

DEFERRED ITEMS.

PHYLACTERIES.—The new two cent coin of the United States is to have on one side the motto "God our trust," this being the first instance in which God has ever been recognized on any of the American coins.

THE BOGUS PROCLAMATION.—It was discovered, says the New York correspondent of the *Boston Journal*, that the steamer for Europe had left her dock prior to the discovery of the recent proclamation purporting to have been issued by President Lincoln having been ascertained to be a forgery. In order to neutralize its effect in England, a swift steamer was sent off in pursuit of the former, and boarding the same, every paper containing the bogus proclamation, except those in the possession of passengers, was removed; and a statement explanatory of the forgery was placed in the hands of some trusty Americans on board, to be telegraphed up to London immediately upon the arrival of the ship at Liverpool.

CONFEDERATE STEAMERS.—Two steamships built at Nantes for the Confederate States, were launched on the 23rd of April. They are described as powerful, handsome vessels, built for speed. It was affirmed that the French Government, notwithstanding the remonstrances of Mr. Dayton, had no intention whatever of preventing the arming of these vessels. A steamship for the Confederates had also been built at Bordeaux, and will be ready to sail upon the 1st of June. She is to go to China, and in order to prevent any objection to her departure she will leave as a commercial ship, and will even receive passengers.—*Journal*.

OPTICAL ILLUSION.—A remarkable mirage of Lake Ontario was observed in the village of Pulaski, New York, last week. The lake seemed to approach within forty rods of the centre of the village, giving it the appearance of a seaport town, the conformation of the land assisting in causing it to appear perfectly natural.

It is said that two of the auction houses in Portland have sold respectively \$100,000 and \$60,000 worth of goods from the wreck of the *Bohemian*.

AFFECTING INCIDENT.—The Charleston *Mercury* gives an account of the killing of Miss Pickens, daughter of ex-Gov. Pickens. She was about to be married, and the wedding party had assembled at the house of Gen. Bonham, when a shell from the Union forces penetrated the house and wounded the bride so that she died soon afterward. The marriage ceremony was completed as she lay dying on the floor. Lieut. De Rochelle was the bridegroom.

J. Howard, Jr., City Editor of the Brooklyn *Eagle*, originated the bogus proclamation. He made a full confession, exculpating all the newspapers from any connection with it, directly or indirectly. A person named Morrissey assisted him to make the copies that were sent to the press. The offices of the *N. Y. World* and the *Journal of Commerce* have been relieved from military restraint and have again resumed.

A NEW CAR NEEDED ON AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—A writer in one of the religious papers, in alluding to the comforts now afforded to the various classes of railroad travellers, in the shape of sitting, sleeping, and smoking cars, calls loudly for a swearing car. He thinks that one of these cars on two trains, daily running over our leading roads, would be well filled, provided companies would positively forbid swearing on the other trains. We have observed of late, that this ungentlemanly practice is becoming more prevalent.

THE ANTICIPATED CRISIS.—The New York *World* in a recent money article says:—

"The advance in the Bank of England's rate of discount to nine per cent, will have the effect of increasing the exports of gold, and it will cause the foreign banking firms to increase the amount of their balances in Europe, and to remit up more closely. Bankers and merchants in Europe are acting with extreme caution. They view with uneasiness the political and financial condition of affairs in Europe and on the American continent. Our own importers will do well to take heed and prepare in time for the financial storm which threatens to sweep over Europe in the fall. The financial crisis, when it does come, will be like our civil war, unprecedented in the annals of history for its severity and wide spread disaster."

A MAMMOTH ENTERPRISE.—A new coal company has just been formed in New York, by E. Cunard, agent to the Cunard Steamers, William H. Aspinwall, and others. Its operations are to be upon a gigantic scale. The capital is named at six millions of dollars. George's Creek Valley, Alleghany county, Maryland, is to be the field of operations. The scheme includes the purchase of a railroad, and the employment of every facility within the reach of moneyed enterprise.

Two whales, recently arrived at Fulton Market, in tow of a fishing smack. The monsters were caught off Sandy Hook, and measured over forty feet in length. The captors expected to realize forty barrels of oil. The tails measured fifteen feet in width.

