

## Correspondence.

## New York Correspondence.

A Trip up the Hudson—Scenery—Reflections, &c., &c.

Troy, May 18th, 1855.

Mr. Editor.—Last evening going on board the steamboat Commodore, which some of your readers will remember on the Stonington route from Boston to New York, I find myself this morning in this city, for the C. now runs this trip every alternate evening. Did you ever look upon a scene of more interest in this western world than presents itself on a fine Spring evening upon leaving New York for a sail up the Hudson, the Rhine of America? As you look down the river rapidly expanding into the bay, in the distance near the narrow opening into the ocean on your right you see Staten Island with its numerous villas and almost every eminence crowned with some benevolent institution; on your left, on the other side of the same quite away to the ocean, you see a point of Long Island; on the bottom of the calm bay lies every description of water-craft, from the smallest to the largest, and numerous steamboats plying in every direction as you look toward Staten Island you notice two very small islands, one famous for being the place where pirate Gibbs was executed, and called Pirates' island; on your left, a mile or two below you notice the place where the East River joins the Hudson often called the North River; just beyond the East river, or rather beyond the point of the confluence of the two mighty rivers, lies Governor's island with its fortification and barracks, and over all "the stars and stripes" on this side of the confluence you catch a glimpse of an old fortification, now known as "Castle Garden," and the park on this lower termination of Manhattan island, the park bearing the name of "Battery" in allusion to its use before and during the revolution. This is the point from which Sir Clinton sailed on what we call "Evacuation day," and that where Kosuth had such a triumphal reception on his first landing in New York. Over Governor's island you see a portion of Brooklyn, the principal suburb, itself numbering a population quite as large as the population of your whole province; while at your left below and above you, stretching away for miles, is the vast city with its half million inhabitants. Across the river, on your right if you are still looking down stream is Jersey city, a little above which is Hoboken, a small place settled before New York itself. These two places are in a region which in our early history was called Pavonia, where the Indians scalped the early inhabitants and fired their dwellings, and where the famous Rogers Williams when once on his way to England, succeeded in bringing the savages to a grateful peace. Thus far off the scene as it presents itself to you as you look back from the steamboat as she turns her prow up stream upon reaching the middle of the river. If you are like me when you look at the mild sun just sinking from sight beyond Jersey city, you think of your western prairie home, nearly a thousand miles away, and your soul yearns to visit your widowed mother, your brothers and sister, still in the land of the living, and the graves of your departed father and brothers and sisters. You long to revisit the scenes of your childhood, and where in youth you looked on the Hudson as a river, and now followed the deer bounding away over the unfenced prairies, or where in the forests you at the base of some monarch oak, kindled your camp fires by which to repose your wearied frame after the excitement of the day and by which you so happily wiled away into the land of forgetfulness as you listened to the distant howl of the wolf. Every inch of the way from Jersey city to that far off home you can go by rail. Alas! by rail, for when you arrive, it seems not like home; the iron horse has frightened away the deer and wolf and with them your old companions, the red men. The prairies are covered with villages and the forests have disappeared, and with these improvements have come also the vices of civilization. But there's no time for musing, for the same mighty agent which has contributed so much to this magic change, is bearing you rapidly up the river. You have by this time passed the central portion of the city, got a glimpse of the Crystal Palace, taken a look at the Elysian Fields on the Hoboken side, now you pass the Orphan Asylum and hundreds of residences half embowered in the graves that render the banks of the Hudson as charming. In thirty or forty minutes you reach the "palisades" as the lofty banks are called from their resemblance to artificial walls of rocks. Where you first reach these you pass Forts Washington and Lee, of revolutionary memory, and forts now only in name. It was to these that General Washington retreated when he retired from Long Island. Fort Washington was on the New York side and Fort Lee on the opposite. The scene of the unfortunate adventures of Major Andre is on the New York side above Fort Washington. The "palisades" appear on the left as you ascend, while for the most part the other side of the bank is not rugged and the margin of the river is much of the way skirted by the Railroad, on which you observe trains passing very frequently, and which, as the night comes become a very interesting feature of the scene. But night has come and with it weariness and so in sleep you pass the mountains, narrows, and many towns, and two or three cities, (Albany among the last,) and are roused from your slumbers in the morning by the boat coming to dock in Troy, some six miles above Albany. While you wait at a public house for breakfast you write a hasty note, and breakfast over, you are ready for an old fashioned stage ride towards the hills of Massachusetts.

