

and not their Anglo-Saxonism, that has been the source of their peculiar characteristics. In the uniform influence of Protestant principles is to be found the explanation of all they have been and done.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINTE JOHN, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1860.

A TIME OF PEACE.

It is certainly a matter for general and sincere congratulation that throughout the wide domains of the British Empire, at the present time, Peace reigns. True there are armies and navies in readiness for war, and the national resources are heavily taxed for their support; but the instruments of death are at rest. What a call upon Christians of every name for devout praise, and also for their fervent prayers that this happy condition may be maintained. What facilities does it afford for Missionary and philanthropic enterprise. Not only is there peace abroad, but, on the whole, a great degree of quiet throughout the various grades of society in England. In some of the Colonies there is some agitation upon the subject of colonial grievances, requiring an acknowledgment of some defects in this branch of administration, but probably there never was a time when a more honest pride might be cherished by the friends of British Institutions, than now, when they are seen effecting so much for the advancement of Education and Religion, for the prosperity of trade, the extension of commerce, and the development of all those practical elements and agencies upon which the well-being of society depends. On these depend the stability of national Institutions. Questions may be raised, and by the ordinary appliances of Presses and public assemblies there may be great agitations; but the issues of such agitations can be safely predicted. Wholesome reforms will be an inevitable result so long as the well balanced distribution of power is maintained which characterises the British Constitution. That these agitations are not to be deprecated is evident to all acquainted with British History. They are the necessary process through which reforms have been and are yet to be effected. The public voice through them asserts its supremacy; and it will matter little what name may be given to the constitutional head, whether King or President, or what particular form of executive administration is assumed, if this great right is recognized. To this fact as consistently and uniformly exhibited by the government of this Empire under the good providence of the Great Ruler of nations must be attributed the present contentment at home and peace abroad to which allusion has been made. To such a state of things will every lover of liberty and progress say, "este perpetua."

THE CONFLAGRATION AT FREDERICTON.—Our readers will probably be informed before our reaching them of the extensive fire which has laid waste the greater part of Fredericton the past week, destroying from 200 to 300 houses, and leaving houseless about 2000 persons. The particulars of so great a disaster cannot as yet be given. We copy from the New Brunswicker below a letter from the Editor of the Reporter, describing the bounds of the burnt district, with other information, which will give some idea of the extent of the fire. Occurring as it does just upon the approach of winter, the amount of suffering resulting will be very great, and calls for the liveliest sympathies and the immediate assistance of the benevolent in every part of the Province. Some public measure will probably be adopted to lighten the burden, but the greatest help will be in the immediate attentions of the various communities of the Province. We have pleasure in hearing that a requisition is in course of signature for calling a public meeting in this city. We hope substantial aid will be afforded.

We regret exceedingly the loss and inconvenience to which the Wesleyan Church will be subjected by the destruction of their valuable property. We doubt not our brethren will be forward in extending what facilities they can afford for their accommodation till they can once more sit down in a house of their own. During this serious emergency we hope to record many generous acts, which must, if any thing will elicit them, be now called forth.

"FRIEND TILL.—I wrote you a hasty line yesterday evening, and from my recollection of what I then wrote, I tel eve I was pretty

correct. From the Wesleyan Church, where the fire commenced, the flames spread on Westmorland-street as far as Anderson's corner (which is not burned,) near the Barracks; and downward, along the length of King-street, almost to the Royal Gazette office, and burning the whole blocks included, besides spreading backward as far as the Catholic Chapel, which escaped. The range above the street recently the residence of the Chief Justice is standing.

It is impossible to estimate the loss. Between two and three hundred houses have been destroyed; and an immense amount of property, as two-thirds of the Stores were in that section of the town. With regard to insurance it is impossible to be correct. The Office here has lost about £3000, but the great weight falls on the Hartford, (Conn.) Office, which is deeply involved. Vast amounts of property were uninsured altogether; and the policies of several of the heaviest losers had just expired. The Wesleyan Church was insured here at £600, and £200 additional in some other office on the Organ and Bell.—About 2000 persons are rendered houseless."

COLPORTAGE.—We have pleasure in announcing that Rev. A. Mutch, of Norton, has been appointed by the Colportage Committee of the Eastern Association, to spend a few months in this service. He leaves this City for Charlotte County to-morrow, where we hope he will be cordially received and assisted in his work by our brethren of that section. Brother Mutch as an ordained minister will of course be ready to preach on the Sabbath where his services may be required, the collection and compensation for which will go towards defraying the expenses of the Committee.

