

For the Christian Messenger.

Temperance movement in Bridgewater.

The Annual Meeting of the "B. W. Temperance Alliance" took place on the 9th inst., in the Presbyterian Church in this place. The house was well filled with the most respectable people of the village.

Revds. McMillan and Marton, Presbyterian; Rev. W. W. Bowers, English Lutheran; and Rev. S. March, Baptist, were present, and took part in the proceedings. The subjects—*Provincial and County Prohibition together with Moral Suasion*, were ably handled.

The following resolution was unanimously passed:

Moved by W. J. Gates, Seconded by Rev. Mr. Marton,

Whereas, much good has already been experienced from the withholding of licenses to vend intoxicating liquors in this County. And

Whereas, further good would doubtless result from a continuance of this practice. Therefore

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to the "Grand Jury" and "Sessions" soon to be convened, to neither recommend nor grant licenses "to sell intoxicating liquors in Lunenburg County during the ensuing year."

In seconding the resolution, Rev. Mr. Marton made some very appropriate remarks upon the subject.

It is very pleasing to learn that at last the clergy are being aroused in this village, and are beginning to work in earnest. May their labors not be in vain.

It is hoped that other Counties will take steps to bring before their respective Grand Juries and Sessions this important subject, and succeed in getting them to grant no licenses to vend this poison.

Lunenburg County was once (and not long since) noted for its drunkenness; but, in some parts at least, can now be for its sobriety. There is a marked contrast between the present state of society, and that which existed previous to the stopping of licenses. Other Counties go and do likewise.

Previous to the close of the meeting, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year, viz.

REV. S. MARCH, President.
JOHN HARLEY, Esq., Vice President.
WM. STARRATT, Treasurer.
WM. ANDREWS, JUNR., Secretary.
DANIEL WATERMAN,
RODGERS WATERMAN,
W. J. GATES.

The B. W. Harmonic Society discoursed sweet music at intervals, during the evening, and closed with the piece entitled "Good night, good night," for which they received the thanks of the meeting.

May this good meeting be soon succeeded by others, and all be instrumental in bringing about that long wished for day, when Intemperance, with its kindred evils, shall be driven from our land.

YLSLEK.

Bridgewater, Dec., 1862.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visits.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

Mr. Editor,—

I have often seen in the advertising columns of Newspapers "Christmas and New Years Presents"—notwithstanding, generally I think for sale. Now those I publish, rather those I do not publish, for this is just what an embargo was placed on me not to do, and which was the demand on all previous similar occurrences, and which I loyally and literally obeyed; not having formerly, as now by a larger experience, discovered a way to run the blockade.—So if you Mr. Editor do not publish this, I am pretty sure it will not see the light—Those then which I do not publish, are not for sale, but which were nevertheless duly received by the late arrival of "The Wednesday, Tenth ult.," as also by that quick and safe going, and last for the season, "Wednesday evening, Thirty First." Christmas and New Year's Presents, great varieties, all valuable, of about One Hundred Dollars,—one fourth of which went snugly into my pocket wallet, and the remainder into various places for present and future use. Nor was the gift the only valuable received, but the large number of cheerful friends, who by their words of cheer brought comfort to our wants.

Thanks to the donors! Especially to our Heavenly Father who disposed their hearts! That he may fill all their minds with joy and goodness, and multiply greatly their stores, is the earnest desire of

Theirs to serve,

D. W. C. DIMOCK.

Truro, Jan. 2nd, 1863.

PARKER'S COVE, ANNAPOLES CO.—I wish to acknowledge the kindness of a number of my friends who met at my house at Parker's Cove for the purpose of making me and my family a donation. About 80 persons were entertained with the good things prepared by the Ladies, after which 64 Dollars in cash and useful articles with a very suitable address were presented by Bro. Joel Edget in behalf of the company present. Brother Armstrong and Wallace favoured us with their presence and entertained the company with good Speeches. After some excellent music Bro. Armstrong concluded by prayer.

