

The meeting in the evening was held according to previous announcement, for the purpose of advocating and explaining the different objects comprehended in the Local Union Societies; a number of resolutions prepared for the occasion were moved and seconded by the ministers present. The first, which was moved by the Rev. W. D. Fitch, and seconded by the Rev. J. Magee, related to the general utility of union societies as a means of promoting the benevolent operations of our churches; the second—moved by the Rev. J. Magee, and seconded by the Rev. W. Harris, advocated the claims of our Domestic and Foreign Missions; the third related to the circulation of the Bible, and was moved by the Rev. W. Harris, seconded by bro. W. Coleman; the fourth resolution urged the maintenance of superannuated ministers, and of the widows and families of deceased ministers, and was moved by bro. W. Coleman, seconded by the Rev. S. Elder; the last resolution—moved by the Rev. S. Elder, seconded by the Rev. W. D. Fitch, maintained the importance of education as a means of extending the kingdom of Christ, and claimed from the Baptist denomination support for the educational institutions established in these Provinces. These Resolutions were moved before a large, respectable, and attentive audience, who we are gratified to state, received and sustained them with great cordiality. Collections in aid of Domestic Missions were taken up during the meetings.

In conclusion we must gratefully acknowledge that, although no extraordinary results attended our last Quarterly Meeting, yet they were solemn and interesting throughout, and in no small degree encouraging to the Church in connection with which they were held.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this District is appointed to be held at Canning, to commence on the second Saturday in March.—*Com. dist.* Fredericton, Feb. 19, 1848.

We find the following in the Courier of Saturday;—

It is said the committee on Railroads will recommend the following grants and advantages to facilitate and encourage the Great Trunk Line from Halifax to Quebec. The interest of £400,000, at 4 per cent., per annum, (say £15,000) for twenty years, to be paid by the Province as a direct and absolute bonus toward the construction of the railroad; with the right to a strip of land, free of all expense, of 200 feet in width for the railway, and free grants of every third lot of 100 acres of the ungranted land on the line, and of 500 acres at every station required for Railroad purposes. Mr. Partelow is Chairman of this Committee, and we look for an able and interesting report on Colonial Railways.

REV. THOMAS T. DEVAN, M. D.—It is well known to our readers that the climate of China was too ungenial for Dr. Devan, to allow him to remain in his useful position in that missionary field. He was ready, however, for further toils in the same cause, and in December last the Executive Committee of the Union unanimously invited him to join the French Mission, which he has consented to do.

Dr. Devan received his medical education, in part at least, at Paris, and by his knowledge of the people and language of France, as well as by his fervent zeal in the cause, he is eminently qualified for usefulness in the important work of French evangelization. His particular sphere of labor will be determined on his arrival. He will sail in a very short period, and will bear with him the good wishes and prayers of thousands.—*New York Recorder.*

IMPORTANT FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.—By the arrival of the brig R. De Zaldo, Capt. Roberts, from San Juan, Central America, the New York papers have been put in possession of the following important intelligence from Nicaragua. The fort of San Juan alluded to below was taken possession of by a British man-of-war in the name of the Mosquito king:

"By the brig R. De Zaldo, Capt. Roberts, arrived yesterday from San Juan, Central America, 25th ult., we learn that a few days before he left, the British officers and men having charge of Fort San Juan, were attacked by the natives, who gained possession of the fort, taking the officers and men prisoners, and carrying them captive to Granada."

A British steam frigate had arrived at San Juan. Captain R. was informed by the Commander of the Frigate that the act would not doubt be considered a declaration of war by the English government.

Capt. Roberts is the bearer of dispatches from the Government of Central America to the United States, the purport of which is a strong desire for annexation to our Government.

The ship fever is very prevalent at New Orleans, among the recently arrived emigrants, and the unusual prevalence of disease in the city is exciting considerable anxiety among the inhabitants.

THE PROPOSED TREATY OF PEACE.—The *National Intelligencer* says that a Treaty of Peace signed by Mr. Trist, as Commissioner on the part of the United States, and by three Commissioners on the part of Mexico, has been received by the Executive, and is now under consideration by that branch of the Government, of which the following is the substance:—

First, Peace between the United States, and Mexico, and an armistice between the military commanders of the two countries during such time as the Treaty shall be in suspense.

Secondly, Mexico agrees, in consideration, &c., that the boundary between the United States and Mexico shall hereafter be from the sea up the middle of the Rio Grande, to the boundary of New Mexico, and thence in a line which (with some digression) is to run west (or nearly west) to the Pacific Ocean, and strike a point south of the port of San Diego.

Thirdly, In consideration of this large cession of Territory, the United States are to pay to Mexico the sum of Fifteen Millions of Dollars, and to satisfy all the just claims of the citizens of the United States against the Government of Mexico.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.—A mournful and agitating event occurred in the House of Representatives yesterday, which, as the news of it spread through the city, engrossed all thoughts and filled all hearts with sympathy.