We are requested by the Committee to notify those in different places who kindly pledged amounts towards the outfit, that such sums are much needed at the present time. Upon the strength of these the Committee have made a purchase for which they stand in debt till donors relieve them.

We earnestly solicit for this most useful department of religious effort, the contributions, prayers, and what other help may be afforded of the friends of our Zion.

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—A very beautiful place of worship was opened for the first time last Sabbath, for this Church in this City. The house is an ornament to the City, and highly creditable to the liberality and good taste of those who have been the agents in its construction. The situation is very central, and we should judge much more advantageous than that of the old Chapel for the increase of the congregation. Its capacity is adapted to the accommodation of a congregation of 600 persons.

Rev. Messrs. Stavelly, Lawson and Somerville participated in the opening services, and each preached during the day. The collection taken up amounted to £43 6s. 2d.

ELECTIONS IN MASSACHUSETTS.—Hon. Horace Mann who was elected to the post in the U. S. Congress, occupied by ex-President John Quincy Adams several years previous to his death, and who has served his district with distinguished ability, has once more been elected by a majority of 500 votes, although the caucus of the Whig Party to which Mr. Mann is attached nominated another his place. Mr. Mann's efforts in behalf of civil liberty have made him unpopular with many of his party.

The election for Governor shows a total vote of 109,013, of which the present able and patriotic incumbent George N. Briggs, received 53,718, which is less than a majority.—The next Candidate received 30,730. These two names according to their Constitution will be presented to the Legislature on its assembling, when doubtless Mr. Briggs will be again elected. He has now served for seven successive terms.

We learn from the Calais Journal that there was launched from the Ship Yard of Henry Eastman, Esq., Saint Stephen, a barque of 700 tons called the Fanny. The above vessel was launched a few months since, taken to the Ledge, sunk, the steamer S. B. Wheeler floated into her, brought back to St. Stephen, floated upon the ways again, there finished, and on Saturday the 2nd inst., again launched into her native element. She was built for the purpose of carrying out the S. B. Wheeler to California, where she is to ply as a passen-

ger and a freight boat on some of the rivers in that country. The Fanny is to sail about the 20th inst.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

DEAR BROTHER VERY.—At the instance of a number of your subscribers, I have determined to give a few items of intelligence connected with a recent journey I had to Canada West. I left home August 27th, about noon, proceeded to Eastport, and left in the Admiral for Boston, at 3 of the clock, same day; had a great number of passengers, and by my neglecting to bespeak a berth in time, myself and others had to lie in the saloon on the floor of the middle deck; I was however supplied with mattress and blankets, and but for the night air which rushed in upon us as passengers to and fro frequently opened the doors, we would have done pretty well, even here. Next Wednesday, about 4, P. M., arrived at Boston. I will now digress for a moment to state the adventures of a former visit to this place, eleven months previous. I arrived here (Boston) in September, 1849, while the Baptist Association was in Session at Framingham; being desirous to see and hear how these wise and good men did up their business, I stepped into the cars, and in about an hour I was hurried twenty-five miles to the place, where I beheld the leaders of Emanuel's band. As this was a new organization, they were discussing the merits of a resolution that had been introduced upon the subject of what should be the future course pursued in making choice of a Moderator. A rather animated time it was, I assure you, and much said on all sides, too much to be written here if we could remember it; and I perceived as I thought, some felt a little sore because they had been overlooked, while others who contrived to monopolize the office had been elected. Mr. now Dr. Neale, who was Moderator at the time, observed that he had determined before coming to the Association to move for a change; for observe, said he, as he drew his hand across his manly brow, that I am being sprinkled with hoary hairs, and this is the first time I have filled the place of the Moderator of the Association.—He thanked his brethren for the respect shown him, and the honor they conferred upon him in calling him to preside over them. He argued that there was no more propriety in retaining a Moderator from year to year, than to insist on one individual to write the circular letter annually, or any other office in the body as messengers, &c.; his speech was conclusive, and as Job says, when I spake they answered not again; the matter was closed up in this way as near as I can recollect, not to place any resolutions upon the Minutes relative to this movement, but that it should be well impressed on all their minds, and understood, that in future, all who were capable of filling the office should have his turn; and that should any one show manifest symptoms to be put forward, he should be the last, and so the matter ended. Having read a resolution in the Minutes of the last Western Association, from which I was absent, about this matter, it occurred to me that the action of the North Boston Association might give some light, for I fear the distemper that affected the disciples on a former occasion, when the Master found them disputing, and gave them a little child for a pattern, is not entirely eradicated from the disciples now.

As this was the last day of the session, and the former Pastor of the Church had died, and was to be buried that afternoon, the business of the Association hastened to a close, and the people were refreshed with a repast in the vestry, and separated.

