

The lunar rainbow described its pale curve in the heavens, and the column of vapor, poised by the wind, rose and fell like a phantasm. One might say, it was the spirit of the cataract.

Oceania 8th. It seems to me this morning that I saw nothing yesterday. The view which one has from the English shore surpasses even that from the American side. Nowhere does the great fall appear more imposing than from the midst of the river; then coming to the opposite shore, one discovers in full the two other falls, which are seen only from the side or from above, on the American shore. One can pass along between the rock and the cataract. I made the experiment of this singular promenade, which Volney thought impossible, and which is now done almost without danger. I found it more extraordinary than agreeable, above all, when executed with lunettes. I seemed to be under an immense rain spout. Upon the whole I prefer rather to see the cataract than to receive it. Here only I found not what I expected. Another point of view much vaunted exists no longer, the Table Rock. The rock has chiefly fallen. The salient point which projected above the river has slid. The place from which the effect of the fall seemed to me the most bewildering, is the extremity of the beam which extends above a kind of stairway, which is very near the gulf. Standing upon this beam, one looks down into the crater into which the water is precipitated, boiling and bellowing. At the end of a few moments, one acts wisely to sit down and give himself up to the impetuous whirling, which, in its deafening roar, seems to seize upon and precipitate you into the awful deluge. This is altogether fantastic; it is bewildering, vertigo.

In presence of this immense disorder, one seems transported in thought to the time of colossal plants, of gigantic animals; to the time in which the oceans, bed was dry, and the mountain chains were raised by the unchained powers of nature. Niagara appears to you as the contemporary of these monstrous beings, as the product of the yet unregulated forces of nature, as a cataclysm of the ancient world.

There are persons who find the falls of Niagara very inferior to what their imagination had conceived. I compliment their imagination. Perhaps in presence of the object, their thought cannot conceive what their view embraces. Niagara is like St. Peter's, greater than nature, and for this reason one does not always, at first view, seize the object in its entirety. I have also heard divers cascades compared to Niagara; that is comparing a lake with an ocean. I have seen Cascades in Switzerland, in Scotland, in Norway, and in the Pyrenees;—the whole together would be lost and drowned in the Niagara, pygmies in presence of a Titan. To me, the two greatest wonders of this world are, among the monuments raised by the hand of man, the ruins of Thebes, and among the works of nature, the falls of Niagara.

We must remember that the great lakes which are connected together, Erie, Michigan, St. Clair, Huron, Superior and Ontario, form a mass of fresh water, the most vast upon the earth, and all the rivers which support these lakes have no other outlet than this fall. It is a sea which falls, that is all.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Australia Mission.

MR. EDITOR,

The almost utter silence of our brethren on the subject of this new enterprise, is, considering all the circumstances connected with it, somewhat singular. Were it an entirely insignificant measure, in no degree affecting our vastly more important Domestic Mission,—or were our brethren in the habit of allowing such measures to pass off without even expressing an opinion *pro or con*, such indifference as is manifested in the present case, would be no way surprising;—but the reverse being the fact, we can hardly account for it.

Your Amherst Correspondent has mingled a little "sour wine" in the cup of the enthusiasts in this new movement, which some of them do not appear to relish, and to one of the present does prove a whit more agreeable to their taste. Not that we are inclined to repudiate their warm philanthropic spirit, or Missionary zeal,—these are worthy of the highest eulogium,—but with becoming deference to their numerous superior excellencies, we candidly and unequivocally affirm that the movement at this juncture is not only premature, but absolutely inconsistent with the present embarrassed condition of our Domestic operations.

