

CAPT. FREEMAN MCKENZIE

Died in Hantsport, Jan. 5th, 1864, in the 42nd year of his age, justly lamented by a wife two daughters, and widowed mother, as well as the community at large. His funeral was attended by a large gathering of the seafaring and the thoughtful of all classes. All felt that a Christian man had fallen in our midst. From a state of declining health, brother McKenzie perceived that his life would be short, and consequently became more fully alive to his highest interests. Penetrated with a deep sense of his need of salvation, it was his to affirm that "it is good for me to draw near to God," and having a good hope in Christ by the grace of God, and clearly perceiving by the gospel of Christ, that it was his duty to obey as well as to love God, he therefore resolved, while strength and opportunity afforded, it was his duty as well as a call of gratitude, to make an open profession of his faith in his Redeemer.

Accordingly he invited the Rev. A. S. Hunt, of Cornwallis, to come over and administer the ordinance of Christian baptism. Hantsport Church at the time had no pastor, and he having been received by the church was baptized by brother Hunt, August 16th, 1863. From this time his confidence remained steadfast on the Rock of Ages. His last hours were bright, and his end easy and peaceful.

His death was improved by a practical sermon founded on 1 Cor. xv. 58, by the pastor. The resident Wesleyan Missionary took a pleasing part in the service.

W. BURTON.

For the Christian Messenger.

DONATION VISITS.

Hebron, Yarmouth, Jan. 4, 1864.

DEAR BROTHER,—

I wish gratefully to acknowledge the goodness of my Heavenly Father and my friends to me and mine.

On the 24th Dec. about sixty of the members of our churches and congregations of Ohio and West Yarmouth made us a very profitable and interesting visit. Profitable to us it was because by it we were made the richer to the amount of \$86.72; \$45.52 of which was in cash. And profitable to the kind donors, it must have been, inasmuch as our Lord says that the giver always has the best of such a transaction. (Acts 20 35.) and if upon leaving us our friends felt as comfortable as we did, as we looked upon our replenished wardrobe, storeroom and purse, they could not say that they had thrown away their labor, or spent their money foolishly. Very profitable it was, in other than a financial sense, to myself, and I hope it may prove a blessing to the people of my charge.

Our brethren J. C. Morse, H. Angell, R. D. Porter and W. G. Goucher favored us with their company. Their fraternal greetings and appropriate remarks on the trials and joyous successes of the minister and minister's wife, on the happy effects of Donations and Donation Visits &c., added much to the interest of the occasion. That the evening was very agreeably spent, we have the proof, in that several of the company have since been heard to say that they really longed to see another Christmas eve, that they may again have the pleasure of paying us another Donation Visit. And we say Amen! most heartily.

Yours very truly,
JOS. H. SAUNDERS.

On New Year's evening a number of the Upper Stewiacke church and Congregation met at the house of the Rev. O. Chute, for the purpose of expressing their high appreciation of his ministerial labors amongst them.

After partaking of a good supper, the preparation of which reflected great credit, on the ladies, the company was entertained with recitations by some of the young people interspersed with music. Deacon D. Archibald in behalf of the company presented to Bro. Chute money and useful articles, amounting to about \$40, accompanied by a few words appropriate for the occasion, which were responded to in a short but touching address. Several animated speeches followed, and judging by the smiles which lighted up every face, all felt that it was good to be there.

Owing to the disease of the throat with which Bro. Chute is afflicted, he is able to labor but a quarter of the time. Still it is pleasing to see that the hearts of the people are with him and his companion in their labors of love.

A SPECTATOR.

Bass River, Jan. 9th, 1864.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

On New Year's eve a large number of my people and some of other denominations, Brothers Balcom and several friends from Great Village came to my house with the noble purpose of encouraging me in the arduous work of the ministry. The evening was spent very agreeably. An excellent spirit seemed to possess every heart. After tea, we had some very sensible addresses and charming music. When the company separated, they left me the handsome donation \$2 dollars, part of which was in cash. During the past season, in losing my beloved wife, I have passed through deep waters. This kind visit has had a tendency to remove my trouble, and, like the Apostle Paul, I desire to thank God and take courage. May the Lord bless all the donors, and may we all find mercy of the Lord when he comes to make up his jewels.

