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Correspondence.

Our correspondent in Berlin, Germany indulges in a cleverly drawn picture of the Princess Victoria which will be read with much interest by those who rejoice in having her royal mother as their sovereign and head of the State.

For the Christian Messenger. From Germany.

BERLIN, Sept. 17, 1884.

The Princess Victoria is unmistakably the child of her royal mother, she has her obstinacy, her perseverance, her supreme indifference to opinion, her impetuosity to advice or persuasion; she has more than the Queen, a true and enlightened love of literature, science, and art. Her views are positive, her judgment prompt and unalterable; she is well-nigh a free thinker, but rarely expresses an opinion, and never rescinds it; she visits every studio, assists at all lectures and conferences, models and paints herself, and by a singular contradiction is as competent a housewife as if she was not a clever woman. She sees to every detail of her palace—I was nearly saying her house, engages her servants and governesses; routs them up at six in the morning, has the lights put out at ten throughout the establishment, and sends her youngest daughter, now 12 years old to bed at 8. Through her agency in all the public squares and open places of Berlin, large heaps of fine white sand are raised, so that children kept in the city may indulge in healthy play with pails and shovels, like their more fortunate brethren at the seashore. She fancies that the air of her future capital gives her headaches, and she loathes the warmth of the stove-heated rooms: before accepting an invitation from a foreign Ambassador or Prussian noble, she sends a command that all the windows be thrown open. Should not such a woman revel for a few brief days every year in the wind-beaten solitude of the little rocky island, so easy of access so near and yet so far, so unlike her great empire, and yet more fully her own than Prussia, with all the extension of territory ever will be?

Strange and sometimes pathetic are the ways of those royal households of which only the cold stately splendor meets the eye. How few, seeing the Empress of Germany fulfilling all the duties of her station, every inch a Queen, would guess that for eighteen months, since her accident, she has been racked with almost intolerable pain: Unable to walk or leave her chair, she had herself carried once a week to the Augusta Hospital and to the Augusta foundation for the daughters of poor officers and those killed in battle; both these institutions are her own work, and she dispenses in person consolation, advice, and command. Every Sunday, well or ailing, she attends divine service, not in her private chapel or oratory, but in one of the public churches. Empress in name, slave in fact, she shirks none of the obligations, even the most trying ones, of her station, gives audiences, receives deputations, is present at all gala ceremonies and dinners, sees her numerous family, and astonishes the most experienced diplomats and ablest State ministers by the readiness of her wit, her unflinching tact and profound erudition. Those who see her under the *haut pas*, covered with priceless jewels, robed in her purple mantle fringed with heavy ermine, do not realize that the regal train intentionally thrown over her feet hides the maimed, tortured limb as effectually as her sufferings are concealed under the smile which she turns on the Emperor at her right, on the Mistress of the Robes standing a little back on the left, or on the ladies bending low before her in a triple courtesy as they pass. She, who best could reveal the truth and tell of noble endurance and brave patience is the old Silesian woman who was brought from her peasant home in the provinces to give the sovereign relief by her deft manipulations. She has done nothing else since childhood and the professional gift of healing friction is hereditary in her family, as it is with many of the Silesian shepherds. This aged woman rubs the empress twice, sometimes three times a day, according to the intensity of the pain, and is rarely away from her now. She follows her in her drives to church in her travels; she sits in the ante-room during the Thursday receptions, in a tribune, during the royal balls and concerts, so quaint, homely, and picturesque figure. Unwilling to part from her even for a short visit to her native village, the Empress sent for her daughter, already a matron, to come to Berlin, and lent her a court carriage to visit all the lions and places of interest.

