

up-hill sort of a business sometimes, and it is very easy to get discouraged if there is no sunshine along the road. The clasp of a kind hand, the beam of a sympathizing eye, the sound of a gentle or gracious word will often do the dispirited teller more good than a dollar-bill. Because people are poor, you have no right to take for granted that they are devoid of feeling and sensibility. The times are past when the allegiance of man was purchased by gold and treasure—the only coin now-a-days is the look and word, and thoughtful courtesy, that are remembered long after more important occurrences sink into forgetfulness. Isn't there enough gloom and shadow in the world, without our adding to it by wrinkled brows and fault-finding complaints?—How much better is it to carry the bright little amenities with us along the walk of life, and scatter them broadcast where they illuminate the hearts of our brother men, whose troubles may lie deeper far than our ken can penetrate. What if saying "thank you" be but a trifle? We would like to know how many of the joys and sorrows of this world are aught else? O the machinery of your daily existence, and see how much more musically the wheels will revolve, good people! You are careful enough of great matters—let not the lesser be neglected.—*Life Illustrated.*

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 5, 1860.

NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS TO THE YOUNG.

This is a period of time when ministers of the gospel are accustomed to address solemn messages of truth to the young, and we presume it will not be deemed inappropriate for us to follow their example by addressing a few observations at the opening of the year to our many young friends, who read the *Visitor*. To all persons time is precious, very precious; but to none more so than to the young. Time lost can never be regained, and the longer you live young friends the more thoroughly will you realise this fact. Hence the necessity of improving to the best possible advantage the golden moments.

Two paths are open before you. One leads to elevation and happiness here and hereafter, and the other guides to degradation and misery in this world and in that which is to come. How important therefore that in the onset you should select the right path. If the wrong road be taken it is not easy always to retrace. If we could do with our habits of life as the artist does with a likeness when he makes a mistake, rub it out and commence anew, then an error in the commencement would not be so hazardous; but these habits young people are stubborn things; they very soon, and much sooner than you are aware of, become second nature, and therefore for a man to change fixed habits is to change himself. If any of you have tried to change your course of life you have found it a most difficult work; but difficult as it is it may nevertheless be done. God in mercy has made provision for such a change. Hence the apostle after depicting the depravity of the heathen tells his Corinthian brethren; "Such were some of you but ye are washed; ye are sanctified. Only for this provision in man's moral constitution having once entered upon the forbidden path, continuance in it would be an absolute necessity. Still reformation from wrong doing is encompassed with retarding influences of a most serious character. Hence the importance of choosing in early life the right path.

Here we may remark it is not always easy for the young to discriminate between the right and the wrong. They of course see a very marked difference between purity of speech and open mouthed blasphemy; or between sobriety and drunkenness; but where the distinction is not so decided they may not discover it. The divergence between the evil and the good may be scarcely perceptible. It may be in the cherishing of simple thought; "Lust when it is conceived bringeth forth sin, and sin when it is finished bringeth forth death. The difference between two courses, though apparently small in the onset, may in the progress of time be very great. Here are two lines that are so nearly parallel in their beginning that you see no difference; but let the divergence be ever so small, extend them a few hundred miles and you are amazed at the distance which separates them.

So in relation to moral conduct. Take two lads, one indulges in telling what he considers innocent fibs; the other is truth telling to the letter. The difference between the boys is slight at first, but wait for ten or fifteen years, and the former will very likely be a noted liar, while the word of the latter is as good as his bond. Here are two young men; they have had equal advantages, and are equally industrious and respectable; but one allows himself to drink his glass occasionally, the other is pledged to total abstinence. The difference between them is not seen by the casual observer; but a few short years finds one a man of sobriety and virtue, and the other a loathsome, miserable drunkard.

The purity of the young is often endangered by a false confidence in their own power to resist temptation. There is a self-reliance which is indispensable to success in life. If a young man has no confidence in his own energy and virtue, nobody will confide in him, and he of course can have no courage to embark in any useful calling or profession. This is one thing, a false confidence is another. We mean that sort of confidence which induces the young to feel that they are steeled against temptation. When a young man says, "I wonder how far I can reach over that precipice and not fall into the abyss below," and makes the trial, that moment he is in danger of getting shattered limbs or a broken head.

Now if the young suppose they can visit play houses, gambling halls and drinking saloons, and not be contaminated, they are cherishing a false confidence. If in sincerity we pray to God to deliver us from temptation we are careful not to rush heedlessly into the midst of it. "Can we take coals of fire into our bosoms and not be burned?"

