

not help reflecting upon the wonderful power of music. That simple strain, coming, perchance, from some gay, thoughtless girl, and sung to others equally thoughtless, still had its gentle mission, for it stirred up deep feelings in an outcast's heart, bringing back happy hours long gone by.—*Albany Knickerbocker.*

SPECIAL NOTICES.

The object of this paper is to do good. Its price—ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, always in advance—is so low that scarcely a family in our country need be without it. We will supply (on proper representation) to the poor, who are unable to pay for it, a limited number of copies gratis.

We are very particular in addressing our paper to subscribers according to the instructions given. But should any not be received regularly, they will please notify us at once.

All communications for this paper must be accompanied with the real name of the author, in order to receive attention.

NOTICE.—It is hereby requested that all orders for this paper, communications for publication, letters on business connected with the "Religious Intelligencer," or "Free Baptist Book Concern," be addressed to the Editor, Elder E. McLeod, St. John, N. B.

E. J. UNDERHILL, Pub. and Business Manager.
D. W. CLARK, Committee.
WM. PETERS, Committee.
Jan. 2, 1854.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B. DEC. 1, 1854.

THE EASTERN WAR.

This at present is the theme. All eyes are turned to the East, all ears are listening to the tidings that are borne onward from city to city, carrying with them the portents of woe, and leaving behind them the wallings of despair. The same "glorious victory" that fills a nation with exulting, lays open the deepest feelings of thousands of souls, and carries sorrow the most intense—the most dreadful into the happy homes, and cheerful hearts of those who knew no grief before. War which was conceived in rebellion against God, and brought forth in defiance of his law; but sometimes notwithstanding employed as his sword for the scourge of nations, and the chastening of the wicked; is, in its most circumscribed extent, and mildest form, a dreadful calamity. But when involving a host of nations, and embracing those whose position and attitude, give them an influence which the world feels it is to be the more deplored; because the circumstances leading to such an event, must be of the worst kind, and only to be met by the "battle of the warrior," and "garments rolled in blood." We are inclined to believe that the present conflict in the East—that is, the part which our own nation takes in it, could not have been well avoided. It seems to have been forced on her by the wickedness, audacity, and grasping ambition, if nothing more, of a single individual, and be the overruler of millions of souls. But we are inclined to believe that could the real secret be discovered on the part of the Czar, which led to this war, it would be found to be what Mr. Layard represented it to be in his speech before the House of Commons. Turkey only a few years ago, even within our own memory, was shut against the gospel. But now, she has opened her eyes to the love of Christ constrained. Visited that open field of false religion and secured here and there a reader to the open Book of God. At first they seemed unworthy of notice; but the expansive power of God's truth began to be manifested, and persecution was awakened. But as small similar cases, this helped, rather than hindered the work; and in the Providence of God called to its aid the interposition of the British Embassy. No sooner did that feeble work obtain the protection it needed than Protestant communities began to be planted in various parts of the Sultan's dominions. And it is not to be wondered at that the introduction of truth into the neighborhood of the Russian despot, would excite his wrath, and stir up his indignation. To all human appearance the planting of a mission in Turkey was an insignificant act, but in all probability it was what enclosed the germs of influences which have brought a European war into existence, and communicated the invisible elements of a power, which has sent trembling to the thrones of Europe, and put the armies and navies of half the world in battle array.

While we look from any point of view at the apparent causes of this war, we can see no provocation given the Emperor of Russia to involve his own people and others in the horrors of a bloody tragedy, which in all probability will surpass before it closes, any thing of the kind known in modern warfare. While on the other hand a generous regard to the interests of Europe, and the liberties of all mankind, have induced the English nation to enter the contest. But after all there may have been some secret causes, known only to the wisdom of God, which rendered the events now transpiring necessary, even for the moral and civil welfare of England herself. The long peace given to Europe, was occupied by British Christians in some of the most exalted enterprises that ever engaged the attention of any people. More Bibles and more Missionaries were sent out during that time, than during the four hundred years previous. An impulse to civilization and progress was given to the world, which will be felt in ages to come. A false Christianity has been shaken to its very centre, and to it is given the aspect of hoary age, imbecility, and sure decay. Manufactures and Commerce have grown with a rapidity, that imagination never conceived—wealth and luxury have unprecedentedly increased, and the population has multiplied beyond any parallel. But while these have been so, iniquity has also been doing its work. In high places, religious restraint has been too much thrown off, and religious guidance not sufficiently sought. There has not been a sufficient national recognition of Divine Sovereignty, and an over-indulgence has been granted to systems, the very existence of which depends on the destruction of civil and religious liberty. Hence while these have been promoted abroad, they have been rendered less secure at home. The existence of these things have opened upon the masses floods of intemperance, immorality and irreligion; and the neglect of their education has rendered them, an easy prey to some of the worst forms of natural depravity, and chastisement, severe