Since the above, in another section of my field of labor, Donations were presented to me to the amount of ten dollars and fifty cents,—making, in all, the sum of 74 dollars and 50 cts, for which I offer my sincere thanks, hoping that the donors may experience the fulfilment of the promise,—"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Yours truly,

H. ACHILLES.

AMHERST.—The Members of the Amherst Baptist Church, we are happy to learn, have been fulfilling the apostolic injunction: "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things." On the 9th ult, a donation of upwards of \$200 being made to the Rev. George Miles.

SACKVILLE N. B.—A similar gathering at Sackville for the purpose of making a donation to the Rev. Thomas Todd was held on the 29th ult, when about \$220 were presented.

Religious Intelligence.

UPPER SETTLEMENT BADDECK, Dec. 30th, 1862.—The friends of our dear Redeemer will be happy to hear, that He is graciously visiting us in this remote part. Last Lord's day, I baptized one willing convert, rejoicing that he was enabled to declare that Jesus was his Saviour. The brother baptized is the head of a family, and a Justice of the Peace. Hitherto he has been highly useful in maintaining peace among his neighbors, and now, with great sincerity, and earnestness, he labours to lead them to Jesus the Saviour of sinners, and declares to them what he has done for his soul.

A crowd of people stood on the bank of the river, (some of whom were from St. Anns), while I briefly discoursed on baptism, its mode of administration,—and its proper subjects. The Lord was with us.

Being the first time that christian baptism was administered in this place, the greater part flocked to the river side, filled with curiosity, but in a few minutes many shed tears, and on leaving the river deep solemnity prevailed.

We have still encouraging indications of the gracious work going on; both here and at St. Anns, several are anxiously inquiring for the way. There are those who incline towards the Lord, there are also among us, those who mock at the ordinance of the blessed gospel, but "the Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice."

Yours in the fellowship of the Gospel.

WILLIAM MCPHEE.

CANADA.—The Catalogue of the Canadian Literary Institute shows that the aggregate attendance of students, during the past year, has been 158, apportioned as follows:—Primary department, 23; gentlemen, (higher department,) 66; ladies, (higher department,) 36; theological department, 33.

THE LATE MR. SHERIDAN KNOWLES.—The Edinburgh *Witness* has a notice of this gentleman's career during the later portion of his life, when he became a decided professor of religion. During the latter years of his life, says our contemporary, he entirely gave up writing for the stage, and turned his attention to theology, frequently officiating as a preacher. We understand that it was a discourse preached by the late Rev. Dr. Thomas Brown, the universally respected Free Church clergyman of St. John's, Glasgow, that was the means of creating those serious impressions which finally led Mr. Knowles to renounce writing for the stage, and devote himself to a religious life. Several years ago he resided for some time in Edinburgh, and took a deep interest in various schemes devised for the spread of the Gospel amongst the Roman Catholics. He also occasionally preached; and his discourses were marked with an energy, catholicity, and extensive acquaintance with Scripture, which always made a deep impression upon the audience. His interest in the Romish controversy was great, and he published two works, "The Rock of Rome," and "The Idol demolished by its own Priest." The latter was a most thorough refutation of Cardinal Wiseman's work on Transubstantiation, written in a terse and elegant style. A few years ago, when a resident at Torquay, a writer in a religious periodical paid him a visit, and afterwards pub-

lished a few interesting reminiscences of their interviews. Mr. Knowles informed his visitor that he was studying his Greek Testament, and that he had committed to memory the Gospel of St. John in Greek in his latter days. He was very anxious for any help in understanding the Greek Testament. His visitor also asked Mr. Knowles if he ever wrote poetry now; to which the ex-dramatist replied, "No, I don't want to look back after putting my hand to the plough; not that the writing a play would necessarily be wrong; but my thoughts are occupied with other and better things, and I wish them to continue so to the end."