The New York Legislature refuses to pay the interest on the State debt in gold.

A veritable soap mine has been discovered in Esmeralda, California. The vein is ten feet deep, six hundred feet long, and runs very deep. The soap when taken from the mine is as soft as putty, but hardens on exposure to the air.

Agriculture, etc.

TRAINING HORSES.—Farmers often put a biting harness on a colt the first thing they do to him, buckling up the biting as tight as they can draw it, make him carry his head high, and then turn him out in a lot to run half a day at a time. This is one of the worst punishments they could inflict on a colt, and very injurious to a young horse that has been running in pasture with his head down. A horse should be well accustomed to the bit before you put on a biting harness; and when you first bit him, you should only rein his head up to that point where he naturally holds it, let that be high or low. He will learn that he cannot lower his head, and that raising it a little will loosen the bit in his mouth. This will give him the idea of raising his head to loosen the bit, and then you can draw the bit a little tighter every time you put it on, and he will raise his head to loosen it. By this means you can gradually get his head and neck in the position in which you wish him to carry it; and give him a graceful carriage, without hurting him, making him angry, or causing his mouth to be sore.

PUMPKINS.—The corn-field is not the only place on the farm where pumpkins will grow. Planted in well prepared holes, three feet in diameter, on sunny, stony banks, or in spots where the grass cannot be cut, and cultivation of other crops is difficult, much good fruit may be secured. They do well by themselves in hills five to six feet apart each way.

ZINC.—A large proportion of the public may not be aware that the use of zinc vessels for domestic purposes is extremely dangerous. Vinegar, cider, wine, and in fact all acids which have remained in zinc, become poisons more or less violent; this is even the case with milk, which contains a powerful acid termed acid lactique. Various cases of sickness and colic, and even many deaths of young children have occurred, the cause of which has been clearly traced to the use of milk that has been in contact with this metal.

A new green crop has been discovered, which will produce forty tons to the acre. It is called the cattle melon.

COFFEE AS A DISINFECTANT.—The fumes of burning coffee are powerful disinfectants. Experiments have been made at Paris to prove this. A quantity of meat was hung up in a closed room until decomposed, and then a chafing dish was introduced and 500 grammes of coffee thrown on the fire—in a few minutes the room was completely disinfected. In another room sulphuretted hydrogen and ammonia were developed, and 90 grammes of coffee destroyed the smell in about half a minute. It is also stated that coffee destroys the smell of musk, castoreum, and assafoetida. As a proof that the noxious smells are really decomposed by the fumes of coffee, and not merely overpowered by them, it is stated that the first vapors of the coffee were not smelt at all, and are therefore chemically absorbed, while the other smells gradually diminish as the fumigation continues. The best way to effect this fumigation is to pound the coffee in a mortar, and then strew it on a hot iron plate, which, however, must not be red hot.

ARCTIC WHALERS.—Twenty-four of the Arctic fleet of whales have arrived at Honolulu, averaging each 1,150 barrels of oil and 400,000 pounds of bone. Whales were very abundant during the latter part of the season—the water was perfectly alive with them. Hundreds of vessels could easily have been filled with them without perceptibly diminishing their number.

POTATOES.—A paper has been addressed to the Agricultural Society of Chalons, in which it is stated, that potatoes may be safely grown free from disease by merely planting them in June instead of April. The writer, who has proved his theory by several years of successful experiment, is of opinion that by planting the roots in April they become corrupted by the alternate frost and heat.

A FACT FOR TEMPERANCE MEN TO PONDER.—The other day, at a temperance meeting, we expressed the belief that there had been a decided re-action within the last five years, a going back to the old abuses, because reliance is had too exclusively on legal measures, to the relaxation of individual influence and effort. This was eloquently denied. Since then, one, who has investigated and knows, gives us this fact: Five years since, the number of persons who needed help by reason of intemperance, in the county of Suffolk, was five hundred and sixty. Last year it was twelve thousand.—*Monthly Religious Magazine*.

GERANIUM LEAVES.—It is not generally known that the leaves of geraniums are an excellent application for cuts, where the skin is rubbed off, and other wounds of that kind. One or two leaves must be bruised, and applied on linen to the part, and the wound will become cicatrized in a very short time.

