

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 22, 1865.

More Labourers Wanted.

For what purpose? To clear the wilderness? to cultivate the fields? to level mountains? to build ships? or to erect railroads? Nay, but to go with God's message of love to a world of benighted, ruined, sinners on their way to death, and seek to rescue them from an eternal hell. More than eighteen long centuries have passed since the commission was given to the church, fresh from the lips of her risen Lord, saying, "Go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost? Has she obeyed the mandate? What are the facts of the case? Gloomy! awfully gloomy to contemplate. There are at least SEVEN HUNDRED MILLIONS of human beings in this world of ours that have never as yet heard the glad tidings of a Saviour's redeeming love. According to the latest statistics we have seen, England, Continental Europe, and America combined, have forty-eight Protestant missionary societies, whose specific purpose is to preach the gospel to the heathen. These employ 9,418 missionaries all told, and have a church membership numbering 518,000, and an annual income of four millions four hundred and eighty-one thousand dollars. This gives a little more than a half million of Christians in the midst of seven hundred millions of heathen, and less than one missionary for every million of the benighted sons and daughters of idolatry, or what would scarcely be equal to three ministers for the whole of British America. Christian people, will you look at this dark, sad picture? We have missionary meetings, reports, and resolutions in any quantity; but where, oh where, is the true missionary spirit? It was in the church of the first century as an all-consuming flame, burning out the last root of covetousness, and consecrating all to the one great purpose, viz., giving Christ to the world, and bringing the world to Christ; but it is in the church of the nineteenth century. Alas! alas! it spends more money on a bitter, bloody campaign of destruction and death than she spends in a generation to carry salvation to the ends of the earth. She gives more in a week to assail a fortress or take a city, than she spends in preaching the gospel to the heathen in a whole year. The missionary spirit has been grieved away from the church. Worldliness, pride, and covetousness, have come in like a flood, and to an alarming extent have become the ruling power in God's heritage. What are the stubborn facts which rise up as frightful spectres before us? They are these. Every lone missionary in this great field of moral ruin needs to be multiplied into one hundred thousand, and in the absence of this multiplication of missionary agency, tens of thousands rush to the bar of God daily, unenlightened, unregenerated, and consequently unsaved. How can they believe in him of whom they have never heard? How can they hear without a preacher? How can they preach except they be sent? What are New Brunswick Christians doing to supply this fearful destitution? Are you willing to have this question answered in the judgment? It will be answered there. O the crimson blush that will then mantle the brow of those who know their Lord's will but do it not!

Editorial Correspondence.

Hillsboro', June 24th, 1865.

We always enjoy a visit to this lovely section of the Province, but never more than now. On all hands are indications of providential smiles and blessing. The grass lands, both marsh and upland, never looked as a whole more promising. On the most fertile spots the grass is bending down with the weight of its own growth, and will soon have to be harvested to save it from injury. If cut immediately, and the season continues favorable, the rich soil will yield a second crop nearly equal to the first. There are some fields that should be gathered next week. Reviving showers descended yesterday in sufficient measure to give potatoes, grain, and garden plants a fresh start. To-day the beneficial results of these refreshings are everywhere apparent. Notwithstanding the grumbings on account of the long rains of May, and the fearful apprehensions in which many of the farmers indulged, the prospects for an abundant harvest are all that the most covetous could desire.

We regret to learn that the fire in the Albertite Mines is still unsubdued. It is said to be in the timbers used for walling the mines, that it is extending upwards from the bottom some feet, and the only effectual mode of quenching it is to fill the pit with water above the fire. The mine is some half a mile in length, and a good many feet wide; the stream of water used for filling it is very small, so that it will take a long time to turn on the necessary supply, and when filled it will be a serious undertaking to empty it; but the value of the coal is so great that the expense of all this delay and extra labor will soon be made up.

