

still a peculiar sameness in the routine of his labors. Every week he has about the same amount of draft upon his nervous energy. His sympathies must be glowing, his intellectual activity unabated; the same audience he must meet in the same place, and amid the same unvarying circumstances; the sick, the dying, and the dead must have a share of his attention, and how many other things come in for a draft upon his stock of nervous energy, may be better imagined than expressed. He may be a resolute man, may be determined to maintain his post at every expense and hazard, and in defiance of fatigue, of pestilence, or of death, and may even speak reprovingly of those ministers who go abroad for recreation, yet being made of ordinary material, he must in the end give way. He cannot avert his doom. Nothing but relaxation can secure his constitution against an untimely crash, and his mental powers against feebleness and decay.

We advise our ministering brethren, so many as can, to take rest. Remember, your Master once sought the retirement of the mountain and fell asleep in the hinder part of the ship. Let your minds be quiet; let your productive powers be suspended; forget your cares; lie as an infant in the arms of Providence, and leave God to do His work for a little time without your aid. You will find that He can get on without you better than you imagine. If you are in the city, go to the country and commune with its innumerable forms of truth and beauty; if you are in the country, seek to immerse yourself for a time in the human torrent of a great city. Diversity, change, these are what you want. Your nervous organs will grow callous in the heat of perpetually burning sympathies; your mental faculties will lose their elasticity under the continued pressure of thought-producing and sermon-making efforts; yea, your very voice will fall into sing-song, humdrum tones, to the annoyance of your hearers, if you do not give yourself relaxation.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 16, 1857.

A most unfounded impression is sought to be propagated among certain classes both in England and elsewhere, that the unhappy state of things now existing in India, has been mainly brought about by the attempts of Protestant Missionaries of various names to proselyte the natives, and, by the consequent jealousies excited in their minds, of any interference with their religious opinions. A more groundless charge was never made, or one based upon more mere imaginary premises. We have ourselves read attentively almost everything which has been published in the papers relative to the Indian Mutiny, and it has really surprised us to find no single fact worth a moment's consideration, or indeed anything beyond bare surmises and conjectures, which goes to implicate a single Missionary of any Denomination in the remotest degree with any part of the Indian disaffection. As regards the attempts of officers to proselyte their soldiers, as far as we have seen, it is confined to the single case of Col. Wheeler. In this instance it does appear to us, that, however excellent his motives as a Christian man, Col. W., by his own acknowledgement, acted with great want of prudence. In a case like his we cannot well conceive how the duties of a commanding officer of a regiment, and of a religious instructor of his men, could be reconciled. His powers in the former capacity were necessarily of too despotic a nature to enable him to attempt to proselyte his men, without a strong impression on their minds of something much more cogent than mere moral suasion. We honour Colonel Wheeler for his motives, although we think he mistook his means. But there is nothing to show that even in this case the mutinous conduct resulted from his well-meant endeavours. To return to the Missionaries, the whole case is purely gratuitous. They have nothing to do with the soldiery to whom the disaffection is almost entirely confined, and it evidently appears that as a general thing, wherever the Missionaries have most laboured, as in the Eastern parts of Bengal, the population is more quiet than elsewhere. It is from this cause that the Missionaries have only suffered in a very few cases, and in these there is not a particle of proof that the popular vengeance has been directed against them more than against any other of the Europeans. We do not mean to say that in the minds of the disaffected soldiery, who seem for a long

time past to have been most strangely left almost to themselves, in the possession of unguarded power, a certain feeling of jealousy and discontent may not have existed at seeing comparatively a handful of Europeans and Christians exercising supreme power over the ancient rulers of their country, and that they may not have anticipated some forcible interference with their religion and their caste. No doubt this has been the case; but the existence of this feeling, so wholly disconnected as it is, with any acts of the missionaries, is a most singular and suggestive fact. From all that has yet transpired to throw light on this most calamitous occurrence, there would seem more of a political than a religious element in the movement. A mere lust to return to that kind of lawless, irresponsible despotism, which has so long and so widely prevailed in Eastern Countries, mixed no doubt with the desire of the restoration of all the pomp as well as the license and cruelty of their religious rites.