I am yours respectfully,
JAMES REID.

Religious Intelligence.

GUYSBOROUGH.—The Rev. A. F. Porter writes, Jan. 7th, 1864:

Dear Brother, I have been for some time engaged in circulating religious books, family bibles and papers, and have generally been successful. I preach occasionally, but with difficulty. I fear I shall never be able to perform Pastoral labor, but I hope to be useful in some humble degree in our Master's service.

"Our friends made us a donation visit on Tuesday last, adding another to the many expressions of their interest in our temporal comfort. The Lord reward them.

The church is without a Pastor, and stands greatly in need of a faithful under Shepherd. Here is a brother and inviting field for Baptists. Would that some minister would pay us a visit. Do you not know of some one who would like to come down and make our acquaintance."

WINGHAM, C. W.—A Council assembled here on the 16th ult., for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Church and ordaining Mr. E. Radcliff to the pastorate. A number of ministering and other brethren were in attendance, by invitation. After a statement being made to the Council, of the sentiments on which the persons desiring to be formed into a church were agreed, the hand of fellowship was given by the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Fyfe. The candidate for ordination then gave an account of his Christian experience, call to the gospel ministry, and views of Christian doctrine, which were deemed satisfactory, and the ordination was proceeded with. Dr. Fyfe preached from Isaiah xiv. 27.

American and Foreign News.

LATEST FROM THE STATES.

(From Telegrams to morning and evening papers.)

TUESDAY, Jan. 12.—Since July, 1863, nineteen blockade runners have been destroyed or captured off Wilmington.

Senator McDougall's joint resolution in relation to French occupation of Mexico asserts that it is an unfriendly act towards the United States and the duty of the Washington Government to demand the withdrawal of French troops previous to March 15th ensuing, and in case of refusal to declare war against France.

Evening.—The Morris Island correspondent of the New York Tribune says that the Confederates have in Charleston Harbor, 2 or 3 Iron-clads, close imitations of the new Ironsides and Runderberg.

The Folly Island correspondent of the New York Herald says that the premature explosion of Greek fire shells, will be obviated and persistent bombardment of Charleston would soon be opened.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13.—Newburn Times says the people of North Carolina are ripe for revolt against Richmond Government.

THURSDAY, Jan. 14.—The Governor of New Jersey, in Message to Legislature, disapproves of the Government policy on the Slavery question, and argues that the restoration of the old Union and Constitution should be the object aimed at.

FRIDAY, Jan. 15th.—President Lincoln has signed a Bill extending bounties to the 15th of March.

The Petersburg Register of the 9th inst., contains the following Confederate Telegrams.

"The Yankees busy at Charleston on the 8th, repairing damages to their batteries caused by a storm.

Gen. Lee announces the capture of 250 head of cattle and 200 Yankees.

Gen. Morgan and staff had a reception at Richmond on the 8th inst.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 13th has Wilmington dispatch to the 11th. The steamer Hero was run ashore after landing naval officers.

One Yankee steamer was blown up and 74 prisoners were captured. No particulars.

John M. Botts has been urged to accept the appointment of Senator from Virginia in Washington Congress, declines hoping soon to stand as connecting link between North and South."

Evening.—It is reported that Lee's army instead of being depleted is being increased by conscripts. Strenuous efforts are being made to organize and recruit their cavalry for offensive operations in the spring.

Reported at Culpepper that General Stuart, with five thousand cavalry, crossed River far to right, and reached Leesburg.

Private information reports Charleston being gradually destroyed by shells.

Reported thousand of rebellious Sioux are fleeing from Minnesota, causing much trouble near Selkirk, British America. British authorities refused permission to Federal troops to cross the line to prevent their outrages.

SATURDAY, Jan. 16.—Guerillas have made a raid into Vienna village, capturing fifteen government horses.

The reported movement of the enemy's cavalry occasions no alarm in the army of the Potomac, it being believed that they are insufficient in force for a campaign.

On the right, trains are running as usual, to and from the army.

A Memphis paper contains a Union report, that four hundred Confederates recently captured a passenger train between Duval's Bluff and Little Rock, and injured the road to such an extent as to cause the destruction of the next train, with the lives of many passengers.