DISSENTERS AT CAMBRIDGE.—It seems that, though a Dissenter can graduate B. A. at Cambridge, he cannot hold even a mathematical examinership there. In a recent case the authorities were understood to have selected a distinguished mathematician for their next moderator, but were unable to carry out their choice, as the 19th and 20th Vic. cap. 88, sec. 45, expressly forbids all office, temporary or permanent, to any one not declaring himself a member of the Church of England. It is a very foolish policy as well as a very narrow one. The natural gravitation to the religious centre of the nation would draw in many a Dissenter, if the natural absorption were not arrested by this artificial reminder that he must be false to his old convictions.—*Spectator*.

The Rev. Dr. Bennett, for many years minister of the Congregational Chapel Falcon-square, London, expired on Thursday the 4th ult. The rev. gentleman had attained the patriarchal age of eighty-nine.

Mr. Arnold, if we mistake not, a son of the great head-master of Rugby, and historian of Rome, and "late Professor of English literature in the Catholic University of Ireland," is a convert to the Roman Catholic Church.—*Saturday Review*.

The ceremony of enthroning the Most Rev. Dr. C. T. Longly, the Archbishop of Canterbury, took place in his cathedral on Friday the 12th ult.

BAPTISTS IN NATAL.—By the Cape mail just arrived we are gratified to learn that the Baptists at Pietermaritzburg, the capital of this thriving colony, have purchased a very eligible piece of land with a view to the erection of a commodious chapel.

THE CONGREGATIONAL BICENTENARY FUND.—According to an advertisement in last week's *Patriot*, this fund now amounts to 152,423l.

American and Foreign News.**Latest from the States!**

[From Telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.]

DEC. 31, 1862.—Intelligence from Alexandria represents that General Stewart's cavalry forces with artillery were encamped within twelve miles of that place on Saturday. The Governor of Missouri congratulates the State in having a loyal Legislature. Missouri has nearly forty thousand men engaged in the war for the Union. The Governor advocates the substitution of free labor for that of slaves, and recommends measures for gradual emancipation.

General Rosencrans's army moved on the enemy in Tennessee, driving them before them with considerable loss. Heavy skirmishing all Monday. Arrived near Murfreesboro, the enemy appeared in full sight. Battle expected on Confederate camp across Arkansas on Sunday.

Jan. 1, 1863.—A sharp engagement is occurring at Nolinsville; heavy firing being heard on the road where General McCook was engaging Confederate General Hardee.

The Federal raid upon Van Buren burned 8 steamboats full of grain and army stores.

The Confederates burned their arsenal at Fort Smith and a large quantity of provisions to keep them from the Federals.

Confederates across the Mississippi are demoralized. Deserters report that five regiments of Missourians and Texans stacked their arms and went home.

JAN. 2.—President Lincoln proclaims, as a military necessity, that slaves in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, except a number of parishes, including New Orleans and Virginia—except Western Virginia and certain countries in the Eastern portion of the latter State—forever free; and the federal Government will recognize and maintain their freedom. In the promulgation of this act President Lincoln invokes the considerate judgment of mankind and gracious favor of Almighty God. He enjoins on those thus declared free abstinence from all violence, except in self-defence; recommends them to labor for wages; and declares that those found suitable will be received into the military service of the country.

Evening.—Terrible battle progressing at Murfreesboro on Wednesday. The Federal line suffered terribly. Four regiments of regulars lost half their men, and all their commanding officers. Majors Rosengarton and Ward killed. Generals Stanley, Rosseau, and Palmer wounded. General Rosencrans personally superintended movement. One shot killed two of his staff officers. At two o'clock Gen. Thomas broke the Confederate centre, driving the enemy a mile. Confederate Generals Cheatham and Raines killed. General Crittenden's left wing had taken intrenchments at Murfreesborough. Neagley's artillery still moving Confederate centre. Guerilla Morgan hard pressed was retreating rapidly in the direction of Columbia, losing caissons, ammunition, waggons, &c.

JAN. 3.—Wednesday's fight near Murfreesboro was most desperate. The Federal loss is estimated at twenty-five hundred. Two Brigadier Generals, six Colonels, three Lt. Colonels and two Majors were killed. The Confederate loss is believed to be even greater than that of the Federals. General Cheatham is a prisoner.

The battle was renewed on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Wood's and Cleave's divisions were in Murfreesboro, and the enemy in full retreat on the same evening.