Without referring particularly to the numerous pressing demands made upon our people for thousands of pounds, in addition to what has

already been realized with much difficulty to endow our college,—which can be neglected, or meagrely sustained only at the peril of our standing and progress as a denomination,—and to carry forward other important enterprises embraced by our Associations, we may turn at once to the paralyzed state of our Domestic Missionary operations. And first of all let the reader examine Bro. Wallace's own recent statements respecting the extensive destitution prevailing in the Western part of Nova Scotia. Here are a large number of Baptist churches, besides several which he did not name, such as Margaret's Bay, Indian Harbour, &c. &c. entirely without ministerial labour, and many of them without sufficient means to procure it. The Treasury of the D. M. Board being empty no assistance can be afforded them. They must therefore in all probability remain in this deplorable condition, to dwindle into obscurity, or be gathered into other denominations. While we are immortalizing ourselves in a famed effort to enlighten the poor benighted Australians!

Then look at the Eastern part of the Province, and who can do it without emotions of sympathy and pain? With a few solitary exceptions, the whole region from Halifax to Canso, and from Canso to Amherst is entirely destitute of Baptist preaching. Scattered over this large extent of country, are several interesting Baptist churches earnestly sending forth the Macedonian cry; but their cry is unheeded, and they are left to die out, and sink into oblivion for want of efficient ministerial labour;—thousands of souls around them are perishing for lack of knowledge, whilst there are no means of affording them any help, owing to the pecuniary weakness of our people.

With regard to our New Brunswick neighbours we know but little; but suppose from their extraordinary movements, that their churches and people are all amply provided for, and that they have both Ministers and money to spare; but it is far otherwise with us; we will therefore display quite as much wisdom and benevolence at present, by attending to our languishing interests at home as by entering into a doubtful speculation abroad. If our New Brunswick friends are in better circumstances, we are quite as much entitled to a share of their sympathies as the Australians, and will receive it quite as gratefully. BIERE PUSSANT.

[Lest our silence in reference to the above should be misunderstood, we would just state that whilst we entirely sympathize in the remarks made respecting our Home Missionary operations, yet we must be careful and not close all our other streams of christian benevolence because these are not fully supplied.

We would prefer communications on this and every subject with the proper name of the writer, especially if it relates to an established institution.

Our Correspondent will however, allow us to inform him and our readers generally, that the Australian Missionary Board is composed of Ministers and Brethren in both Provinces and as it is in connexion with the Convention, we shall feel bound to respect and defend whatever is done by them, or in their name.—ED.]

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission to Jeddore.

The Baptist Church at Jeddore, have had no settled minister for about ten years. The only ministerial labour, they have had for that period, has been from Missionaries who have visited them. My visit on that account, was very acceptable.

In the six weeks that I laboured among them I preached 30 times, held one Conference meeting, and administered the Lord's Supper once. I also visited occasionally from house to house, reading, praying, and conversing with the people. The meetings were very well attended, and a very good feeling was produced in the minds of many.

More good would have resulted from my visit, I have no doubt, but for an unhappy division which has for several years harassed and afflicted them. I am happy to say, however, that I saw this rectified, and a foundation laid for peace and prosperity, I hope for years to come.

The sum collected on behalf of the Mission was £2 10s. 6d.

JOHN MILLER.

Jeddore, 10th Dec. '56

ENDOWMENT OF A PROTESTANT SCHOOL BY MADAME JENNY LIND GOLDSCHMIDT.—The Bavarian Government has permitted the establishment of a Protestant school at Kissen, which has been endowed by Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt and other visitors to that fashionable watering-place this summer, to the extent of 5000 florins.

The following are the five largest libraries in Europe, viz: Paris National Library, 824,000 vols.; Munich, Royal Library, 600,000 vols.; London, British Museum Library, 450,000 vols.; Petersburg, Imperial Library, 448,000 vols.; Copenhagen, Royal Library, 412,000.

Religious Intelligence.

One of our correspondents in Cape Breton gives us the following intelligence:

"We have commenced the Meeting House at Schooner Pond for the Gaelic Mission, and Bro. Ross hopes if the weather remains open a few weeks longer, to use it this winter. It is 25x25, (can be elongated hereafter if necessary)—long windows, with sharp tops, and a small steeple to show it is a chapel and not a barn—will be done as plainly and cheaply as possible, to answer the purpose, and no money thrown away building galleries never to be used, like many country meeting houses." C. H. H.

