

is much interested in the issue of a suit to be decided in July next, pending between the parties now holding the mine, and others who have purchased the land on which the mine is situated, and contend that it is Asphaltum, and that the Act of Parliament touching mines does not apply to it.

Plaster, including specimens of beautiful Alabaster is also found in the vicinity of Hillsborough. A railroad for bringing this article to the port of shipment is in course of completion under the direction of an Engineer.

Hillsborough has been made a free port and port of entry, and from the resources of the County and its excellent harbour it must rise to be a place of considerable importance.—Large quantities of deals are made in this vicinity, and most of them shipped direct to Britain.

The large and productive marshes that abound in Albert, and its extensive tracts of fertile upland make it in regard to agriculture inferior, perhaps, to no County in the Province. The day after my arrival at Hillsborough, seventeen head of fat cattle left in the steamer for the St. John market.

This afternoon I attended a Conference in Father Crandal's Church. In a very affectionate manner the venerable Pastor referred his people to the languid state of Zion amongst them. He referred them to the neglected state of the sanctuary which had been erected by their Fathers, and the solitary few that now enter its doors compared with the multitude that in former days joyfully resorted thither. He then expressed a desire to renew his covenant with his God and with his brethren. All the members present then spoke in order and expressed similar desires. I trust their desires will be accompanied by corresponding efforts, and that God may revive his work in this community.

I herewith send you the names of 48 new subscribers to the Visitor. Please send the papers to the parties as herein directed.

Yours, most truly, I. WALLACE.
Salisbury, 7th June, 1851.

LONDON TRACT SOCIETY.

The 52d annual meeting of the Religious Tract Society was well attended. The report gave a glowing sketch of the Society's operations in France, Germany, Italy, Russia, India, China, Africa, West Indies, and other parts of the world. No less than 2,875,502 publications had been distributed at home by the district, town, and city missions, among soldiers, sailors, emigrants, inmates of prisons, &c., &c. The libraries granted for destitute districts, schools, &c., amounted to 712. The issues from the Depository during the year were 20,840,000, being an increase of 1,594,559 over the preceding year. The total circulation, at home and abroad, amounts to 549,000,000 in about 110 languages. The Rev. Dr. Murray, a delegate from the American Tract Society, stated that during the last year, the Society had printed 983,000 volumes, and put into circulation 7,906,000 tracts. He thus referred to papacy in this country:

Popery was rapidly losing ground; Protestants were the aggressors in that land. In proof of this, he mentioned several instances where large Protestant churches had been formed, composed exclusively of converts from the Romish church; in the city of New York, there were three such churches. Some people in England, he believed, would find it difficult to credit these statements, but nevertheless they were true to the letter. (Hear.) He attributed this pleasant state of things chiefly to the fact, that the tone of Protestant controversy with the Papists had very materially changed of late years. The plan of denouncing was changed for that of teaching. They began to feel that light and love were the weapons with which to contend with Popery. (Cheers.) Speak kindly to a man, and seek to instruct him, and he would soon come to regard you as his friend. For his own part, he could not find language strong enough in which to express the indignation of his heart against the priests—the manipulators of the consciences of the people. These deceivers of mankind ought to have a brand placed upon them, like Cain, that they might be avoided. But it was different with the poor people who were the victims of the priests, and had been instructed in the delusive system from their youth up.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN SAILOR'S SOCIETY reports some encouraging facts. New stations have been established in several sea-ports. The attendants at the Sailor's church

in London has been 13,960. The missionaries have made 4967 visits to sailors' boarding houses, and 25,301 on board British and foreign ships. There have also been 3763 visits to seamen's families, and 1028 to sick seamen. The number of Bibles sold is 1541, of Testaments 1883, and 138,234 tracts have been distributed.

The London City Mission reports 1,180,911 as the number of visits, being an increase of 162,475 over last year; 1,326,372 tracts distributed, and increase of 128,419 over last year; 20,377 meeting for prayer and expositions of Scripture. The number of Scriptures given away is 3,925, an increase of 835; of readings in houses of the poor 336,364, an increase of 7,787; children sent to school, 5,659, an increase of 791; shops closed on Sunday, 107, an increase of 5. There are 245 missionaries at present engaged in this work.