Yours truly, G.

SPRINGFIELD, K. C., May 28th, 1855.

Brother M'Leod.—Several friends have frequently enquired of me, as to the time when Elder J. G. Plandren became a British subject. I now beg to answer through your valuable paper, that a letter just received from the Hon. Provincial Secretary, informs me that he took the oath of allegiance in October 1854.

Yours, &c.,

JAMES LEE.

## Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B. JUNE 1, 1855.

## Religious Intelligencer Book Store.

A large assortment of Religious and useful Books, including the publications of the American Tract Society, now on hand, and for sale at the publishers prices. Packages of Tracts, Children's Books, &c. SABBATH SCHOOL LIBRARIES, Published by the American Sunday School Union, at \$10, \$5, \$3, and \$2 50; with class books, cards, Hymn Books, Maps, tickets, etc., necessary for Sabbath Schools.

## The First-fruit.

We received a few days since the following note without any signature, enclosing one pound for the British and Foreign Bible Society which we have handed to the Secretary of the New Brunswick Auxiliary:

Dear Brother.—It is written in the good Book, "As ye would that others should do to you, do ye even so to them." In accordance with this injunction, I address a few lines to you, and enclosed you will find a trifle, which is the first-fruits of my new occupation. It belongs to the Lord; as I have not been placed in a position to earn even that, without His blessing. I wish it paid into the Lord's treasury, for the British and Foreign Bible Society. I am only sorry that I am too late to contribute this mite to the China Million Testament Fund.

Yours, &c.,

We sincerely approve of the spirit that prompted the writer of this note, and we commend his example to others. The idea, however, of presenting the first-fruits to God, is not of course original with him. It was the command of God to his people Israel. "The first of the first-fruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the Lord thy God." (Ex. 23: 18.) "Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thy increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses burst out with new wine." (Prov. 3: 9-10, see also, Deut. 26: chap.) While Israel continued to obey this injunction, they prospered and had plenty. But when they grew covetous and distrustful, and withheld from God the offerings required, calamities corresponding to the magnitude of their sin befell them; the heavens refused dew, and the clouds rain, their fields refused to yield as before, and they were "cursed with a curse."

It is a truth of as great importance under the gospel, as it was under the law, that "God loveth a cheerful giver."—"As it is written, He has dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever." And although a change in the dispensation has taken place, there is no change in relation to the obligations which bind the consecration of both person and property on every Christian. Many Christians endeavour to make some distinction between these obligations with respect to themselves and their property, and while they profess to give themselves to God, rob Him of their substance, by making no offering from it to promote his cause. Of such it may be said—"they love in word only," not "in deed, and in truth." How much property belonging to Christians is of no real value to either them or their heirs—it passes away like the morning dew. The hard earnings of many years, sometimes only prove a curse to the next generation; and why? Because no first-fruits were offered to God. If any portion of it was contributed to any religious or benevolent object, it was the mere remnant of what was left after every other expenditure had been made—or such an amount as the donor could give, and not feel it. While there are wants of a religious and benevolent nature unsupplied, and Christians are living in luxury, or hoarding their wealth for their heirs, we may be assured that a charge of robbery stands against the church; and the reward of covetousness will no more enrich our children, than the price of blood. We commend to all our readers the careful perusal of the article on the first page of this paper headed, "True Christian charity—its sources and effect." It presents the subject on which we are writing in a manner easy to be understood, and deeply convincing.

