

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, MAY 31, 1848.

The temporary, yet unavoidable, absence of the editor of this paper, accounts for the want of matter in its editorial columns, in the impression of today.

From the Christian Messenger.

From the English Missionary Herald, of the present month, just received, we gather some interesting facts connected with operations of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society. The annual report contains a brief compendium of the progress of the Society since its commencement in 1793, by Carey, Pearce, Fuller and the other men of God, who, under adverse circumstances, which nothing but the power of a strong and lively faith could have surmounted, laid the foundations of one of the noblest institutions that christian zeal and benevolence have ever originated. The entire income of the Society during the past year has been somewhat above twenty-two thousand pounds. Out of this they sustain in different quarters of the world, but principally in India, seventy missionaries, and one hundred and fifty-nine native teachers. It is to be greatly regretted, that they are involved at present in a debt of upwards of five thousand pounds, which must of necessity materially cramp their energies. The past year has been one of great pecuniary difficulty owing to their severe pressure of the times. The success that has so signally followed the devoted labours of their missionaries, and its yearly increasing progress is detailed in the fact and statistics contained in the report. Such increase has been gradually but firmly going on in an accumulated ratio.

Within the first ten years, under Carey, Marshman, and others, there were only twenty six native converts reclaimed from heathenism. Within the last three years there have been eight hundred and nineteen. The whole of the intermediate period shows the onward and certain march of the missionary host in their inroads on the regions of darkness. The triumphs achieved in India, we may fairly affirm more than the direct instrumentality of the Baptist missions than by all other means put together, are well described in the following passage of the report.

"In India, suttees (burning of widows) have been abolished; infanticide has been declared illegal; schools are very generally supported; the authorities, who once tolerated all religions except the christian, have ceased to prohibit the diffusion of the gospel, have withdrawn much of the support they once gave to idolatry, and have forbidden the degradation and persecution of christian converts. Christianity, which was to have destroyed our Indian empire, now forms the strongest of the ties that bind it to this country: every convert being, without exception, a friend to British rule."

The numerous translations of the scriptures into the languages and dialects of the east, made by our missionaries from the time of Dr. Carey down to Dr. Yates, are well known, and highly appreciated by every scholar and every christian; but in addition to this they have at various times during the existence of the mission published fourteen grammars and nine dictionaries in different languages, besides a large number of elementary treatises; and it may well be said they have christianized the numerous languages of India, and brought them into the service of God and his church. Such are a few of the results of the first apparently feeble efforts of the English Baptists to fulfil some portion of the great command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." How plainly have the Saviour's words been fulfilled to them, "according to your faith be it unto you."

We regret to learn, from a letter dated Hong Kong, 21st February, 1848, that Assistant Commissary General Goldsmith's health had become so impaired by the climate, that he was obliged to go before a Medical Board, and obtain leave to return home for recovery. He would leave in a few days in the Ship *Virtute*, for London, and we sincerely trust that the rest and quietness of the voyage, will, under the Divine blessing, be the means of restoring him to health. His return to this his native Province, would greatly gratify many warm friends and well wishers. — *Courier*.

NEW SHIP.—Towed through the Falls on Saturday last, by the steamer *Conqueror*, a superior Ship of 700 tons, named the *Bombay*. She was built at Kingston, by Mr. Wm. F. Flawelling, for Messrs. Adams & Keitchum, of this City, and is a fine specimen of naval architecture. — *New Brunswick*.

MR. NATHANIEL SUTHERLAND was unfortunately drowned at Bay Chaleur on the 8th inst., by falling out of a canoe. He was a brother of Mr. Robert Sutherland, of Fredericton, and was 23 years of age. — *Id.*

MELANCHOLY.—On Wednesday last, the body of Mr. George Pigeon, eldest son of George Pigeon, Esq., residing at Cardigan, was found drowned in the Nasheweels. In the neighbourhood of this City. No clue was found on the Inquest, which was held before Henry Fisher, Jr., Esq., to develop the accident which led to his untimely death; but his fate will be long and deeply lamented in this place, not only by his friends, but generally among the people, with whom he was a great favorite. — *Fredericton Reporter*.

