

For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.

REV. DANIEL MCGREGOR,

Died in Lubec Nov. 19, 1870 aged 80 years. He was born in the county of Annapolis, N. S., experienced religion, was baptized and joined the Baptist Church in the Province of Nova Scotia about sixty years ago. He was publicly ordained to the work of the Christian ministry fifty-one years ago, at Bear River, in the house of Obed. Chute. About this time he removed to the States and here continued his labours as a herald of the cross of Christ—God often approving of his labours by the conversion of souls under his preaching. Like most of the early preachers he suffered many privations and was called to make large sacrifices for the sake of his Master. He never faltered in the discharge of duty or shunned to declare the whole counsel of God. For many years he has been pastor of the Baptist Church in Lubec. A few months since the wife and companion of his early days and the partner of his joys and sorrows died, very suddenly, making earth appear less attractive and pleasant to him. But they were not long to be separated. He who knows how to temper the wind to the shorn lamb called our Brother from sorrows to joys, from labor to reward, from bearing the cross to wearing the crown. He left three sons and a large circle of friends to mourn.

His last sickness though short was very painful. Like a true soldier he calmly laid aside his armour, received his discharge, and went to his long sought rest.

Religious Intelligence.

SAULNIERVILLE, Digby Co.—Rev. M. Normondy the French Missionary writes Jan. 21st:—I am happy to inform the friends of the French Mission that I had the privilege on Lord's Day Jan. 8th, of baptizing a young man of much promise. I hope he may prove a blessing to the Church of Christ. Others give us encouragement and reason to hope that they will before long acknowledge the Saviour. May the Lord bless the Mission.

Digby.—The following pleasing intelligence is from a member of the Digby Church, under date Jan. 30th:—

"Our little Church here is prospering; several have been added by letter. Yesterday four followed our Saviour's command and were baptized in the likeness of his death, others have found peace in believing and will soon unite with the church, and the work is still going on."

Another friend writes Feb. 2nd: "A blessed work of revival is in progress here under the labors of Bro. Crandall, the church has been revived. Ten have been received for membership, and the end is not yet, the spirit seems to pervade the church and we are praying for more conversions from sin to God. Last Sabbath was a happy day four followed their Saviour in Baptism. You will probably hear shortly, may God grant an answer to the prayers of his people in this place, for his name and mercy sake."

We commend the following paragraph from a letter written by the Rev. W. J. Wilkins, Congregational missionary at Calcutta, to the attention of our Pædobaptist brethren. It needs no criticism; it speaks for itself:—

Having known Jogesh for so long a time, and feeling sure that he was sincere in his desire for baptism, I did not think it necessary to keep him in suspense longer; on the evening of the third day after he called upon me I baptized him. He was quite old enough to judge for himself, and sufficiently instructed in Christianity to be fully aware of the importance of the step he was taking. His reading of the Scriptures led him to believe that immersion was the right mode of administering baptism, and as he said he preferred this mode I gladly consented to immerse him; for I suppose there can be no doubt that if sprinkling is baptism, immersion is also baptism. The Rev. Mr. Kerry, of the Baptist Mission, very kindly placed at our disposal the tank in his compound, which is admirably suited for such purposes; and in the presence of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Kerry, Rev. J. Ross, of Union Chapel, Rev. W. Johnson, J. Naylor, and S. C. Ghose, of our own society, and several others, I baptized him.—*Freeman*.

Dominion & Foreign News.

A new oil well has been struck in Petrolia, which yields 200 barrels a day. Latest news from Manitoba states that 2000 persons, including Indians, have died of small pox.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

SMALL-POX IN ST. JOHN.—The Telegraph reports several cases of this loathsome disease in Erin and Brussel Streets. The *Intelligencer* states that a man named McEachern, has died and two or three other cases have been reported. The disease appears to have attained considerable headway before the authorities were aware of its existence. The Board of Health has however, been very active, and most strenuous efforts are being made to confine it to its present limits. Every precaution, we believe, is being taken, and the Government will furnish the money requisite to carry out the measures of the Board. Rumors are rife, and needless alarm is caused by false statements which are calculated to do great harm. We believe that all existing cases are now under proper control, and its further spread will be thereby prevented.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday 28th ult. a train on the St. Andrew's railway, got off the track, and James Trenholm, a brakeman, was instantly killed.

The Temperance organizations in St. John, are awaking to new and vigorous activity.

