

satisfaction, England will at once declare war, France, though at the request of England she will not immediately take part in it, will be no uninterested spectator of the contest. If, on the other hand, America should make reparations, France and England will not let the opportunity slip without intervening for the purpose of putting an end to the conflict so fatal to America—so injurious to the peace and happiness of the civilized world. It may not be, as M. Renouf anticipates, that we shall be able to obtain from the South, as the price of our recognition, even the prospective abolition of Slavery, but we may not unreasonably hope that the events which are now occurring will in one way or another draw to a close that hopeless and exterminating conflict, fraught with so many events which disgrace humanity and perplex reason, before it has been carried to an extent which will destroy the last vestige of a Republic once fondly regarded as the last and best guarantee for human liberty and progress.

"Such is an analysis of this very remarkable pamphlet. It is well worthy the consideration of the American public, for it shows how clearly its actual position is estimated and how keenly its future is speculated upon by the very people whom the Press and the Statesmen of America have sought, as it appears in vain, to conciliate by all the arts of adulation. The appearance of such a pamphlet is cold encouragement to add a war with England to a long catalogue of existing embarrassments. The nation which America has, in her presumptuous folly, taught herself to regard as her sure ally in the contest which she has so long sought to force upon England, which she has sought to conciliate by the share of the lion's skin represented by Lower Canada and by the most fulsome adulation, has taken the measure of her, of her flatteries, her menaces, and her promises, and contemptuously rejects them all."

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, FEBRUARY 5, 1862.

SUBSCRIBERS who are in arrears, but are uncertain as to the amount of their indebtedness, and have no other opportunity of sending to our office, will greatly oblige by forwarding to us any convenient sum by letter, through the post office. We shall be happy, in acknowledging the receipt of the same, to inform them to what date the sum sent will pay.

Ministerial Intercourse.

The position of the Christian minister is such, that he is in a great measure debarred from social intercourse with those of his own standing. He is engaged in visiting his own people and the performance of the duties of his office, and but seldom enjoys the opportunity of fraternal association with his brethren. The annual gatherings at the Associations it is true, afford him an occasion of such meeting but then he meets with so many others besides ministers; and what with the public business to be attended to, the recognition of former acquaintances and renewal of friendships made on previous occasions, there is then but little time for the consideration of many matters which he might desire to be discussed for his own profit and the good of his people. In the counties of Annapolis and Kings it is pleasing to find that the ministers hold regular Conferences, and embrace the opportunity these afford for meetings of a more public character. In some of the other counties of Nova Scotia, it might be practicable to hold such meetings, and we doubt not if it were done good would arise. Other denominations have their District or Presbytery meetings, but with Baptist ministers these are in a great measure neglected, perhaps because not made a part of our church organization. All the benefits of Episcopal, Methodist or Presbyterian rule might be thus secured without what we deem the evils arising from making them essential parts of church order.

How much good might be set on foot at such times. Arrangements might be made for holding occasional public meetings in behalf of Home Missions, Sunday School work and other objects of Christian activity and usefulness in each others congregations. We have no means of knowing the amount of epistolary intercourse enjoyed by ministers, but we venture to suggest that a frequent exchange of letters between brethren living at a distance from each other, on the work to which they have given themselves, would be highly valued and would prove more beneficial than the same amount of time occupied in many other ways. We may be mistaken and there may be more of this than we suppose. Our brethren will please make such use of the suggestion as they may find convenient. Business and professional men do a vast amount by correspondence with each other, and we venture to commend our brethren to a more general use of their pens in behalf of the cause of their better Master. Because our churches are independent of each other, and one minister has no authority over another, that is no reason why consultation and fraternal help should not be rendered, but on the con-

trary it is a strong reason why each should hold himself ready to unite with his brother in attacking the kingdom of darkness, and making such action as efficient as possible.