PRESBYTERIAN.—The Rev. George Boyd was ordained pastor of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Thursday last.

The Witness in noticing the same refers to the address of Rev. Mr. Martin his predecessor and concludes as follows:

"It is about thirty-five years since he, Mr. Martin, was ordained over the same Church. How many changes did he witness both in this congregation and throughout the world since that day! And how few of those who welcomed him to be their pastor thirty-five years ago are now living to welcome his successor! This consideration, Mr. Martin remarked, made him feel this to be a peculiarly impressive occasion."

After prayer by Mr. Scott, and an Anthem (sung rather unexpressively) by the choir, the congregation gave a warm welcome to their youthful pastor.

The corner-stone of the new Free Church at Little Narrows, Whycocomah, C. B., was laid on the 19th October. Mr. Ross preached an appropriate discourse within the church. After the service was over, the congregation retired to the site of the new church, where prayer was offered up, after which the corner-stone was placed in its resting place. The assembled multitude then engaged in singing the 69th Psalm from the 25th verse.

"For God will Judah's cities build, And he will Zion save."

The new church is sixty feet long and forty feet wide, with a gallery at one end and on both sides.—Record.

The new Free Church at Beddeck, C. B., was opened for divine service on the 23rd November. Rev. Hugh McLeod of Sydney preached on the occasion; and although the day was very wet, the church was well filled.—Jb.

The congregation of Broad Cove, C. B., have commenced building a fine manse for their minister, Rev. Mr. Gunn.—Jb.

GREGORY M. WORTABET.—This talented oriental who lately excited so much interest in this and the adjoining provinces, is now studying for the Ministry in Princeton and intends we believe to return to Syria as a Missionary under the Board of Missions of the Old School Presbyterians.—Witness.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN THE UNITED STATES.

"Any free colored person who undertakes to preach or conduct a religious meeting, by day or by night, may be whipped, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of any Justice of the Peace."

Every individual who is capable of reading this article, knows very well that the above language is not a quotation from the Bible, but that it is in direct opposition to the Gospel of the Son of God, which is designed to produce "peace on earth and good will toward men."

The quotation is from the Statute Laws of Virginia, and must have emanated from a mind unilluminated by the "Sun of Righteousness"—and then approved and adopted by "the rulers of the darkness of this world"—N. Y. Chron.

MORALS OF POPERY.—Mr. Brownson thinks that the salvation of this country depends on its conversion to the Catholic faith: that Protestantism will surely disintegrate society, and corrupt its morals. But the following exhibition of the moral condition of those States in Europe where Popery has the absolute control, is not very cheering to the propagandists of the Romish faith.—W. & R.

From a careful digest and comparison of the criminal statistics of several European countries for several years, it appears that while the average criminal commitments for murder in Protestant England were four to every million of the population in Roman Catholic Belgium it is 18; in Ireland 19; in Sardinia 20; in France 31; in Austria 36; in Lombardy 45; in Tuscany 56; in Bavaria 68; in Sicily 90; in the Papal States 118; and in Naples 174 to the same number. The proportion of illegitimate births in London is 4 per cent; in Roman Catholic Paris 33 per cent; in Brussels 35 per cent; in Munich 48 per cent; in Vienna 51 per cent. In Rome, out of 4,542 births, 3,160 were foundlings, three-fourths of whom die in the Romish asylum!

It has been said that one thousand heathen, in a judgement of charity, become true Christians yearly through the labors of American missionaries.

European Intelligence.

THE DESPOT DEMOCRATS.

Under the above caption we have an energetic and telling article in the London Freeman on the late election of Mr. Buchanan as President of the United States. He says.

