

ford to give up those joys, which so soon pall upon the appetites of their most ardent devotees, for religion brings to the heart deeper and purer pleasure—joys which leave no deep regrets behind.

Your piety will sometimes be attributed to a desire to seem better than others—your deeds of kindness to gain the praise of your fellows—the charge of Pharisaism be tauntingly preferred—you will be pained by hearing those things you deem sacred made the subject of ridicule, and even be pitied yourself as the victim of superstition; yet fear not so long as your own heart condemns you not, that God beholds and approves. Go on in the rectitude of your soul and the purity of your heart, and though the foolish may laugh and the wicked may sneer, you will yet be honoured of men and beloved of God. The consistency of your course will at last overcome all opposition—the silent force of your example will subdue many a heart—and when you come to the close of this earthly scene, you can look back on a life spent in active preparation for another and a better life, and it will be a greater consolation than all the world beside can afford, to know that you have not lived in vain.

TIMOTHY.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

MESSRS. EDITORS.—I can truly say of my countrymen, as Kirk White said of his birthplace—"On England! With all thy faults, I love thee still." Please insert the following, which will be read with pleasure by many who have either heard of or listened to the great John Leifchild, D. D., of Craven Chapel, London, and oblige

Yours, truly,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

"During no small part of half a century, Dr. Leifchild has been a tower of strength in the ranks of British Nonconformity. No matter where he might be required to take up his station, he could always be relied on with confidence and safety; he never failed to acquit himself in a manner worthy of the occasion. The whole of his course has been guided by great principles. Enjoying clear conceptions of the gospel, he ever exhibited it in all its fulness, generally with an unction and a force which carried it home to the understanding, the conscience, and the heart of every hearer. His ministrations of the truth was strongly marked by his own character; it uniformly bore the impress of vigorous manhood. The whims of the day never succeeded to attract him. They were his perfect scorn! Richly endowed with the precious element of common sense, it formed a chief ingredient in all his sermons and prayers, in his sayings and doings, in his conversation and writings. Homely, hearty, racy, and joyous, his presence always created an atmosphere of good humour and friendly feeling. His spirit was essentially fraternal, and it reproduced itself on all sides."

General Intelligence.

Arrival of the ARCTIC.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.
(By Telegraph to the News Room.)

The steamship Arctic arrived at New York on Sunday, with Liverpool dates to the 30th November.

A fair business was doing in Breadstuffs, at a reduction of 1d. on Wheat; 6d. and in some instances 1s. on flour, and 1s. on Indian Corn.

Nothing had occurred along the Danube. Heavy rain and snow had set in.

The allied British and French fleets were at Brigos.

The English Admiral, Sir John Lyon, was on his way to take command of the British fleet.

It is reported contrary to former advices, that Dost Mahomet is hostile to the Russians, as are all the Mahomedan tribes of India.

There is no interesting news from Great Britain, except a reported treaty between England and France, to guarantee the rights of Turkey.

THE BRITISH NAVY.—The present naval force of Great Britain consists of 545 ships of war (either building, or in commission) carrying from ten to 20 guns each. Also, 118 ships doing harbour duty, and 50 revenue vessels for the Coast Guard service. Of this number 170 are armed steamers, from 200 to 800 horse-power (many of them pro-

pelled by the screw), constructed on the most approved principles for sea-service. This immense fleet, the largest of any maritime power, employs in time of peace 40,000 to 45,000 able-bodied seamen, 4,000 able lads, and 12,000 Royal Marines, to be increased to 15,000, consisting of 4 divisions divided into 102 companies, viz.:—1st Division, head-quarters, Chatham, 25 companies; 2d Division, Portsmouth, 27 companies; 3d Division, Plymouth, 25 companies; and 4th Division, Woolwich, 25 companies; total, 102; and twelve companies of Royal Marine Artillery, head-quarters Portsmouth. Besides the above are enrolled various Dockyard Volunteer Brigades.