A Chattanooga despatch of the 11th reports Longstreet fortifying Bull's Gap, and reinforced by twelve thousand men, making the strength of his force thirty-four thousand.

MONDAY, Jan. 18.—The blockade running steamer Dare, 700 tons, was destroyed near Wilmington, by blockaders Montgomery and Curies, boats crews of both vessels being thrown ashore, were captured.

Some of the Lamar's intercepted correspondence is published. G. B. Lamar writes from Savannah to parties to call on Slidell in Paris, to negotiate for French protectorate, case of necessity, as Confederates will gladly accept it in last extremity. With Mexico, France, and Confederacy, in alliance, and free trade, we hold, we would eclipse the world. Other correspondence refers to purchase of steamers in England.

Robert Walker writes from London, great revolution going on in public opinion in England, relative to financial strength of Federal government.

Evening.—Raleigh, N. C., Progress has editorials proclaiming that peace only can prevent starvation. The masses of the hardworking people want and will have it.

Rumored that an independent command of fifty thousand is to be given to one of the best fighting Generals, authorized to take Richmond in his own way.

Six Confederate deserters came within Federal lines on Saturday, representing that starvation threatens Confederate army. Number of men in their regiment have been shot for trying to desert.

Scout from Point Pelee, Canada, reports that two thousand Confederates are there ready to make attack on Johnson's Island, on ice, to liberate Confederate prisoners.

Proposition for arming negroes, it is reported, is vigorously opposed in Confederate Congress.

THE STAGE VS. THE PRESS.—An action, in a New York court, for assault and battery, brought by a newspaper critic against Barney Williams, the Irish comedian, resulted in a verdict of \$1,000 against the actor.

MADAME SCHNELL, a fortune teller of Louisville, and her two children, were lost on the steamer Sunny Side. She had accumulated \$7,000 by the practice of her art, but failed to read her own fate.

FIVE colored regiments are to be raised in New York city.

ONE brig, nine schooners, two ice boats, and over twenty buoys, were destroyed by fire in New York on the 8th inst. The loss is estimated at \$300,000.

LADY SMUGGLERS.—The Provost Marshal of Memphis, Tenn., some days since had in custody several ladies, some of apparent respectability, suspected of having been engaged in smuggling goods into the Confederacy. Some strange developments were made. One had on a bolt of the finest linen, adjusted to answer the purpose of a bustle. Her corset was filled with pieces of gold coin, quilted in, to the amount of \$1200. Another had her form well rounded out with padding made of the best dress silks, worth five dollars and upwards per yard. Her hose were found to conceal a quantity of gentlemen's cravats, which were swathed carefully about her legs. The third lady's ample hoops were found to cover a number of yards of broadcloth. Her bust was filled out by a museum of articles, consisting mainly of jewelry, silk thread, needles, and medicines. The fair smugglers were detained for trial.

THE SOUTH.—The Confederate Secretary of the Treasury adopts the proposition urged by the President in his message to Congress, and proposes to reduce the over-abundant currency by the compulsory funding of 500,000,000 dollars into twenty year six per cent. bonds.

SOMETHING WRONG.—The following sad record of the results of making negroes free, without providing for their support, makes manifest upon a comparatively small scale, a part of the consequences which would come from general emancipation. We quote from the Cincinnati Enquirer:

"We learned yesterday, from a highly respected member of the Society of Friends, resident in a neighboring county, that the society to which he is attached recently sent a committee to Vicksburg, to ascertain the true number and condition of the 'contrabands' at that place and immediate vicinity. The committee have returned, and report that they found forty thousand, one-third of whom were entirely or nearly naked. Four hundred deaths occur on an average daily."

THE SANITARY COMMISSION FAIR lately held at Boston, was a great occasion. A vast accumulation of curiosities and valuable articles was brought together. There were carriages, sleighs, sheep; a shirt of mail, found in Mexico, supposed to have been brought over in the early part of the sixteenth century by the Spaniards; a coat worn by Benjamin Franklin when at Paris, and in which he appeared at the French court; the shirt and mittens in which Wm. Bradford, (who was Governor of Plymouth Colony in 1621,) was baptized; the death warrant of Bridget Bishop, hanged for witchcraft at Salem in 1692; the trutches on which an old man hobbled to the gallows to be hanged for the same offence; and the identical pins with which these parties were sworn to have tormented their victims.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

PORTLAND, January 14th.—Hibernia arrived at four this morning.