chastisement, has been loudly called for. God made his appeal by famine and by pestilence, but in the midst of these, new measures for the defence of Jehovah were conceived, and the indications of the controversy that God had with the people were passed over unheeded, until that calamity more dreadful than either pestilence or famine, is visited upon us in its most terrible form. True, some may doubt whether God can so far sanction national conflict, as to employ it for any purpose. While we do not by any means believe, that in every case it has his sanction, yet we do believe that he who employs the destructive hurricane to purify the pestilential air, may sometimes use the basest men to accomplish his designs. It does seem obvious to us that in the present state of things, God does employ it, to carry forward his moral government, and the sword often makes a way for the gospel. Neither do we see why He may not employ this instrumentality, as well as any other—the sword as well as pestilence—war as well as cholera. However iniquitous the present war may seem—and iniquity is somewhere—yet we feel assured that God will not suffer it to hinder his purposes, but he will employ it as a part of that plan, which will work out the glory of His own great name, and eventually establish His truth among the nations. Thus will "he make the wrath of man to praise Him." There is pleasure in the thought, that higher than the highest, the Lord God sitteth; and He will assuredly overrule all things for the best good of His creatures, and his own glory. We may look at it with human eyes, and while we see its demoralizing effects, not only in the camp, but which must naturally grow out of the exciting details which will follow every victory or defeat—while in imagination we stand on the battlefield, after a day of carnage and slaughter, and listen to the moans of the dying—the cry for water to quench the thirst or wet the lips stained with gore and stiffening in death—while we turn again, and behold the mothers—wives—children and friends, as the dreadful tidings reach them of slain sons—husbands, fathers and brothers, and hear the wallings and despair, as it gushes forth from the inmost soul of the bereaved—and above all, if we follow the souls of those blood-stained warriors—who in their very moment, when their hearts were burning with furious passions, their hands dripping in gore, and their spirits maddened with the excitement of the dreadful conflict, are hurried away to meet their God—if we look at these things, and no further—all will be dark. But God sees the end from the beginning—and even these things will be necessary for the general and best interests of the world. We should not limit the Holy One. All sin is a dreadful calamity—and brings its own punishment. But God will overrule it for his glory.

Already the work is begun; and while every fresh tale of misery and suffering is stirring up the benevolent feelings of those at home, and calling forth corresponding efforts to alleviate the distresses which make the heart shudder; fresh impulses are given also to faculties, which, but for this, might have slumbered on for ever, and instrumentalities are set to work in promoting the cause of truth, which otherwise might never have been thought of. Prayer is also being made to God, and well informed Christians feel that through blood, they have now become a part in the conflict, and that one of their great duties is, to prevent the evil which may grow out of it, and watch for every opportunity of doing good. The same God that overruled the bloody tragedies of France, and made them preparatory in his own hand of that evangelical revival which has crowned the labors of British Christians in our day, will also; we are assured, make the wrath of the Russian despot promote his own glory, and bring out of the present conflict some substantial good. We close our article by subjoining the following letter from Constantinople, which we find in the last number of *The News of the Churches*—