LOSS OF STEAMSHIP HUMBOLDT.—The Boston Daily Advertiser of the 9th instant, says:—Our latest advices from Halifax confirm the previous account of the loss of this fine steamship, and furnish some additional particulars. She struck on a ledge off Sambro Light, when in charge of a pilot, but afterwards came off, and was run ashore in about three fathoms of water, with six feet of water in her hold. Later accounts state that the tide ebbs and flows in her. Two hundred packages of merchandise have been saved in good order, but it is feared that three-fourths of her cargo will be lost. The Humboldt was valued at \$450,000, and a New York despatch states that there was but little insurance on her, as the company are their own underwriters. The stock of the company being considerably scattered, the holders may be insured to some extent. We hear that there is \$30,000 insurance on her.

The steamer Marion has been chartered by the underwriters at New York to proceed to Halifax for the relief of the Humboldt.

The Humboldt was from Havre bound to New York, but had put into Halifax for coals. She had 90 passengers, all of whom were safely lapped.

NEW YORK, DEC. 6.—Anson G. Phelps, recently deceased, after providing amply for his widow and family bequeathed \$581,000 for religious and benevolent purposes, including \$100,000 to the American Bible Society; \$100,000 to the American Board of Commissioners for foreign missions; \$100,000 to the American Home Missionary Society, and \$50,000 to Literary and Social Education in Liberia. He had always through life been a remarkably liberal man towards religious and charitable institutions. He was one of the leading merchants of this city.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.—We have leisure but for a very cursory notice of this document. It does not contain any developments of facts or of executive policy of a very striking character, and in that respect it may in some measure disappoint public expectation. Such part of it as refers to the foreign relations of the country is summarily despatched, adding little to the stock of public information beyond the simple fact that no essential change has taken place since the adjournment of the last Congress. We are however informed in confirmation of what has been unofficially reported that a negotiation has been opened with the British Government, with a view to a removal of the difficulties which have arisen in reference to the rights of the fishery, by a stipulation for the extension of the rights of our fishermen beyond the limits fixed by the Convention of 1818, and to regulate the trade between the United States and the North American Provinces "with a fair prospect of a favourable result."

It is stated also that embarrassing questions have arisen in regard to Central America, on which our Minister in London is instructed to enter into negotiations. The Message recommends that measures be taken for establishing the line of boundary, on the Oregon border, under the treaty of 1846.

The Post Master's report is complete, and will be published to-morrow. It shows that at the present date there are 22,680 post offices. That the cost of transmission of the mails for the last fiscal year was \$4,495,968.

The total expenditures of the Department was \$7,982,758, and the gross revenue from all sources was \$5,940,724, showing a deficiency of \$2,042,034.

The amount of public lands disposed of during the last year was far greater than in any preceding year, amounting to 25,346,992 acres, of which however, the amount sold in two quarters of 1852 and two in 1853 was only 1,944,370 acres, producing the sum of \$2,850,563. The President recommends the maintenance of the present land system in all its essential particulars.—*Boston D. Advertiser.*

TROOPS TO BE REMOVED FROM CANADA.—We are informed, on authority on which we are inclined to rely, that the troops in Canada are to be reduced to the regiment of Canada Rifles, and a corps of Artillery. These will be distributed between Quebec and Kingston. The whole are to be paid and victualled at the expense of the Province.—*Montreal Gazette.*

The steamer George Law left Aspinwall on the first of December for New York with 600 passengers and about \$1,500,000 in gold.

A LONG SENTENCE.—John Flannery, for stabbing and killing a man at St. Louis, while in a state of intoxication, has been convicted of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to ninety-nine years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT NEW YORK.

On Saturday afternoon last, a fire broke out in the extensive publishing establishment of Messrs. Harper & Brothers, which spread with great rapidity, destroying property to a large amount. Several adjoining buildings also took fire, and it was with difficulty the flames were extinguished. The establishment of the Messrs. Harper comprised about seven buildings between Pearl and Cliff streets, and their loss will be much regretted by the public generally.—*Nbr.*

NEW OCEAN STEAMERS.—The *Journal du Havre* says:—"The Cunard Line Company are occupied with the project of sending one of their steamers—the Cambria—to be employed after next month in the regular transit from Havre to New York; also with that of an intermediate transport service from Antwerp to Liverpool, to be connected with the two lines of steamers between Liverpool and the United States. Three steamers are now building with this view—the *Ætna*, the *Jura*, and the *Persia*—the first of 2,500, and the others of 3,500 tons burthen. Two of them are larger by 80 feet than the beautiful *Alps* belonging to the same company, and which is now in the gulf of Florida.