We do think, however, that England has much to answer for as regards India, and that in the inscrutable dispensations of an All-wise Providence, the present tragedy may possibly be in some measure looked upon as a retribution. She has acquired a territory containing nearly 150 millions of souls sunk in the grossest of pagan and Mahomedan darkness, and for 150 years, until within a very short time past, has entrusted it in the hands of a mere money-making Commercial Company, whose only and all-absorbing motive has been to accumulate wealth, not only to the neglect but to the entire exclusion of all attempts at the civilization or religious improvement of the natives. This is in reality the dark spot in England's conduct towards India. Until within these very few years Christian Missionaries have been prohibited by the East India Company from setting a foot within their territories. In not a few cases where they have dared to go they have been deported thence. It has only been the force of enlightened public opinion—the leaven of true Christian feeling in the English nation that has compelled them to relinquish their selfish and unholy policy. That same feeling has sent forth Christian Missionaries to achieve the moral conquests which have so happily commenced in India, and which we devoutly believe will, notwithstanding all opposing events or obstacles, finally bring even the degraded Hindoo and the fierce Mussulman under the peaceful Empire of the Cross. England's best and only policy, and that which must and will hereafter be adopted, is to open India to the free enterprise of all her subjects, be it pecuniary, moral or religious—to alter the whole mode of the tenure of lands, (hitherto, no British subject, or any but a native, could hold lands there)—to encourage, by every proper means, education and religious instruction among the natives, and to let it be known and understood in a manner not to be mistaken, that every soul within her territories was perfectly free to exercise or inculcate his religious opinions, provided they did not lead to an open transgression of the great rules of moral action, which all nations, even the most barbarous, allow to be binding, however their actual practice may be utterly opposed to them. The Great East India Company have hitherto been more than willing that the millions under their control should live and die in the iron fetters of caste, in the grossest ignorance and superstition, provided they offered liberally at the shrine of their avarice, the gold, and silks, and spices of their ever teeming soil. The English nation at large, roused up by Christian effort to a higher sense of duty, will no longer wink at such a state of things. In accordance with the holy and glorious destiny assigned her among the nations of the earth, England will no longer delegate her Imperial power to interested and unskilful hands, but will feel that henceforth she must be responsible, not only for the material, but for the moral and religious progress of India, and in as far as is consistent with entire civil and religious freedom, will encourage her own sons and daughters to go forth and labour for the social and spiritual regeneration of that wonderful land.

Home Missionary Society.

We regret that we have so long, unintentionally, omitted to publish the Constitution of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society, established at the Central Association at Hantsport. We have been, perhaps, over-scrupulous about inserting portions of the Minutes in our pages.

As however the Society is one which is expected to be a general organization for the province, and deserves the generous and

heartly support of the denomination, its constitution should be well known by all our churches and people. A small pamphlet with the Constitution and an Appeal to the Churches, has been published by order of the Board, and will be sent to all the Baptist ministers and Churches in the province, in the course of a few days. It is hoped that active exertions will be made to get the names of new members to be added to the list in the hands of the Treasurer. Those who receive the pamphlets are requested to place them in the hands of those who will endeavor to accomplish this object.

The following is the Constitution of the Society:

- I. The Society shall be called "The Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society."
- II. The object of this Society shall be the preaching of the Gospel throughout Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the assistance of feeble Churches, and the planting of new ones.
- III. Any person may become a member of this Society by contributing five shillings and upwards, annually to its funds. Any person contributing five pounds at one time, shall be a life member. Any person contributing twenty pounds at one time, or whose contributions shall amount to that sum, shall be a Life Director. Every Association or Auxiliary, which contributes annually to this Society, shall be entitled to be represented by one Delegate for every five pounds so contributed; and every Baptist Church contributing annually to the funds of the Society shall also have the privilege of sending a Delegate. Should the funds so contributed exceed five pounds, such Churches shall be entitled to send one Delegate for every five pounds contributed. *Provided:* That no Association, Auxiliary, or Church, shall be entitled to send more than five Delegates at one time.
- IV. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor, who shall be annually appointed by the Society from among its members.
- V. The Society shall annually appoint a Board of Management, consisting of twenty-four members, seven of whom shall reside in the place designated from year to year as the location of the Board, or in its neighbourhood, and seven shall constitute a quorum. The officers above named shall be *ex-officio* members of the Board. The following shall be the duties of the Board, viz.:—To meet from time to time for the despatch of business, due notice of such meeting being given; to appoint Missionaries, and assign their respective spheres of labor; to expend the funds for the objects of the Society, provided that all amounts contributed for any specific purpose shall be faithfully applied, as far as possible, in accordance with the wishes of the donors; to employ agents for the collection of funds, and for the general advancement of the interests of the Society; and to furnish a report of the proceedings of the past year at the Annual meeting.
- VI. Every Auxiliary Society which shall agree to commit all its funds to the direction of this Society, shall be entitled to receive Missionary labor in such field as it may designate, to an amount at least equal to its contribution; provided, that such designation be intimated at the time of payment.
- VII. The members of Auxiliary Societies shall be members of this Society. Life Directors shall be entitled to attend and vote at meetings of the Board.
- VIII. The Annual meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined upon at a previous Annual meeting. At that meeting, the officers of the Society for the ensuing year shall be appointed, and such other business transacted as the members then present shall deem expedient.
- IX. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made without an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual meeting.

THE COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS was opened on Thursday last.

A case of assault was brought by a German working in Peters' Brick Yard against four of his fellow-workmen. They were fined £3 each.