A workman in Paris has succeeded in making barrels without hoops, as solid as the best hooped barrels in the world. The discovery, which has been a desideratum for some three thousand years, is undergoing examination before the Academy of La Rochelle.

Missionary Intelligence.

ASSAM MISSION.

Mr. Bronson writes from Nowgong, Nov. 25, 1863.—Br. Scott and myself set out by boat to visit our people at Gowahati, and the newly formed outstation at Darrang. With hard pulling reached Gowahati at four, P. M., the following Saturday. Our native brother Kandura, who is in charge of the station, with some of the other disciples, hastened down to the river side the moment our boat hove in sight. Both the mission bungalows being rented, we put up in the school-house, one of the brick walls of which having tumbled down, we were not very comfortable; but they had made every preparation for our comfort that the circumstances allowed.

The tablet of the lamented Barker, our early associate, placed by friends for whose spiritual good he zealously labored, in the wall behind the pulpit, still witnesses for him, and forbids our ever allowing this house of prayer to be shut up, or sold at auction to be converted into a house of merchandise. I thought also of Mrs. Barker's late offering to sustain this neglected mission, where she herself has so long and so faithfully labored, by means of the pay and bounty money of her only son, slain in battle; and I said in my heart, God forbid that the American Baptist Missionary Union should ever say, "Let Gowahati pass from our hands and perish." I thought of the years of labor bestowed here. I looked upon the little band of disciples and their native preacher before us. I thought of the many interesting openings around Gowahati, and felt that I should sin, deeply sin, were I not to plead with the Union not to think of abandoning Gowahati, but to re-man it speedily.

At our previous visit at Gowahati, we baptized two Garrow disciples. They have had to live in the sepoys' lines, and have been subject to reproach and many temptations. But I was happy to find them still immovable, bearing the cross humbly, and laboring to bring others to the Saviour.

During this tour I have seen much to show that Assam is fast rising in importance. Three steamers lay in the river before Gowahati. Tea lands are being taken up in every direction. The pretty hills along the river side, near Gowahati, are now covered with tea plants. Tea speculators are making independent fortunes in a very short time. A large trunk-road is being constructed by the government through the whole valley of the Brahmaputra, from Bengal to Sadiya. The telegraph wire, to connect Gowahati with Bengal and Calcutta, has already reached Gowahati. There is a change coming over this province. It is destined to be an important country. Now is the time to follow up with the gospel.

LETTER FROM MR. WARD.

Baptism at Sibsagar.—Sibsagar, Jan. 12, 1864.—Last Sabbath we had the pleasure of baptizing one young man, the oldest child of our native Christian community, the teacher of our native Christian school. He had been a kind of prodigal son; but we trust that through the grace to which nothing is impossible, he is now a true spiritual believer in Christ. He had several times desired baptism, but I had resolved that I would not move in the matter, but leave the church to act spontaneously, after they had seen abundant evidence of the young man's complete reformation. Since he first professed to have found mercy of the Lord, though he has had many temptations, he has steadily grown in the confidence of the members of the church and ourselves. Two others have expressed a desire to be baptized. Were I in haste to baptize, I might have half a dozen candidates. We hope and pray that the Holy Spirit may make them truly heirs of grace; and we shall be most happy to receive them into the inner temple by the rite which belongs to believers only.

RANGOON MISSION.

Death of a Karen Pastor.—Just as we had finished prayers in the chapel at sunset on the last day of the old year, a young man came in, breathless and greatly agitated, saying that teacher Mau Yay was shot. Within two or three minutes, I suppose every man and boy in the village was on his way to the scene of the accident, and many of the women had commenced their peculiar wailing and lamentation as for the dead. We hoped that the wound was not serious, and busied ourselves in getting everything ready for his reception. Shortly after I went out to meet him. As I came up, the litter stopped. I pressed some cordial to his lips, but the light of the lantern told a mournful story. He showed no signs of life. Still I could not believe that the strong man was really dead; and, hastening the bearers, we returned to the house to make, if possible, one effort to save him. But it was too late. His faithful friends laid the body carefully and tenderly upon the bed. It was not yet cold; but the heart beat no longer; and as we worked over him, the limbs grew stiff and cold. The wound was in the upper part of the right thigh. The bullet passed clear through, shattering the bone, and so high up that a successful use of the tourniquet would have been difficult, even if a skillful person, with the requisite means, had been at hand.