CONSTANTINOPLE, October 13, 1854.
Prayer is at all times one of the most important instruments in the hands of the Lord's people for the conversion of sinners, and the edification of saints. But there are particular seasons and eras in the world's history when prayer seems to be more important and called for than at others. Whenever truth was led into the field of contest against error, wherever superstition fought against the light of the gospel, whenever the cause of Christ was arrayed against that of the evil one, at all such times an earnest and effectual spirit of prayer was abroad among all true disciples. During the Reformation in the sixteenth century, in the thirty years' war of Protestantism against the inroads of Popery, and in the times of Cromwell and his Puritan cotemporaries, what a firm and sturdy reliance was there on the promise, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

To all human appearance, the present time is a crisis upon which the greatest interests of religion in the East depend. England, France, and Turkey have been irresistibly drawn into a deadly conflict with a power hitherto looked up to with awe. Whatever be the issue of the contest, the cause of true religion will be materially affected by it. If the allies succeed in subduing their formidable foe (and everything now looks that way), English influence will greatly increase in Turkey, and it has already begun to do so. Progress will be made, religious liberty will become greater, and, as a natural consequence, the heaven of the truth will spread tenfold more rapidly than it has done hitherto, and what it will effect in this land no one can foresee. This, then, is surely a time in which it behooves every one who loves our Lord Jesus Christ, and the progress of his kingdom on the earth, to be much in prayer, that the cause of right and truth may prevail, that this land may be blessed with a still greater liberty of conscience than it at present enjoys, and that the enemy's land may be thrown open to the light of the glorious gospel of peace.

But there remains yet another object of prayer, which lies near the heart of all Christians. I mean the armies engaged in the awful work of death. Much has been done by the British and Foreign Bible Society in the way of supplying them with New Testament, though by no means enough. But there is need of much more than Bibles and tracts. There is need of the presence of the Holy Spirit among these thousands. There is need of earnest and incessant prayer, that the few means of grace they enjoy may prove to them "a saviour of life unto life," and not of "death unto death," and this is the Spirit's appropriate work. The hospital at Scutari affords an excellent field of labor for any who are disposed to do good. For the most part the men are very intelligent (the Romanists all possess), and some can almost be found, here and there, who are not only very willing to hear a serious word, but are anxious about the salvation of their souls.

There are two Scripture-readers out here, labouring among the troops, but their opportunities for doing good are much diminished by the interference they meet with from one or two of the army chaplains, who have forbidden them from labouring "among their flock!" These are High Churchmen, who are not willing that a Dissenter should so much as speak to the soldiers under their spiritual guidance, and who, in the meantime, pursue their own pleasures, and do little for the eternal welfare of those towards whom they pretend to act the part of ministers of the gospel. The French soldiers received the Scriptures with much more readiness and thankfulness than could possibly have been expected. Not only the Protestants but the Romanists, and even the Zouaves, who are mostly transported criminals and madcaps, accepted the New Testaments offered them with gladness. The officers were very polite and attentive to those engaged in distributing the Word of God, and some asked and received Testaments for their own use. On the other hand, the Jesuits and Sisters of Charity are on the alert, and now the French colporteur is not permitted to enter the French hospital. But the Lord will not allow his work to be hindered more than he sees fit, and we may rest assured that, notwithstanding the opposition of these wily priests, this French army has been brought to Turkey, a Mahometan country, to receive the word of life; and it is likely that they have received it and read it in vain? In the Turkish army also there are praying souls, but of these I cannot say more. Here is ample room for the exercise of prayer and faith. I would entreat every one who may read this letter to pray earnestly, faithfully, and incessantly that the Word of God may have free course and be glorified among the natives of this country and of the enemy's, in the English, French, and Turkish armies, and in their several hospitals.

BOOKS—AN APPEAL.

