

It gives us a new guaranty for the possibility of restoring and settling the genuine apostolic text. The MS. also contains the whole Epistle of Barnabas, the first five chapters of which are wanting in all the other MSS., and 52 columns of that bearing the title of "The Shepherd" and proving to be the first part of the Shepherd of Hermas, a piece belonging to the second century, and honored with a dubious apostolic authority. Professor Tischendorf closes his letter with the following encouraging statement:—"The confidence I feel in the high imperial patronage accorded to the undertaking, persuades me that I may even now hold out to the learned world the prospect of a very early publication of the MS., and in a form in the highest degree worthy of the object. God willing, I shall have in my hands on the 1st of April, a transcript of its 132,000 columnar lines, copied with scrupulous accuracy and carefully revised. The Vatican MS. was known to the world for 300 years before the deeply cherished wish for its publication was gratified. Perhaps three years instead of 300 will suffice to enrich the literature of the church with an edition of the MS. now discovered, and which may be regarded as one of its most precious documents."—*N. Y. Examiner.*

For the Christian Messenger.

The Edward Manning Professorship.

DEAR BROTHER,

I here state the first instalment to the Edward Manning Professorship:

William H. Lyons, 5s.	Wm. Harris, 5s.
Mrs. W. H. Lyons, 5s.	Edward Power, 5s.
Walter R. Lyons, 5s.	John Mursters, Esq., 5s.
Annie S. Lyons, 5s.	Charles Darbey, 5s.
Wm. A. Tupper, Esq., 5s.	
Total, 45s.	

Some persons subscribe a share for themselves, and one for each of their children. Some add a few shares to be established in connection with the names of poor members of the church.

There are eleven thousand members of Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia. We need a dollar from each of these, and a dollar each from nine thousand persons not church members, that is nearly two dollars for each church member in Nova Scotia and P. E. I.

If the pastors, deacons, and friends generally would engage earnestly in the business, we might raise the Professorship by the end of the year, so that the college might open Sept. 1, 1860, with another Professorship added to the fund. Will the brethren respond? Let the churches take up the matter, appoint two energetic collectors in each section to raise subscriptions for the Manning Fund. Let the pastors commend it to their people, and the time will soon come when they will not have to support the institution themselves to keep it from sinking.

Enclose the contributions to Mayhew Beckwith, Esq., Upper Dyke Village, Cornwallis, as early as possible so that they may be put out to interest without delay. Every dollar places one stone on this monument to Father Manning. Yours in the good work,

D. FREEMAN.

Cornwallis, Nov. 25th, 1859.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 30, 1859.

Death of the Rev. S. N. Bentley.

We deeply regret to have to record in our present columns, the decease of the Rev. S. N. Bentley, late Pastor of the North Church in this City, but more recently acting as the General Agent of the N. S. Home Missionary Society. Brother Bentley's health has for these two years past been gradually declining, and had occasionally interrupted his pastoral labours, but it was hoped that the duties of a travelling Missionary in the service of the Board, would be conducive to his recovery. It has however pleased the Great Disposer of all events to order it otherwise, and however dark and afflictive the dispensation, it is only our part to acquiesce both in its wisdom and goodness. As it is highly probable that an extended Obituary of our departed Brother will shortly appear, we will not further enlarge, except to say, that the Baptist Ministry of Nova Scotia have lost in Mr. Bentley one of its most pious, able, laborious and efficient members, and one whose loss will be severely felt and deeply deplored by the Denomination at large. With his sorrowing widow and relatives we sincerely sympathize, and trust that the same consolations which Divine grace so richly administered to our departed friend in the last great conflict, may sustain them under their severe bereavement.

A FUNERAL SERMON on the occasion of the death of Mr. Bentley, will be preached in the North Baptist Meeting house next Lords Day

morning, by the Rev. R. McLearn, Chairman of the Home Missionary Board.

Signs of the Times.

PRAYER, PREACHING AND THE PRESS.