The Confederate camp at Elk Fork, Tennessee had been routed.

Four hundred contrabands at Norfolk held a procession in honour of the President's Emancipation.

President Davis addressed the Mississippi Legislature on the 16th.

President Lincoln has signed the bill admitting Western Virginia as a State.

DEC. 5.—At the battle of Murfreesboro on Friday last, the Confederates charged heavily and were repulsed; on Saturday they again attacked the left wing of the Federal army, and were again repulsed.

General Sherman's (Federal) advance on Vicksburg had a terrible conflict with the Confederate forces, lasting five hours, driving the enemy in rear of the city, and from his entrenched works.

The Iron-clad Steamer "Monitor" foundered on Tuesday night last, near Cape Hatteras. There were three officers and thirty eight men drowned by this catastrophe. The steamer "Passaic" had arrived at Beaufort, South Carolina.

Evening.—Advices from Murfreesboro to Saturday night represent Federals having advantage.

Bragg reports to Richmond Wednesday gained great success over Federals, capturing 4000 prisoners, 31 pieces artillery, 500 waggons.

Six millions worth of property estimated destroyed by recent Confederate raid upon Holly Springs.

New York *Commercial* says another senatorial raid in contemplation on the President to oust Secretary Seward.

THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.—The correspondent of the *Tribune* gives the following account of the butchery of General French's division:—

"It is not using too strong an expression to say that in this battle we were butchered. The loss of the enemy in comparison to ours must be insignificant."

More than half of the division of General French were placed *hors du combat* before they had fired a shot, having orders to withhold their fire, charge bayonets and rush upon the entrenchments. They anticipated no obstacle until they should meet in the hand-to-hand fight for the crest of the first range of hills. Lying close upon the soft earth, behind a low stone wall and half destroyed fence, which we had not taken into our calculations as obstacles, the enemy watched the approach of General French until every man in the battle came under aim of the best sharpshooters in the rebel army. In an instant almost before the fence itself was discovered to be an obstacle, a long thick line of flame and smoke streamed above the fence and wall, and at the moment the first volley of smoke was fired, sixty pieces of artillery, charged with grape and canister sent their infernal contents straight through on both flanks. Destruction so terrible has never before been seen during the war.

Gen. French went into the action with 7000 men; to-night, two days after the battle, but 1200 men have reported to him. The entire loss in the corps of Gen. Couch, consisting of the divisions of Gens. Howard, French, and Hancock and which on the morning of the battle contained 40 regiments, old and new, amounting at least to 20,000 men, is about 10,000. The loss in Gen. Reynolds's corps of Franklin's grand division, which were at first supposed to be but 2000, is to-night considered by some of Gen. Franklin's staff officers to be nearly 400. The following are the estimated losses in the three grand divisions:—The total in the right grand division, 7,505; centre grand division, 2,950; left grand division, 3,050. Total 13,505. It is believed that these figures will fall under rather than exceed the official report. Gen. Franklin suffered somewhat from the enemy's shells while crossing the river. Had he remained a day longer, his position would have been most perilous. One of our brigades left its tents and knapsacks behind in Fredericksburg.

"THE HARVEST OF DEATH is abundant, in these times. Our young men, the pride and hope of our country, are swept like burning stubble from before us. The financier trembles in view of the tremendous debt which daily looms higher; but the patriot grieves most at the harvest of brave hearts and strong arms among our youth; while a wail of lamentation for slaughtered sons and brothers is echoed from every household in every city and village and hamlet throughout this distracted and sorrowing land."—*Boston Courier*.

GEN BUTLER IN NEW YORK.—It is asserted by the New York *Albion* that Gen Butler has been superseded at New Orleans at the demand of the French Government.

MEDIATION.—The following despatch appeared in a late Boston paper:—*New York Dec. 20*.—A special despatch to the *Post*, from Washington, states that the *National Republican* of this morning intimates that foreign intervention is also close at hand, and adds that perhaps it will be offered with the consent of our government. No ground is assigned for this statement, and the story is not believed.