

love the Lord Jesus Christ. There must be no holding back; no half-heartedness or indifference.

The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath-day and He himself has told us that the Sabbath was made for man.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 29, 1855.

READER!

The year 1855 shall have been numbered with the past, before another number of the Witness shall enter thy dwelling.

Art thou, indeed, on the verge of another year of thine earthly pilgrimage?

But what is thy prospect, and what are thy hopes in regard to an eternal home?

But, again, suffer us to ask thee, what preparation hast thou made for being received into everlasting habitations?

Let us turn for a moment from these scenes of death, to the amenities of civilized life.

Only a few weeks ago the capitals of France and Britain greeted another Royal visitor, Victor Emmanuel of Sardinia.

Or is it otherwise with thee? Has this year passed over thee, like too many of its predecessors, as a 'tale that is told'?

by the rapid flight of time and by the course of events—then knowest not, and carest not, whither?

Reader! Think on these things. Apply thy heart to wisdom; for thou knowest not whether another year be thine on this earth!

Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Five.

The year that is just about to close is probably the most remarkable in the last quarter of a century.

Wars and rumours of war were its burden—the deep bass, the terrible undertone of its music.

At the beginning of the year people trembled for the very existence of the British Army in the Crimea.

On the 13th of August was fought the Battle of the Tchernaya, in which the Russians were defeated with a loss of some 12,000 men.

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and small. First on our list will stand the Czar Nicholas. He precipitated the nations into a war, but did not live to see its termination.

Contemporaneous with the Great Exhibition at Paris was held a CONFERENCE of Christians from all parts of the world.

It is worth mentioning that both SPAIN and SARDINIA quarrelled with the Pope during the year on religious subjects.

Missionary enterprise has been extraordinarily vigorous during the year. The gates of the East are open to the herald of the Cross; and Mahomedans no longer refuse to hold intercourse with 'Christian dogs.'

Perhaps the aspect of the world is not much brighter now than it was twelve months ago. Clouds may have blotted out streaks of light which seemed prelude of the coming dawn.

THE BIBLE BURNERS in Ireland are undergoing a criminal prosecution for their wicked contempt of the laws of the land.

Call to Concert in Prayer.

THE CONFERENCE of Evangelical Christians held at Paris during the Exposition, have issued a call to United prayer for the church and the world.

Since the year 1846, when renewed efforts were made to promote a closer union between the members of the Church Universal, many Christians have agreed among themselves to unite in prayer on a particular day in every week.

1. For the prosperity of the Church of Christ; especially imploring the blessing of God on missionary labours, whether home or foreign, established in those countries to which the persons whose signatures are attached to this document belong.

2. For the union of Christians in each country, and for the union of Christians of different countries, as all constituting the different members of the same body, which is the Church of Christ.

3. That it may please God speedily to remove those obstacles which prevent the universal extension of His kingdom, and to put an end to every system of error, idolatry, and unbelief, which opposes itself to the doctrine of the Gospel.

4. That He would be pleased to hasten the general accomplishment of prophecy, and of those promises in particular which are made to Israel, and to the world at large through Him.

5. That all who unite in these prayers may through the grace of the Holy Spirit, make progress in truth, in sanctification, and in spiritual peace.

MONDAY MORNING is the time which has hitherto been observed for this united prayer. Christians who receive a copy of this appeal are requested to have it translated in the language of their respective countries.

To the above are appended some of the best known names in both Hemispheres—French, British, German, American, Swiss, Dutch, Belgian, Danish, Italian, Turkish, Greek, American.

FREE CHURCH ACADEMY.—The half-yearly Examination of this institution was held on Monday last. The attendance of pupils and of spectators was very large.

The Rev. William Arthur, the excellent deputy of the English Methodists to their brethren in the United States, is still suffering from illness; but he was able to leave New York and proceed to Rhinebeck.

REV ROBERT MONTGOMERY is dead.

He was about 50 years of age. Mr Montgomery's original name was Gomerly; but disliking that name he prefixed Mont to it, and thus succeeded in palming maudlin poetic effusions on the religious public, who mistook him for the true christian poet—James Montgomery.

THE BIBLE BURNERS in Ireland are undergoing a criminal prosecution for their wicked contempt of the laws of the land. The principal culprit is Father POGORRENE, a Redemptorist monk.

GOOD MAY BE EXPECTED from the fact that the Sardinian soldiers persevere with avidity the Bibles put into their hands by protestant colporteurs and missionaries in the Crimea.

METALLIC WEALTH.—Much of the wealth and power of England depends upon her iron ore and iron manufactures. Last year the enormous quantity of 3,069,838 tons of pig-iron were produced from the mines of Great Britain!

An egg has been discovered in Madagascar, whose shell contains more than ten quarts! This is as large as 143 hen eggs. The bird that lays these enormous eggs is called technically Epyornis, (i. e. the high-bird.)

UNITED STATES.—Congress has been in session now for about three weeks.—The House of Representatives has hitherto done nothing but ballot for a SPEAKER. A candidate to be elected requires 112 votes.

ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—New Scheme.—American Engineers failed to lay down a cable between Cape Breton and Newfoundland, and very possibly they may be in no hurry to try again.

JENNY LIND, (Madame Goldschmidt,) is in London now with her husband.—They propose giving a series of oratorios and concerts. The Swedish Nightingale will scarcely attract such audiences now as she did once upon a time.

To the Editor of the Presbyterian Witness.

Why in the wide world are you so clamant after a University? A University may be a very fine thing, but I tell you in particular, and all whom it may concern in general, that Dalhousie 'College', under the new regime, is going to beat out of sight any imaginable University.

EFFECTS OF WAR ON TRADE.

One of the striking effects of war has always been the closing of trade and commerce from their accustomed channels into new or long forgotten ones.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, DECEMBER 24, 1855.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, has been pleased to make the following Appearances:—To be High Sheriff for the ensuing year, for the County of Cape Breton—Richard Gibbons, Junior, Esquire.

exclusively of private merchant trade, and have no reference to the stores or ammunition shipped by the Government.

EXPORTS OF BRITISH MANUFACTURES.

Table with 4 columns: Year, Turkey, Syria & Palestine, Egypt, Malta, Balaklava. Shows export values for 1853 and 1854.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

It is some time since we, on this side the ocean, felt that we might banish all fear of an outbreak with our neighbour over the "border."

We are delighted to learn that, instead of being intent upon our destruction, America is at this moment busily engaged with what above all things ought to engage her—her own domestic affairs.

Why, indeed, should it be otherwise? What possible cause of quarrel can there exist between the two countries able to counterbalance for a moment the waste of happiness the shock to freedom and the scandal to the civilized world which such a discord would create?

AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES. It would take a "mighty" memory and a strong head to remember and comprehend the terminology of American politics.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, DECEMBER 24, 1855.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, has been pleased to make the following Appearances:—To be a Notary and Tabellion Public—Henry A. N. Kaulback, Esquire.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has issued his Proclamation for the meeting of the General Assembly, for the despatch of business, on Thursday the 31st day of January next.