On Friday, about 30 magistrates attended. Some discussion arose on the question as to whether the Sessions of the County might appeal against the railway damages assessment. The question was deferred for the purpose of considering the appointment of a paid Magistrate to attend to the business of the County.

It was agreed, 17 to 8, to engage such Magistrate at a salary of £100 per annum and fees. Mr. A. Shiels was unanimously elected.

THE EXPLOSION.—We acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Report presented to the City Council by Aldermen Jennings, Noble and Bell—the committee of investigation—on the recent explosion of the Gunpowder Magazine.

Depositions were taken from thirty-one individuals without adding a single item of information as to the cause of the catastrophe.

The Committee exonerate Mr. Marshall, the keeper, from the charge of carelessness. The only indication of incendiaryism is the finding of a stone about 300 yards off with a coating of powder and some tallow, and

about 2 inches of candle-wick adhering to it, supposed to have been carried that distance by the explosion. The statements of some parties as to the security of the building conflict in some measure with what is given by others.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CABLE it is said will be used now to connect India with Aden, so as to complete a line between Great Britain and her eastern possessions. Professor Morse and other competent men have concluded that the cable is constructed in the best manner for the intended purpose, and that they know of no improvement upon it that can be made.

Our last steamer from England brings Indian news up to about the middle of July. It still bares a gloomy and uncertain aspect. Although the mutiny was still mainly confined to the Bengal army, which ere now is in fact utterly disorganized and gone, slight symptoms of disaffection had shewn themselves among some of the troops in the Madras territory. Every effort was making throughout the country by the British residents to prevent or prepare for attempts at revolt, yet it may well be supposed that among upwards of one hundred millions of native heathens scattered over a territory nearly two thousand miles in extent, a few thousand Europeans under the present state of things, must feel in a most perilous position. Every day had revealed some new feature of atrocity in the conduct of the revolted Sepoys. It is stated very confidently however, that owing to their lawless plunder and devastation the more quiet native inhabitants shew little or no sympathy with them. Our extracts and the interesting and comprehensive summary of our Special Correspondent in London, will afford all that is really new relative to the calamitous state of things now existing in India. The most strenuous efforts were going on in England to send forward troops to the scene of action. From the 1st of July to the middle of August, scarcely one day had elapsed in which one or more transport ships filled with troops, had not sailed for India. It is probable that there are now on their way thither or already arrived, between 30 and 40 thousand men.

Parliament was prorogued on the 28th ult. Besides the passing of measures necessary to enable the government to act with vigour in the suppression of the mutiny in India, very little of interest had transpired in the debates, with the exception of the Divorce Bill, which had been carried in the House of Lords, after a warm opposition, by a small majority. The Queen after paying a flying visit in her yacht to Cherbourg, one of the great naval seaports of France, had gone down to Scotland to pass some weeks at Balmoral, her Highland residence. The harvest in England was proceeding prosperously, and the grain crops of every kind are said to be abundant. As the same is reported to be the case throughout Europe and America, there is every reason to hope that the present extravagant prices of almost every kind of provisions will soon be reduced.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, HALIFAX, Aug. 29, 1857.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Justices of the Peace:—

In the County of Cumberland.—Aaron Rockwell, Esq., in the place of Robert McAlmon, Esq., resigned; L. Borden, T. DeWolfe, Pugwash; R. McNutt, Mouth of River Philip; W. Waugh, Gulf Shore; D. Ross, Fox Harbour; W. B. McNab, W. B. Oxley, Wallace; and L. Bigney, Wallace River, Esquires.

In the County of Hants.—J. Dimock, B. Blois, W. C. Casey, and J. Custance, Rawdon, Esquires.

For the District of Barrington, in the County of Shelburne.—T. Crowell, T. W. Wilson, S. Smith, B. Covill, J. Nickerson, A. Megray, D. Smith, J. Smith, T. Banks, H. Chute, T. Nickerson, and W. Patterson, Esquires.

In the County of Lunenburg.—R. Scott, J. Rudolf, G. Anderson, G. Bigelow, C. Rudolf, F. Publicover, P. W. James, J. Baras, C. Lordly, R. Smith, J. E. Shatford, J. Wentzell, M. Ernst, E. Teal, J. Pernetto, and J. Whitford, Esquires.

To be Custos Rotulorum for the District of Barrington, in the County of Shelburne.—Winthrop Sargent, Esq., in the place of John W. Homer, Esq., resigned.

To be one of the Commissioners of Schools for the Township of New Dublin, in the County of Lunenburg.—The Rev. I. J. Skinner, in the place of the Rev. J. V. Tabor, who has removed.

To be Surveyors of Shipping.—W. Muir, Esq., Shelburne; J. Crews, Esq., Barrington.

To be one of the Coroners of the County of Shelburne.—John J. Schrage, Esq., M. D.