

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
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WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVII, No. 15.

The Future of Palestine.

Are the scattered Israelites of the world likely to be restored in any large numbers to the land of their ancestors? What is to be the future of Palestine? The hoof of the Turkish Power is said to wither every green thing it touches. When the tread of this hoof ceases to be felt in Palestine, will her vineyards bend once more with heavy clusters, will her valleys grow green again, will her deserts blossom as the rose?

I am not one of those who believe that Palestine is likely soon to recover her ancient political greatness. She never will be as great politically and industrially as she has been until the Valley of the Nile and the Valley of the Tigris and Euphrates are again as great as they once were in matters political and literary and commercial and religious. Let either Russia or England, or any power to whom God in His Providence may assign this huge task, regenerate the Valleys of the Nile and Euphrates, and I believe that Palestine may again rise and shine politically and industrially, and, if God will, religiously. There are signs of improvement in many portions of the Holy Land, and on these a visitor there dwells with the utmost interest. There is a new Jerusalem growing up outside the walls of the old city. There is a certain amount of immigration setting into the Holy Land from all parts of the Jewish world—not a very deep tide nor broad, only a little rill; and not always the young people at that. It appears to me that nothing can regenerate Palestine up to the extent of its capacity, in the present state of the Nile Valley and the Euphrates, except the withdrawal of all Syria from under the Turkish power. How soon that withdrawal will occur I know not, but at the present the whole land is eclipsed by Islam.—*Joseph Cook.*

The U. S. Baptist Year Book for 1883 reports the death of 74 Baptist ministers for the preceding year. The ages of 53 are given. The average duration of their lives was 65.7 years. Of these, three were over 90 years old; eight, between 80 and 90; fourteen, between 70 and 80; eleven, between 60 and 70; six, between 50 and 60; seven, between 40 and 50; three, between 30 and 40; and one, between 20 and 30. More than one-fourth of the whole number were between 80 and 90. These figures are interesting as indicating the healthful nature of the work in which they were engaged. It is a very fair inference that their hearts were in their work, and that their joy in it gave life and energy to the body. It is no doubt true, also, that, while they were not without labors and anxieties, they had comparatively little of that carking care and ceaseless worry which wear out many of our active business men.

THE SALVATION ARMY AND THE CHURCH ARMY.—With the opening of April Mr. Booth's War Cry is to have a rival in the *Battle Axe* of the Church Army. It will be published at a halfpenny, and will be the organ of the Church of England "Mission Band" movement. From the "advance" copy that has reached us, we learn that for nearly two years a number of Churchmen at London, Richmond, Oxford, Bristol, and other places, who were working in mission bands, wore red cords. From this it extended, until at the present moment there are some Red Cords (either silk or worsted) in a great many parts of the country, and the cord has now become to be the acknowledged badge of the Church Army, Crusade or Mission Band movement. It binds the wearer to be a Church of England communicant member, to "confess Jesus as Lord with the mouth" as well as in the life, and to be a total abstainer from the use of alcohol as a beverage. It originated, we are told, in the story of Rahab having the scarlet cord in the window as a sign of her own security in the midst of great danger. In order to make the presentation of the red cords as solemn as possible, they are now given by the

clergy in many instances in church; very often from the sanctuary rails; with special words addressed by the vicar to the new members; and in order that the red cord should be regarded with the highest esteem, it is not given till after the probation of the member. A novice cord of red and white is, however, given almost at once, after anyone professes a desire to forsake sin through Christ and serve God by His help. At the present moment, we further learn, there is a small number of young men who are drilling at Westminster for Church Army officers. They are mostly working men who have made a real sacrifice and given up good wages to become candidates for just their bare support.—*London Freeman.*

A physician says that if mothers did not take up the senseless prattle of babies and hurl it back at them under the plea that it is "baby talk," children would learn sooner how to talk plain. They repeat the jumble of syllables that they first hear. That's the idea. Instead of saying of soapy water, "I don't like it tastes good" you can just as well have Mr. Two year old observe, "The taste of soap combined with aqueous fluid is not agreeable to me."