MR. KELLOGG.—This Lecturer in the good cause of Temperance, has been addressing delighted audiences during the present week. On Monday evening in the spacious Baptist Meeting House in Town—on Tuesday Evening in that of Hallow, yesterday afternoon he addressed a congregation of Ladies in Concert Hall—and in the evening, the Sons of Temperance belonging to Acadia Division. Mr. Kellogg possesses extraordinary intellectual powers. Originality of thought—vigour of imagination—unusual force of expression—and a highly animated manner, are the distinguishing characteristics of his overpowering addresses. We shall have more to say of him by and by. This Evening he will lecture again in the Baptist Meeting House—to-morrow Evening in the Chapel at Milton—and on Saturday Evening in the Meeting House at the Head of Chebogue. — *Yarmouth Herald*.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—A case of robbery of a most daring and aggravated kind (a crime of very rare occurrence in this County) took place on Friday Evening last, at Roger's Hill, about 12 or 13 miles from the town of Pictou. A person of the name of Alexander Baillie, of Pictou, having been in a small public house with several persons, was attacked a few rods from it on his road home, and received two violent blows on the head with a bludgeon. Before he became insensible, he recognized his assailant to be a person of the name of David McGuire, who had been in his company and drinking with him, a few minutes before. After this brutal attack, the villain rifled the pockets of Baillie, and decamped with their contents, about 40s. He remained about the settlement for the two following days, and even had the foolhardiness to acknowledge that he was the perpetrator of the crime. Strange to say, though a magistrate resides within a mile of the spot, we are informed that no warrant was issued for his apprehension until a magistrate from Pictou went up on Monday afternoon, by which time McGuire had made his escape, and has not yet been found that we have heard of. — *Eastern Chronicle, Pictou, N. S.*

MR. GILLIS, formerly Editor of the advocated, purposes starting a new paper in this city, to advocate his former principles—the paper is to be called "The Colonial Watchman, and Productive Classes Advocate." The first No. is to appear on the 7th June. We wish Mr. G. success in his new undertaking as he deserves it. — *Morning News*.

DISTRESS IN CAPE BRETON.—A writer in the Spectator says, "The letter of your correspondent who writes from St. Ann's on the subject of the distress prevailing in that settlement, is echoing from almost every district and settlement of this country. We cannot close our eyes to the awful verity, that starvation stares us in the face, and to remain silent under such circumstances, would be disregarding the common voice of humanity."

CROPS IN CANADA.—The Toronto Patriot of the 8th inst., says that throughout the greater part of Canada West the Wheat is beginning to look extremely well, and has rather profited by the continual cool weather, with the few occasional rainy and moist days.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Saturday last, a man named Morrison, engaged in blasting rocks, on the property of Mr. Oliver, of this town, was mortally wounded by the explosion of the powder, and bursting of the rock. His skull is fractured and his face fearfully smashed in. No hopes are entertained of his recovery. — *Cape Breton Spectator*.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Mrs. Duncan, wife of Capt. Duncan of this place, died suddenly on Saturday morning last. A Coroner's inquest was held on the body, and a Verdict returned of Died by the Visitation of God. — *Id.*

DEATH BY HYDROPHOBIA.—Robert Stuart, a drummer in an English Regiment, stationed at London, Canada, died on the 2nd inst., of hydrophobia. He had been bitten about two months previous by a dog which he had been ordered to put out of the barracks. The disease had made its appearance on the 22nd of April, about six weeks after he was bitten, and the most dreadful forms of hydrophobia were rapidly developed.

A YOUTHFUL COLLECTOR.—The only collector for the Baptist Missionary Society, in a small village in the west of England, is a little boy about eight years of age. He has collected for two years, and sends up the money in a post office order, sending with it a neatly written letter, asking for an acknowledgment by return of post. The letter is then folded, sealed, and directed by him. He is the only collector in that village! I wish we had one such in every village in the kingdom. — *Two Miss Herald*.

THE STREET.—The Cambria, which is to sail this day, will take \$300,000 in specie, and sailing packets of the week some \$400,000 more. Bills are quite scarce, and the high rates are maintained. It is still strangely true, that notwithstanding the large exports of specie, the quantity in the banks is accumulating. It has risen a million and a half from the lowest point and now exceeds seven millions. Money is now going forward in pretty large sums for the purchase of goods, which are so cheap in England and France that they pay for importing, cheaply as they sell within. — *N. Y. Journal of Commerce*.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER.—Great excitement was created in Henry Street, yesterday afternoon, by a man named *Terrence Dougherty*, making a desperate attempt to murder his wife, by discharging a large horse pistol, loaded with buck shot, at her. From the evidence taken against Dougherty, as also by his own confession, it appears that he has not lived with his wife for a considerable time, and becoming somewhat jealous of his wife on one hand, and feeling lonely on the other, his spirits gradually became more and more depressed, until life seemed a burden to him; and on being taken to the police court, he acknowledged his guilt, and stated that he was perfectly indifferent as to his fate, that it was a matter of little consequence to him whether he was hung or not. The prisoner is about 40 years old, and from the effect of nervous excitement, appears to have become very simple-minded. He loaded the pistol so heavily, that the stock was shattered by the discharge, and his own hand severely injured. Mrs. Dougherty was severely wounded by the buck shot, and was taken into a house, at the corner of Henry and Middagh streets. — *N. Y. Herald*.