For the Christian Messenger. Annual Meeting of the Baptist Book and Tract Society. The annual meeting of the Society was held at Moncton, N. B., Aug. 25th, 1884, at 9 o'clock, a. m., a large number of friends and members of the Society from the three Provinces assembled to hear the report read, and transact business for the ensuing year. The President A. P. Shand called upon Rev. Thos. Todd, of Woodstock, N. B., to open the meeting with prayer, after which the Minutes of the previous annual meeting were read, and approved. The Director's Report was read to the Society (see Report on 3rd page.) The Report was discussed clause by clause finally adopted as a whole. The meeting was adjourned over till 7:30 same evening, to meet in Vestry of Baptist Church, the Rev. I. E. Bill, Junr., Newcastle, N. B., opened the meeting with prayer. The chairman spoke briefly upon the work of the Society, during the past year. Also the amount of capital raised by agent Bro. D. Archibald, and of the Colportage work &c. Some questions were asked as to the working of the Society—its relation to the Convention and its prospects for usefulness. Explanations were made by members of the Board which seemed to be satisfactory. Some present who had hitherto held aloof from the Society not understanding fully its spirit and aims expressed themselves as desirous of becoming members. The meeting was largely attended and enthusiastic. A resolution placing the profits of the previous year sales to the credit of Colportage fund account, passed unanimously. The officers and Board of Directors for the year were then elected as follows: President—A. P. Shand, Esq., Windsor. Vice-Presidents—J. W. Bars, Esq., Wolfville; Rev. C. Goodspeed, M. A., Yarmouth; Rev. J. C. Blakeney, Hillsborough, N. B.; Rev. A. H. Lavers, North River, P. E. I. Treasurer—J. Parsons, Esq. Directors—Hon. Dr. McN. Parker, Dartmouth, N. S.; Rev. J. W. Manning, A. B., A. L. Wood, Esq., Halifax; Rev. W. J. Stewart, Portland, N. B.; Hon. C. B. Whidden, Antigonish; Rev. D. G. McDonald, Sackville, N. B.; C. H. Whitman, Esq., Dartmouth, N. S. After which the meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. J. W. Manning. At the close of the above meeting the officers and Directors met and appointed the following Committee of Management for the ensuing year: Rev. J. W. Manning, A. B., A. L. Wood, C. H. Whitman. Geo. A. McDonald, Secy.

For the Christian Messenger. Missionary Correspondence. FROM REV. I. C. ARCHIBALD, INDIA.

Dear Editor,— It has occurred to me that your readers might welcome even a small addition to their stock of information regarding India and the Christian work which is being done therein. The Madras Presidency is made up of twenty-four "Districts." In one of these, called "Vizagapatam" two of the mission fields of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces are located. These are known as the Bimlipatam and Bobbili fields. Chicacole is in Ganjam District. The area of the Vizagapatam District is less than that of the Province of Nova Scotia by a thousand square miles, but its population is more than six times as great, being nearly two millions and a half. It consists of twenty-seven parts, fifteen of which are called "Talugs," and the remainder "Agency Tracts." Among the Talugs Bobbili ranks seventh in size, but third in population, having 227 square miles and a population of 140,000.

This Talug is, however, but a small part of the Bobbili Mission field, since it is surrounded by five others with an area six times as great as its own, and a population more than four and a half times as great. I think that I am speaking advisedly when I say that one-half of these five Talugs may be fairly said to be comprised within the Bobbili Mission Field. If this be so, then that part of the Bobbili Field which is on the plains, embraces an area of 942 square miles, and a population of more than 463,000.

But this is not all. Away upon the mountains at a distance of seventy or eighty miles, is the Jeypore country with its 1000 villages and 116,000 Oriya people. Among these people we have six Christians. One is a colporteur and preacher, and two others, a young man and his wife, are with us "learning the way of the Lord more perfectly." Within four miles of the mission house are thirty-seven towns and villages, having a population of more than thirty-four thousand. "The harvest is great and the laborers few." Will not all who read these lines pray very earnestly that God may speedily grant an ingathering of saved souls into the Bobbili church, and into all the churches of our mission. We need a larger number of soundly converted men to show by their words and deeds that the salvation which we preach is the power of God unto the salvation of those who receive it.

Yours sincerely, I. C. ARCHIBALD. Bobbili, India, Aug. 12, 1884.

For the Christian Messenger. Recent Additions to the Museum of Acadia College.