This vain self-confidence induces many a young man to take his first, second, and third glass, &c. He has no idea of becoming a drunkard; but the habit of drinking once formed it is not so easy to change it. There is a fire kindled that many tears of bitter repentance cannot always quench. The third one created has proved too mighty for many a strong man, and it has continued to prey upon his physical and moral nature until it has laid him lower than the grave.

We dwell upon this subject now young friends because the observation of many years has

taught us that the young are in greater danger from this source of temptation than from any other evil that curses humanity, and it is a temptation that meets you in almost every place where human beings dwell. What a host are engaged in perpetuating these drinking customs of society! We do not say that liquor dealers wish to multiply drunkards; for it is against their own interest to do this. But the traffic tends in this direction. Then there are so many things which lead to this course of life. All gaming and theatrical habits are associated with the dram shop, and on that account, if no other, should be avoided by the young.

God has spared you young friends to enter upon the New Year, and our sincere prayer is, that it may be to you a HAPPY YEAR: and so it will be if you choose wisdom's ways, for "all her ways are pleasantness, and all her paths are peace." May you be enabled to eschew the evil path and cleave to the good!

THE CALL TO UNITED PRAYER.

This call has come to us from the land of idleness and superstition! A land stained with the blood of many a martyred christian, and hallowed by the missionary labors of Carey, Ward and Marshman, and many others of like precious faith. It is the voice of God speaking to believers in Christ, of every name and place, and summoning them to gather with one accord around one common mercy seat. British christians of different denominations have entered heartily into the spirit of this appeal, and given it their most cordial encouragement. We trust it will be taken up with equal cordiality by all the Ministers of this City and Province, and that the week will be consecrated to this high and holy purpose. The churches of Germain and Brussels street will hold Union Services, alternately in each place, every evening of next week, commencing on Monday evening in Brussels street. May the spirit of intercession descend from above.

The following is the resolution of the brethren in India relating to this matter.

Resolved, 3rd That we appoint the second week in January, 1860, beginning with Monday the 9th, as time of special prayer that God would pour out his Spirit upon all flesh, so that all the ends of the earth might see his salvation, that on the first day, that is, on Monday the 9th; be a holy convocation for solemn fasting, humiliation and prayer, and on the last day, that is, Sabbath the 15th, be a holy convocation for thanksgiving and praise; that the intervening time be spent in private and social exercises of prayer and praise, as the circumstances of each community may dictate; that all God's people of every name and nation, of every continent and island, be cordially and earnestly invited to unite with us in a similar observance of that time; and that from the receipt of this invitation, onward, all devotees, habitually to entreat the Lord to pour out upon all his people so much of the Spirit of grace and of supplication, as to prepare them for such an observance of the time designated, as may meet with his approval and secure his blessing.

LODIANA, 29th Nov., 1859.

REVIVAL IN SPRINGFIELD.—Rev. David Crandal informs us that God is visiting the churches in Springfield with the influence of his spirit. Christians are encouraged, backsliders reclaimed and sinners are converted. A number have been baptized and united with the 1st and 3d Springfield churches, others have given evidence of conversion to God.

The revival commenced at the opening of the New Baptist chapel built by the 3d Springfield church. Elders Crandal, Springer, Kierstead, W. A. Corey, Spragg and others were present, and the services were full of religious interest and power. Crowds attended and the Spirit of God was present to bless. Many were awakened to a sense of their sin and danger and sought repentance and salvation at the foot of the cross. May this good work continue to spread with increasing power on every hand!

THE COLLEGE BILL.—We are happy to learn that the Bill transforming King's College, Fredericton, into a PROVINCIAL UNIVERSITY, open alike in its management and immunities to all denominations, has received the Royal sanction. It will now remain for the Government to carry out the provisions of the Bill. We shall speak of this matter more at length in a future number.

The Congress of the United States remains unorganised, the House not having, after nearly a month's Session, elected a Speaker.

The *Church Witness* comes to us this week very much enlarged and improved.

ENCOURAGING.

A note just received from Rev. Dr. Cramp, of Acadia College, says:

"We have about fifteen young men in the two Institutions, who hope to be engaged in the ministry. Some of them are already in the College, and others expect to enter it. May the Lord increase their number."