Just after the yeas and nays were taken on a question, and the Speaker had risen to put another question to the House, a sudden cry was heard on the left of the chair, "Mr. Adams is dying!"

A great sensation was created in the House; members from all quarters rushing from their seats and gathering round the fallen statesman, who was immediately lifted into the area in front of the Clerk's table. The Speaker instantly suggested that some gentleman move an adjournment, which being promptly done, the House adjourned. A sofa was brought, and Mr. Adams in a state of perfect helplessness, though not of entire insensibility, was gently laid upon it. The sofa was then taken up, and removed to the Speaker's apartment, the doors of which were forthwith closed to all but professional gentlemen, several of whom arrived in succession as the news spread into the city.

In the Hall, meanwhile, a gloomy pause occurred in the usual hum of voices that fills it. Some members sat in mute suspense; others stood in groups, and made or answered inquiries as to the cause and the probable issue of the attack; others hastened towards the Speaker's room to get the latest intelligence of the sufferer's condition; while many were busily engaged in writing to their friends at home the alarming news.

The correspondent of the N. Y. Commercial says that the words which Mr. Adams uttered, in a low but distinct tone, as he sank on the left side of his chair, and at the moment when he was stricken by the hand of death, were these:

THIS IS THE LAST OF EARTH—I AM CONTENT! These were the very words—the last words he will ever utter. He was insensible when borne into the Speaker's room, and has remained so since. This correspondent further says—"I never saw a more sudden and general gush of feeling from Congress and the public than on this occasion. 'We are not all stocks and stones,' thank God! Mr. Adams will die in the Capitol. It was his aspiration to die in his country's service—to wear out instead of rusting out." He has his wish.

DEATH OF MR. ADAMS.—The Philadelphia Ledger says the death of Mr. Adams was announced by telegraph last night, immediately after which the wires broke. Nothing further is known in New York.

NEW POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE UNITED STATES.—We learn that His Excellency, the Governor General has received a despatch from the Home Government announcing that a new and satisfactory postal arrangement has been effected with the United States, to come into operation in April next. The Colonial despatches forwarded to His Excellency by the last mail were permitted to pass unobstructed through the United States' territory.—*Colonist.*

MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. The Flour market is firm, with a good demand. Sales Genesee at \$6.12 1/2; and Western at \$6.06 1/2. Sales new mess Pork a \$10 a \$10.12 1/2; and prime at \$8 a \$8.12 1/2.

BOSTON, Feb. 24. Sales Genesee and Michigan, common brands, a \$6.25, and firm; fancy brands \$6.50 a \$7. Corn dull; selling at 55 a 57c for Southern yellow; 53 a 54c for white.

PREIGHTS.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 19.—To Liverpool 3d for sq. 7-16 a 3d for Seal Island cotton. A number of vessels in port unemployed.

SAYANNAH, Feb. 18.—To Liverpool 7-16 for sq. and round bales.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 15.—A ship taken to Liverpool at 3d for cotton.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—For cotton to Liverpool, 3-16d continued to be asked; 1s 3d for flour.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Interior of the Earth.

A fact of great interest has been proved by the borings for Artesian wells in the suburbs of Paris, namely, that as we go toward the centre of the earth the temperature increases at the rate of about one degree for every fifty feet. That the whole interior portion of the earth, or at least a great part of it is an igneous ocean of melted rock, agitated by violent winds, though I dare not affirm it, is still rendered highly probable by the phenomena of volcanoes. The facts connected with their eruptions have been ascertained and placed beyond a doubt.—How then are they to be accounted for? The theory prevalent some years since, that they are caused by the combustion of immense coral beds, is perfectly puerile and is entirely abandoned. All the coal in the world would never afford fuel enough for a single capital exhibition of Vesuvius. We must look higher than this; and I have little doubt that the whole rests on the action of electric and galvanic principles which are constantly in operation in the earth. We know that when certain metals are brought together, powerful electric action is evolved, and a light is produced, superior even in effulgence to the splendor of the sun. Now if a small arrangement produces such results, what may we not expect from the combination of these immense beds of metal to be found in the earth? Here we have the key to all the grand phenomena of volcanic action. An illustration on a small scale may be seen in an instrument called the thermo-electrical battery, made of zinc, bismuth, and antimony, packed in a box and varnished. In this, heat is evolved below, while the top is cold; and here we have the very cause of the volcano, when in the interior a fiery ocean is heaving its surges, while its peak is capped with everlasting snows.—*Prof. Siliman.*

Population of the Grave.

From extensive calculation, it seems the average of human births per second, since the birth of Christ to this time, is about 815; which gives about thirty two thousand millions; and after deducting the present supposed population of the world, (960,000,000) leaves the number of thirty one thousand and forty millions that have gone down to the grave; giving death and the grave the victory over the living, to the number of thirty thousand and eight millions.—Of this number in the grave, about

9,000,000,000 have died by war.

7,920,000,000 by famine and pestilence.

500,000,000 by martyrdom.

580,000,000 by intoxicating drink.

13,000,000,000 natural or otherwise.

