

it be expected that those who had refused to surrender to what they believed to be the truth, when they could have done so safely, would do so now when persecution fines, imprisonment, and even death, presented their terrors. The missionaries feeling that henceforth the labour in Rangoon would be wasted, resolved to seek another field, in which, without fear of persecution, they might proclaim the religion of Jesus.

But the church, small as it was, consisting only of three members, pleaded so earnestly not to be deserted, that Mr. Judson could not leave. The faith of the converts rose as danger seemed impending. It was deemed best, however, that Mr. Colman should go to Chittagong, to labour in the field formerly occupied by the English Baptist Board. Here he might collect the scattered disciples, and here establish a city of refuge for the Christians of Rangoon if the danger became greater. Mr. Colman, however, died not long after.

The mission-house was somewhat lonely now. The prospects for Burmah were such as to discourage the most sanguine disposition. Colman had gone. The zeal was almost empty. Promising inquirers no longer frequented the mission-house.

The missionary weary with his labours, and still more with his discouragements, now as he looks to the future can find no source of comfort, but in the belief that there is an overruling God, who makes "all things work together for good to those who love Him." A God who hath promised the ultimate success of His truth.

The missionary may be lonely; his past labours may seem to have been wasted; his future labours may promise no success. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, FEBRUARY 6, 1856.

The Scandinavian Kingdoms, Sweden, Norway and Denmark were among the first after the great Reformation, that threw off the Papal yoke and adopted a more scriptural form of faith. That form which took either the Lutheran or Presbyterian type, has prevailed in those countries and throughout the north of Germany until the present day, but like all other ecclesiastical establishments mixed up with practices and ordinances not in accordance with the pure institutions of the word of Divine truth, has sunk in a great measure into mere formalism, and instead of cherishing that "perfect freedom," which is the very essence of the gospel of Christ, has degenerated, in too many cases, into intolerance and religious persecution. The numerous facts furnished of late by the evangelical labours of Mr. Oncken and the successful efforts of the Baptists in many parts of northern Germany, afford abundant proofs of this statement. It is further strongly corroborated by recent events in Sweden. Probably as much or more genuine christian faith has survived in the established church there, than in almost any other of the countries in which the reformed religion gained a footing. Still, linked as it has been from the first with state policy, it has afforded no soil in which gospel fruits might freely flourish and mature. The Word of God has however always been valued, tenaciously held and widely circulated in Sweden. We have occasionally referred of late to the success which has attended the labours of several Swedish preachers holding Baptist views among their countrymen, and to the violent prejudices which were opposed to their ministrations and the endeavours to suppress every thing like dissent from the State religion. It will be seen in the extract which we have taken from an American paper (W. & R.) that this great work is beginning to take a deeper root than was at one time hoped for, and that the renovating influences of the gospel are not only pervading the more humble ranks of the people, but that among the more informed classes and the students in the universities, the Spirit of Truth is shedding down "the dews of his grace," and that God is raising up those, both high and low, who are destined to fulfil his purposes of mercy. Among the great agencies that have been at work for the last half century in reviving the cause of pure and scriptural truth, undoubtedly none have been so great as the labours of the Bible Societies that have been scattering over all

parts of the earth, the Leaves of that Book which was given for the healing of the nations. When Charles of Bala, the Welsh Episcopal Curate, Joseph Hughes, the Baptist, and a few other earnest christian friends, in some humble apartment in London, first started the idea of the British and Foreign Bible Society, an instrument was prepared and an impetus given by which the dearest hopes of the disciples of Christ, on this side the grave, were to be fulfilled, and the most stupendous results in the moral renovation of the human race, and the accomplishment of the predictions of prophecy to be accomplished. Millions of copies of the sacred word are at this moment being scattered broadcast over the earth, by hundreds of societies of christian men, leagued together in bonds of holy zeal and fellowship, to advance the cause for which their Divine master gave himself a willing sacrifice. Such facts as that now referred to, and which could be multiplied by those which are yearly occurring in almost every part of the world, should stimulate christians of every name to greater zeal in the great work of subduing the world to Christ—never before were their prayers, their means and their efforts so urgently called for.

RELIGIOUS AWAKENING IN SWEDEN.

"Many of our readers are aware that a revival of peculiar interest has been progressing for months in different parts of Sweden. In some places it originated in the labors of humble Baptists, who obtained hope in this country, and returned to tell the glad tidings to their countrymen. It has excited bitter opposition from the hierarchy of the Established Church, but 'the Word of God is not bound.' Recent accounts indicate that the good work is going forward more rapidly than ever, and a vital piety is infused into cold and formal churches. The British Messenger gives the following account of it:

"The present revivals cannot be traced to a common source. They occurred simultaneously and independently in various parts of the country, under the quickening grace of the Holy Spirit.