The Millennium is doubtless approaching, notwithstanding the fears of many to the contrary. Evil, however, still prevails to an alarming extent, and it is often apprehended that the Prince of this world,—the Devil,—who rules in the hearts of the children of disobedience, is gaining ground on the Kingdom of Christ. Yet we think that attention to two or three facts will be sufficient to show that progress is not all on the side of evil. Although it may require many a hard-fought battle and no little wisdom to meet the insidious as well as the bold attacks of the enemies of truth, yet we still believe that "Truth is mighty and must prevail."

By looking at the prevalence of prayer the attention given to preaching; and the issues from the press, we may conclude that there is much ground for encouragement and hope.

First.—We may notice the common sentiment of professing Christians of the present day with regard to PRAYER-MEETINGS, and compare it with that of, say ten or twenty years ago, to go no farther back, and what do we find by the comparison? Why in some of the largest evangelical congregations in Great Britain a weekly prayer-meeting, if maintained at all then, consisted commonly of from 12 to 20 or 30 persons; whereas now but few congregations are without their prayer-meetings some of which are attended by hundreds. In many towns in Great Britain and America Union Prayer-meetings of hundreds, without regard to the particular churches with which they are connected, are held daily. Those bodies who formerly considered it the peculiar work of the minister to pray in public and would not tolerate such conventicle proceedings as public extempore prayer by the laity, have now overstepped their prescribed forms, and are no less disposed than others to assemble for the purpose of social worship. The people in many places may be somewhat in advance of their clergy in this particular, and desire social religious opportunities in spite of, rather than in accordance with, the teaching they receive. This remark, however, we are glad to say has no application to many excellent and devoted ministers of the religious bodies referred to. Union seems to be better understood now than formerly. There is everything to hope for from a union at the footstool of Divine Mercy. This is preferred to that of hollow formal subscription to a human creed, especially when effected by unsatisfactory compromises or mental reservations. Whilst we manifest a desire for more conformity to the Word of God, we countenance no infraction of Divine Truth.

Secondly, ATTENTION TO PREACHING is much greater than formerly. Perhaps this is seen more in the publication of sermons than in the number of hearers in any given place. This, as well as preaching in places not commonly used for worship, was in a great measure inaugurated by Spurgeon. Not only have Spurgeon's Sermons been purchased and read by hundreds of thousands but others for which there formerly was no demand, are now issued in large editions and read with avidity. Even secular papers occasionally publish the sermons of some popular preacher as an inducement for increased patronage. The masses who crowd to public halls to hear preaching, are a proof that the power of the preacher is not by any means diminished. The demand for gospel preaching too, will doubtless increase as Prayer-meetings are found to pervade any community.

Thirdly, THE RELIGIOUS PERIODICAL PRESS is sending forth its weekly messages of invaluable religious knowledge, each going to its tens or hundreds of thousands of readers. Where were these publications twenty or thirty years ago? Ours had just started on its career, the only one in British America. It may be said that the press in the service of infidelity and evil has also made great advances during the period named. It may be so, but we are not sure that even this should all be set down as evidence against the advancement of truth. Their deadly influence comes often to minds previously fortified, and instead of taking possession prepares them to meet with the same principles as those they would otherwise come in contact with, in the world or in their own hearts. The seeds of infidelity and evil are in the human heart every where without being sown, but truth must be planted there.

If then we may conclude from these considerations that it is a fact that we are making progress towards the Millennium, we ought to hope and patiently wait for each new development of God's purposes; feeling confident that the twilight of the morning which now appears will increase until the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in his wings, and the moral world shall be illumined with the brightness of His coming.