The following articles have been received since the last acknowledgment: Feb. 7, 1884.—Roofing slate, Lynchburg, Va; Limestone, Rio Grande, Texas, M. C. Rmith, San Francisco. Feb. 13.—Petriified wood (silicified) Calistoga, Ca. Petriified wood, with coal, New Tacoma, Washington Ter. M. C. Smith, San Francisco. Feb. 22.—Sections of the vertebral column of a shark. W. C. Balcom Hantsport. Mar. 12.—Ore of Antimony, Hants Co. N. S. B. M. Davison, Halifax. Mar. 20.—Cotton seed from Louisiana; Star fish from Pacific Coast; skull of Plat head Indian from Oregon. M. C. Smith, California. Samples of four grades of Manganese, Walton, Hants Co. May 7.—Moss agate, Colorado. Norman Dunn, Ingleville, Annapolis, N. S. May 8.—A very valuable collection of fresh-water shells including over 75 specimens, principally Unios. Also a collection of marine and fresh-water univalves. Donor, A. J. Pineo, A. B. May 23.—1 old coin, temp. Georgius Rex. George Pesch. May 30.—Box containing: 1 Box turtle, Dighton Mass; 1 collection of marine shells; specimen of pipe coral; spec. china ware; 8 Confederate bills ranging from one to one hundred dollars 8 mounted birds, viz—Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Meadow lark, Redwing blackbird, Eastern bluebird, Cardinal redbird, Indigo bird, Purple crackle. A. L. Calhoun, A. B. June 5.—Ore of Antimony, West Gore, Hants Co. M. B. Shaw, Acadia College.

June 6.—Collection of 15 stalactitic forms from Wyandotte Cave, Crawford Co. Ind.; Map of the Cave Sulphur water from Sulphur Springs in the cave; collections of woods—hickory sycamore persimmon, paw-paw, thorny locust and thorn, sassafras; also fruit of hickory, sycamore, persimmon, paw paw and walnut pulp from paper-mill; corn from Smith's Valley, Ind. 1 year's growth of wild flax; 13 feet long, Indiana. E. H. Sweet, A. B. June 14.—Tropical shells, Pitcairn Island. W. C. Balcom, Hantsport. German silver coin, A. M. Hoare, Wolfville. June 18.—Old coin, William Pineo Wolfville. Specimens of cement rock from Roseale N. C. raw, burnt and ground, with slag Rev. Truman Bishop, A. B. June 25.—Limb of a tree cut off by a beaver R. C. Hamilton, Bear River. Collection of Gasteropods from Minas Basin. A. E. Coldwell. Cowrie Gum from Australia, William Cooney, Kingston, Kings Co. July 3.—Iceland spar, Stairs Point, A. E. Coldwell. July 14.—Bank-note of Colonial Maryland, Clayton Cannon, Baltimore. July 29.—Indian arrow head from bank of Susquehanna. N. Y. Mrs. Joseph Shaw, Milton, Yarmouth Co. July 30.—Chalcedony and moss agate, Spencer's Island. Stephen Rogers, Pictou Co. Aug. 2.—Acadialite from Two Islands; Sillite from Partridge Island; Amethyst Blomidon Sub-carboniferous fossils from Horton Bluff—A. E. C. Sep. 3.—Vertebra of whale 59 feet long stranded at Cheverie, Hants Co., W. C. Balcom. Sep. 9.—Cocoon of silk worm; beans of Castor oil plant; abnormal egg of hen, H. B. Smith, Acadia College. Sep. 9.—Lusus nature in forest growth. Ernest Freeman, Acadia College. The donors will please accept the thanks of the Institution for these contributions. A. E. COLDWELL, Curator of Museum. Acadia College, Sept. 1884.

For the Christian Messenger. African Baptist Association. HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 1, 1884. The African Baptist Association held its Thirty-first Session with their Church at Digby Joggins. A very precious and pleasant time was spent by those who attended for the purpose of worshipping God. On Sabbath two willing converts followed the example of our blessed Lord and Master down into the liquid stream of Digby River, in presence of an immense gathering, supposed to have been not less than one thousand persons present, to witness the baptism performed by Rev. N. F. Drayton, and F. Langford; the best of order prevailed among the congregation at the water side.