On reading over the manuscript of the article on another page from our valiant friend A. C., and after such a flourish of trumpets as the challenge he gives to "Editors and correspondents of papers, ship-owners, traders, or any other individual opposer or class of opposers," we expected to find that he would have shown us something like a gladiatorial display. We supposed that he would certainly demolish the "English Thunderer," "Our English Correspondent," and some of the other "classes" he refers to, but we read on, and found that we were doomed to be disappointed, for instead of sustaining the negative of the question at the head of his article, by any fresh light on the subject from his own pen, he was only favouring us with extracts from some American writer on matters already familiar to everybody, without enlightening us with the author's name. Whether his quotations establish what he proposes must be left for the reader to decide. There is no doubt we presume about the statements in the extracts being correct. Whether "the ultimate and permanent success of the Free States" can be secured, and the cause of human freedom served, more by the Union ruling over the whole of the States, both slave and free—than by there being a Union of the Northern Free States under one government, and a Confederacy of the Slave States under another, is to us a matter of serious doubt. We are quite aware that the expression of such an opinion is very distasteful to ultra Northern men, and because we venture such a sentiment some (perhaps A. C. amongst the number) will doubtless go so far as to say that we know nothing about the matter. The exercise of a little common sense however will show that the opinions of such are biased by hatred against the South, and while they fight for Union it is only such union as can be secured by Southerners entirely surrendering their claims or giving up their lives. We do not intend to discuss this matter with our friend A. C., but we cannot find that his article anywhere proves the negative of the question with which it proposes to deal. Although all he says and quotes be correct, where is the "good"? We cannot think the destruction of harbours, the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, suppressing free speech and muzzling the press are good. The "good" is sought rather in ruling over a vast than over a free Union.

It may be said that England and the other anti-slavery European nations could not consistently recognize the Southern Confederacy, neither could the United States. We think, however, that there would be no more inconsistency in their doing this than there has been in England holding intercourse with the United States, with slavery as a part of their social and political arrangements up to the present time.

It is not likely that any number of victories on the part of the North will subdue the antipathies existing between the two sections of that great country. While the life-blood may be spilled and the treasures of the country exhausted, the hatred will be but increased, the country impoverished and the good they might otherwise do prevented.

The present portion of the States that may really be called United States, contain an ample extent of territory for one nationality. The effort to embrace the whole, will, we believe, be unsuccessful except as it has hitherto been by the North making dishonorable compromises. The constantly recurring exhibitions of disgraceful, personal encounters, show that the two sections have but little respect for each other, and scarcely any feelings in common. These things would, we believe, continue to prevent harmonious co-operation.

We have not hitherto given our readers much of what has appeared in the *Times* on the subject, but after the intimations of our correspondent A. C., respecting "the Great Thunderer," we may venture to do so occasionally, just for the purpose of letting them see both sides of the question, they may then exercise their own judgment.

"Accidents will occur in the best regulated families," (printing offices), is a proverb we occasionally have brought painfully to our remembrance, by some misplacement of words or letters, making us say what we do not intend. We dislike having to speak of these things, but when our compositors, in the hurry of getting to press, fail to make corrections, or, in making up the pages, transpose a whole line and print what has no sense in it, we have no alternative.

A case of this kind occurred on the second page of our last issue—the first line of the third column should have been placed before

the preceding five lines, and the paragraph would then have read as follows:

"We doubt if A. C.'s rash remarks concerning our English Correspondent will benefit the cause he desires to serve by them. In the absence of that gentleman we would just remark that the circumstance of his being at a distance from the belligerent parties may assist him in forming a correct judgment of the merits of THE WAR. Perhaps A. C. would rather have it called a wicked war than a 'silly' one."

We have been compelled, by press of matter, to omit several notices of publications and other editorial articles.

Notices, &c.

NOTICES.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The fourth Lecture of the season 1861-2, will be delivered on Friday evening, February 14th, at the Vestry of the Baptist meeting-house, Wolfville, by P. Carteret Hill, Esq., L. L. D., of Halifax.

Subject—THE INSTINCT OF SELF-DEFENCE. Doors open at 6 o'clock. Tickets to be obtained at G. V. Rand's, and at the door.

D. A. STEELE, Cor. Sec'y.

Acadia College, Jan. 24th.

Contemplated Donation Visit.

The undersigned, respectfully invites the brethren, and friends of the late R. W. Cunliffeham, to meet at Rose Cottage, (his late residence), on Thursday the 13th day of February next, for the purpose of paying his respected Widow a Donation Visit.