Sheriff Harding, and W. H. A. Keans, Esq., have gone to Ottawa, as delegates from the St. John Sessions to look after the rights of the people of the city and county, regarding the St. John Penitentiary.

BURGLARY.—At an early hour on Wednesday morning the office occupied by officers of the Commercial Bank, at St. John, was burglariously entered and a large sum of money stolen. It would seem that the thief must have been acquainted with the premises, as Mr. Seely, the President, says he locked the safe on Tuesday evening placed the key in a drawer, locked it and also the door of the office. The next morning the office door was found open, the drawer still locked, but the safe unlocked with the key in it.

NEARLY A FIRE.—On Sunday Morning of last week the first arrivals of the Wesleyan congregation at Point de Bute were just in time to find that the side of the stove had fallen out, and to prevent the burning of the chapel.—*Amherst Gazette*.

Sackville is moving forward toward the establishment of a cheese-factory, tenders having been called for to erect a building at Morice's Pond. What say the farmers of Cumberland?—*Id.*

A LARGE CHEQUE.—George McLeod, Esq., of St. John, received from the Dominion Government the other day a cheque for about \$75,000 on account of the St. John Custom House Building. One of the Halifax papers states that it came on to the Hon. Alex. Keith.

SUSSEX.—On Saturday 28th ult., As a young man named Creighton, was feeding a threshing machine when the drum burst and a large iron tooth from it struck him in the face and severely lacerated it, besides hurling him backwards several feet. A colored man had a leg broken by another of the teeth striking it.

Robert Williams, jr., about 24 years of age, of the Parish of Sussex, was killed recently, while working on the brow of a hill, by a pile of logs starting unexpectedly, and passing over his body.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

The suspension of hostilities at Paris is not, it appears, as yet, on a basis that ensures its continuance, or a permanently peaceful solution of present difficulties. Quite a large number of leading and influential men now in France, are still calling for war till every Prussian be driven from the soil of France. From a very little reflection on the past history of the war, this would seem to be a very remote contingency, and not likely to be realized during the present generation. The terms proposed by the German authorities are generally regarded as exorbitant, oppressive and tyrannical.

The victualling of Paris is going on.—The distress in that city is fearful and such as will tax all the resources of the French and German governments to meet.

All the rivers and railroads have been opened for the transportation of food.

Lyons and several other French towns, through their municipalities, refuse to recognize the armistice or any peace project involving the surrender of French territory.

In Lyons the proceeding of the elections have been most tumultuary. The whole city is described as being "wild for war."

No one dares to mention the propriety of peace. The very idea of peace is shunned and scouted by all, and an unanimous voice will be given for war.

The Civil Government remains at Bordeaux.

Gambetta has telegraphed to the Prefects that he will announce Government resolution at Bordeaux after communication with Representatives from Paris. Meanwhile he asks them to be firm and confident; and instructs them to drill incessantly all recruits who come in during the armistice.

Jules Simon is reported as the Paris delegate to confer with Bordeaux Government.

Both Bonapartist and Orleanist emissaries are hard at work for succession to the French throne.

The Orleans princes will be candidates for the National Assembly.

On the 1st it was said that the part of the Provisional Government which is in Paris had declared itself the sole governing power in France, and had issued a proclamation, declaring that the acts of the Government at Bordeaux were illegal. And further that the members of the Government at Bordeaux issued a counter proclamation, in which they receive the decisions of the Paris Government with unmitigated scorn.

Delegates from neighboring towns have arrived at Bordeaux. They have all been instructed to declare for a continuance of war.

The Government at Bordeaux has issued a decree ordering elections for the National Assembly to be held on the 8th inst.

The following despatch was received from London on Saturday.

The British foreign office announces that an offer has been made to Bismarck and Favre to place English resources at their disposal for the supply of Paris with food. The arrangements to be under the superintendence of French and German agents.—The city is said to be on the verge of starvation. An attempt to assassinate Trochu is reported, in which one of his officers was killed.

Bismarck offered to extend the provisions of the armistice to the south-eastern departments. It was not accepted by Favre, as the surrender of Belfort was a condition.

Favre refuses to attend the Conference or appoint a substitute.

Telegrams were received from Bordeaux on Thursday by the Government from Jules Favre, in which it is stated that the Germans have agreed to ignore the holding of elections for the Assembly of Alsace.