We call the attention of our readers to the Catalogue of Books in our advertising column, and which are for sale at our office. This Catalogue embraces, however, only a portion of our stock, but will serve as some guide to the character of the works we keep, and the prices we sell them at. Those obtained of the American Tract Society, and American Sunday School Union, are sold at their catalogue prices; and all the works kept by us, are disposed of at the lowest rates that we can afford them. Our object from the first, has been to put in circulation religious and useful literature, and at such prices as would be no hindrance to their purchase by all classes, so that the poor could have the means of religious culture as well as the rich. We thank God, that our labour so far has not been in vain. Aided in the work by two or three brethren in this city, and with only a few pounds, supplied by a few individuals, who responded to our call for help in the General Conference at Woodstock in July last year, we entered upon this department of Christian labour, with the full conviction that God had called us to it. During the short period (one year) in which we have been engaged in it, we have sent out to different parts of the Province, hundreds of pounds worth of books, for families, Sabbath Schools, and preachers, and which, we trust, are exerting an influence on the minds of parents and children, which will be felt long—long after this. Our Colporteur is now abroad, disposing of books, and gratuitously distributing tracts, &c., where these messengers of light and salvation would not otherwise find their way, and we earnestly pray—that the God of all grace will own and bless the feeble effort made to advance his glory, and spread the knowledge of his name. But, we confess, we feel ourselves somewhat crippled for want of means to accomplish what we desire. Our paper—the *Intelligencer*—has fought its own battle, and with the blessing of God, unaided by donations or loans, has, we trust, become permanently established. But our book business needs the benevolent aid of those upon whom God has bestowed the wealth of this world. If the work in which we are engaged is of God, then we ought to have at least the countenance and aid of those, who, professing to be his children, are associated with us in denominational fellowship. We want no means to pay debts—for we owe nothing. But we want means to enable us to enter into the door that in the providence of God is opened for us—to extend and enlarge our operations—and spread wider and wider the rich blessings of religious instruction. We feel earnest in this work, because we have been taught in the school of experience, and been almost crushed under the weight of the disadvantages with which we have had to contend. In the first number of the *Intelligencer* which was published, we expressed the loss we felt by lacking early education; and we declared our determination to aid all others whom we could, to acquire the knowledge necessary to make them wise and useful; and to accomplish this, we want aid. We ask our wealthy friends not to decide on our appeal, until free from prejudice and self-interest, they bow before God, and ask him, what they shall do. A few pounds from some of those who have surplus means on hand, would render our work an important service at this time, and we are quite sure, would make the donors none the poorer. We want ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. Shall we not have the gratification of acknowledging the receipt of a portion of this in sums from one dollar and upwards from some of our friends at an early day?

MARINE HALL.

We are happy to learn that the "Mariners Temperance Gatherings" at the Marine Hall, are very fully attended, and the addresses are of an unusually interesting character. We sincerely hope that this timely and important movement will be attended with great success; and we think this may be confidently looked for, when we take into consideration what has already been accomplished by the energy and perseverance of the Seamen's Chaplain, Rev. E. N. Harris.

We learn that owing to the present multiplicity of Public Meetings the Lyceum Lectures, which were to commence this evening in the Hall, as announced in a notice in our columns, are deferred for several weeks.

COMPLAINTS.—Some complaints have reached us from Liverpool and other places in Nova Scotia, of irregularity in the receipt of our paper. We can assure the parties complaining that the papers are regularly mailed from our office, and that the fault of their being lost is not ours. The present mail arrangement for crossing the bay is imperfect, and probably there are some deficiencies in other places also.

REVIVALS AT RUSHAGORNISH AND FREDERICTON.

A letter from Brother Perry dated 24th ult., informs us that up to that time thirteen had been baptized at Rushagornish, and several others had experienced the religion of Christ. Indications of an extended work were still apparent, but labour was necessary to carry it forward. Brother P. had been obliged to abandon his appointments at Hampstead for the present, in order to attend to this good work. During the time he has been there an occasional visit has been made by him to Fredericton, and in conjunction with the labors of some other brethren, a work has been commenced in that city.

A letter from Brother C. Flowers, dated on Monday last, informs us that *five* were baptized there the day before by brother Perry; and that a deep inquiry on the subject of religion is apparent in many minds. We rejoice to hear these good tidings, and beg our brethren who labor in word and doctrine, and others also, to bear in mind that conversion and a public profession of Christ, is only the work of grace well exerted.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

We have received through the politeness of a friend in London, a copy of *The Alliance* newspaper, containing the report of a great meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance held in Manchester, October 22nd. The speeches were of the first class, some extracts from which we intend to transfer to our columns hereafter.

STEAMER ADELAIDE.—We learn that this steamer will make three trips more the present season, leaving St. John on Monday each week.