To this call, we doubt not, many of our brethren and friends will most cheerfully respond.

Brothers Spencer, of Digby, Moore, of Digby Neck, More of Hillsburg, and the writer, will gladly take charge of any thing forwarded for that object. All Baptist Ministers, are requested to favour the donation, and receive contributions for that purpose, from any who may not be able to attend personally. To all, however, we say, COME, and cheer the heart of our esteemed Sister, Cunliffeham, by your presence at her dwelling.

CHARLES RANDALL.

Weymouth, Jan. 20th, 1862.

Kings Co. Ministerial Conference.

The next Baptist Ministerial Conference in Kings Co., will be held in the Library of Acadia College, Wolfville, to commence on Tuesday the 11th of Feb., at 3 o'clock, P. M. There will be a meeting on behalf of Domestic Missions, in the Baptist Meeting House, Wolfville, on Tuesday evening, and an Educational Meeting in the same place on Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock. At both the above meetings addresses will be delivered on the above subjects, by Ministerial and other brethren.

E. O. READ, Secretary.

Gaspereaux, Jan. 24th, 1862.

Letters Received.

Rev. L. H. Marshall, 17th. Capt. Joseph Rogers, 23rd, 25. Rev. A. D. Thompson, 27th. X. Z. Chipman, Esq., 25th, 26. Rev. Dr. Tupper, 23rd and 3rd, 15, omitted before. Rev. A. S. Hunt, 29th. —No. Rev. W. Hall. Asaph Marshall, 29th, 23. Rev. F. F. Murray, 29th, 23. Rev. E. M. Saunders, Rev. S. W. DeBlais, 30th. Rev. T. A. Higgins, 29th. W. F. Outten, Esq., 30th. Gordon Eaton, 7th. Entered incorrectly Gorden Turner, Jan. 6th. Job Seaman, Esq., 7th, 10. Rev. L. J. Skinner, 20th. J. L. Brown, 22nd, 10. R. Chambers, Esq., 31st, 1 sub.

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

INCENDIARISM AND RUFFIANISM.—A valuable Barn, with a large quantity of hay, 5 or 6 cows, and other cattle, the property of Mr. Michael Kearney, at Hammond's Plain, were consumed by fire on Friday, the 24th ult. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. There has been for some time past a quarrel between certain parties living in this neighborhood. One day last week, while a boy, with a horse and load of wood belonging to Mr. Kearney, was coming to town from Hammond's Plain, a ball was fired out of a gun by a man on the road near the latter place, a short distance in advance of the sled. The ball struck the end of the shaft close by the breast of the horse. The guilty party, named Greunan, was arrested on Saturday by officers Caulfield and Hunt, having a loaded pistol on his person.

SHIP-BUILDING AT BEDFORD BASIN.—We learn from the *Chronicle*, that a company have decided to build a ship of 800 tons at Bedford—the timber for which is now being brought from the forest.

We learn from the *Eastern Chronicle* that the two Volunteer Companies of Pictou, drilled on the ice on Wednesday. This was the first appearance of one of the companies in public.

The City Council have passed a Bill for the punishment of persons giving false alarms of fire. A Bill so necessary cannot fail to receive the assent of the Legislature.

A quantity of very superior edge tools were received by the Commissioners of the International Exhibition from Messrs. Bill & Skeriy, Liverpool, N. S.

The steamer *Mauritius* arrived in our harbor on Thursday morning from Cork. She had on board a brigade of Artillery, 300 men of the 17th Regt., a number of drill sergeants and 41 horses. She experienced very boisterous weather, during which she lost her foretopmast and jibboom, and had 15 or 20 of the horses killed. The horses were taken up through the streets to the stables on Friday. They were in a very battered condition—chafed and cut, and some of them lamed.

It is not expected that the public will appear in mourning for His late Royal Highness the Prince Consort, after Sunday next.

A WRECK.—A despatch was received in this city on Thursday afternoon, from Newfoundland, stating that a ship was reported ashore at Cape Spear. In less than half an hour after the receipt of the telegram by the military authorities, H. M. Steamer *Hydra* left this port for Newfoundland, to render assistance to the stranded vessel, which it is generally feared is one of the transports which recently left England with troops for the Colonies.—*Colonist*, Sat.