SHIPWRECK AND SUFFERING AT SEA.—The London Shipping Gazette of Nov. 15th, contains the particulars of the loss of the California Packet, bound from Sligo for New York, with emigrant passengers. She left Broadhaven Nov. 3d, and at twelve that night sprung a leak, when about one hundred miles off the coast. Every exertion was made to keep the ship afloat, by throwing over the cargo, and even the females plied the pumps, but she finally settled down, and those on board took to the boats. In the long boat were thirty seven persons, only six of whom were men, without compass or sail, one blanket and two oars; the life boat had twenty-two souls, and the gig the captain, the owner, and a part of the crew. The latter boat was picked up by a vessel. The others were four days and nights on the ocean, during which time fourteen of them died, principally children, for want of water, there not being a drop on board. After they reached the land, three others died from the privations which they had endured.

The Conspiracy against the Life of Louis Napoleon.—The trial in Paris of the persons charged with a conspiracy to assassinate Louis Napoleon has terminated. Six of the accused were acquitted, and twenty-two found guilty with extenuating circumstances. Of the latter seven have been sentenced to transportation, three to eight years exile, and the remainder to imprisonment for terms varying from five to ten years.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. CHICKERING.—We regret to learn that Mr. Jonas Chickering of this city, was attacked with apoplexy at the house of a friend last evening, was taken to his home, and died in about an hour afterwards.—*Boston Daily.*

Mr. Chickering was the celebrated Pianoforte maker.

FATHER GAVAZZI.—Father Gavazzi visited Harvard College on Monday, by invitation of the officers, and was shown through the buildings, visiting the library and other objects of interest connected with the institution. He left town yesterday morning to lecture at Newark, N. J., and, after fulfilling an engagement to deliver a second course of lectures in Philadelphia, will return to Boston, to deliver a second course here, previous to his departure for Europe on the first of January.

MR. SOULE.—Mr. Soule, our Minister to the Court of Spain, has it is said, recently purchased a splendid estate near Castillon, his birth place, in the French department of the Ariège.—*ib.*

The Newark Advertiser notices a grave stone lately cut in that city, having at the top of it a daggerreotype of the deceased person neatly let into the stone.

The London Court Journal states that the Earl of Elgin had lately had the honor of dining with the Queen at Windsor Castle, in company with the King of the Belgians and the Duke and Duchess of Brabant. On the day following he accompanied Prince Albert and the King of the Belgians on a shooting excursion.

Martin Koszta, the Hungarian exile, who was lately the cause of so much excitement in Europe and America, arrived in Boston last week, from Smyrna.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Isaac Woodward, Thomas M. Smith, and Samuel Carson, to be Commissioners to ascertain the practicability of erecting a Breakwater at Quaco, to make an estimate of the expense, and to furnish plans and specifications of the same.

John Shea to be Commissioner to receive subscriptions, select a site and to build a Public Wharf, at Woodstock.

John Ferguson and William Molloy to be Commissioners for building a Bridge over Big Nepsiguit River.

By his Excellency's Command.
J. R. PARTELOW,
Secretary's Office, 6th December, 1853.

HARPER'S CELEBRATED PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT DESTROYED BY FIRE!

LOSS OF \$1,600,000.

Several Persons Injured—Narrow Escape of over 300 Females—2,000 Working People out of Employment.

(From the New York Tribune, Dec. 12.)

The most alarming fire that has visited our City since the terrific conflagration of 1845, occurred on Saturday afternoon, in Cliff and Pearl Streets, and Franklin Square, and within a few hours the immense Book-Publishing House of Messrs. Harper & Brothers, together with other buildings, were a mass of smouldering ruins. Within the same time about 2,000 artisans and workmen, engaged in comfortable occupations, were robbed of employment and thrown idle upon the world.

At 1 o'clock in the afternoon the City Hall and other bells throughout the City rang for an alarm for the Seventh District, and in a few moments thereafter a dense smoke might have been seen rising up from the eastern section of the City apparently near the river, between Beekman and Frankfort Streets.