REVOLUTION IN ST. DOMINGO.—We learn from Capt. Williams, of the Brig *Ellsworth*, arrived on the 11th inst., in 21 days from Marigouane, (St. Domingo,) that the people throughout the island were arming themselves against the Government. The night previous to the sailing of the *Ellsworth* an army was collecting at Marigouane, which was to join another army of insurgents of 2000 strong from Jacmel, that were a short distance from Marigouane; they were immediately to attack the Government troops. The people appeared to be very much exasperated against the President. The day after Capt. W. sailed, the sea being calm, and about 40 miles distant from Port au Prince, he heard during the whole day firing of heavy guns in that direction. Capt. W. supposes that the two armies were engaged in battle near Port au Prince. — *N. Y. Recorder*.

LATER FROM YUCATAN.—The rumours of the treaty formed between the Governor of Yucatan, S. Miguel Barbachino, and the Indian Chiefs, being broken, are confirmed. Hostilities were resumed with increased ferocity.

On the 7th instant, the Indians entered the town of Merida, with apparently peaceful intentions, but suddenly at 12 o'clock fell upon the citizens and butchered 200 of them. After murdering the men, they committed the most dreadful outrages on the women.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.—THE TREATY RESCIND. — *Louisville, May 25.*—A despatch received here from Tusumba, Alabama, says: "I learn from the Montgomery *Flag and Advertiser Extra*, of the 20th, that important news has reached New Orleans from Mexico. It was received by telegraph and express from Mobile and New Orleans to Tusumba. The news reached New Orleans on the evening of the 18th, that the treaty had been rejected by the Mexican Congress, at Queretaro. This intelligence comes through a channel which precludes all doubt of its correctness."

INDIAN WAR IN OREGON—FOUR BATTLES—THE WHITES VICTORIOUS—MASSACRE OF MISSIONARIES.—*Louisville, May 21, 1848.*—By the arrival of Major Meek from the West we have late and most important news from Oregon, where all is confusion and bloodshed between the whites and Indians. Four powerful tribes have united and commenced a deadly war. Four battles took place in January, in three of which the whites were successful in beating their enemy. Five hundred whites fought a body of two thousand Indians a whole day, when the Indians retreated, after wounding a great number of whites.

On the 29th of November, a most horrid and brutal massacre was committed by the Cayuse Indians, at the Presbyterian Mission, at the Wallah-Wallah valley. Dr. Whitman and wife, with eighteen others, were killed, and sixty or seventy taken prisoners. The house of the Missionaries and their neighbours were burned to the ground. The unfortunate prisoners were subsequently ransomed, through the agency of Peter Sken Ogden, chief factor of the Hudson Bay Company.

Major Meek passed up the river yesterday, on his way to Washington, with despatches for the Government, asking for immediate aid on the part of the Oregon settlers.

THE FALLING OF AN IRON BRIDGE.—*Baltimore, May 25, 1848.* The iron bridge across Jones's Falls, at the foot of Fayette street, fell this morning with a tremendous crash, by which accident several persons were slightly injured, and some narrowly escaped with their lives.

METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE.—This body now holding its session in Pittsburg, Penn., has decided to withdraw fellowship from the Church South, on account of her connection with slavery. They rejected an offer of the Church South to hold fraternal intercourse, but they voted by 147 yeas to 91 nays to receive communications respecting the settlement of property. — *Boston Recorder*.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH CHINA.—A report accompanying the bill for the establishment of a line of steamers between San Francisco and Shanghai and Canton, touching at the Sandwich Islands, states that the distance from New York to Shanghai by this route is only 10,950 miles, whilst the present sailing route, around either Cape Horn or the Cape of Good Hope, is from 18,000 to 20,000 miles. — *Boston Recorder*.