The steamer *Ospray*, from Halifax, for St. John's Nfld., was at the Bay of Bulls on Friday—prevented from getting to St. John's by ice.

We have since learned that the ship *Calcutta* with troops and stores put into the Bay of Bulls Newfoundland, on Thursday last, with damage and short of coals. She arrived at St. John's on Monday and will proceed thence to Halifax.

AWFULLY SUDDEN DEATH.—A young man by the name of Wolf, son of Mr. John Wolf, of Bristol, dropped dead in the Main street, this morning as he was proceeding in company with his brother to go on board a vessel bound for the West Indies. He expressed no feeling of illness previously but seems to have died instantaneously.—*Liverpool Transcript*, Jan. 28.

SHIPWRECK.—The Am. schr. E. K. Kane, Capt. Morrow, of Gloucester, Mass., sailed for that port about a week ago, and is now reported ashore near Barrington, a total wreck. This schooner got ashore at the mouth of Liverpool river eight or ten weeks ago, and was on her homeward voyage, after being repaired, when wrecked.—*Id.*

TELEGRAPHIC FEAT.—We understand that on Saturday afternoon some experiments were made between New York and St. John's Newfoundland, which were highly successful. New York conducted a conversation direct with St. John's, and the difference of time was found to be one hour and twenty minutes—it being 3.55 p.m. at St. John's and 2.30 p.m. at New York. The distance, we believe, is 2000 miles.—*Reporter*.

DECIMAL CURRENCY AND £ s. d.—A good article instituting comparisons between the two systems of currency is given in the *Sun* of Monday last.

The following paragraphs from it will show that the new currency is not in all respects preferable to the old:

"The Government notifies the public that the *New Cents* are ready for issue. We shall now see how far this adoption of a decimal currency will answer expectations. So far our merchants and traders have generally continued to render accounts as of old, in £ s. d. We buy and sell as of old in £ s. d. Why is this? Why are not all our transactions, in our trade and traffic, our retail as well as our wholesale matters of business, computed and disposed of in £ s. d.?

Is it that, after all, the old system of pounds, shillings, and pence is the better with reference to convenience of use? and that the new system, dollars and cents, is only preferable with respect to facility of computation? Yes. Were a body of expert mathematicians set to work to devise the most perfect system, i. e. with respect to the convenience of use in ordinary transactions, without regard to the facility of computation in written accounts, they would decidedly adopt the system of £ s. d.

"There are twenty numbers under one hundred that will divide 960, the number of farthings in a pound, without leaving a fractional remainder; while there are only eight that will divide 1,000 cents in an eagle, although the latter dividend is greater than the former.

Now there are differences only theoretically curious; they have an important practical bearing on the question of comparative convenience of the two systems.

"The American people do not adopt the decimal coinage and currency in their ordinary dealings, simply because of a substantial inconvenience inherent in the very constitution of the currency itself. In the day-books and ledgers of merchants, brokers, banks and treasurers, the system reigns supreme, for the reason that here is a purpose that it is fitted for. We shall shortly see whether the decimal system can be introduced here as a general circulating currency—if tenths and fifths be found to be fractions more convenient than halves, quarters and thirds, it will; if not, not."

Prince Edward Island.

Charlottetown papers inform us that Diptheria prevails at Redouke, P. E. I.

Mr. McKim McDonald, of Johnson's river, P. E. Island, was accidentally killed last week by a tree falling on him and crushing his head.

New Brunswick.

The troops which left St. John for Fredericton on Monday, 27th ult., were obliged to return. They started again on the following day.

It is said that the strength of the garrison of all arms now in St. John, is 1203.

The International Steamboat Company have declared a dividend of \$8.00 on the share, the result of their operations the past season.

IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

RESOLVED, That no Bill of a private or local nature, or petition thereon, be received by the House after the fourth day from the opening of each Session of the present House of Assembly; and that the Clerk do, one month previously to the opening of the Legislature, cause this resolution to be inserted in two or more of the public newspapers.

A true extract
Jan. 4.

ALEX. JAMES,
Clerk of Assembly.