We purpose being at the Meeting House near Mr. Roach's, Studholm, on Sabbath next, as see notice over marriages.

The disgraceful interference of the Catholic Clergy of Ireland in political affairs, is likely to have a stop put to it. It is reported on Catholic authority that the Pope intends to prohibit such interference in future, by a pontifical decree. It is said that the intimidation practised by the priesthood in electioneering matters, has aroused a strong feeling of indignation and disgust in all parties desiring the well being of the Irish people. This intimation of prohibition is not favourably received by a great portion of partisan Catholics.

The Turkish Government, probably at the instigation of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has issued a firman to put a stop to the Circassian slave trade. The preamble to this document asserts the natural and inalienable rights of all men.

A NATION CHRISTIANIZED.—In 1822 there was not one convert among the natives of New Zealand. Now they can without impropriety be called a Christian people. Cannibalism is extinct, agricultural implements take place of weapons of war, and the people, instead of wasting their neighbors' lands, are diligently cultivating their own.

A mammoth Steamer is being constructed for the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, of the following dimensions: length 675 feet, breadth of beam 83 feet, 6000 tons; she will carry nearly 6000 tons. She is intended to accommodate 500 first class, 600 second class, and 1000 third class passengers; and is expected to perform the voyage to Australia in from thirty to thirty-five days.

Bible burning has not ceased in Ireland. A man was lately convicted at Londonderry of burning a copy of the authorised version. A Scripture reader was lately attacked by a mob at Wexford, and would have been torn to pieces, if the police had not interfered for his rescue.

The number of emigrants which arrived in the City of New York from January 1st to October 25th was 261,000. It is estimated that the whole number of Emigrants arriving at the several ports in the Union during the year will be 450,000.

Mr. J. B. Gough has recently been lecturing in Scotland to crowded audiences, and with good success.

The Parliament of Canada has granted the magnificent sum of one hundred thousand dollars in aid of the widows and orphans of those who are now fighting the battles of their country in the East of Europe.

ARCHDEACON WILBERFORCE.—The public will not be surprised to learn that the Rev. Robert J. Wilberforce, late vicar of Burton Agnes, near Bridlington, Yorkshire, and ex-Archdeacon of the East Riding, has been received into the Roman Catholic Church. He left London last week in company with the Right Rev. Dr. Grant, of Southwark, and some other Roman Catholic clergy, for Paris, where his reception took place. Mr. Wilberforce was the second son of the late William Wilberforce, and consequently is an elder brother to the Bishop of Oxford. He was born in 1801, and was formerly Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, where he graduated in Michaelmas term, 1823, taking at the time a double first class. He was for some time tutor of this college, conjointly with Dr. Newman, and up to a very recent period filled the post of one of the select preachers of the University. He was also public examiner in 1828. It is well known from the time of the decision of the Gorham case, in 1850, Archdeacon Wilberforce had been more or less unsettled in mind on the subject of the Royal supremacy in matters spiritual—a subject on which he issued a circular to all the English clergy in 1850, in conjunction with Archdeacon Manning and the late Rev. Dr. Mill. He is known to the public as being the Author of "The Five Empires," and the "History of Erastianism," as also of a treatise on the "Incarnation," as well as of a more recent publication on "The Holy Eucharist," and on the "Royal Supremacy," the latter of which is fresh in the public mind, and must be taken as expressing the reasons which have induced him to sacrifice his position in the English Church. Mr. Robert Wilberforce has recently been left a widower, and may probably take orders in the Roman Catholic Church.—*Daily News.*

General Intelligence.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The News from Sebastopol, received by the *Baltic* which arrived at New York on Sunday last, is up to the 5th ult.

On the 4th Nov. there was a sanguinary engagement, and on the 5th, a terrible combat including a sortie, and general attack by Menschikoff's whole army took place. The Battle lasted from daylight until 4 P. M. Both sides claim the victory. The English took some hundred prisoners, the Russians stormed several batteries, and silenced the guns. The loss of the allies was 5,000 men; that of the Russians 8,000. The Czar's two sons were in the battle.

On the 6th the battle was resumed by the Russians, but the result is yet unknown.