He went out to shoot jungle fowl with a friend, Koh-neu-moo by name. In a dense thicket, coming up from an unexpected direction, he was mistaken for a bear or wild hog, and received the fatal shot. Poor Koh-neu-moo has continued ever since weighed down with grief.—He has received a great deal of religious instruction in the families and schools of the missionaries, and was for two years an assistant of the devoted Whitaker, on the Toungoo mountains.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

A FEW WORDS TO PROFESSING CHRISTIANS.

Dear Brethren in the Lord,

A week or two more, and the annual meetings of the Baptists of these provinces will commence. At those gatherings there will be many happy greetings; and, I trust, many souls may be strengthened in their Christian course; and many more be led to the "Fountain of Life," and enabled to partake of its life-giving, peace-imparting waters. This will, assuredly, be the case, if the servants of the Most High, throughout our churches, all unite in pleading for it. "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it," said Christ. May I not ask Christians to think of the low state of religion in the churches, and also of this promise of the Master; and then to carry them both and spread them before the Lord? Let our brethren unite and plead that JEHOVAH will come down and dwell "in the midst" of our assemblies. Then may we expect a rich blessing. Then shall we "hear shoutings in the camp."

Many subjects of great importance will come before our brethren for consideration, during those meetings. May God direct in dealing with all of them. But one especially,—that of *Foreign Missions*.—I think, calls for deeper interest, and more energetic action than it has ever yet aroused.

Brethren and sisters in Jesus,—all you who have been redeemed from wrath by the blood of Christ—what are we doing for the perishing millions in heathen lands? Are we "holding forth" to them "the word of life?" Or, are we turning away from their dying wails, while they are daily dropping by thousands, into "the damnation of hell?" I beg you, as Associations, as churches, as individuals, to ask: "Have we done what we could? Are we doing what we can—all we can, to send the knowledge of SALVATION THROUGH THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB to our benighted brethren?" If not, how shall we meet them in judgment?

Pardon me, dear brethren and sisters, when I say that we, as Baptists, are doing almost nothing for the Foreign Mission field. But does some one say that \$600 were sent to Brother Crawley last year for the support of native preachers; and \$127 were contributed for the benefit of the "Mission School in Henthada?" True enough:—\$727 given in one year, by upwards of 24,000 professing Christians. But what is this among so many? About three cents annually for each church member; and nothing for all the rest of the people. Does not the object demand a greater sacrifice than this? Does not God demand it also? Think of the many millions of priceless, perishing souls, whose sightless eyes are turned to us for help. Oh! God, touch the hearts of thy people; that they may run for the rescue of the dying.

We have not a man in the foreign field. Brethren, three or four of us at least ought to be among the heathen. Our churches are suffering, and the heathen are perishing for the want of it. Are there none whose hearts beat vehemently as they think of the blood of Christ and the dying heathen? Brethren, they have never heard of that blood. Unless they hear of it soon they must be damned. If no one goes to tell them they cannot hear. Oh! God, whom wilt thou send?

Does any one say that England and America have missionaries on the Foreign field? Very true. God be praised for what they have accomplished. But what is the proportion of inhabitants and laborers in India even where the missionaries are located? More than 2,000,000 of people to each minister! Then think of the vast districts where there are no missionaries.

Oh! brethren, sisters, awake! awake! God is calling upon us to send and carry to the heathen the knowledge of his Son. Jesus bids us "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Oh! God, infuse into thy people a missionary spirit. Oh! let the breezes of the ocean wait to us the cries of agony that escape from the hearts of the myriads that are daily entering ETERNITY without ever once having heard of salvation.

My only apology for so long a letter is, that I feel deeply interested in this subject, and hope these lines may, by God's blessing, lead Christians to more vigorous and also to immediate action on the subject of Foreign Missions. Let addresses be given at the different Associations, and collections and subscriptions be taken up, and doubtless there will be a far greater sum laid on the altar, for Foreign Missions, this