The fire was first discovered on the Cliff Street portion of the establishment. The origin of the fire was the subject of an unusual number of rumors, including the explosion of one of the steam boilers used in the establishment; but is stated by one of the proprietors of the concern to have been caused by camphene.

The first and most important work done was the rescuing of the male and female operatives by the Hook and Ladder Companies, assisted by their brother firemen, Police and citizens.

The long ladders were quickly hoisted to the windows on both streets, and by careful and judicious management the vast number were carefully landed in the street within the short space of 20 minutes from the alarm was first sounded by the Hall bell. Several of the girls were very nervous, and while descending the ladder with firemen and others, two or three of them fainted, but were speedily resuscitated at a drug store in the immediate vicinity.

In little more than an hour from the alarm was given, the spectacle was awfully grand. By this time the flames had swept through from Cliff to Pearl Street, scarce any thing remaining of this immense publishing house but the bare walls; within these the flames were furiously raging, having the appearance of a great lake of fire. Adjoining the Harper's establishment on the south side of Pearl Street, was the large six story buildings, Nos. 321 and 323, occupied by Messrs. George F. Coolidge & Brothers, extensive school book publishers and dealers. The fire communicated with this establishment at the attic stories, and all efforts to subdue the flames were of no avail. From floor to floor the fire made its way to the basement, and destroyed the entire buildings, together with the vast quantities of property inside.

The conflagration was witnessed by at least fifty thousand persons during the afternoon, and it was with the utmost difficulty the Police could keep space enough clear for the firemen's arduous duties.

By this terrible fire there has been over 1,000 male and female operatives thrown out of steady employment, which is really heart-rending, as most of them are in poor circumstances, and winter coming upon them.

When the flames first made their appearance the scenes were of the most thrilling character. Some six hundred human beings were in the establishment, scattered through the different floors, crying and screaming for assistance to save them from perishing in the fiery element that nearly surrounded them on all sides. Young girls between the ages of twelve and nineteen years rushed to the windows of the second, third, fourth and fifth stories of all the buildings on both streets, imploring aid. The panic was terrific, and, strange to say, not a single life was lost (as far as known up to a late hour last night) by the disastrous occurrence.

The vast property on Franklin-square and Cliff-st., we understand, amounted to nearly \$2,000,000, including the buildings, printing apparatus, stereotype plates, and the large stock of publications issued by Harper & Brothers. Of this, the stereotype plates, which were kept in underground vaults, are all which have escaped destruction. The total loss, at a moderate estimate, cannot be less than \$1,400,000, of which only \$200,000, as we learn, was covered by insurance. The high premium charged on risks of this character was no doubt an inducement with the proprietors, in common with some other eminent capitalists, to become, to a great extent, their own insurers. We are glad to be able to state that the safes containing the account-books and other valuable papers of the establishment were secured at an early stage of the conflagration by the courageous enterprise of the firemen.

The destruction of important works of literature and science, occasioned by this catastrophe, is extensive and disastrous in the extreme. For the last six months, the publication issued by Harper & Brothers, were of a more interesting and valuable character, than the usual average of their editions. The marvellous success of their Magazine had not in any degree checked or weakened their enterprise in the preparation of more permanent works, both original and reprints. These are all swept away before the relentless element. The plates however, are preserved, and we trust, will speedily furnish the public with new editions of the books, the loss of which would be a damage to literature.

Of the works going through the press at the time of the disaster, we are compelled to give a different account. For the most part, these are irrecoverably lost. The hopes of both author and publisher, in regard to them, are destroyed at "one fell swoop." Among these, was the Magazine for January, the last sheets of which were on the press, when the fire broke out. We are informed that this was a number, on which unusual care had been expended, containing a large proportion of original articles of uncommon brilliancy, and embellished with even more than the usual variety of expensive engravings. Of this, not only the printed sheets, but the proofs, manuscripts of the authors, and other "copy" are all swept away, so that the number will have to be prepared from the beginning entirely anew. But with our knowledge of the energy of the publishers, and their cherished wishes to meet the demands of the public, we may venture to believe that another January number will not fall far behind the three weeks which remain for its preparation.

Order is Heaven's first law.—POPE.