An amusing instance of Ritualistic logic is found in an argument used by a writer in the *Church Times* who, arguing for fasting communion, says, "Will those who quote our Lord's institution as an example for their lax habit bear in mind that the Passover was celebrated after one of the strictest fasts of the Jewish year?" Apparently he has overlooked that, if it was after a fast, the ordinance was appointed after a supper.

News from the Churches.

JEDDORE.—The Lord is still blessing us here. The good work commenced last month, continues, and souls are finding their way into the kingdom. The assistance rendered by Rev. Dr. Saunders was greatly appreciated. He baptized nineteen, and his visit will long be remembered. Six others were received for baptism last evening. Several others who are trusting in Jesus, will shortly be received, and many are anxiously enquiring the way. The brethren and sisters are encouraged and unitedly are working for the prosperity of Zion, hoping to rejoice over further triumphs of grace.

The church is so situated that three houses for worship are a positive necessity—one on each side of the Harbor, East and West, and another at the Head. The House at the Head, unfinished for years, was finished last Fall, and is a commodious and comfortable building. The houses on East and West are too small for the increasing congregations. But arrangements have been made to build two houses. One on the West is to be finished on the outside by next November, and one on the East is to be commenced in July, 1884. The people are willing and united, and we hope with the blessing of God, to see the heavy task successfully carried on and completed. We trust in God. "The cattle on the hills are His," and so are the finny tribes of the sea.

Yours truly,
H. E. S. M.
April 4th, 1883.

TIVERTON.—We have lately spent one week in extra services with the little church here, and with a good deal of joy. The dear Saviour gave our own hearts delight as we tried to publish salvation in His name, and press upon the people His wonderful offers. Precious Saviour! Blessed salvation!

The religious interest has been greatly quickened; and I trust many of the members of the church very much encouraged to press forward in pursuit of the prize, and in the defence of the truth.

J. F. KEMPTON.

We learn that two persons were baptized last Lord's Day by pastor I. Wallace, at Lower Granville, and that the good work is progressing.

REV. S. B. KEMPTON has just returned from Lockport, and reports a very extensive revival of religion there. Rev. H. N. Parry, has accepted an invitation to the pastorate, and is actively engaged in the work. He baptized five persons on Sunday, and will doubtless shortly be gathering in a larger number. Rev. J. A. Durkee is somewhat improved in health, but is yet confined to the house.

AYLESFORD, April 9th.—Yesterday was a day long to be remembered in Morrystown one part of my field. Bro. Young and I had the pleasure of baptizing 36 happy believers. The work is still going on, more are coming out who will take a stand for Christ and his cause. In all, 144 have been baptized during this revival. The Lord has done great things in this land.
J. L. READ.

HANTSPOUR.—Rev. W. J. Swaffield writes April 9th: It was my privilege yesterday to administer the ordinance of baptism to two believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. We expect others to follow very soon.

The Geneva correspondent of the *Daily News*, says:—The Synod of the Reformed Church of Basle has resolved by a majority of two to one, to cancel the regulation making baptism a condition precedent of admission to the Holy Communion. This measure, tantamount to a declaration that the rite of baptism is a work of supererogation, has been long under debate, and marks a distinct advance in the direction of free thought, towards which all the Swiss Churches are tending.

Many of the American Methodist Conferences are reporting more adult than infant baptisms during the year, and some societies of from four to five hundred members have not one infant baptism to record.

An "agony service" is an attempt to reproduce by a three hours' service in the Church of Rome the three hours during which our Lord hung upon the Cross.

The *Presbyterian* tells a good story of a Newhaven pastor who has been in the habit of allowing his choir-leader to select the hymns to be used in the Sunday Services. On a recent Sunday he found that there had been selected for the opening service a hymn "for a church seeking a pastor":—
"O Lord! in ways of peace return,
Nor let Thy flock neglected mourn,
May our blest eyes a shepherd see,
Dear to our souls and dear to Thee."

He speedily selected another hymn, and hopes an inspiration will soon come to him which will help him to compose a hymn "for a church seeking a new choir."