Our worst fears are confirmed. One more representative of oppression leads a great nation. Buchanan is added to the Louis Napoleons, the Bombas, and the Francis Josephs of the world. The lovers of liberty look over Europe, and all is darkness; but they look to the Union of Sovereign Republics in North America, and all is the blackness of darkness for ever. We do not wish to take desponding views, but we do not wish to be blind; we cannot, therefore, refuse to see that America is poisoned to its core. In this respect it is worse than Europe. Here the nations are for the most part eager for freedom; they succumb to despots at the head of vast armies. But the majority of American freedom are but so many despots, or voluntary slaves of Southern despots. There seems, therefore, to be no means of deliverance. They call themselves democrats, and mean by democracy the personal bondage of three millions of men to the sovereign majority. The fall of the great Quaker State we have already adverted to, and many more Free States must have shared its fall to give such a large majority for slavery. In Congress the majority will be equally decided, and with a pro-slavery House of Representatives, a pro-slavery President and Senate, what can be looked for but four years of the darkest doings. Kansas will be made a Slave State by the same means by which Nicholas trod out the liberties of Poland. The Fugitive Slave Law will be enforced with fresh vigour. New schemes to consolidate the slave power will be carried by the triumphant slaveholders; the Free States will be surrounded by the meshes of ingenious federal enactments; fresh territory will be devoted to the extension of slavery; and the four years under Buchanan will be used like Louis Napoleon's term of Presidency, to pave the way for the entire suppression of all opposition, and the subversion of liberty.

They have stabbed both liberty and religion with their own swords. They have vanquished freedom by a written Constitution, which gives to the owner of a hundred slaves sixty-one votes, while the freeman of the North has but one. They have vanquished religion by existing nearly all evangelical (2) preachers on their side, and by proving at length from the Bible that slavery is a divine institution sanctioned by Christ and his Apostles. They have corrupted social feeling by diffusing throughout the Union; in the North perhaps more than in the South, a personal aversion to the Negro race. Professed Christians are ashamed to recognise, on terms of equality, a man who has in him the least trace of African blood!

We have stated what we think will be the result of the late triumph of slavery. And we do fear that the political principle, the morality and religion of the States, are too much corrupted to give hope of anything better. Not till the Christian community exclaims as one man, "We are verily grieved concerning our brother," not till the sin against the Negro is more felt than the mere political defeat, do we hope for an overpowering reaction. Still, we allow the possibility of the North becoming as a party strong enough to beat the South, though we do not think it will. The North is full of traitors to itself. The elections for Congress as well as for the Presidency fully prove that. But the cause of that treachery is what we have indicated—want of principle. Let us be recognised that Slavery is from Hell and not from Heaven, and that Republicans who tolerate it are dishonest to their own principles, and the North will be purged of its traitors; it will then be indeed invincible, and the plague of the Union will be stayed.

Southern talk of the dissolution of the Union, and are praised for their boldness; but if a Northern speaks of it, his fellow Northerners vote him a dangerous man. We do not imagine that the impoverished South would dare to separate; but we are confident that if it did, the North would rise with a bound among the nations of the world. The sentiment which now holds the Free to the Slave States is nothing better than that which began the Tower of Babel; and well will it be for the world if a political confusion of tongues should sever the profane and ambitious combination.

THE GREAT BELL "BIG BEN" OF WESTMINSTER.

"We take no note of time, but from its loss."

Much interest has been felt in the casting and preliminary arrangements for fixing the great bell in the clock tower of the New House of Parliament at Westminster. The bell being considerably larger than any other bell in London. The ceremony of trying the tone and naming it appears to have attracted much attention: whether it would prove true to the tone in the musical scale intended by its designer and be free from flaw and crack was a question with many.

"This Bell of Bells though born, is unable to wag his tongue or to give the faintest lip without help, and yesterday morning this help was supplied by six or eight sturdy artisans, who tugged lustily with a measured strain at ropes attached to Big Ben's clapper.

By his voice we shall know him. Be there