Consols ninety-one to eight. Thackeray was buried at Kensal Green on the 30th. Funeral attended by all leading authors and artists of the day, including Dickens, who made a long journey for the purpose—scene affecting.

German troops advancing in Rendsburg and Frederickstadt. Danes retiring.

German troops received enthusiastically at Kua. Prince Augustine being proclaimed there.

Japanese Tycoon yields to demand of Prince Satsuma, and agreed to expulsion of foreigners. Poland unchanged.

Reported that England takes a decided stand against the Federal occupation of Schleswig, and, it carried out, she will assist Denmark to resist.

Reported that the Alabama had captured two American vessels in the shoals of Sunda.

Cotton slightly advanced; sales for the week forty-three thousand bales.

Breadstuffs advancing.

Napoleon made a pacific speech on New Year's Day, expressing to the American Minister the hope of peace in America.

English revenue returns show a decrease for the year of over half a million.

A searching inquiry into the equipment and departure of the steamer Rappahannock from Chatham exonerates the officials. All the mechanics and laborers engaged on her have been dismissed. Precautions have been taken to prevent a similar occurrence.

The London Times says the Schleswig-Holstein question has reached a crisis in which the only hope of peace lies in the moderation of the great German powers and their checking of the Holstein agitators.

The Daily News shows Germany that if she encourages war, she does so at a greater risk than any other country in Europe.

The Paris correspondent of the London Herald says Maximilian persists in declining the Mexican crown, and that the French troops will be replaced by a foreign legion, and a Republican form of government retained.

MEXICO.

ST. NAZAIRE, Dec. 15.—The steamer Floride has arrived here with news from Vera Cruz to the 15th ult. Colonel Dupin's guerillas destroyed a strong Mexican column on the 11th.

The sanitary condition of the troops was satisfactory.

The Floride also brings to France Mr. Supervielle, a new representative from the Confederates, who travelled by way of Texas. A French war frigate was placed at Mr. Supervielle's disposition, which conveyed him from Matamoras to Vera Cruz.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

WARSAW, Dec. 10.—Under date of the 20th ult., the National Government issued a circular to its agents abroad.

The document first declares to be false the assertions of the Russian organs, at one time that the insurrection was the work of the aristocratic and clerical party at another that it was fomented by revolutionists and demagogues. The circular continues:—

"If the wishes of the Catholic world, and of the illustrious Head of our Church, are upon our side, can this be made an excuse for reproaches against us? It is as false as it is unjustifiable to maintain that the Polish nobility pursue a separate interest in this struggle. Can that be an aristocratic movement in which the sons of the first families meet death upon the field of battle as private soldiers, under the command of officers and generals sprung from the people? Does the intellect of the country go into battle, and do learned men and poets fight side by side with mechanics and traders for any special interest of the aristocracy? The Polish rising displays itself in so simple and purely just a form that only ill-will is unable to comprehend it. Upon the one hand are the rights and interests of humanity, defended by the bravery of our soldiers, and by the lasting exertion of the entire nation, amidst the most fearful oppression; upon the other hand a rule based upon blind passion, endeavouring to maintain itself by means of the most unheard of measures against all Divine and human right. During a period of more than eight months we were unable even to obtain from the Powers at the head of the civilised world the simple act of justice comprised in the recognition of our right to defence against our oppressors. The only result of the sympathy gained for our cause is the constantly increasing accumulation of power on the part of Russia, and her efforts for our extermination. It appears to be the will of Providence to try us by sufferings which exceed the measure of human endurance. We resign ourselves to its decrees. Our manliness and our faith remain unalterably fixed."

It appears to be really the intention of the Government to impose the war contribution, formerly threatened, but designated as unheard-of, and doubted as incredible by almost the entire European press. General Berg has estimated at five millions the amount requisite to compensate the families of persons slain by the insurgents, and to repair the injuries inflicted by the war upon the kingdom. It is to be defrayed by an increase of the brandy tax, and of a fresh impost upon salt. As, however, this can only be accomplished in an appointed term of years, the Government intends to issue half and whole paper roubles for the amount, to be reduced gradually, in proportion as silver roubles are available.