

NOTICE.

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TAKE NOTICE.—*Payment always in advance.*

Religious Intelligencer.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 15, 1853.

EVANGELIZATION OF IRELAND.

Most of our readers have heard of the great "Reformation" that has been going on in Ireland for some time past; and of the efforts which different Christian denominations are making for the redemption of the long enslaved and degraded Roman Catholics in that country. In addition to the ordinary Missionary operations which have been going forward there, a project was devised during the early part of the season for more rapid and extended evangelization. This was by one hundred Protestant Ministers of England and Scotland, belonging to different denominations who should go over to Ireland, and preach the Gospel as plainly and simply as possible avoiding controversy. Accordingly one of the number went over first, held consultations in Dublin, arranged the districts, (which were in the South, South East and South West,) and secured countenance and support. This accomplished, these men were to go two and two over the districts, one pair succeeding another, preaching in the streets, market places, fields, court houses, and every where that opportunity and audience afforded.

This Mission was planned in dependance on divine wisdom; those engaged in it were men of faith, and from thousands of family altars and closets of prayer, intercession was being made for God's blessing. The first detachment of these Missionaries commenced their labour in Limerick, on the 31st July last. They attempted to preach at different parts of the city at the same time. But no sooner had they commenced, than attacks were made on them by infuriated mobs, and they were obliged to take shelter in the first houses that would receive them. The mobs increased, the whole city was thrown into an uproar, and one of the Missionaries was pursued so hotly, that it was with difficulty his life was saved by the police. The city continued in an alarming state of excitement during the night; the police officers and magistrates were unable to secure the peace, and God's servants were compelled to "flee to another city." In Waterford the Missionaries made the attempt as in Limerick to preach in the streets, but were prevented and driven off at the risk of their lives. They then published an address to the citizens.

But even after this they were unable to preach except in houses of worship, or public buildings. Wherever they made their appearance in the streets they were mobbed, hooted, and insulted. In several other places they were prevented from preaching. But, notwithstanding the determined opposition which has been exhibited against the Gospel of Christ, periling the lives of God's servants, they with that true courage, and fortitude which should always characterize men in a good cause, have not been deterred from their work, nor driven from the field. Only six have quitted Ireland, one of these on account of sickness. All of the others who were driven from their posts have

gone to other places in the South, still to pursue their labour.

We have no doubt but this inveterate opposition to this labour of love, will turn out "for the furtherance of the Gospel." The very news of this persecution as it spreads abroad will kindle up the spirit of prayer in thousands of hearts; that before did not feel a *deep* interest in—or perhaps had scarcely heard of this Mission. These Ministers of Christ engaged in it, will feel the necessity of a greater nearness to—and dependance on Christ; and the glorious tidings of salvation proclaimed by them to the perishing thousands of Ireland, will as a natural consequence be doubly owned of God. Ireland must be free—her yoke must be broken—the cause of her moral degradation must be removed. The time has come,—the groans of her starving millions in 1848 and 9 ascended to God, and He has come down to deliver her. But what a comment on "Irish Emancipation," is the opposition manifested—what an abuse of that liberty which was granted as a boon, and what an unmistakable evidence that Romanism is the same *to-day* that it was in the days of Queen Mary of England or Charles IX of France. Yea, it is the same in Ireland that it is in Tuscany, in Portugal, in France—in Maderia and Rome. Sorry are we to speak thus, but it is not men—it is a system to which we refer. It is *this* system—(and not British rule)—which has degraded Ireland; it is the annihilation of this system in her and *nothing else* that will make her **HAPPY AND FREE**.

On our first page may be found the Memorial addressed to Lord Palmerston, by the "Scottish Reformation Society," on the late persecution.

WINE OR NO WINE.