The following is from the *Chronicle's* special Feb. 3:

The "Times" in a leading article says it is not surprised at the general doubt felt as to the truthfulness of the Berlin telegram announcing Bismarck's terms of peace.—Anything so exorbitant has not been heard of in the history of modern war. The "Times" reiterates its belief that the despatch is well grounded and can only hope that this monstrous programme will prove not to represent the settled purpose of the German Government.

The French army of the East may be said to have almost ceased to exist as an organized body. All members who have made their appearance on the Swiss soil are prisoners in neutral hands, and have been distributed for safe keeping.

A despatch from Brussels to-day brings an important report that the Government at Paris has undertaken an obligation to advocate the adoption, by the Constituent Assembly soon to meet at Bordeaux, of preliminaries of a treaty of peace, already opened at Versailles.

Despatches from many parts of France concur in expressing the determination of the people to continue the war, unless the terms proposed by Germany are greatly ameliorated.

SAARBRUCK, Feb. 2.—Another call on the Landwehr for men between the ages of 27 and 47, was issued to-day. From the reserves 300,000 men will be ready to enter France at short notice.

The flag of the German Empire was hoisted over Fort Mont Valerien at 4 o'clock on Sunday.

It is said that great consternation was caused at Wilhelmshöhe by the proposition to convoke the Constitutional Assembly of France.

The Empress Eugenie, after a stormy interview with the Duke De Persigny, ordered him to quit her presence, since he persisted in urging her consent to the dismemberment of France.

Bismarck is ill and was visited by the Emperor on Wednesday.

All parties are busy in anticipation of the Elections to the National Assembly. It is

reported that Victor Hugo, Garibaldi, Gambetta, Thiers and Changarnier are Candidates. There is much speculation as to the probabilities of the several parties being in the ascendancy.

Count Bismarck objects to Gambetta's decree; proscribing certain persons from voting or accepting candidatures to the National Assembly; but Gambetta stands firm. The French press do not support his views.

Seventy thousand persons have asked permission to leave Paris. The weather there is intensely cold, and the wants of the people are far from being supplied.

The Museums of Versailles and St. Germain are uninjured.

The Members of the Paris Government go to Bordeaux on the 10th, to render an account of their Administration before the Assembly.

General Trochu declines to be a candidate for the Assembly.

Jules Favre, while negotiating the armistice, was instructed by his colleagues.

Gold is rising rapidly in value in Paris. The Parisians expect a heavy money imposition will be made by the enemy. The city is gradually assuming somewhat the appearance of its former splendor.

ENGLAND.—At a meeting of the conference on Thursday on the Eastern question, Russia fully gained her object, all pretensions being acknowledged and she yielding nothing. Turkey obtains no new guarantees.

Postal service has been re-established from Paris and Versailles to Havre and Dieppe, which ports are now in communication by steamship with England.

The British army is to be reorganized, and one of the reforms will be the abolition of the system of purchasing commissions.

TURKEY.—The news from Constantinople is that Turkey is making formidable preparations to occupy the Danubian principalities, whenever Prince Charles of Roumania abdicates, as he proposes to do, owing to the altered state of public affairs resulting from the disturbances of the treaty of 1857.

Information has been received here that a dam broke in Smyrna, and created an inundation of the country, attended with great loss of life.—[Special to Reporter.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.—The assassins of Prim have been discovered. It is thought they were in the pay of Isabella.

The Marquis D. Avila has succeeded in reconstructing the Portuguese Cabinet.

ITALY.—The Italy Chamber of Deputies has voted 282 to 39, to transfer the Capital to Rome.

The N. Y. "World's" special, dated Brussels, Feb. 2, says that the public manifestations there in favor of the temporal power of the Pope were magnificent.

Provincial Parliament.

THE OPENING CEREMONIES.

The last session of the present Parliament was opened on Thursday last by His Excellency Sir C. Hastings Doyle, attended by a brilliant staff of military and civil officials, and other gentlemen and ladies. The usual ceremonies were observed. A guard of honor composed of the 61st Regt., was in the front area of the Province Building, and the 66th Halifax Volunteer Battalion within the halls. On the Lieutenant Governor's arrival the House of Assembly was summoned to attend in the Council Chamber. In consequence of the death of the late Speaker—Hon. J. J. Marshall—the members appeared without a speaker. They were directed to return to the House and choose a Speaker, when his Excellency would declare the cause of his calling the Assembly together.