RENEWAL OF MEXICAN HOSTILITIES.—The schooner *May* arrived at New Orleans on the 18th inst., from Vera Cruz. The following pronouncement from Queretaro was dated 27th April, 11 o'clock at night:— "The people have become weary with suffering the oppression and sport of petty tyrants. This at least is the case with the Mexican nation, which by the omnipotent exercise of its will, has discarded what is called the General Government of the nation established at Queretaro, and prostrated to the earth its treacherous oppressors at 9 o'clock on the night of this day. It did this without any resistance, and proclaimed the only plan which, under present circumstances, can save the country. This is war—war without truce or quarter, until an honorable peace is conquered. Such is the programme of this revolution, at the head of which are the distinguished Generals Almonte, Bustamante and Paredes, to whose appeals all who are Mexicans rather than partisans will respond. The tocsin of Liberty has sounded at last. Sons of Hidalgo and Iturbide awake! The invincible hand of Providence points out to you the road by which every nation on the globe will occupy its true place. Mexicans, fulfil your destiny."

American deserters are said to be continually arriving at Queretaro, and during the 25th, 26th and 27th ult., no less than twenty presented themselves to the Mexican Government.

HORRIBLE ATROCITIES OF THE HAITIEN NEGROES.—By the arrival of the Isaac Franklin, from Cape Haytien, we have received intelligence of the most sanguinary and brutal character from Port au Prince. It appears that President Soloque, who is a darkey of the blackest dye, both in color and character, has entirely excluded the mulattoes from all public honors and emoluments.

These though not near so numerous as their sooty fellow citizens, are immeasurably their superiors in energy, intellect and intelligence, a fact which may very easily and reasonably be accounted for. Several of the mulattoes petitioned in the most respectful manner to Soloque, in reference to some of his most recent and oppressive measures, when instead of redressing the grievances complained of, he arrested eighty of the most influential of the petitioners and had them shot in cold blood. This cruel, fiendish and wholesale massacre aroused the friends of the murdered men. Soloque marched against them with a large force, but after a short skirmish, during which he managed to keep as far from danger as possible, he and his troops ran away and succeeded in again reaching Port au Prince.

At the last accounts, all the prominent and influential mulattoes in and about Port au Prince were either murdered or incarcerated in prison. It is feared that these troubles will spread throughout the whole island, and end in an exterminating war of castes; but as every thing which transpires in that quarter is, and has ever been utterly shrouded in mystery, we do not at present wish to hazard an opinion on the result. All business is at a dead stand. — *Boston Herald*.

From the Portland Evening Empire, May 24.

We are indebted to the Maine Farmer, for an extra, dated Augusta, May 23, containing the following:

HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE, STEAMBOAT BLOWN UP, AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Our whole community was thrown into intense excitement at about eleven o'clock this forenoon, by a report from the Kennebec dam, that one of the Waterville steamboats had been blown to pieces in the Lock, causing the death of most of the passengers and crew!

Our citizens rushed to the spot in great numbers, and such a scene as met their eyes we are unable to describe.

The boat (the *Halifax*, just completed, and this her second trip,) was completely riddled from stem to stern—parts of her being thrown over the walls of the Lock, into the river—parts far up the bank, and the rest of her lying in the Lock, a mass of ruins!

Great was the excitement, for none knew how many nor who were the victims.

At this time we have been enabled to gather the following painful particulars:

The *Halifax* was on her trip from Waterville to this place. Arriving at the dam, the engineer neglected, from some cause or other, to blow off the steam, and just as she was about leaving the lock, the boiler burst with a tremendous explosion, causing the death of some six or eight persons.

A PIRATE.—The brig *Paul T. Jones*, Captain Taylor, of this port, and which arrived here on her last passage from St. Thomas, on the 14th inst., met with a rather thrilling incident. On the 3d inst., in lat. 23 30, lon. 72 10, she was chased by a piratical brig which tried to make herself look like a bark by the erection of a jigger-mast, at her taffrail. The pirate pursued the *Paul T. Jones* one entire day. During the succeeding night, Captain Taylor changed his course and ran away from her. The pirate had been fully described to a passenger of the *Paul T. Jones*, by an English officer at St. Thomas, who is fitting out a steamer to go in pursuit of her. — *Philadelphia Bulletin*.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS OF NEW ORLEANS.—There are in this city, 8 Presbyterian, 2 Baptist, 1 Episcopal, 12 Methodist, 2 German Evangelical, 1 Universalist, and 9 Roman Catholic churches.