The Supreme Court closed its Sittings for the Trial of Causes by Juries on Thursday last. The Trial of George Preper on an Indictment for Manslaughter in shooting Patrick Hurley, at the Election riot on the Truro Road, in May last, terminated the previous day in the acquittal of the Prisoner. Much dissatisfaction is expressed in many quarters with this verdict of the Jury, which is said to have been contrary to the strongly expressed opinion of the Judge who tried the cause, on the law of the case. We cannot but think that the Verdict has been given under a strong misconception of the merits of the case. We much fear that the license which would seem to be warranted by this verdict, to bring together and make use of fire arms at Elections or other public meetings, must exert a most baneful influence on the safety of life on similar occasions.

Matthew Pratt was sentenced to three months imprisonment for breaking out of the Penitentiary.

Henry Morgan, two years in the Penitentiary, for forgery.

Jacob Rickard, six months imprisonment for stealing a heifer. These all pleaded guilty, consequently no trial was necessary.

The present state of EUROPE appears to be a most unsettled and precarious one. Although peace nominally prevails, every nation capable of sustaining an army is to use a familiar expression "armed to the teeth." The great centre of this restless state of society is Louis Napoleon, who to all human appearance is meditating mischief of some kind, driven forward it would seem by the same evil spirit of military lust of power which impelled the first Napoleon to so many acts of violence and schemes of conquest, and which finally ended in his destruction as a disturber of the peace of society at large.

SPAIN is sending a large armament to avenge some insult or injury said to have been received from her next neighbor on the coast of Africa, the Emperor of Morocco, and it is thought that France is secretly urging her on for the purpose no doubt of strengthening her own power in northern Africa. Fears are entertained in England that her own interests may in some way be implicated in the settlement of the dispute.

MEXICO appears to be in a state of internal agitation and insurrection. Contending parties and factions are alternately gaining and losing the ascendancy, and there seems small security for life or property.

The American Ambassador to CHINA, was allowed just after the treacherous and unfortunate repulse of the British and French ships at the mouth of the Peiho, to proceed to Peking, jealously watched and guarded, for the purpose of an interview with the Emperor, and to conclude the treaty previously agreed on. On his arrival however, he could not be admitted to the presence of the Monarch without submitting to the most servile observances which are exacted from all who approach him. The homage exacted, which was a modified one this case, was one prostration and three knocks of the forehead on the earth. As the representative of the Great American Power could not submit to this indignity he was obliged to retrace his steps without being admitted to an audience with the so-called "Brother of the Moon," and the treaty was afterwards ratified by ministers deputed for the purpose. Nothing further has transpired as to the English and French expedition, which is of course being prepared for action.

To our Agents and Patrons generally.

Dear Friends,—In prospect of the commencement of a New Year, we are desirous of showing that we appreciate your efforts to extend our circulation, and of co-operating with you in securing that desirable object.

As the large number of new subscribers we are accustomed to receive during the first two or three weeks of the New Year, have sometimes rendered it difficult for us to attend to other pressing duties at that time, we therefore propose, to all who forward their names any time between this and the end of the year, sending the paper from the time of receiving their names, and charging only from the first of January 1860. We would further briefly intimate our wants, our intentions, and our offers.

1. OUR WANTS.—One thousand new subscribers before the first of January, 1860. PAYMENT FROM ALL WHO ARE IN ARREARS.

2. OUR INTENTIONS.—To strike off from our list of subscribers those who have for several years neglected to forward their subscriptions; and place the names of such in a list FOR IMMEDIATE COLLECTION.

3. OUR OFFERS.—For the names of two new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£1) besides sending the Messenger to their address, as above, to Dec. 31, 1860,

we will also send a copy, for three months, to the person sending, or to any other address desired by him.

For the names of four new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£2) besides sending the Messenger to their address, as above, we will also send a copy, for six months, to any other address.

For the names of eight new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£4) besides sending the Messenger to their address, as above, we will also send a copy, for one year, to any other address.

General Intelligence.