## British and Foreign Bible Society.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held in Exeter Hall on the 2nd of May—the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding. A remark made by the noble Earl in his opening address is so truthful, and evident to every close observer, that we transcribe it. "I am most deeply convinced," said he, "by every day's experience—the more I see, be it in high or in low places, be it in public or in private, be it within the walls of Parliament, or without the walls of Parliament, the more I am convinced that the prosperity, not to say the existence of the British Empire, as an empire, depends upon the depth and the vitality of her religious societies." These doubtless—hated and opposed as they are, by the enemies of all true Protestantism, that nourish the life-blood of England—have placed her foremost among the nations, and make her mission to them, one of freedom, peace, and religion. Every true Christian, and every good subject should feel interested for the prosperity of these societies. The income of the Bible Society during the last year, notwithstanding the pressure occasioned by the war, and other circumstances, exceeded that of any former year except on the occasion of the Jubilee. The amount received for the general purposes of the Society was £64,578. The amount received for Bibles and Testaments was £59,600; further contributions to the Jubilee Fund, £2,684, and to the Chinese New Testament Fund £7,850 making the total receipts for the year £136,032. The total expenditures of the Society during the year has been £149,040. The issues for the year has been, from the depot at home 1,016,882 copies; from Depots abroad 31,994 copies, making the total 1,450,876 copies. "The total number of copies of the Word of God issued by this Society since its commencement has been 29,389,507! Who can begin to estimate the good resulting from this great circulation of the Broad life? And still there are hundreds of millions of our fellow men, who yet have no Bible!

We have not space for any copious extracts from the speeches delivered at the anniversary of this Society. The following passage is from the Reverend Norman M'Leod, of Glasgow:—

"Never was there a period in the history of the

world when the Bible Society should be more earnest and energetic in its labors than now. They had by a hundred and fifty branches entered into hestendon by a hundred and fifty translations of the Word of God. He was not aware that the Roman Catholic Church had made one translation of the Bible since the Reformation; yet, since that period, the Protestant Church had made upon an average one in every two years. He thought that they were reaching one of the most interesting epochs in prophecy,—the downfall of the Ottoman Empire—a downfall all the more remarkable that they loved justice, truth, and righteousness, that they had entered into this war. Islam was doomed to fall, but he for one would not weep or wear mourning for it; since it had done as little for humanity as any Power that ever existed. It was reported that the siege of Sebastopol was to be raised; one thing, however, was certain,—that they could never give up the battle against the citadel of untruth; but, if any fell in that battle, might they fall as some of the pious officers fell—with the Word of God in their hearts and the sword of the Spirit in their hands."

## Free Baptist Church in Carleton.

We would direct the attention of our churches generally to the following interesting letter from Brother Noble, Pastor of the church in Carleton. We expressed our belief in the notice which we gave of the organization of this church, that it had started right and that the Covenant and Directory adopted by them would be of incalculable value if carried out in practice. And now adding to these, their determination to sustain among themselves, and in the community, the regular preaching of the Gospel, it could not be otherwise than that prosperity would follow. "If we so bountifully, we shall also reap bountifully." The success which has also attended the labours of the devoted sister who commenced the Sabbath School, should afford encouragement to all interested in the same work, and stimulate others to engage in like manner:—

CARLETON, May 21st, 1855.