On Thursday 29th, took the cars for Albany. On this route it requires every one to know where he is going, and mind what he is about. I had a pocket-handkerchief stolen from my pocket at Springfield; this is a very important station on the railroad, a number of trains meet here about midday, and to a stranger everything appears like confusion; your ears are ever and anon saluted with the piercing yell of the engine whistle, then the ringing of bells, the gushing of steam, the loud and heavy rumbling of the locomotive and its trains, are scenes wonderfully calculated to excite the beholder. I have beheld the gallant ships ply the mighty deep, as well as crossed the ocean in them. I have looked upon the silent iron string stretched over the land, and wondered how communication could be made at such distances, and in so short a time, but to behold a train of steam-cars under

full way, particularly approaching a station with all the afore mentioned demonstration of speed and power, and every living object making out of the way, is to me, I confess, a sight wonderfully grand. We left Springfield at 2 o'clock, the space between this place and Albany is diversified, the country quite uneven; you are at one time skirting the base of high ridges, and then wheeling along the banks of deep rivers, or streams, but it would do to be minute here; we arrive at Albany, and as they are not allowed to bridge the Hudson here, we are put across in a steam-ferry; a bustle ensues to get our baggage changed from this train to that on the other side of Jordan, i. e. Hudson. At 7, P. M., we are under way again for Syracuse, "skipping on through dust and mire, despising wind and rain and fire," where we arrive at 2 in the morning; as I was to go by the way of Oswego, I had to wait for the 6 o'clock train, after the hurry of getting out baggage, and into the hotel, I asked what would be the price of a bed until 5, (it now being 3 o'clock,) I was told it would be 3s., and that I must go to bed at that price or leave the house; seeing no alternative, I concluded to put up with the imposition, and take two hours rest.

In my former visit here I did not know where to stop, and went on to Buffalo, and that led me to Niagara, where I spent a day reviewing the magnificent phenomenon of nature, the Falls. "This wonderful river is formed by the outlet of Lake Superior, the greatest body of fresh water in the world, Winnipeg Lake, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, St. Clair, and Lake Erie, all pour their waters this way, and dash with maddened fury over the falls, emptying into Lake Ontario, fourteen miles from the Falls." A particular description would require much space; I would go 50 miles out of my path to see them again. A mile and a half below the falls, is a superior work of art, the Suspension Bridge, about twice the width of a good staging around a ship, stretching off nearly 50 rods over a gulph or chasm, 230 feet deep to the surface of the water, and 480' to the bed of the river, and all suspended beneath four wire ropes stretched over towers on either side of the river. It is a pathway calculated to test the courage and try the nerves of the traveller. I paid my 25 cents and passed over, but not without some slight tremor; on my return I met a coach and two horses near the centre of the tiny bridge, while the boiling flood was rushing, roaring, and tumbling beneath me, seeking to find its level in the lake below.

I rose at 5, paid for my dear bought rest, and made preparations to move for Oswego. I cannot forbear at this period to mention what I heard related of a traveller from the Emerald Isle; he went to bed here as I did, but without enquiring what would be the charge, when informed after a very limited sleep, he must pay half a dollar, he thanked the porter kindly that waked him, for added he, if I had been allowed to sleep on, it would have taken all the money I had to pay for my lodging.

At 6 o'clock, Friday morning, commenced rolling on to Oswego, nothing of note transpired in this short journey of about an hour and a half, except an encounter between the conductor and an old Irish lady of the Romish order; she refused to pay her own and her husband's passage fare, he evidently yielding up the management of fighting their way through to her; she certainly persevered resolutely, and carried her point; but they had to go forth of the passenger cars among the boxes and baggage in the baggage cars. This was done after a good deal of scolding, some threatening, and not a few tears. A gentleman sitting near me observed that like circumstances occurred almost daily.

Arrived at Oswego and found I should have to wait twelve hours for the steamer, which would not leave until 8, in the evening. I inquired who was worthy in the city; and found Bro. Butterfield, Pastor of the Baptist Church, who treated me courteously, and accompanied me to the boat, and introduced me as a Minister, which saved me \$1 50 in my passage, and the same on my return; arrived in the Genesee river at four in the morning, and remained about four hours, left again, and at 4, P. M., Saturday, landed at Toronto, Seat of Government Upper Canada.

I was met upon the wharf by brother Benjamin Clark, formerly of Eastport, he conducted me to his house, where in a short time I was met by my sister's husband, Benjamin Milkin. I arrived at Pickering in time for preaching in the afternoon of Lord's day, and I continued there five Sabbaths, hav-