The Rev. A. W. Jordan late of McMaster Hall, preached on Lord's day morning and evening in the Hillgrove church, to appreciative audiences which through the kindness of the members and pastor, Rev. L. B. Gates, the building was placed at the disposal of the Association for worship. The choir of the church rendered their assistance which aided the congregation much in singing to the praise and glory of Jehovah. During the session the Secretary read a letter from Professor Kierstead, secretary of the Maritime Baptist Convention informing him of the reception given to the delegate from the African Baptist Association to the Convention, which he hoped would lead to the honour of our common Lord and Master. This information was received by the brethren with much warmth and feeling of gratitude. Special services were held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, where evidences of a revival manifested itself among the congregation. Truly we can say that God's Holy Spirit was with us all through the meetings. Fine weather also prevailed with the exception of Sunday when it rained the former part of the day. Votes of thanks were passed to the Windsor and Annapolis Railway managers, for affording reduced fares on their line. Also to the Rev. Robert Murray of the Presbyterian Witness who had been instrumental in procuring several Sets of Books for the Sabbath Schools in the connection. The Association closed after doing its routine business, to meet with the Church at Cornwallis, on the first Saturday in September, 1885. The closing prayer was offered by Rev. G. R. Neale with the Benediction from the Moderator Rev. A. W. Jordan.

For the Christian Messenger. News of the World. It is reported that a compromise upon the Franchise and Redistribution bills is being arranged by Premier Gladstone and the Marquis of Salisbury. The conditions proposed for the compromise are that the Government shall submit the Redistribution bill to Parliament at the autumn session, the Marquis of Salisbury agreeing to have the Franchise Bill passed if the redistribution scheme shall prove at all acceptable. A later telegram states that the negotiations between Gladstone and the Marquis of Hartington in relation to the Franchise Bill have terminated in a rupture. Gladstone absolutely refused to entertain the proposition to introduce the Redistribution Bill in the House of Commons before the House of Lords should pass the Franchise Bill. The Irish National league, met on Wednesday in Dublin. Timothy Harrington, secretary of the league, stated that owing to the smallness of the subscriptions received the league had decided to affiliate with no branches sending an amount under five pounds. The league, he said, had received no help from America for some time, and had to rely on Ireland for the aid necessary to carry on its work. A demonstration in favor of the Franchise bill at West Cromwich last week was attended by 12,000 people. The authorities at Woolwich are displaying much activity in forwarding war material to Hong Kong. Six hundred tons of shot, shell and ordnance were shipped thence on Wednesday. It is reported that the English Government has ordered a bombardment of Dover from the sea by a portion of the Channel squadron in order to test its defences. The Times' Alexandria dispatch says General Lord Wolseley has been ordered by telegram to be back in London by the end of October. The attempts that are being made in Paris to excite the public mind against England and in favor of Germany meet with no sympathy. The Journal des Debats says: "If England persists in embittering our relations with China, and in violating our rights in Egypt, we will be compelled to accept dependence on Germany." Some thirty thousand workmen are out of employment in Lyons, and stormy meetings are of frequent occurrence. An Imperial edict has been issued to the Viceroy of Canton ordering him to issue a proclamation urging and encouraging the Chinese people to resist the French. The Viceroy is also instructed at the same time to forbid any attempts to poison the food of their enemies, and to refrain from unduly exciting the populace. Prime Minister Ferry on Friday assured his colleagues that the occupation of Kelung by Admiral Courbet would finish the French operations in China. He had reason to believe that peace would soon follow. The Government will ask for a credit of 10,000,000 francs to defray the expenses attending the operations in Tonquin and China. Admiral Courbet has expressed the opinion that while the occupation of Kelung, on the Island of Formosa, will have a certain amount of favorable influence for the French flag in China, yet he believed that nothing short of a march upon Peking and the actual occupation of the Chinese capital by the French troops will suffice to compel the Government of China to accept the demands made by the French Government. A Times despatch from Tien Tsin, China, states that the American Minister, John Russell Young, has arrived there, and that, acting under instructions from Washington, he informed Li Hung Chang that the French Government had requested the mediation of America. Li Hung Chang asked the privilege of inspecting the telegram, and was much surprised at the contents, which merely reiterated a French demand of the ultimatum of August 19th, with the additional statement that Admiral Courbet would continue operations, saying that France entered the Min River peacefully, but had destroyed an arsenal and a fleet constructed by Frenchmen. After avenging Lang-Son twenty fold, the demand of the French for indemnity was monstrous. The Tien-Tsin convention made every possible concession to France, and why should she seek more? He hinted that China is better prepared for war than formerly.