Dear Brother M'Leod.—It may be encouraging to the friends of religion, to hear something of that good cause among us. The readers of your valuable paper will remember seeing a notice of the organization of a Free Baptist church here in February last. At that time it consisted of twenty-one members. It will also be remembered that a written Covenant and Directory were adopted, which we have since found to be of great service. I immediately received a call from this church to take the pastoral charge which I believed to be of God, and accordingly readily complied with their wish. My labor among them since has been much to my own satisfaction, and I believe not in vain in the Lord. We have had a gradual work of reformation ever since, so that now we number fifty-eight. These, with the exception of three are married persons, and the most of them between thirty and forty years of age. The spirit of revival is yet among us and a good union exists in the body. In connexion with this church we have a flourishing Sabbath School. Some circumstances connected with it are very encouraging to us and should be to others. It was commenced in Bro. Clark's house by a sister and was continued there until a place was obtained for meetings and then it was removed to the meeting-room, and regularly organized. In a short time this place became too strait for us, and as we now occupied a meeting-house, part of the time, which was built by the public and occupied the other part of the time by the Presbyterians we moved our School again to this place on the first Sabbath in May. It then numbered sixty children, and last Sabbath we numbered one hundred and nine and eighteen teachers. When this school began as before stated, there were three young women to teach small children their letters, they have stood to their post constantly since, and many of these children are now reading the Word of Life; one girl that entered our school some four weeks ago and begun with her letters, repeated last Sabbath four verses of the 2nd chapter of Matthew that she had learned through the week, and her teacher recommended her to the Superintendent, for admission into a Testament class. I not only speak of these things to give our friends to understand our position, but to encourage all interested in the same work, and to stimulate any that may be backward in so good a cause. I have been glad to hear of the interest manifested in other places of late in the Sabbath School enterprise, and I pray that it may increase until every neighborhood has in it a Sabbath School well furnished with books and other requisites, and properly conducted.

Yours in the fellowship of the Gospel,

JOSEPH NOBLE.

## Maynooth College.

The endowment of this establishment in Ireland for the education of Roman Catholic priests, is now being extensively agitated by a large portion of the influential Protestants of England. They justly consider the expenditure of nearly £300,000 annually by the British Government for the training of men to teach doctrines contrary to all reason, morality, and the Bible, as well as subversive of the free institutions which are the real monuments of England's true greatness, is a gross inconsistency and ought to be abolished. This annual endowment began in 1845, and has ever since been considered a grievance. About two years since a Commissioner was appointed by the Government to examine and report on the establishment; this commission evidently leaning entirely on the side of Rome, and under priestly influence managed to defer the publication of the report until recently, and it is now declared to be without the slightest value to the Protestants of England. The Protestant Alliance has taken hold of the matter earnestly. At the annual meeting of the Alliance, which was held on the 27th of April, (the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding,) the subject was referred to in appropriate terms, and Dr. Cumming, the distinguished writer, made some disclosures in relation to the theology taught in Maynooth revolting to every Christian mind. He very justly said that the endowment of Maynooth was a great national sin—a huge inconsistency. On the one hand the Government endow men to teach the doctrine of transubstantiation; while on the other hand, they sustained the Church of England in teaching that doctrine is a blasphemous heresy and dangerous deceit. With one hand they endow men to teach that the Pope is the

head of the Church, and with the other they endow men to teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only head. He urged the Alliance to direct their artillery against this Romish Sebastopol, and never cease battering, until they attained their object, and succeeded in abolishing every act by which one penny of the public money was gained for the maintenance of such a system. We think there can be no doubt but the countenancing and maintenance of this anti-Christian system of religion is our greatest national sin, and calls for deep humiliation before God. The utter inconsistency of nourishing an element which ever has, and ever will while it exists, seek the annihilation of all civil, social, and religious freedom, is so apparent, that it is a wonder how it can find supporters at all, out of its own pale. But alas! one of the faults of poor humanity always has been, to sell itself for naught!

## Day of Humiliation and Prayer.

THURSDAY the 14th inst., has been appointed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to be observed as a day of humiliation and prayer, throughout the Province, "to implore the Almighty God to grant His heavenly benediction and aid to our Arms, and to restore to our nation the blessing of peace." If ever there was a time when the people should humble themselves before God, it is now. He has a controversy with the nations, and his judgments are abroad. Not only is this true in relation to that one with which we are now contending, but the disasters which have befallen the brave men, who have gone out to fight the battles of freedom against oppression, declare loudly that wisdom does not always dwell with the great. It is to be feared that those who guided the ship of state during the last year, did not sufficiently recognize God, and He left them to the blindness of their own wisdom, which not only resulted in great suffering and distress among the brave soldiers, filling many a heart and family with mourning; but also, in displacing the men from power, that failed to "believe that the destinies of nations are under the control of Divine Providence." Others now supply their place, and it is to be hoped that they will not fail to recognize Jehovah. A day of humiliation has already been kept in England, and in some of the Colonies; and now we are very appropriately called on to unite with those in the same recognition and supplication. We earnestly recommend our churches and brethren to religiously and solemnly observe the day as appointed.

