

[From the Watchman and Reflector.]

MISSIONARY SAILORS.

We doubt if Christians generally are aware of the value of the labors of a converted sailor; if they were, we think they would do more and pray more for the conversion of this class of our fellow men. It is with the desire to interest those who pray "Thy kingdom come," that we introduce the case of Gustavus W. Schroeder, one of those men who "go down to the sea in ships."

Schroeder is a native of Gottenburg, Sweden; and while sailing out of New York, was converted, and in the autumn of 1844 was baptized, and added to the First Baptist Mariner's Church in that city. From that time he became very active in his efforts to persuade his shipmates in the fore-castle to become the followers of Christ, and God blessed his efforts in many instances. He visited his home in Sweden the next year after his conversion, and it was while there that he set in motion that train of influences that has resulted in the organization of four Baptist churches. He met Frederick O. Nelson, a converted sailor, and a warm-hearted Christian, who was himself converted in this country, though by birth a Swede. Nelson was a Methodist, and he found in Schroeder a congenial spirit, though they differed in some of their views of doctrine and practice. The result of these frequent interviews was, Nelson became a Baptist, and in due time was baptized by Oncken. The attention of a few humble Christians was attracted to Baptist views, and, by the last intelligence we have from Sweden, there are now four Baptist churches in that country, numbering in all about fifty members. Nelson has been ordained by Oncken, and lately, in view of the persecution from the established church, (Lutheran) they have ordained another brother to take Nelson's place if he should be banished. This work is destined to go on till Sweden becomes truly, what she is nominally, Christian.

Schroeder, in the process of time, became master of a vessel, and engaged in the coasting trade on the western coast of South America. Here he was so active in the cause of Christ, that it was said of him he was doing as much good as any foreign missionary, supported at an expense of a thousand dollars. While Capt. S. was doing this work gratuitously, he was sending money to aid the Bethel cause in New York. He has lately visited New York, and a few days ago he left for Valparaiso, S. A., in the steamship Northern, taking along with him a daughter of Rev. Ira R. Steward, as his wife. Valparaiso will be his future home, and from what he has already done, we may judge of what we may expect in the future. Of the voyage he made previous to his coming to the United States, he says: "My last voyage from Valparaiso, being a coasting voyage, I took with me for sale a box containing 110 volumes of Spanish Scriptures; viz: ten Bibles, fifty Testaments, and fifty Gospels of Luke, besides a number of tracts. They were all sold; some of them in Copiapo, but most of them in Talcahuano, and there was a great demand for more copies of the whole Bible. These Gospels by Luke were published in Chili by a Chilian priest, and with the approbation of the Chilian Archbishop."

COUNTERFEIT GOLD COIN.—A most dangerous counterfeit of gold coin has just been discovered, of which it is proper to put the public on their guard, particularly as the amount of gold now in circulation increases the liability of all to take base coin. The annexed information on the subject of counterfeits was furnished to the Philadelphia Ledger, by an officer of the Mint: "The most important class of counterfeits are the imitations of our coin, and some have been brought to light worthy of especial notice. The varieties include the eagle, half-eagle and quarter-eagle. The die is very perfect, for although a coiner might discover that the impression is not quite so sharp and decided as the genuine coin, yet none but a practical eye can detect the difference. Even when examined under a microscope, they are found to correspond in the most minute particular to the genuine coin. This shows that the dies must have been transferred from our own coin by some mechanical process not yet known to honest workmen, as the most accomplished artist in the world could not take up the graver and make such a facsimile. The coins have rather a dull sound in ringing, but not as if flawed, although they are actually composed of three distinct pieces of metal. Where they are full weight, they are necessarily thicker than the genuine, but generally the half-eagle rim, as in the good piece,

is from fifty-five to sixty thousandths of an inch within the raised rim. They appear to be made as follows: A thin planchet of silver, of Spanish standard, is prepared so nearly of the right diameter, that the subsequent overlaying of the gold plate at the edge will make it exact. Two planchets of gold are then prepared—one of them to correspond with the true diameter of the coin, the other about one quarter of an inch larger. These two plates are soldered upon the silver, the projecting rim of the larger is bent up to meet the smaller, so as to cover the edge of the coin, and the piece is finished by a blow in the coiner press. The half-eagles, which are, perhaps, the most numerous, bear various dates, such as 1844, 1845 and 1847. Of the quarter-eagle one date, 1843, and bearing the O for the New Orleans Mint mark, has not as yet been detected, but doubtless there are others in circulation. The value of the half-eagles assayed was from \$3 to \$3 40 and the quarter do \$1 25. They are so well calculated to deceive, that they have passed undetected through the hands of good judges into the Mint. The only reliable method of detection is by the weight. If they come up to the true standard, their increased thickness will be at once apparent to a careful examiner.