The members then retired and shortly returned and announced by H. W. Smith, Esq., that they had chosen the Hon. J. C. Troop as their Speaker.

His Excellency expressed his approval of the choice, whereupon the usual rights and privileges were requested and granted, and the Session was opened by the following

SPEECH.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have called you together at a time when it is probable that you can more conveniently attend to your Legislative duties than at any other season of the year.

While a sanguinary and devastating war has, for many months, been raging between two of the great European Powers, which threatens to involve other nations, it should excite in us emotions of sincere gratitude to Divine Providence, that, far removed from such scenes of conflict and bloodshed, and all the unutterable calam-

ities of war, we have hitherto been permitted to enjoy the inestimable blessings of peace and tranquility.

We have reason also to be thankful that success and prosperity have generally attended the labors and enterprise of our Agriculturists, Fishermen, and other industrial classes who have been rewarded during the past season with returns of more than ordinary abundance.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The Public Accounts will be laid before you, and the Estimates, prepared with a due regard to economy, and the efficiency of the public service, will also be submitted to you.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I feel it incumbent on me to solicit your earnest attention to the important subject of the Crown Lands, in reference to which a spirit of speculation has of late manifested itself, which threatens to be attended with serious inconvenience and injury to the Public service. Immense tracts of wilderness land have recently been applied for, and while every encouragement should be held out to persons desirous of purchasing Crown Lands for the purpose of settlement and agriculture, it is expedient that some effective measures should be adopted to check the granting of lands, in large quantities, to persons who design to use them for the mere purpose of speculation, as under the existing law the Government do not possess sufficient discretionary power to prevent the evil complained of.

While on this subject, I am happy to inform you that the Act of last Session, regulating the price of Crown Lands in the Island of Cape Breton, has operated beneficially, and enabled many of the occupants to perfect their titles.

The markets of the United States of America being, at present, virtually closed against the coal of Nova Scotia, Mining operations in our extensive Coal Districts have been materially retarded; but I sincerely hope and believe that the daily increasing demand for this most necessary article of consumption will, ere long, open to the enterprising owners of our Coal fields a more extensive market than they at present enjoy, and confer on the Province the great benefits which so important a branch of industry is, if unfettered by prejudicial restrictions, calculated to impart.

A misunderstanding which has hitherto proved insuperable, has unhappily arisen between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, in reference to the New Provincial Building. I will submit for your consideration all the correspondence which has passed between the two Administrations on the subject, from which you will be able to comprehend the nature of the controversy, and suggest such measures as you may deem expedient in reference thereto.

A report, with plans and correspondence in relation to the survey of lines of Railway from New Glasgow to the Straits of Canso and Whitehaven, will be laid before you, and I shall be glad if means can be devised to encourage the Companies, incorporated at the last session of the Legislature, to extend our railway system from Annapolis in the west, and New Glasgow in the east,—such works being well calculated to confer lasting benefits not only to the Counties traversed by these lines, but also materially to advance the interests of the Province at large.

As the session now commencing will terminate the labours of the existing House of Assembly, it will be necessary in anticipation of a General Election, to mature measures calculated to amend the Constitution of the Province, and accordingly, bills will be submitted to you for the purpose of affording additional security to the independence of the Provincial Legislature.

To these, and other amendments of the law, your attention will be directed; and I will cause to be laid before you all papers and information that relate to the Public Service, confidently anticipating that your exertions to improve the Statute Law, and promote the peace, welfare, and prosperity of the Province, will be crowned with success.

A copy of the Speech was placed in the hands of the Speaker, and the Members of the Assembly withdrew. Shortly after General Doyle and staff also retired.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A bill pro forma was presented by Hon. Mr. Stairs.

Hon. Mr. Brown moved the Address in reply to the opening Speech. Its contents were simply an echo of the speech, and evidently constructed to avoid discussion.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Whitman further consideration of the Address was deferred till the next day.

On Friday the Council met at 2 o'clock. The Address was taken up and the first two clauses read and passed. On the third clause, referring to the granting of public lands Hon. Mr. Creelman said he thought it would be satisfactory to the House if a member of the Government, or the mover of the Address, would give the House some information as to whether there had been an extraordinary pressure on the Government which had induced them to make extraordinary grants of land.

Hon. Mr. Brown was only aware of the fact of there having been an extraordinary demand for Crown Lands from the paragraph on the subject in His Excellency's Speech. He thought that any discussion of the subject was premature until the papers were brought down.