Thus it will be seen that war and strong drink have sent nearly one-third of the human race to a premature grave.

The calculations upon this subject might be extended to an almost indefinite length, and perhaps, too, with propriety, if thought and meditation would dwell upon them and deduct the morals from each and every avenue. For instance, if strong drink has had its 580,000,000 of victims, how many more must it have before the moderate drinker will lay his shoulder to the pledge of reform; suppose but thirty days of intense agony and misery to be the lot of each drunkard's family of five each, what is the amount in the aggregate? Suppose it required even no more than fifty bushels of grain distilled to make a man a drunkard, how long would it last famishing Europe; nay, even the whole universal world? It would amount to fifty eight millions of barrels of flour.

Suppose again that each drunkard loses or wastes only ten years of his life, at three shillings per day, how many solid globes of gold of the size of our earth would it (\$653,080,000,000) purchase? Make your own calculations, not only upon these supposed cases, but any others of which the subject is susceptible, and the result will astonish you, and perhaps lead to a somewhat different course in life.—These estimates are many of them below the reality.—*Merchant's Ledger.*

I Will Give Nothing.

"There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." Prov. xi, 24.

A minister soliciting aid towards his chapel, waited upon an individual distinguished for his wealth and benevolence. Approving the case, he presented to the minister a handsome donation, and turning to his three sons, who had witnessed the transaction, he advised them to imitate his example. "My dear boys," said he, "you have heard the case; now what will you give?" "One said, 'I will give all my pocket will furnish; another observed, 'I will give half that I have in my purse;' the third sternly remarked, 'I will give nothing.'

Some years after, the minister had occasion to visit the same place, and recollecting the family he had called upon, he inquired into the actual position of parties. He was informed that the generous father was dead; the youth who had so cheerfully given all his store, was living in affluence; the son who had divided his pocket-money, was in comfortable circumstances; but the third who had indignantly refused to assist, and haughtily declared he would give "nothing," was so reduced as to be supported by the two brothers.

The above anecdote is a striking illustration of the words of Solomon. Men of property should contribute largely; they should recollect that they are responsible to God for the use they make of their fortunes, and he will hereafter call for the account.—*London Christian Witness.*

A Good Sermon.

We have heard a story of the elder Dr. Beecher, now of Cincinnati, that is said to be true, and is worth putting into type, as illustrating the truth that we never can tell what may result from apparently very insignificant actions. The doctor once engaged to preach for a country minister, on exchange, and the Sabbath proved to be one excessively stormy, cold and uncomfortable. It was in mid-winter, and the snow was piled in heaps all along in the roads, so as to make the passage very difficult. Still the minister urged his horse through the drifts, till he reached the church, put the animal into the shed and went in. As yet there was no person in the house, and after looking about, the old gentleman—then young—took his seat in the pulpit. Soon the door opened, and a single individual walked up the aisle, looked about and took a seat. The hour came for commencing service, but no more hearers.

Whether to preach to such an audience or not was now the question—and it was one that Lyman Beecher was not long in deciding. He felt that he had a duty to perform, and he had no right to refuse to do it, because only one man could reap the benefit of it; and accordingly he actually went through all the services, praying, singing, preaching and benediction, with only one hearer. And when all was over, he hastened down from the desk to speak to his "congregation," but he had departed.

A circumstance so rare was referred to occasionally, but twenty years after, it was brought to the doctor's mind quite strangely. Travelling somewhere in Ohio, the doctor alighted from the stage one day in a pleasant village, when a gentleman stepped up to him and spoke familiarly calling him by name. "I do not remember you," said the doctor. "I suppose not," said the stranger; "but we spent two hours together in a house alone, once in a storm." "I do not recall it, sir," added the old man, "when was it?" "Do you remember preaching twenty years ago, in such a place, to a single person?" "I do, indeed—and if you are the man, I have been wishing to see you ever since." "I am the man, sir; and that sermon saved my soul, made a minister of me, and yonder is my church! The converts of that sermon, sir, are all over Ohio!"

So striking a result made no little impression upon the old veteran's mind. He learned that the man was at the time a lawyer, who was in town on business; and, tired of a Sunday morning at the country hotel, went, in despite of the storm to church to hear that sermon. The doctor often tells the story, and adds, "I think that was about as satisfactory an audience as I ever had."—*Boston Bee.*

A GOVERNOR WELL EMPLOYED.—The citizens of Chelsea had a good old-fashioned temperance meeting last evening. The spacious church of the Orthodox Society was crowded to hear an address from His Excellency, our excellent Governor, who honors (by the happy moral influence he every where exerts,) the highest office in gift of the citizens of our good old Commonwealth. The address was just such an one as would be expected from just such a man. He spoke to the understanding and to the heart; no attempt at low wit, to amuse and cause laughter, but a good sound speech, full of thought, and uttered in his usual kind spirit. He held the attention of that large audience for nearly one hour and a half, and there was no appearance of uneasiness.—*Boston Trav.*

That Education which will secure to the future the civilization of the past and present, is what the country really requires.—*Prof. Whewell.*