This is highly encouraging to all true friends of the cause of Ministerial Education in these Provinces. The fields are white for the harvest and many more laborers are required to gather in the sheaves. The progress of the age requires that these laborers should be strong in intellectual as well as in religious attainments.

THE HOME OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

Four miles from the home of Keble, stands that of one who then was but a very young and much envied heiress, but who since has come before the world in the beauty of a holy life and of the most unselfish charity—**FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.** Many hundreds of acres belong to Miss Nightingale, and her grounds are among the most beautiful of that region. From the lodge we drove to the house, on a wide and perfect carriage road, such as you find only in the domain of English nobles, bordered on each side by a hundred feet thick or more of tall shrubs in full bloom, and whose profusion of purple and pink blossoms appeared to us very beautiful indeed.

The house, a fine construction, with a Doric facade, is built of that pale blue stone peculiar to England; it stands on high ground, and commands a very extensive view. From the wide portico you could see the valley below, with its rivers winding through the meadows—the massive, imposing-looking old church, the graceful cottages, and the cattle peacefully enjoying the autumn grass. It was a lovely scene, and one which fixed itself on our memory, there ever to remain.—*Evangelist.*

For the Christian Visitor.

To the Rev. I. E. BILL, President of the Baptist Education Society of New Brunswick.

DEAR BROTHER,—The subject of Brother Coy's letter, as you state in reply, is one of great importance, and one to which it is highly desirable that attention should be called. I may be allowed to say that the number of young men from the country present at an exhibition is no criterion of the number that have attended during the terms of the half year. Last half year for example, besides those who remained to the exhibition, who were Mr. Judson Blakeny, Joseph Blakeny, Harris Estabrooks, of Canning, and George W. Gunter, of Springfield; the following had attended but had left;—Mr. Abel Washburn, of St. Martins, Alfred A. Watson, of Northampton, Joseph Jones, of Sheffield, Gideon Freeman, of Southampton, and George A. Riecker, of Belleisle. The number therefore present at the late exhibition requires to be more than doubled to obtain the attendance; and at the summer exhibition the number must be trebled and sometimes quadrupled to give the attendance. I am speaking now of young men from the country, the attendance from Fredericton does not vary so much; but from the country the fullest attendance is generally from January to May, which avoids both winter and summer exhibition. I mention these facts simply by way of explanation, it would be far more agreeable and almost as easy to instruct twenty as ten, and forty as twenty.

I trust also it will not be imagined by friends at a distance, when they read your words "repair the premises," that the building is in a dilapidated condition. It is true that the outside would be much the better for a coat of paint, but in all that pertains to internal comfort, the committee have been very particular in placing the building in such a state that no just cause for complaint can arise. The bed rooms are all papered, and each one has its stove, the latter have all been carefully put up to avoid smoke. While no doubt the building might receive many finishing touches, yet with the limited means at their disposal, the committee have attended to every point essential to comfort.

What appears to me desirable to accomplish is to lay on Gas, and make such other arrangements as would enable the committee to supply light, firing, bed, &c., and charge altogether, that the young men might have no extras of the kind to furnish. This could not be done without funds, which, as you know, are not in hand. With regard to the removal of the Institution to St. John, my opinion is the same that it has ever been; when the Brethren there, take up the matter heartily, and set an example to the country churches, when both the disposition and ability exist to found an Establishment that shall be a credit to the Denomination, without being a millstone around the neck of individuals, then the thing can be done, the male department can be removed, and the Seminary converted into a female Institution.

In conclusion, I would appeal to the friends of the Institution in all parts of the country, and I am persuaded that it has a firm hold on the affections of many, may I request them still to remember it with a prayerful interest, and not to forget it when they see a young man, who, by a few words of encouragement, might be induced to attend.

C. SPURDEN.

Fredericton, 2d January, 1860.

P. S.—As it has been intimated to me that some persons imagine that all in the school "participated in the performances" of the Exhibition, I add a few lines to say that only a part of the lads recited, and only a part of the young ladies wrote essays. This is always the case; I never had an exhibition in which all that are in school were both able and willing to engage; it is usual, however, for all the young men from the country to do so, though this is not always the case.

C. S.

We sincerely and deeply sympathise with our esteemed brother and agent—Rev. J. V. Tabor, in the heavy loss which he has sustained. We trust that it may be made up to him and his family, and that no suffering will ensue from the disaster; the particulars of which will be found below, from brother Tabor's own pen.