Domestic and Foreign.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A distressing circumstance occurred at Phinney Mountain, in the township of Granville, on the night of the 17th of October. The house belonging to, and occupied by Mrs. John and Augustus Foster, took fire and was totally consumed, together with the chief of its contents. The house was new, well built, and constructed for two families. By this calamity they have been stripped of the fruits of many years industry and hard toil. Sad to relate, a lad aged twelve years, son of the late Benjamin Foster, was consumed in the flames, leaving a widowed mother and numerous relatives to mourn his early and sad fate.

Efforts are being made by some to replace the house and furniture of our friends. Their loss was heavy,—estimated at about four hundred pounds. A generous public are appealed to for aid. The Lord will bless the cheerful giver.—Communicated by Rev. Perez F. Murray.

Port Williams, Nov. 1859.

MARGARETS BAY.—We are informed that some time in the past month a person named Johnson, of Margarets Bay, deliberately took a loaded gun and shot himself, and died on the spot. He had been just previously engaged in a lawsuit for some slander or defamation of character. He was buried, we are told without any inquest being held on the body. It is expected that his remains will be disinterred for the purpose of making inquiry into the cause of his death.

The Peerless was launched on Wednesday last.

The HALIFAX DISPENSARY has been in difficulty. At a meeting of the subscribers last week it was determined that it should be continued as at present till the end of the year.

RIFLE CORPS.—The last Gazette gives the names of several promotions in the Halifax Militia, together with Rules for Volunteer Rifle Corps, and the conditions under which the Endfield Rifles may be had by such corps.

WATER COMPANY versus CITY COUNCIL.—The Water Company have published a lengthy document in the City papers shewing that there was no deficiency of water at the recent fire, but that the imperfect state of the hose was the cause of their not being able to secure water in sufficient quantity. They also state that on the 13th Sept. last a letter was sent to the City Council, containing a proposition to lay down a 12 inch pipe from the Ball Court, at the South end of Gottingen street to Sackville street, and a 6 inch branch pipes down Sackville, Prince, George, Duke and Buckingham streets, to Hollis street,—with a suitable number of fire plugs, for the sum of £350. But they very justly complain that no answer had been received. The public have a right to know something on this matter. Surely the Council will not continue such neglect.

A lad named Morrison, (a widow's son,) had his hand and arm badly shattered from the contents of a loaded gun, on Monday, near Point Pleasant.

The Brookfield Grist Mill at Mira, C. B., was destroyed by fire on the 12th inst. It was not insured. The owner, Rev. Dr. McLeod, is a loser by this accident of about £850.

A LARGE CHILD.—Mr. J. Whitman Crosby, of Hebron, informs us that on a recent visit to Kempt, County of Hants, he saw a child of Mr. Caleb Smith, of that place, 18 months old, weighing 92 lbs., measuring round the waist 37 inches—round the thigh 24 inches—round the arm 12½ inches. The child seemed bright and sprightly, but could not walk.—*Yarmouth Herald.*

Mrs. Winslow's soothing syrup, to be appreciated, must be used; and after it has been used it is sure to be appreciated.

MELANCHOLY SHIPWRECK.—Capt. Rude, of the scho. *Paradise*, at this port on Thursday evening last, from the coast of Newfoundland, reports the total loss of sch. *Ada*, of Westport, from Halifax, for Labrador, with all on board, ten in number. The *Ada* left St. Barbe's Sept. 30, and on Oct. 7, during a fearful gale from the N. W., she was driven on a ledge of rocks near Sandy Bay, on the north side of Newfoundland. It does not appear that the anchors were cast, both being found upon the bows, although the bands were in the windlass when the vessel was boarded. Among those lost was Mr. Joseph Higgins of this city, whose untimely end, (we unite with a contemporary in saying) has cast a gloom over his many friends here. Mr. Higgins was deservedly a great favourite in Halifax. Educated in Saint Mary's College, and naturally gifted, mentally and physically, he was in all things a man we might well be proud of. He perished in the cabin of the *Ada*, apparently jammed to death. It is satisfactory to learn that the remains of the unfortunate crew and passengers were recently interred by the parties who discovered them.—*Journal.*

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