The reports of the cholera epidemic in Italy for the 29th ult. show a total of 421 fresh cases and 229 deaths, including 122 cases and 51 deaths in Naples, and 66 cases and 67 deaths in Genoa. A terrible and disastrous hurricane occurred in Iceland on the eleventh of September. The accounts received show that nineteen trading vessels and sixty fishing boats were lost and thirty-two vessels disabled. The most appalling feature of the hurricane was the loss of life. The exact number of those who perished has not yet been ascertained, but is known to have been very great. The steamer Woodside was recently wrecked on the Spanish coast. After the steamer was stranded a Spanish gunboat arrived, but owing to the quarantine regulations the letters for the British consul were dragged by a boat hook through the sea. After five days had elapsed the letters were fumigated. The consul was forbidden by the authorities to send a tug to the assistance of the vessel, which was left helpless for two weeks, when she became a total wreck. Sir Evelyn Baring has sent a despatch to the Government that General Gordon, after having bombarded Berber for some time, effected an entry into the place and recaptured it. The rebels and hostile inhabitants fled when the bombardment ceased. The fall of Berber will enable Colonel Kitchener to reach General Gordon from Dongola, and to ascertain his wishes regarding the Nile expedition and his opinion as to what necessity there may be for the expedition going to Khartoum. This conference may result in the abandonment of the Nile expedition altogether. An Egyptian lugger, loaded with troops for Khartoum, has been wrecked on the Nile. Two men were drowned and all the stores on board lost. Lord Northbrook convened a meeting of sheikhs on Wednesday and discussed the question of provincial administration. The sheikhs opposed giving to English police officers any authority to act without orders from the Mudirs, who ought to be held responsible for public order. Nubar Pasha held a similar meeting of the day previous. The Mudir of Dongola has released all political prisoners. Nubar Pasha, in reply to the protest of the consuls at Cairo against the suspension of the sinking fund, states that the course taken was absolutely necessary, in view of the condition of the Egyptian treasury.

At Denver on Wednesday last the grand jury returned two indictments against Mark M. Pomeroy, better known as "Brick" Pomeroy, the well-known newspaper man, charging him with criminal acts in connection with his mining scheme known as the Atlantic and Pacific Tunnel. A convention of 80 newdealers from all parts of the country was in session on Tuesday at Clarendon Hall, New York, its object is the formation of a national association. Captain Burton the Arctic traveller, writes to the Academy that he feels scandalized at the pullings of the English press over the gallant but unfortunate Greely expedition. He says the silly charge of cannibalism seems to have provoked an outburst. He says that "in El Islam, a religion of common sense, there is no obloquy for unfortunate whom hunger compels horribly to save life. If it is civilization to make us such poltroons that we dare not venture everything for noble deed, the sooner we abdicate in favor of a less advanced people the better."

A singular excitement has been aroused in the Jewish communities of Southern Russia by the appearance, at Kischineff of an energetic reformer named Joseph Rabinovitch. He declares Christ to have been the real Messiah, supporting his theories by numerous citations from the Bible and the prophets. He is an enthusiastic and eloquent preacher and is winning numerous proselytes. A remarkable conference has been held in Kischineff, at which the representatives of a hundred Hebrew families were present. They declared themselves ready to acknowledge their faith in the essential principles of Christianity, and desired to be recognized as a Hebrew branch of the Christian Church. They held tenaciously, however, to many of the Jewish traditions and observances.—Advance.

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