DEAR VISITOR,—With many that have been burned out before me, I have been compelled to look on the acquisitions of many years wrested from me in a few moments.

December 30th, 1859, with us will long be remembered. At three o'clock, P. M., we were aroused by our little and only daughter with the cry of fire. Springing from our beds Mrs. Tabor, one of her brothers and I, laid hold off a few things and threw them out, but some twenty minutes was all the time allowed before the flames swept through every part of the house. The chambers were all in flames when we were awakened, and the coals were falling before the children could get through the rooms. Our preservation was a merciful providence; but our position was trying. Mrs. Tabor and her brother left the house in their stockings, and the little girl and youngest boy with their feet naked, the two elder sons dressed themselves (a coat excepted). My eldest son, a young man, was not at home. My brother-in-law and daughter froze their toes, and Mrs. Tabor and myself froze our fingers. The distance happily was short before we found an asylum at Deacon Thomas Thorne's, my father-in-law's house.

We lost all our provisions, furniture and clothes, besides my watch and valuable Theological library of over 100 volumes. Having just purchased my house and lot, and made partial payment, I feel that my loss is indeed heavy.

But while I write I learn of a heavier loss still. The second and third sons of our neighbour, Thos. Thompson were burned to death on the following night, Dec. 30th, in their camp in the lumber woods, on the lower north branch of the New Canaan River. Their oldest son was badly burned, but rescued by a hired man from the flames. May comforting peace sustain the afflicted parents in their distress, and may the young man recover. There is a good report of the young man whose lives thus suddenly terminated. They were probably between 12 and 14 years of age. Their disfigured remains were conveyed home on Sunday, 1st January, for interment to-morrow.

This is a sad new year to many here. I attended the funeral of an aged woman, Mrs. Fisher, and a son of a Brother Kingston, of Washade-

moak, last Tuesday, at Coles Island; and to-day the only surviving child of James Green, Jr. of this place was interred. He has lost four children.

I am yours, in affliction,

JAMES V. TABOR.

Johnston, C. C., January 2d, 1860.

Please observe my Post Office address is, Johnston, Queen's County, via Millstream, N. B.

REVIVAL IN WALES.

[Correspondence of The Christian Era.]

Holywell, Wales, Nov. 15, 1859.

MY DEAR BROTHER,—You will rejoice to learn of the progress of the work of grace in Wales—a land where God has often poured out his Holy Spirit and converted multitudes of souls. The history of revivals among this hardy and industrious people, is very remarkable, as well as the present marvellous displays of sovereign grace.

For the last 220 or 230 years Wales has been distinguished by several great revivals. A great religious awakening commenced about 230 years ago, under the ministry of the Rev. William Rock, of Monmouthshire. He was a talented but ungoverned man, celebrated as being the best fiddler in the whole country, and after the service in church in the morning, he would play, and the congregation would dance, in the evening of every Sabbath. Being brought to a knowledge of Christ, he became powerfully instrumental in the salvation of souls, for the people flocked from every direction to hear him.

About 120 years ago, a great revival broke out in South Wales, and thousands were converted. At that time the people were in such gross ignorance that when Rees went to hold a prayer-meeting in a farmer's house, the men and women kept knitting stockings, as if they had not been engaged in a religious service. He read the Scriptures and prayed, but they still kept at the knitting. Finally, however, they ceased to work, and were seized with stranger emotions than any at present witnessed in Ireland. About fifty persons were converted that evening. During the last sixty years there has been a revival every ten years. In 1799 a remarkable revival occurred, and the British and Foreign Bible Society was established to furnish the Scriptures to the Welsh people in their own language; Sabbath Schools were also established then.