Another object has been pressing on our mind for some time, as a very necessary one for special prayer; and that is, that God would graciously grant to bless the fruit of the earth, and give a bountiful harvest. It must be evident to all those who allow themselves to think at all, that if a failure should take place this year in the harvest, that famine must ensue. There will be no surplus stock at the close of the present summer, in the grain granaries of Europe, nor yet in America, to fall back on; and the supply of food for man and beast for the next year is now in jeopardy, and the withholding of one shower or the scorching heat of one day's summer sun, may prove a greater calamity than either cholera or war! How needful then that God should be recognized, and fervent prayer and supplication made that his blessing might rest on the fruit of the earth. We trust this subject will not be forgotten, but that at every family altar and in every closet, prayer to God will be made that He will send sunshine and rain, with fruitful fields and a crowning harvest.

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—The Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan body commenced its session in this city yesterday. The Rev. Dr. Beecham, one of the general Secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society arrived at Halifax by the last steamer, on a delegation to these Provinces to arrange on terms for the separation of the Methodists here from those in England.—The object of this is to give the Wesleyans here local control over their own affairs, and to render the church self-supporting and more efficient. We learn that the terms of this separation "will involve a permanent connectional union between Methodism on each side of the Atlantic, leaving the section in every aspect one church, and only maintaining a different relationship." Dr. Beecham was expected to arrive in the city last evening.

There will be preaching in the Free Baptist meeting-house in Waterloo-street next Sabbath at 11 and 6 o'clock, by one of the Wesleyan Ministers attending their Conference now in session in this city.

CORRESPONDENCE.—We have received an article on "One of them"—our correspondent on Education a reply to Mr. John Thomas Tutill's animadversions on a former communication of his.

Mr. Tutill evidently misunderstood our correspondent's first article, and subjected himself to some remark, of which "One of them" has not failed to avail himself in the article before us.

We are obliged, however, to decline its publication in the severe manner in which Mr. T. is handled does it comport with the rules of our journal.

"One of them," also adds, that he attended both Training Schools, and "he has been ever since puzzled to know which of the two systems was the true 'model' intended for him to copy."

In Plymouth, Massachusetts, there is a revival of great power reported. A writer cited in the "Aurifer Recorder," says—"I have never seen God's power so fully displayed. At a meeting for inquirers, at Mr. J.'s, there were more than sixty present, and it was adjourned to the Chapel. A large number of the subjects of the work, are from sixteen to twenty years of age. The Sabbath School, for the last three weeks, has been more like an inquiry meeting than like an ordinary Sunday school."

A new idea with regard to the Cholera was started a short time since by an American physician. He maintains that sores of any kind will act as a preventative to the Cholera. He accordingly recommends that on the appearance of the cholera if people shall be inoculated by canstic issue. The idea has been lately tested in St. Petersburg with very satisfactory results.

## General Intelligence.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

## Seven Days Later from Europe.

The steamer "Pacific" arrived at New York on Wednesday morning, with seven days later news from England. The following is the telegraphic despatch to the News Room.

Dates from Sebastopol are to the 12th inst., when matters remained nearly unchanged. An expedition of 15,000 of the Allies had put to sea at Kamiesch, in the direction of Azof, but had returned without landing. No details known.

Omar Pacha's force has returned to Eupatoria. A large reinforcement was expected by the Allies within ten days.