News of the World.

The *Standard* says owing to the state of the Queen's health all engagements made by her for the month of April have been abandoned. The returns for the year ending March 31st show that the revenue of Great Britain was £89,004,000, and expenditure £89,086,000.

The expenses of the war in Egypt, including the amount contributed to defray the cost of the Indian contingent, were £3,896,000.

The Irish police made two arrests in the suburbs of Lambeth in connection with the man arrested on Wednesday night. The latter is now said to be an American. Nearly half a ton of nitro-glycerine has been seized in London already.

More precautions are being taken at Windsor Castle. It is even hinted that the whole conspiracy here and in America will be exposed.

The Birmingham city police raided a suspected locality in Ladsam Street, Ladywood, and discovered a Fenian nitro-glycerine factory in full operation there.

The apparatus for preparing and mixing the explosive compound was constructed on scientific principles, which clearly showed its inventor to be not only a thorough scholar in chemistry and machinery, but an adept in experiments

for preventing discovery. Among the noteworthy features of the place was a shrewdly devised method for carrying the fumes up the chimney and consuming the odors. It is learned that the premises in Ledhall Street were taken two months ago, by a man by the name of Whitehead, an Irish-American, who had a sign hung out in front of the place indicating that his business was that of a paper-hanger. Whitehead was taken into custody when the police made their descent. A considerable quantity of nitro-glycerine was seized. Information now in the hands of detectives tends to demonstrate that the place is a central manufactory of explosives, and the most important depot of all the infernal contrivances in the whole Kingdom. Whitehead, who is described as about 25 years of age, dark in complexion and with a marked American accent, has been in the habit of purchasing supplies of glycerine and acids, which were necessary to run the business.

Saturday's *London Observer* says that the police possess knowledge which may lead to further developments in what is likely to become the most hideous and stupendous plot of modern times.

Additional precautions have been taken to guard the Bow Street prison, and the prisoners Norman, Gallagher, Wilson and Dalton, are carefully watched. When they were arraigned each of them was accompanied by a policeman, who took their station behind the dock.

Judge Ingham refused to grant the request of Gallagher and Norman, that the money be returned to them, and in closing the preliminary examination said he would remand them.

It is reported that Norman has made overtures to the authorities with the idea of turning informer.

Featherstone, Oberlihy, and Carmody, the men arrested at Cork in Ireland on the charge of being dynamite carriers, had a re-examination, which was conducted with the utmost privacy. They were further remanded for a week and bail was refused. Featherstone, one of the prisoners, created some sensation by declaring he was a citizen of the United States, that he had placed himself and his case in the hands of the United States consul here, and that he expected through that official redress for the indignity heaped upon him.

The steamer India on Monday took a first batch of emigrants forwarded free by the British Government to America. The party numbered seventy-five.

In Glasgow the statement is made that the recent arrests at Liverpool have furnished the police with a clew to the cause of the recent explosion in Glasgow. According to the latest information on the subject, it was intended that these explosions should be on a magnificent scale. The plot included the destruction of the viaduct over the canal. They were only partially successful. Several detectives have started for Liverpool to work out evidence.

The French Cabinet held a Council on Wednesday last which proved stormy. It is likely that there will soon be some changes.

The reason given why the retirement of General Thebaudin from the Bureau as Minister of War, is that M. Waldeck Rousseau, Minister of the Interior, refused to have published in the official journal a note, the effect of which would have been to deprive General DeGallifet of his command of the cavalry.

Prime Minister Ferry has telegraphed to M. Tirard, Minister of Finance, who is at present in Algeria, to curtail his visit and return to France.

Dynamite fears have reached Paris, and owners of large establishments are stopping openings to cellars as was done in the time of the Commune.

The new pier at Nice, was entirely destroyed by fire on Wednesday last, only the iron frame work of the bridge which connected the pier with the land remaining. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. The pier had just been completed.

Germany and Spain have come to a final agreement in regard to the conclusion of a treaty of commerce, each power having made concessions.