Again, in 1819, and in 1829, in which latter year thousands were brought to the knowledge of God. There were much stronger bodily emotions at that time than now, the congregations being differently affected, some shouting together or groaning, or joining in singing hymns of praise. In 1839, a great revival took place; again, in 1849; and now in 1859, although the matter has not been noised abroad, the people are everywhere manifesting a spirit of penitence and crying for mercy. The present revival commenced in the county of Cardigan in December last. About 15,000 have been added to the Church, and in many parishes there is not a single individual who is not in church-fellowship. Throughout the whole principality the movement is progressing, and is sustained by the united efforts and prayers of Episcopalians, Methodists, Independents, and Baptists. Large numbers have, it is believed, been brought to God in Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire; in fact, in every county and town the awakening is felt, and its effects are seen in the moral and religious improvement of the population. Meetings for prayer are numerous, and at each the special object of petition is for a more abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The movement is said to be making progress also at Aberystwyth. Within the last week or two it has derived a fresh strength from quite an unexpected source. A party of militiamen are stationed in the town, and they have come to the determination to hold daily prayer-meetings. Not satisfied with these once a day, the men now assemble every morning before parade, and every evening after parade. In Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire the movement is rapidly gaining ground, and preachers who have been listened to for many years now produce an extraordinary effect. At Tredegar, a revival of temperance has occurred, and this, it is thought, is the forerunner of the conversion of many. An itinerant cutter has induced 3000 persons in this place alone to sign the pledge, and subscriptions to the amount of £2000 have been received towards building a new temperance hall. A large proportion of those who have given it are miners. Prayer-meetings are daily held in numerous places, and supplications offered for the spread of the revival.

At the recent annual meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, held at Aberdare, South Wales, and at which the Lord Mayor of London and other distinguished laymen were present, the Rev. B. Balgairne, of Scarborough, read an interesting address on Religious Awakenings in America and the United Kingdom, giving many particulars of the movement which had taken place in Scarborough. In that town he said that meetings had been alternately held in the respective places of worship twice a day. They thought at first to continue them for one week, but, thank God, with some modification they had continued them until now. For fifteen weeks they were held twice a day. The ordinary week services were suspended. The Church minister did not unite with them, but the laity did. They had all congregations meeting together—all assembled as brethren in Christ, and pleading for one common blessing—the descent of the Holy Spirit. At these noon-day meetings five hundred persons usually assembled, and at the evening services fifteen hundred. There were no addresses delivered, except to anxious inquirers at the close of the meetings. The praying was spontaneous. Husbands prayed for their wives, wives for their husbands, parents for their children, and children for their parents, brothers for sisters, and sisters for brothers, &c. Above 100 requests for special prayer were sent in by anonymous writers, sixty of which the speaker had in his possession, couched in terms which showed that the writers having found Christ were desirous that others should also find him. As many as 1500 anxious inquirers remained after each of these prayer-meetings to join in religious conversation, and there was a considerable accession of converts to the various churches.

MEANHOODLY SUFFERING.—There are twenty-two cases of small-pox in the old Poor House building, (so called,) opposite the old Burial Ground, among men, women, and children, all of whom are in the most wretched state of poverty and suffering, and completely cut off from all communication with the outer world. Unless aid be immediately afforded, many of these unfortunates must perish from want of the common necessities of life, and fuel to keep them warm.

We are requested to state that all persons in St. John, having cast off clothing would confer an act of Christian charity, by sending it to the office of the Board of Health, over the Police Office, this day. Any friends desirous of contributing a dollar, or even the smallest trifle to purchase food for the afflicted, are informed that we will receive the amounts at this office, and make public acknowledgement of the same; and it shall be converted to a life-saving use, as fast as received.—[News.]

THE CANADIAN RAILROADS.

Without doubt Canada has made great progress in the matter of railroads. The period during which this has been accomplished is comparatively short. Unlike Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the work has been and is now quietly going forward. There has been, probably, more squabbling and shedding of ink over the bits of railways constructed in these Lower Provinces than over all the extending and magnificent lines in Canada. Indeed the whole system of Public Works in Canada is a marvel of perseverance.

and far-sighted policy on the part of her people. And although they have incurred an enormous public debt, they have something equally substantial for their money. There were over 1000 miles of interior navigation to improve. Costly canals had to be dug, harbors to be constructed, lakes to be deepened, lighthouses to be built, rivers to be straightened, and rapids to be rendered harmless. All this had to be done on water. Upon land, roads had to be constructed over rivers, &c. For the convenience of the lumbering trade, which employs 25,000 men, booms and slides had to be built. Canada has now more railroads than any other country of equal population. She has more railroads than Ireland, with its 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 inhabitants—more than Scotland, with all its enterprise and capital—more than any one of the New England States, which were settled a century and a half before Upper Canada; more than the three Atlantic States of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, although the States of the Union are proverbial for the public spirit of their people. Subjoined is a list of the railroads in Canada actually constructed:

	Miles.
The Grand Trunk (in Canada)	850
The Great Western	381
The Buffalo and Lake Huron	159
The Northern	95
The Montreal and Champlain, (in Canada)	81
The Port Hope, Lindsay and Peterboro' Branch,	66
The Prescott and Ottawa,	54
The Cobourg and Peterboro',	28
The Welland,	25
The London and Port Stanley,	24
The Erie and Ontario,	17
The Galt and Guelph,	16
The Grenville and Carleton,	13
The St. Lawrence and Industrie,	12
The Preston and Berlin,	11
	1,772

Besides these others beyond the Province have been built by Canadian agency. The Grand Trunk has been built 55 miles of an extension in Michigan; and the Great Western has aided the Detroit and Milwaukee by a loan. Nearly every one of these roads has received government assistance. The Grand Trunk, the Great Western and the Northern have been directly aided by government; while many others have been aided by loans raised on the credit of the Consolidated Municipal Loan Fund. The number of miles of road in operation is something less than the total extent constructed. There are several roads which have been closed for some time, and some of them were lately brought to the hammer. There is every prospect, according to Mr. Keefe's report, that by the close of the current year, there will be 2,005 miles of railroad completed in Canada. Some progress has been made on the North Shore railroad, between Montreal and Quebec. Several other companies have power to continue this road from Montreal to Armipore, on the Upper Ottawa, and thence to the Georgian Bay. The Great Southern road has been delayed by the want of confidence caused by diminished harvests in the West. Two or three lines are in contemplation to the North West. The necessity for these is apparent when it is stated that it costs \$1.50 to bring a barrel of flour from Walworth, in Bruce, to Toronto; though it could easily be carried across the entire peninsula for one sixth of that sum. With the exception of the Montreal and Champlain, the Prescott and Ottawa and the St. Lawrence and Industrie Railroads, all the rest of the roads have the Provincial gauge of five feet six inches.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

Was published to the Country on the 27th Dec. The following is a synopsis:

THE VIRGINIA TRAGEDY. The President, after expressing gratitude to the Almighty for blessings throughout the year, refers to the recent bloody occurrence at Harper's Ferry. These events, bad and cruel in themselves, derived their chief importance from the apprehension that they are but symptoms of an incurable disease in the public mind, which may break out in still more dangerous outrages, and terminate at last in open war by the North to abolish slavery. While he himself entertained no such apprehensions, they ought to afford a solemn warning to us all to beware of the approach of danger. He says: Let me implore my countrymen, North and South, to cultivate their ancient feelings of mutual forbearance and good will toward each other, and strive to allay the demon spirit of sectional hatred and strife alive in the land.

This advice proceeds from the heart of the old public functionary, whose services commenced in the last generation, and the wise conservative statesman of that day; but he indulges in no gloomy forebodings. He thinks the affair of Harper's Ferry will be the means of allaying the existing excitement and preventing further outbreaks.

SLAVERY IN THE TERRITORIES. He cordially congratulates Congress on the final settlement, by the Supreme Court, of the question of Slavery in the territories.

The right has been established of every man to take his property, of every kind, including slaves, into the territories, which belongs equally to the whole Confederacy, and to have it protected there under the Federal Constitution.

Neither Congress, nor the Territorial Legislature, nor any human power has authority to annul or impair this vested right. Thus has the status of a territory during the intermediate period from its first settlement until it becomes a state, been irrevocably fixed by the final decision of the Supreme Court of the United States.

ADMISSION OF NEW STATES.

He then describes the mode of admission of a territory as a State into the Union. It may be admitted with or without slavery as their constitution may prescribe. This principle has been recognized, in some form, by the almost unanimous vote of both Houses of the last Congress.

THE SLAVE TRADE. All lawful means at his command had been employed and will continue to be employed, against the slave trade. Our history proves that the fathers of the Republic, in advance of all other nations, condemned the slave trade.

THE CHINESE TREATY. Ratifications of the Chinese treaty have been exchanged. Two supplemental conventions are, however pending, relating to the rights of Americans in China and transit duties.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. Our difficulty with Paraguay is satisfactorily adjusted. Our relations with France, Russia, and all the Continental Governments of Europe, Spain perhaps excepted, continue to be most friendly. The President recommends that an appropriation be made to meet the demands of the Amistad claimants. His opinions in favor of the acquisition of Cuba, by fair means, remain unchanged. Therefore, he again invites the serious attention of Congress to this important subject.

GREAT BRITAIN.

He had good reason to believe, until recently, that he would have been able to announce our difficulties with Great Britain as finally adjusted, in a manner honorable and satisfactory to both parties.