TEMPERANCE IN ENGLAND.—We extract the following from one of the letters of Horace Greely, Esq., Editor of the New-York Tribune, now in London:—"The cause of Temperance—of Total abstinence from all that can intoxicate—is here about twenty years behind its present position in the United States. I think there are not more absolute drunkards here than in our American cities, but the habit of drinking for drink's sake is all but universal. The Aristocracy drink almost to a man; so do the Middle Class; so do the Clergy; so alas! do the Women! There is less of Ardent Spirits imbibed than with us; but Wines are much cheaper and in very general use among the well-off; while the consumption of Ale, Beer, Porter, &c. (mainly by the Poor) is enormous. Only think of £5,000,000 or Twenty-five Millions of Dollars, paid into the Treasury in a single year by the People of these Islands as Malt-Tax alone, while the other ingredients used in the manufacture of Malt Liquors probably swell the aggregate to Thirty Millions of Dollars. If we suppose this to be little more than one-third of the ultimate cost of these Liquors to the consumers, that cost cannot be less than One Hundred Millions of Dollars per annum!—a sum amply sufficient, if rightly expended, to banish Pauperism and Destitution for ever from the British Isles. And yet the Poor trudge wearily on, loaded to the earth with exactions and burdens of every kind, yet stupefying their brains, emptying their pockets and ruining their constitutions with these poisonous, brutalizing liquors! I see no hope for them short of a System of Popular Education which shall raise them mentally above their present low condition, followed by a few years of systematic, energetic, omnipresent Temperance Agitation. A slow work this, but is there any quicker that will be effective? The Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge would greatly contribute to the Education of the Poor, but that Reform has yet to be struggled for.

PHONOTYPY.

A School of children has recently been taught in Boston in a manner which is exciting a great deal of interest among the educationists of that City. Fifteen or twenty children were taken who were of the proper age to learn to read, and who knew nothing whatever of letters. They were trained three months in Phonotypy, the reformed method of spelling formerly employed by Andrews & Boyle, in New York in printing "The Anglo Saxon," and now by Mr. Andrews in "The Propagandist," published by John F. Trow, 49 Ann-st., after which they were put to reading books printed in the ordinary way, and trained at that three months longer, at the end of which time a public exhibition of the school was given. It was attended numerously by the parents of the children, the teachers of the public schools, and the friends of education generally, and the fact appeared to be that those children taught in this manner had jumped entirely that tedious period of youthful trial in learning to read, and that they were able to read any English book with as much facility as children taught in the ordinary way after two or three years; beside which the little things had, during the same period, learned to read phonetic short-hand, to analyze words, and to pronounce with great accuracy. So remarkable an improvement in education naturally fixed the attention of the public, which called for additional exhibitions, and the crowds attending them have continued to increase. The last of nine of these public exhibitions was given in the State House before the Governor, Senate,

Council and State Board of Education, and ended in an unanimous recommendation on the part of the Board of Education of the introduction of Phonotypy into the Schools of the State, as a greatly superior method of teaching children to read ordinary books.

We have not the space to point out the principles upon which this gain is effected. We recommend our teachers and Board of Education to look into the subject. We take the following from the report of the Committee of the Legislature before which this examination took place:

The distinctness of utterance was a remarkable feature in the examination. Every syllable was uttered with a clearness and precision that indicated with what unerring certainty the characters that they had learnt designated the sounds of the language. Those sounds are represented in the phonotypic alphabet by forty letters, namely, twenty-four consonants, twelve vowels, and four diphthongs. Values are given to these letters, so much in harmony with our present orthography, as to make Phonotypy resemble strongly the printed Roman pages; so that an individual who has become familiar with one, can, with slight additional labor, read the other.

The advantages to be derived from the introduction of the phonetic system into our common school instruction, will be very important. There was evidence tending to show,

1. That it will enable the pupil to learn to read, *phonetically*, in one tenth of the time ordinarily employed.
2. That it will enable the learner to read the *common type* in one fourth of the time necessary according to the usual mode of instruction.
3. That the truth and accuracy of the system will induce millions to teach themselves to read who are now ignorant.
4. That its acquisition leads the pupil to the correct pronunciation of every word.
5. That its certainty teaches a distinct enunciation, which will not be lost when the pupil comes to read from the Roman text.
6. That its adoption, merely as a means of learning to read our common print, will tend to banish provincialisms.
7. That, by directing attention to the different methods of representing sound, the pupils will, in the end, become better orthographers than by the present method.
8. That it will have a tendency to make many derivations, which have now been almost lost, familiar to the eye.
9. That it will be of vast benefit in enabling an individual rapidly to preserve his own thoughts and those of others.
10. That, to any one familiar with the system, it will furnish a means of representing the pronunciation of foreign languages with precision.
11. That it will present to the Missionary a superior alphabet for the representation of hitherto unwritten languages.
12. That our own language may, by means of it, be subjected to a few simple rules of accent; a thing which has hitherto been almost unattainable.

Grand Parade of Sons.