All persons who contributed to the comfort of the members of the crews of the Jeannette and Rodger who were saved, and who extended courtesies to them, have been decorated by the

Czar as a mark of his gratification at their kindness.

The Nihilists being tried at St. Petersburg pleaded guilty of belonging to the party which they assert is in fact as well as in name "The will of the people."

One hundred cottages were burned in the village of Vallorbe, Switzerland, involving the loss of 1,500,000 francs. No lives were lost.

The Bishop of Bohemia has become so much alarmed at the rapid spread of spiritualism in that country that, believing proscriptive measures necessary, he has declared any one professing belief in the spiritualistic theory to be guilty of heresy.

A powder house depot near Porro Corress, Italy, exploded last week, killing forty persons and injuring many others.

A Socialist congress at Copenhagen, was treated to an unwelcome surprise from the Danish Government while in the midst of its session. Herr Libknecht, one of the most outspoken delegates, was ordered to close the Congress forthwith. Members from foreign countries were informed it was desired by the Danish authorities that they leave Denmark not later than Tuesday.

Parliamentary.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

The House of Assembly is getting on with the business. It is expected that the Legislature will rise this week.

The division of the Road Moneys occupied the early part of last week.

There has been much curiosity excited to ascertain what would be the Railway policy of the Government. The Opposition has been seeking for information in this respect, and the Government refused to give it.

On WEDNESDAY the Roads Bill passed. The Hon. Provincial Secretary submitted the Estimates, and made a statement of the position of the Province as follows:

Debts due to the Province on the 1st Jan. 1883.	
Road Advances.....	\$100,760 88
Advances to Insane Asylum due by Board of Charities.....	35,650 61
Due by counties to Insane Asylum previous to 1st July, 1878.....	29,047 60
Due by private patients to the Insane Asylum previous to 1st July, 1878.....	3,835 74
Mines, for Royalty.....	111,405 43
W. & A. Railway.....	6,512 21
Halifax Education Account.....	8,089 63
Advances on right of way, Nictaux and Atlantic Railway.....	1,984 00
W. C. Railway, interest.....	39,560 34
	\$336,845 95

Probable Revenue for 1883.	
Subsidy, including allowance for Legislative Expenses.....	\$380,000 00
Mines, for Royalties, &c.....	120,000 00
Crown Lands.....	12,500 00
Fees and Marriage Licences, Provincial Secretary's Office.....	8,000 00
Royal Gazette.....	2,600 00
Collection of old debts.....	2,000 00
	\$526,100 00

Estimated expenditure.....\$524,645 00

HEADS OF SERVICE.

Agriculture.....	\$12,750 00
Criminal Prosecutions.....	3,000 00
Education.....	185,875 00
Crown Land Department.....	9,000 00
Interest.....	450 00
Legislative Expenses.....	38,000 00
Local Works.....	12,000 00
Hospital for Insane.....	12,000 00
Department of Mines.....	10,000 00
Miscellaneous.....	30,000 00
Prisoners' Laundry and Provincial City Hospital.....	20,000 00
Public Printing.....	7,000 00
Salaries.....	15,250 00
Steamboats, Packets, &c.....	28,185 00
Transient Poor and visiting Dispensary.....	1,500 00
Medical College.....	800 00
Blind Asylum.....	1,000 00
Normal School Bonds.....	5,000 00
Roads and Bridges.....	120,000 00
W. C. Railway Interest.....	13,335 00

The sums given in subsidies to steamers aggregate \$22,785 as compared with \$21,550 last year. In the distribution of subsidies some changes have been made, the following table showing to what extent:

	1882.	1883.
Windsor and Parrsboro'.....	\$2,000	\$2,000
Yarmouth and St. John.....	1,500	1,500
Halifax and Yarmouth.....	5,825	6,000
Annapolis and Granville.....	300	300
Halifax and Cow Bay.....	1,000	1,000
Sydney and Port Mulgrave.....	3,500	3,500
" " The Bar.....	400	400
Richmond and Lenox Passage.....	475	525
Bridgewater and LaHave.....	550	600
Pictou and Mabou.....	2,000	2,000
Halifax and Charlottetown calling at Antigonish.....	4,200	4,200
Halifax and Arichat.....		2,000
Port Mulgrave to Port Hood Arichat, Cape Canso, etc.....		1,600
Port Mulgrave to Cheticamp, etc., conditional on Dominion Subsidy.....		2,000
Barrington and Cape Sable.....		700