The garrison of Sebastopol numbers 65,000 men, and a large force under Menschikoff is in the field.

The Allies are outnumbered, but the siege is continued with desperate valor.

This news has caused intense sensation in England and France. Reinforcements had been urgently sent for, and fifty thousand French were waiting conveyance. It is probable that the difficulties of the siege, and hindrances to its satisfactory issue, are greater than were at first anticipated, and the carnage and loss of life on both sides will probably be much greater than was apprehended. Sebastopol will not be surrendered without an effort on the part of the besieged of the most desperate character, and this will require corresponding efforts on the part of the besiegers. A desperate attempt as announced in the above telegraphic despatch, has already been made to force the Allies to raise the siege. The instructions of the Czar to his Generals were to save Sebastopol at all hazards, and Prince Menschikoff, with 70,000 men under his command made an attack upon the besiegers, and the whole garrison of Sebastopol numbering 65,000, also attempted a sortie at the same time. But notwithstanding the desperate effort on the part of the Russians, it was unsuccessful; and although some reverses have been felt by the Allies the siege is still being prosecuted with great vigor. We cannot but hope and believe that it will terminate to the satisfaction of the British and French nations. From English papers received by the *Canada* we give the following particulars:—

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE.

We have received news from the Crimea, under date of the morning of the 25th, to the effect that the besiegers had established their third parallel at 200 metres from the ramparts. Their fire was more lively than on the first day. Almost all the town was on fire, and the besieged had desisted from their efforts to extinguish the flames. Women and children are said to be lying unburied in the streets; everything is neglected in order to keep up the defence. The Russians were constructing another line of works nearer their present ones.

The *Daily News* Correspondent gives the following intelligence of the progress of the siege from the 4th day (Oct. 20) to the 6th (Oct. 22d) inclusive:—

The 20th October (the 4th day of the siege,) by 10 a. m., most of the Russian guns were silenced, and the few that were still in working condition sent forth their round shot and shells at long intervals. The besieged had evidently some difficulty in keeping their men at their guns. Some small magazines or ammunition wagons blew up in different parts of the Russian lines. Our object is realized if we can keep a large number of the garrison continually employed in looking after and extinguishing the fires.

Some of the Russian ships opened fire upon our batteries on the first and second day of the cannonade. Their fire was returned and they were silenced. It is said that they suffered much, and are not likely to be again in a fighting condition.

Deserters, who came out in the state of Sebastopol. The fortress, they said, was like a large slaughter house; since we opened fire, five thousand men had been taken to the hospitals and the graveyards.

The Lancaster guns, which were slightly spoken of in the first two days of the cannonade, had retrieved their reputation.

In the course of the afternoon (Oct. 20) the position of Balaklava was again alarmed by the advance of the Russian army. This time the enemy came with redoubled force, for not less than twelve battalions could be distinctly seen from the heights. They were fresh troops, too, from their uniform, which was red-jacket, trousers, and all, and they are supposed to be a corps which followed General Luder from Bessarabia, and entered the Crimea through Perekop. They were evidently bent upon attacking us, but, thanks to the vigilance and restless activity of Sir Colin Campbell, who commands on the position of Balaklava, they found all the troops in arms and prepared for their reception. As they came within range of one of the Turkish batteries on our right, they were received with some well-directed shots, which caused them to stagger back and withdraw to a safer distance. When once fairly out of range, the Russian general made them go through an extraordinary manoeuvre, which bore a striking resemblance to the challenges of olden times. The infantry drew in line, displayed their colours, and their bands struck up, while the cavalry (the old 4,000) ranged along the banks of a small river, dismounted, and watered their horses. Our own troops—the Turks foremost—responded to the challenge by crowding on the breastworks of the batteries, and sending forth violent cheers. The Highlanders and infantry stood on the hill-tops, cheering too. In short, it was a showing off of force against force, and the Russians had evidently the worst of it, for they went back over the hills. Nevertheless, our camp was kept on the alert, and throughout the night Sir Colin Campbell and his staff were inspecting the girdettes and picquets, and the troops were in readiness to turn out at a moment's notice.

Whatever forces General Luder may have