From causes, however, which Great Britain had not anticipated, she had not yet completed the treaty and arrangements with Honduras and Nicaragua, in pursuance of the understanding of the governments. It is, nevertheless, confidently expected that this will shortly be accomplished. In relation to San Juan, he entertained no doubt of the validity of American title. He was

happy to state that what was left to Gen. Scott's discretion could not have been placed in better hands.

He (Gen. Scott) has successfully accomplished his mission, and there was no longer any reason to apprehend the collision of the respective forces during the period of negotiations.

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.

The President gives the following outline of conduct of Mexico, for which he demands reparation.

There is scarcely any form of injury which has not been suffered by our citizens in Mexico during the last few years. We have been nominally at peace with that republic, but "so far as the interests of our commerce or of our citizens who have visited the country as merchants, shipmasters, or in other capacities, are concerned, we might as well have been at war." Life has been insecure, property unprotected, and trade impossible except at a risk of loss which prudent men cannot be expected to incur. Important contracts, involving large expenditures, have been set at defiance by the local governments.

Peaceful American residents, occupying their rightful possessions, have been suddenly expelled from the country, in defiance of treaties, and by the mere force of arbitrary power. Even the course of justice has not been safe from control, and a recent decree of Miramon permits the intervention of government in all suits where either party is a foreigner. Vessels of the United States have been seized without law, and a consular officer who protested against such seizure has been fined and imprisoned for disrespect to the authorities. Military contributions have been levied in violation of every principle of right, and the American who resisted the lawless demand has had his property forcibly taken away, and has been himself banished.

From a conflict of authority in different parts of the country, tariff dues which have been paid in one place have been exacted over again in another place. Large numbers of our citizens have been arrested and imprisoned without any form of examination or any opportunity for a hearing, and even when released, have only obtained their liberty after much suffering and injury, and without any hope of redress. The wholesale massacre of Crabbie and his associates without trial in Sonora, as well as the seizure and murder of four sick Americans, who had taken shelter in the house of an American, upon the soil of the United States, was communicated to Congress at its last session.

Murders of a still more atrocious character have been committed in the very heart of Mexico, under the authority of Miramon's government, during the present year. Some of these were only worthy of a barbarous age, and, impossible in a country which claims to be civilized. Of this description was the brutal massacre of three American physicians, who were seized in the hospital at Sacnabays, while attending on the sick and dying of both parties, and without trial or without crime, were hurried away to speedy execution.

Little less shocking was the recent fate of Ormond Chase, who was shot in Tepepic on the 7th of August, by order of the same Mexican General, not only without trial, but without any conjecture by his friends of the cause of his arrest. He is represented as a young man of good character, and intelligence, who had made numerous friends at Tepepic by the courage and humanity which he had displayed on many trying occasions, and his death was as unexpected as it was shocking to the whole community. Other outrages might be enumerated, but these are sufficient to illustrate the wretched condition of the country, and the unprotected condition of the persons and property of our citizens in Mexico.

Mr. McLane, in August last, wrote:—"I hope the President will feel authorized to ask from Congress to enter Mexico, with military forces, at the call of the Constitutional authorities, in order to protect our citizens and treaty rights. Unless such power is conferred upon him, the evils must increase," etc.

The President adds—I have been reluctantly led to the same opinion, and I feel bound to announce this conclusion to Congress. This is a question which relates to the future, as well as to the past and present.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

He thinks the provisions of the recent treaty with Nicaragua cannot fail to be satisfactory.

THE WAR-MAKING POWER.

The chief objection urged against the grant of this authority is, that Congress, by conferring it, would violate the constitution—that it would be a transfer of the war making, or strictly speaking, the war declaring power, to the Executive. If this were well founded, it would, of course, be conclusive.

But can Congress only act after the fact—after the mischief has been done? Have they no power to confer upon the President the authority, in advance to furnish instant redress should such a case afterwards occur? Must they wait till the mischief is done, and can they apply the remedy only when it is too late? To confer this authority to meet future cases under circumstances strictly specified, is as clearly within the war-declaring power as such an authority conferred upon the President by act of Congress after the deed has done. In the progress of a great nation many exigencies must arise imperatively requiring that Congress should authorize the President to act promptly on certain conditions which may or may not afterwards arise. Our history has already presented a number of such cases.

POST OFFICE AND TREASURY. He refers to