The Philadelphia Sons had a splendid turn out on Thursday last week. The day was sultry, but cold water men can stand the heat as well as the cold. The procession extended some fifteen blocks. There were about sixty Divisions in the line, some of which paraded at least 100 members. James B. Wood was Grand Marshal. The music was abundant and fine. Numerous counties in the State were represented, and there was quite a number of visiting brethren from the States of New-York, New-Jersey, Maryland and Delaware. The countermarching of the Divisions in their simple, yet chaste, rich and beautiful regalia, with banners waving and bands playing, was a magnificent and thrilling sight; while, as a moral spectacle, it was truly sublime.

The orators of the day were David Paul Brown, and the Rev. John Chambers.

The procession was witnessed by at least fifty thousand interested spectators, who crowded the sidewalks, doors and steps, and filled the windows of houses along the route. The best of order was preserved.—N. Y. *Organ*.

A CONVERTED SAILOR.—The annual report of the American Seamen's Friend Society refers to the following case of conversion among seamen coming within the range of that Society's influence. A seaman converted at sea on board of a U. S. ship-of-war, on the

passage homeward, adopted the following resolutions: 1. To abstain entirely from the use of intoxicating liquors; 2. To use no more tobacco; 3. To remember and keep the Sabbath-day holy; 4. To give one-tenth of all his earnings for benevolent purposes. His wages for nearly a three years' cruise amounted to \$278, and the devoted tenth was thus distributed: \$3 to one poor church, and \$5 to another; \$5 for the destitute at the Sailor's Home, \$5 to the Tract Society, \$7 37 for Foreign Missions, and \$2 for the Seamen's Chaplain at Honolulu. Our personal knowledge of this case, and of other pious men of the sea, constrains us to say that for fervent and consistent piety, Christian beneficence and extended usefulness, we know of no brighter examples this side of heaven.

PROFITS OF PURGATORY.—The following was posted about twenty-three years ago in the churches of Madrid:—"The Sacred and Royal Bank of Piety has relieved from purgatory, from its establishment in 1721, to November 1826,

1,030,095 souls, at an expense of	£1,790,437
11,402 do. from Nov. 1826, to Nov. 1827,	14,275

1,041,797 souls, at an expense of	£1,804,713
-----------------------------------	------------

The number of masses calculated to accomplish this pious work was 1,558,921; consequently, each soul cost one mass and nine-tenths, or 34s. 4d." This is certainly a very respectable sum, gathered, as it appears, from one city; and Rome could but ill afford to dispense with purgatory. This is only one item of her creed; and they are all about equally profitable to the priests; so that Rome must receive an incredible sum in the course of a year over the world by debasing the human mind.

FUGITIVE SLAVES IN CANADA.—At the Anti-Slavery Convention in Syracuse, last week, it was stated that there are at the present time in Canada 20,000 slaves—of which number 5000 had arrived since the passage of the fugitive slave act. They are in destitute circumstances—the few schools established there for their benefit being in a ruinous condition. Frederick Douglas said there had been several hundred thousand dollars already raised for the school for the fugitive, but he could never ascertain what had become of the money.

OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH.—It cannot fail to be gratifying to the Sabbath Alliance of this city, and their numerous adherents, to learn that for several Sabbath evenings past, Mr. Keefer has closed his Reading Room,—and further, that it is his intention shortly to keep the establishment shut up during the entire day every Sabbath. Taken generally there is very little to complain of in this city, as far as the decent observance of the Sabbath in concerned by its inhabitants. Indeed it would, we think, be difficult to instance any city in the world, with the same population, which equals Halifax in quiet and order on the Sunday—the often repeated assertion to the contrary notwithstanding.—*Halifax Chronicle*.

A "LIVING" FOR SALE.—Here is a specimen of the monstrous system which has grown up in the established Church of England, by which the dissolute sons of the nobility are enabled to live at their ease as "ministers of the Gospel." It is an advertisement cut from an English paper.

"A valuable provincial advowson and next presentation to a sinecure rectory to be sold; income, £252; age of present incumbent 74. There is no church, no glebe, no duty, no pauper population, no poor rates. For further particulars apply to Messrs. Beal, land agents, 151 B, Piccadilly."

The parish in question is Sockf Dennis, in the diocese of Bishop Bagot. The number of parishioners is eleven; church there is none, duty none, paupers none, service none, visitation none. All that the incumbent has to do is to take £247 annually. For that privilege, after the death of the incumbent, aged 74, the patron now asks the modest sum of £4,100.

A BLASPHEMOUS PRIEST.—On Palm Sunday (13th ult.) Dr. Hendren, the so-called "Bishop" of Clifton, rode round the aisles of his *soi-disant* "cathedral," mounted on a donkey,—a wretched (we had almost said blasphemous) caricature on our blessed Lord's entry into Jerusalem previous to His crucifixion.—*Bristol Journal*.

The number of Chinese in California is about 1600, most of them in San Francisco, some of them dress as Europeans and talk English intelligibly.