PROFANENESS AND DEATH.—A Western Missionary communicates the following:—Whether such instances are to be considered as directly judicial, or not, it is certainly a fearful thing to die in the very act of swearing, when it is remembered that the Lord hath said he will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. "Mr. —" came into his house one morning, after feeding his cattle—was perfectly well—sat down in his chair, and began to curse his family with horrid oaths. His elder son three times entreated him to stop swearing, but each successive time he swore more profanely. The third time he used the most blasphemous language he could invent; but before he finished his sentence, fell dead from his chair."

Rev. Baptist W. Noel is frequently invited to preach on extraordinary occasions, not in connection with his own denomination, and, under similar circumstances, to speak in Exeter Hall. This does not look so much like retiring into that obscurity which had been so anxiously predicted for him by many editors in America.

CONVERSIONS IN SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.—At the Sabbath-School Convention of the Salem (Mass.) Association, held March 26th, two hundred and fifty-seven were reported as having been baptized, and added to the church. In many schools the work was still progressing, and sinners being brought to the feet of Jesus.

ENGLISH NEWS.

SEVEN DAYS LATER!

[By Telegraph from Halifax to the News-Room.]

HALIFAX, THURSDAY, May 16.

The Steamer "Hibernia" arrived Yesterday at noon, and sailed again at one o'clock for Boston, with a fair wind.

On the first of May Her Majesty Queen Victoria was safely delivered of a Prince; all the public demonstration usual on such occasions were duly observed.

The emigration from Ireland is decreasing very fast, and passengers are becoming scarce, consequently many of the vessels employed in this trade find it very difficult to get their complement of passengers even at much lower rates than heretofore.

Freights generally are dull and tending downwards.

The Bishop of Exeter has moved in the Court of Common Pleas to have the judgment in the Gorham case rescinded, but the Court has not yet given a decision upon the application.

The London Times says a project is on foot for the formation of a Transatlantic Steam Company between some of the Ports on the West Coast of Ireland and North America, that the scheme is very favourably received, and likely to succeed; if it does, we shall then be from one to two days nearer England.

In Parliament during the week there had been nothing of great public interest, but the Ministry have again been left in a minority upon a question of little moment, (what the question was our reporter does not state.)

The weather both in England and Ireland had been very seasonable, and the appearance

of the crops in both countries are beautiful; more forward than usual at so early a part of the season.

Trade in the Manufacturing districts is but little changed since last week, but the accounts are rather better.

The steel trade of Sheffield is at present in a very satisfactory state, and 1550 more workmen are employed.

The brick-tax repeal has only taken about £600,000 out of the two millions surplus.—The amount of the window tax is but £1,610,000.

Some discussion is had in the English periodicals, of the question of revising the liturgy of the Church of England. The Athanasian creed is objected to; a passage in the ordination of ministers concerning the forgiveness of sins by the clergy; a clause in the baptismal service, speaking of the baptized child as regenerated, and the words "sure and certain hope," in the burial service.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert have a school in Windsor Park where one hundred boys and girls, children of the servants of the royal establishment, are educated and dined every day gratuitously.

The Bishop of Landaff has begun to preach in the Welsh language, to the great satisfaction of the natives of the principality.

MARKETS.—Cotton has advanced ½d. per lb., and the sales of the week extend to the unusual quantity of 91,000 bales.

Flour has advanced 1s. to 2s. per barrel, firm and in good demand.

In Provisions an average business has been done.

Beef advanced 1s. a 2s. per tierce.

Coffee dull and 2s. a 3s. lower.

Sugar in fair demand at the same prices.

Money Market unchanged.

Consols closed on Friday at 95½ to 95¾.

FRANCE.—The elections have passed over without any disturbance in Paris. Eugene Sue, author of the Wandering Jew, and other celebrated works, has been elected, beating his opponent Le Clerc, about 8000 votes.—The result of this election is auspicious of danger. Red republicanism is on the increase; and order must disappear before it. Sue received a large majority of the votes of the Army in Paris, and the Socialists are greatly elated.

A Te Deum was performed in Paris on the 24th for the Pope's return to Rome, to which court Rayneval has been appointed Plenipotentiary.

At the annual meeting of the Bible Society held in the Calvinistic Church of the Redemption, Paris, M. Guizot was called to the chair, and addressed the meeting in an admirable speech—the first time he had spoken in public to a French audience for the last two years.

GREECE.—The difficulty existing between England and Greece, is apparently as far from being settled as ever, and our report says there is no indication of an approach to its final adjustment.

INDIA.—The Overland Mail from India arrived on Friday. The commercial news is rather unfavourable. Trade both in imports and exports was dull, and as a natural consequence freights were depressed, still money was plenty. Disturbances among the hill tribes still continued, and they had gained some further advantages over the troops.

The following is the Address of the House of Assembly, to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, relative to an Elective Legislative Council:—

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty. The Humble and Dutiful Address of the House of Assembly of New Brunswick.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the Representatives of Your Majesty's faithful and loyal Subjects, the People of New Brunswick, beg leave to approach Your Majesty with assurances of devoted attachment to Your Majesty's Person and Government.