The Road grant is as follows:

Annapolis.....	\$6,061
Antigonish.....	5,688
Cumberland.....	6,908
Colchester.....	6,808
Cape Breton.....	6,623
Digby.....	5,689
Guysboro.....	7,403
Halifax.....	10,280
Hants.....	6,985
Inverness.....	7,644
Kings.....	6,295
Lunenburg.....	7,094
Pictou.....	5,243
Queens.....	5,511
Richmond.....	5,689
Shelburne.....	5,689
Victoria.....	5,689
Yarmouth.....	5,689

Several Bills were forwarded a stage The Bill for better attendance at school occupied considerable time. The bill was amended to provide that a two-thirds vote of the ratepayers should be obtained to put the Act in operation in any district.

On SATURDAY the Supply Bill was submitted.

On MONDAY afternoon Mr. Bell moved the following resolution in reference to the Railway Scheme of last session:

Whereas, The Act passed in the last Session of this Legislature would have conferred great advantages on the Province of Nova Scotia if carried into effect;

And whereas, The course pursued by the present Government in dealing with the Company has endangered if not wholly destroyed the Scheme;

Therefore resolved, That the action of the Government in their negotiations and transactions with the said Company, in their unnecessary delays, illegal demands, and in their appointment of Hon. W. B. Veil as agent, has not been such as to merit the continued confidence of this House.

This was seconded by Mr. Hocking. In the evening session, Hon. Mr. Pipes replied and Mr. Townsend also spoke. The debate was continued yesterday.

The Tabernacle Autograph Quilt.

Professor Welton's daughters sent a square from Wolfville with names and \$3.50. Mrs. Chaloner of Digby pinned a \$5 bill on a square and returned it. We are looking for squares from other quarters. Three of our own ladies returned over fifty dollars for their squares, presently we will publish the amounts thus obtained. Any one who would like their name on the Tabernacle Autograph Quilt, can have their name inscribed and the names of their friends by sending ten cents for each name they may wish to have written. During the week the postman brought a child's knitted skirt, the earnest we hope of more to follow. We shall rejoice with great joy if when we enter we can pay our bills, and see our way to get the extra furniture needed for the new rooms.

J. F. AVERY,
Mizpah Cottage, Kempt Road,
Halifax, N. S.

Notices.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Bear River, Per Mrs. G. F. Miller. \$7 25
" Mission Band..... 6 75
A friend to missions, North Brookfield, Queens..... 1 00
DeBert River, Mrs. Wm. McCully. 6 00
M. R. SELDEN, Treasurer.
Halifax, April 10th, 1883.

CONVENTION FUNDS RECEIVED.

New Germany Church, col. for Foreign Missions..... \$10 00
Hebron Church, instalment..... 100 00
First Horton Church, "..... 36 75
LaHave Church, for Missions, per Rev. S. March..... 8 00
Freeport Church, instalment..... 21 00
Chegoggin Church, "..... 16 00
Hillgrove "..... 6 00
2nd Hillsburg "..... 5 00
\$202 75

G. E. DAY.

Yarmouth, April 9th, 1883.

P. S.—The Boards are anxious to be able to meet their engagements promptly. Will the churches be kind enough to contribute liberally and forward their collections soon?

G. E. D.

Moneys Received.

A Whitman, \$1; Mrs A Morster, \$2; W G Gates, \$2; Rev J F Kempton, \$3; I Thurber, Esq, \$2; B L Telfer, \$2; G W Freeman, \$4; P Whitman, \$1; J P Foster, \$2; Mrs N B Bancroft, \$21 J D Marsters, Esq, \$10.40; Rev D McKeen \$4; J D Marshall, \$2; C W Sanders, \$19.