossacks. Many policemen and other persons were injured. The streets were densely thronged with excited crowds. The utmost sympathy for the Imperial family is everywhere expressed. A message of Condolence from the Government of the United States, was sent to Petersburg, upon the receipt of a despatch conveying the intelligence that the Emperor was dead.

SOUTH AFRICA.—A London despatch says: "The British Government proposes to grant the Boers a constitution similar to the Confederation Act of 1867, under which Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were merged into a Dominion. The impression prevails that the Boers will retract the half measure of independence and stand out for absolute autonomy."

INDIA.—It is reported that Mahomed Jan, the noted Afghan leader during the late war, has been murdered by a private enemy.

It is now seventy years since the first Hindoo baptism by Dr. Carey, and there are, in India, Burmah and Ceylon 500,000 persons of the native population professing and ranking themselves as Christians.