Believing the happiness of Your Majesty's Subjects in every part of Your widely extended Empire to be an object of Your highest regard, we confidently lay before Your Majesty this our Humble Petition.

With thankfulness and pride have we witnessed the stability of the Institutions of our Father-land, securing to our fellow subjects the blessings of civil and political liberty, while the inhabitants of less favoured Nations were involved in all the ills of anarchy and revolution.

The Constitution established in this Province by King George the Third was intended to be a miniature of that of the Parent State, investing the whole Legislative power of the Province in three Branches, thereby uniting the Monarchical, Aristocratic and Democratic elements; the combination of which principles, and their gradual adaptation to each other, having secured to the inhabitants of the British Isles so large a measure of religious, political and civil liberty.

In the absence of a Colonial Aristocracy in the North American Provinces, the composition of the second Branch of the Legislature has at all times been a difficult question.

In the first settlement of New Brunswick, the Legislative Council, from necessity, was composed of the principal Officers of the Provincial Government, including the Judges, and exercised Executive as well as Legislative functions. As the country grew in wealth, population and intelligence, the Judges were removed, the Council was denuded of its Executive character, and ever since it has been the avowed policy of the Government, in the selection of its Members, to secure a representation of all the great leading interests of the Province.

The extension of the principle of self-government has so increased the power of the house of Assembly over the Legislative Council, in consequence of the appointment to Seats in that House being virtually vested in the Executive Council, that the Legislative Council does not now retain the constitutional check which that Branch is called upon to exercise according to the theory of our mixed form of Government.

Regarding the independence of the second Branch of the Legislature as an object of permanent importance, we are desirous of adopting means to accomplish that end.

Believing that the mode of appointing Legislative Councillors by the Crown is open to the objection we have before stated, we humbly suggest, that an Elective Legislative Council could be formed as to secure a more perfect constitutional balance in the adjustment of our Provincial Government than any other attainable in the present state of Colonial Society.

In advocating that measure, we humbly submit that we are not seeking the introduction of a principle unknown to the British Constitution; we need not remind Your Majesty that the Representative Peers of Ireland and Scotland are now elected, and sit with the Hereditary Peers of the Realm, in virtue of such election.

In the original colonization of this Continent, the principle of election was applied to the second Branch, and we believe Your Majesty now proposes to extend that principle to some of Your Colonial Dominions. If there be a Colony in Your Empire where Your Majesty can with safety rely upon the patriotism and loyalty of Your Subjects, it is New Brunswick.

We abstain from offering to your Majesty any opinion as to the practical details by which this change in our Constitution can be best effected; satisfied that under the guidance of Your Majesty and Your constitutional Advisers, the Legislature of New Brunswick can settle such details in such manner as will give effect to that principle consistently with our Institutions, and secure such a representation of the wealth, property and intelligence of the Country in the Aristocratic Branch of the Legislature, as is consistent with the happiness and constitutional security of Your Majesty's Subjects in the Province.

We therefore pray Your Majesty to take this our Humble Petition into Your most gracious consideration, and grant us such relief as to Your Majesty's wisdom may seem meet.

And as in duty bound will ever pray.
JOHN W. WELDON,
Speaker of Assembly.

Fredericton, 25th April, 1850.

RECIPROCAL FREE TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.—Information having been received from various quarters that a reciprocal Trade is about to be established between the United States and Canada, without any reference whatever to this Province or the other Lower Colonies, a Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday, the Hon. JOHN ROBERTSON in the Chair—when, after much animated discussion, the following Petition, addressed to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, was adopted, and ordered to be signed and forwarded to His Excellency.—We trust that our Government will at length exert themselves efficiently, to make up for their past apathy, as it is a matter in which the whole Province is deeply interested. If a new Trade cannot be opened for us, we are much afraid that our Loyalty will get starved out.—Observer.

To His Excellency SIR EDMUND HEAD, Baronet, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c.

The Petition of the undersigned, Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Merchants, Citizens, and Inhabitants of the City of Saint John—

SHEWETH,—That Your Petitioners have heard with equal surprise and alarm, that her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington, is about to conclude an arrangement for reciprocal free trade between the United States and Canada only, to the exclusion of this and the neighbouring Colonies. That your Petitioners respectfully submit, that the people of this Province have never yielded to any other portion of Her Majesty's subjects in loyalty and affection to the British Government, and that they are at least entitled to equal consideration; and they are unwilling to believe that their interests will be so seriously overlooked and disregarded, as is now proposed to be done in the arrangement for reciprocal free trade between the United States and Canada.

Your Petitioners therefore respectfully pray, that your Excellency will be pleased, with the least possible delay, to despatch one or more Members of the Executive Government of the Province to Washington, specially commissioned to represent to Sir Henry Bulwer, the depressed and hopeless condition to which this Colony has been reduced, from the recent changes in the commercial policy of the Mother Country, the discontent and disaffection which are springing up in consequence, and the manifest injustice and impolicy of excluding this and the Lower Colonies from an arrangement, upon which the hopes of the