The awakening in Dalecarlia occurred through the instrumentality of the press. A publisher, who had a large supply of Luther's sermons, suggested to some ministers to purchase the books and sell them to their parishioners. They readily made the purchase—pushed the sale in their respective parishes, and urged their people to read the work. The people bought it—read, thought, felt—became awakened, and soon the ministers found themselves surrounded by a people earnestly desirous to obtain more spiritual food. A blessed time of refreshing was enjoyed; but they have had to endure much persecution for the trial of their faith.

Nor has the reviving influence been experienced by the 'common people' only. It has entered the universities and schools, the army, the legal profession, and the clergy. Young ministers have been instrumental in the conversion of clergymen they were assisting. Young ladies not a few, of good birth and accomplishments, have fled to Jesus, and renounced the world, in consequence of coming into contact with the gospel in a truly christian school, or hearing it from the lips of a poor peasant in a prayer-meeting.

The revival still goes on, and scarce a week passes without bringing spiritual additions to the true church of Christ. And the Lord appears to make bare his holy arm to achieve salvation in every district of the land.

In some places whole congregations appear to be pervaded by the Spirit of awakening, and to be in an enquiring condition.

A student writing from Upsala, says: 'It is remarkable how Christianity has advanced among the students within a few years. Not long ago, there were scarcely two or three students to be found, for a series of years, who discovered any evidence of Christian life; now there are between twenty and thirty. And in the same way has it been in these last years, throughout our whole land. Awakenings occur even in districts where formerly there was not the smallest spark of spiritual life. Even from Lapland we hear of lively awakenings—how whole villages have split up their brandy vats, which formerly were greatly valued by them—how the judges in some districts have nothing to do, because the people are reconciled in love and peace with one another. It is astonishing that so many awakenings have commenced in almost all directions. Some years since our fatherland was a desert, in whose sandy waste only a few green oases were found here and there; now new oases shoot up, like the stars of a Winter evening.

From a recent letter of a lady in the centre of the country, we learn that, through the preaching and frequent household visitations of one pastor, 'almost a whole congregation became anxious about their salvation,' and that the children awakened by him 'are accustomed to meet for reading God's word, prayer, and praise; that the colporters work most blessedly; and that through one of them, as many as twelve students have been recently awakened.'

A minister in the south of the country also thus writes: 'What now more than all things else occupy my time, are the great awakenings in Scania, which increase both in depth and extent.' We already reckon more than twenty congregations

around this, where a greater or less number of men have been either awakened to understand their ruin, condemnation, or danger, or have been brought, through the gospel, to new and right peace in Christ. Whole congregations, for instance Fjelkestad, where formerly no token of spiritual life had been discerned within the memory of man, and where ministers, equally with hearers, were asleep, have been awakened to the intensest anxiety, so that a hundred, yea, even a thousand, are at one and the same time inquiring, 'What shall we do to be saved?'

"It is with deep regret we have heard of the irreparable loss sustained by the REV. DR. CRAMP in the almost total destruction by fire of his large and valuable library. The accumulation of a lifetime, to which the heart of a literary man clings with a tenacity which only those of his own order can fully appreciate, are swept away in a single hour, and their erst possessor becomes the subject of a bereavement compared with which the loss of hoards of gold is slight indeed."

We copy the above from the *Wesleyan*. It is at all times pleasant to receive expressions of sympathy, but especially in circumstances so trying as those referred to. We would acknowledge on behalf of the President of our Theological Institution, the compliment paid in the above extract.

We trust such arrangements will be made in connection with the College as will soften as much as possible the inconveniences and deprivations he will have to endure in consequence of his irreparable loss, and that his important labours, may be interfered with as little as possible.

The loss may be considered not merely a personal and private one, but a serious detriment to the Denomination, for not only was it used on behalf of the Students under his care, but our Ministering brethren frequently had occasion to apply for critical and historical information, which his library enabled him immediately to furnish.

It may be said also, to be a loss to the Province generally, as a good library may be considered in some sense public property, and it will not be questioned, when we say, no man was more ready on every proper occasion, than Dr. C. to make use of the well selected materials, which his shelves contained, for the general good.

SINCE writing the foregoing, we have received the following resolutions passed at a meeting of the Sons of Temperance in this City and Dartmouth, held in the Division Room, Temperance Hall, on Friday last, which was called for the purpose of taking into consideration the above calamity.