It was in contemplation to have an Excursion on the river in connection with the great Demonstration at the expense of the City. But this was abandoned in consequence of a difference arising among the members of the Common Council as to whether Wines should be furnished the guests or not. We commend the consistency of those members who opposed the use of Champagne, had they done otherwise, we should have regarded their *principle as an easy sacrifice*. With the action of our Provincial Government to prohibit its traffic before us, and the ardent labours of a large body of Temperance men of principle to prevent its use in full view; it could not have been otherwise than offering defiance to the former, and no small insult to the latter, for the corporate body of this City to pay from the corporation funds a bill for liquor. When every day is giving us new proof of the evils of the old drinking usage, and adding fresh items to the mighty catalogue of crimes and accidents which to look at, makes the soul shudder—when states and kingdoms are speaking with their full power—when civil law is enacted to protect the poor heart-broken wife and neglected children as well as to save the drunkard—when this is the case, we repeat,—it is too late for any body of public servants in a City like St. John, to pay a *liquor bill* from the people's funds.

LOAN FUND.—We have much pleasure in inserting the acknowledgment of the Business Committee under our "Business Notices" for the handsome addition to this Fund since our last issue. The good example set by our brethren in the G. Conference has been followed by the Church at Hampsted, and we trust it will excite to emulation our friends throughout all our Churches, that the sum required may be made up at an early day, and that we may be able to place in one column together, the names of all the contributors to this important work.

REVIVAL INTELLIGENCE.—We have great pleasure in informing our readers that our District Missionary, Elder A Taylor is engaged in Revival at the Henderson Settlement, in Queens County. At our last intelligence about twenty-five had found Christ, and been baptized. Four of these by Elder Merritt about two weeks since, and of the remainder, thirteen were by Elder Taylor last Sabbath. The work is still going forward.

The Protracted Meeting also which was commenced last Saturday at Upper Sussex is resulting in good. Elder W. E. Pennington baptized four there on Sabbath.

In other places also, there are indications of religious prosperity. And while the secular press is rejoicing at the advancement of the magnificent worldly projects of the day, we feel that to be able to record the saving of one soul from death, is of infinitely more importance than this.

Since writing the above we have received a most interesting letter from Brother James Lake, giving us an account of the Revival at the Henderson Settlement, which we have not room to insert, the following extract however describes the meeting last Sabbath.

"On my arrival at the place, at an early hour, I found the house crowded, as many more outside, and others still coming. Brother Taylor was requested to preach to the people in the open air, which he readily consented to do. A temporary platform was erected, upon which he stood, encompassed by a large congregation. It was a solemn time; there was good order, and good attention was paid by all, as far as I could discover. After singing and prayer by Brother C. McKenzie, Elder Taylor commenced speaking, though with lungs very weak. They seemed like a pitcher that had often been to the well, and thanks be to God, had not lost its contents; the waters of life were poured over its lip, and many souls were refreshed by its influence. Some rejoiced; others wept. He closed with solemn entreaty to the people, in view of the fact that *now* was the day of salvation, and there was no promise for to-morrow. Brother McKenzie and two or three others addressed the meeting. But soon another scene followed, and such a one as I have seldom witnessed. Converts were praising God; parents and children were rejoicing together—all magnifying the riches of the same grace. At the close of the meeting, Brother Taylor baptised 13 happy converts, in the presence of about 400 spectators. Surely here was a multitude fed in the wilderness, and there were fragments still left for the evening."

NEARLY A TRAGEDY.—We learn that at the Ball last evening in honor of the Railway Celebration, the gallery fell containing at the same time a number of persons, and burying beneath it several who were below. The alarm was very great, and several ladies fainted. Mr. Rainsford from Frederickton, a bandsman of the 76th, and two females, were injured, the former so much so, that his life is despaired of. The accident broke up the ball. What a transit it would be—from the Ball-room to the eternal world!

TWO SUICIDES.—In Manchester, N. H. on Sunday the 14th ult. two young girls, one aged 19, the other 22, after writing letters to their friends, stating their determination to commit suicide, and arraying themselves in white dresses, left their boarding houses, and walking hand and hand to the bridge across the canal, leaped in and were both drowned. They were seen in the act of taking the fatal plunge, but all efforts to save them were ineffectual. They had both been engaged to be married to young men who had secured their affections and then abandoned them. These men are as guilty of murder as though their own hands had shed the blood of these poor unfortunate girls.

We did not witness any part of the Demonstration yesterday, and therefore cannot speak of the display.