Gen. Canrobert has resigned, and is succeeded by Gen. Pelissier.

## Further news by the "America."

We published last week the main features of the news received by the "America," at Halifax, on the 24th ult. We have gleaned from our file of English papers, received by mail since, some additional items which will prove interesting. The London Christian Times says:

The success of our troops and Allies before Sebastopol, though small compared with the magnitude of our operations, have materially diminished the gloomy feelings which everywhere prevailed in reference to the siege. The Allies are now rapidly advancing on the beleaguered fortress, and very considerable was the progress which had been made up to the 1st of this month, when the French occupied the counter-approach of the Russians in front of the Central Bastion. A great advantage also was gained by the vigorous charge of our own troops, when they forced the Russian ambulances in the front of the Mamelon.

It is now estimated that the garrison of Sebastopol is not half so strong in point of numbers as the forces collected around the southern division of the town, while the reports given by a deserter of the miserable and demoralized state of the besieged city, perfectly correspond with the estimate we may naturally form of their condition, harassed as they are by our continued fire.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM IN ENGLAND.—A great agitation is now going forward in England, on the subject of Administration Reform. The people have become disgusted with the place and power, which have been conferred on the sons of the Aristocracy, without any reference to their qualifications, while the commoners, possessing superior abilities, have been overlooked. To this, and the mismanagement arising from incompetency on the part of those appointed to office is attributed the disasters which have befallen the nation lately. Public meetings have been held in different places, and strong resolutions on the subject passed. The following were the resolutions passed in the city of London:—

"That the disasters to which the country has been subjected to in the conduct of the present war, are attributable to the inefficient and practically irresponsible management of the various departments of the State, and urgently demand a thorough change in the administrative system. That the true remedy for the system of mal-administration which has caused so lamentable a sacrifice of labor, money, and human life, is to be sought in the introduction of enlarged experience and practicable ability in the service of the State. That the exclusion from office of those who possess in a high degree the practical qualities necessary for the direction of affairs in a great commercial country, is a reflection upon its intelligence and a betrayal of its interests. That while we disclaim every desire of excluding the aristocratic classes from participation in the councils of the Crown, we feel it our duty to protest against the pretensions of any sections of the community to monopolize the functions of administration. That an Association be now formed to promote, by all constitutional means, the attainment of administrative reform." The chairman, in putting the last resolution, observed that already twenty-five gentlemen had put down their names for £100 each.

The subject has been brought before the House of Commons, and Lord Palmerston in the course of his remarks, said:—

"When he was commanded to form a ministry, he selected the best materials he could obtain, in order to constitute a strong and efficient administration. In making his selection, he had been actuated by no personal feelings, or by the influence of family connections. His object was to maintain only the best men—men of political experience; and he had succeeded in finding persons in whom he placed entire confidence."

The Christian Times in an able editorial on the subject, says:—

"In a time of peace mal-administration may be tolerated; in a time of war, it is destruction. We are engaged with an enemy who has proved himself our equal in military science, and our superior in the number of troops he can bring into the field! We are paying largely on all comforts, and almost upon our necessities, to supply the Government with the means required for a vigorous and successful prosecution of the task in hand. The vessel has been well freighted, and admirably equipped: but if lethargy or ignorance are to stand at the helm, the first rough gust of wind will endanger its safety.

Aristocracy, or government by the best, the most capable, is the dictate of common sense; but the best or most capable never can constitute a hereditary class. The physical development and energy of quadrupeds depends upon genealogy; but a noble is no larger, or stronger, or handsomer, or wiser, or cleverer than any other man, merely because his great grandfather happened to be great in stature or learned in the law. If the noble have the ordinary, average capacity of mankind, he has advantages which ought to render him superior to others in his fitness to govern. He has time and means for self-improvement denied to the less exalted.

It must be admitted that many of our nobles are worthy of their high position. They have adorned the literature, and illustrated the history of their country. In times past they have been among the most earnest defenders of the liberties of the