Whereas, in the order of Divine Providence our esteemed Grand Worthy Patriarch has been visited with calamity by fire, whereby much has been lost which was valued to him as a Scholar and a public advocate of moral improvement.

Be it Resolved, That an expression of sympathy from the Brethren of the Order in this City and Dartmouth be conveyed to our esteemed Brother, the Rev. Dr. CRAMP, accompanied by some substantial token of our good-will towards him, whereby he may be enabled, at an early date, to replace some of the Treasures of Science and Literature of which he has been deprived by this visitation, and resume his course of active usefulness for which he has long been distinguished.

Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of two members of each Division in the City and Dartmouth be appointed to carry out the above resolution.

THE paper, "What is Truth," is under consideration, and may probably appear in our next.

Correspondents should let us have their names, in confidence, especially when controverting what has appeared with the writer's name, if they wish us to give insertion to their communications.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—We have received the second annual report of that Institution from which it appears that they have a library of one thousand volumes. The number of members of the Association is fifty-seven.

Besides sustaining the Reading-room and replenishing their library, they have granted £25 towards the support of the Halifax City Mission.

The receipts of the Association during the year appear to have been £154 16s., and their expenditure £375 13s. 11d. They have, however, a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £126 13s. 11d. These facts should be taken into consideration by those enjoying the benefits of the Lectures, provided by the committee, and a more generous contribution from each one would very soon put funds into the hands of the Treasurer.

Nearly two years constant repetition in our ears of the sounds and circumstances of war appear to have rendered us almost incredulous of any speedy change in the state of European affairs, and to have induced the belief that peace, however desirable, was destined to be a blessing we could scarcely hope to realize for many days to come. The news by the last steamer from England however announces brighter anticipations, and favours the hope that even at the present moment preliminaries are being entered into which may shortly terminate in a final arrangement of difficulties between the contending Powers. For the circumstances that have led to so cheering a prospect, we refer to our extracts from the latest English political papers, and which contain the substance of all that had transpired when the steamer left. The latest dates are to the 19th ult. It was not until the 17th that anything transpired to afford a probable belief that Russia would submit to the terms proposed through Austria by the Allies. What those terms are we cannot state with much precision at present, nor had they indeed, except in a few of the great leading points, been at all defined. A relinquishment of all interference with Turkey or claims on the Danubian Principalities, renouncing all armed establishments in the Black Sea and opening it to the commerce of all nations, and keeping up no naval armament there, are, we believe, among some of the intended stipulations.

No doubt should the present negotiations end in a general peace, stringent conditions will be imposed on Russia to prevent the further enlargement of her territory or interference with neighbouring powers, and there can be little doubt that the severe lesson she has been taught for her presumption and arrogance, and the dangerous spirit of aggression which she has so long indulged in, will for a long time to come operate as a wholesome check upon her rulers. But the whole affair is so immature that we cannot with any certainty speculate upon the future. In all probability a very few days will put us in possession of facts that will enable us to form a more satisfactory judgment. The preparations for spring operations are still going on both in France and England, with unabated vigour, and especially for the Baltic expedition which is to be on a gigantic scale. On this account and from the uncertainty of the negotiations there had not been any important change in monetary or commercial matters in England.

Provincial Legislature.

THE first Session of the New General Assembly of Nova Scotia was opened on Thursday last with the accustomed formalities and the usual speech from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in reference to the public measures before the Country. The following is a copy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.
January 31, 1856.

At 2½ o'clock, p. m., His Excellency Sir J. GASPARD LEMARCHANT, the Lieutenant Governor, came to the Council Chamber, attended as usual, and being seated, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod received his Excellency's Command, to let the House of Assembly know "It is His Excellency's will and pleasure they attend him immediately in this House"—who, being come, His Excellency was pleased to direct that the House return to their Chamber and choose a Speaker. The Representatives retired accordingly, and, after brief delay, re-entered the Council Chamber, and presented Stewart Campbell, Esquire, as the Speaker pro tem. His Excellency approved of the choice, and opened the Session with a Speech to both Houses, as follows:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have great pleasure in meeting you in Parliament, and I trust that our united efforts will be successfully directed to the development of the resources, and the advancement of the prosperity, of this highly favoured Colony.

The people of Nova Scotia, though most deeply interested in the existing Conflict, are permitted by the gracious dispensation of Providence, quietly to pursue their industrial occupations, far from the scene, and exempt from the burthens, of a protracted War, which the Arms of their fellow subjects, and of their brave Allies, sustain, with distinguished valour and fortitude.