A new company is operating not far distant. The indications are very hopeful. The quality of the coal is precisely the same, and the vein widens as the work proceeds. American capital provides the funds. We have rendered to the pastor Rev. J. A. Smith, what assistance we could since our arrival on Thursday evening, in advocating the claims of the Union Society, and in receiving the contributions of the people in support of the good cause. If all would give cheerfully as God has prospered them, the toil and anxiety of such a mission to the churches would be greatly lessened; those who give and those who receive would all feel much more comfortable, and thus the pleasure arising from the work would be mutual. If our Hillsboro' friends do not give largely, we are pleased to see them for the most part give freely.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

We have just returned from a glorious service held in the Baptist Church at Hillsboro'. In the Master's name we preached as best we could the cause of domestic missions. The congregation was large, and the impression deeply solemn. At the close, we proposed to the church to contribute one hundred dollars towards sustaining a missionary of their own choice in the field. The pastor, Rev. J. A. Smith, and brethren W. Wallace, and R. E. Stevens, Esqrs., sustained the proposition by short pithy speeches, and a pledge to give ten dollars each towards the object. By this time the hall was fairly in motion, and, in a few minutes, more than the sum asked for was made up. At the close of this effort, Hon. W. H. Stevens arose, and with deep emotion, referred to early associations with the people of Hillsboro', and the religious impressions and convictions of former years, and stated that he would give the church \$100 towards accomplishing their missionary work. This proposition was received with expressions of gratitude to God and to the donor. So that the offerings of the day amount in all to upwards of Two Hundred Dollars. Noble example for other churches to follow. May God reward an hundred fold!

We spoke to the Chairman of the Railway before we left the city on the subject of the usual accommodation to the Eastern Association. He will cheerfully grant the go and return ticket for a single fare. Some brother in St. John will please see Mr. Hatheway and get the same privilege for those going to the Association on the river boats, and have it duly noticed in the Visitor.

Agony for lost Souls.

Ministers of the gospel of all ages, who have been distinguished for usefulness in the conversion of sinners to God, have been remarkable for their ardent love for souls, and for intensity of desire to be instrumental in rescuing them from the path that leads to destruction. It matters not how learned or able or eloquent the preacher is if he never agonizes with God in the prayer of faith for the salvation of his hearers, he will not be likely to have many souls to his ministry. Here are a few examples as illustrative of the truthfulness of these remarks beginning with the agony of Jesus.

The great and glorious Head of the Church, looking forward to the redemption of his people, said "I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how am I straitened until it be accomplished!" What words are these? What a combination of zeal and love, desire and pity they indicate. Paul, ever true to his Master, represents himself as "travelling in birth" for the Galatians until Christ was formed in them. In these two facts, then, we have illustrated the idea of agony on behalf of lost souls. In proportion as men have drunk into the spirit of their Master, they will feel the same longing desire, and pour out their hearts within them for a descent of the power which can alone extricate the lost. The literature of the Church in our own land abundantly exemplifies the presence and operation of this spirit in the breasts of men "of whom the world was not worthy"—men that were the lights of the times in which they lived. The following are examples:—

It is said of the learned John Smith, "that he had resolved very much to lay aside other studies, and to travel in the salvation of men's souls, after whose good he most earnestly thirsted." Of Alleine, author of the *Alarm to Unconverted Sinners*, it is said that "he was infinitely and insatiably greedy of the conversion of souls; and to this end he poured out his very heart in prayer and preaching." Bunyan said "In my preaching I could not be satisfied, unless some fruits did appear in my work."

"I would think it a greater happiness," said Matthew Henry, "to gain one soul to Christ than mountains of silver and gold to myself. If I do not gain souls, I shall enjoy all other gains with very little satisfaction, and I would rather beg my bread from door to door than undertake this great work."

Doddridge, writing to a friend, remarked "I long for the conversion of souls more sensibly than for anything besides. Methinks I could not only labour, but die for it with pleasure."

Similar is the death-bed testimony of the sainted Brown, of Haddington: "Now, after nearly forty years' preaching of Christ, I think I would rather beg my bread all the labouring days of the week for an opportunity of preaching the Gospel on the Sabbath, than without such a privilege to enjoy the richest possessions on earth." "Oh, labor, labor," said he to his sons, "to win souls to Christ."

Rutherford could assure his flock that they were the object of his tears, care, fears, and daily prayers; that he labored among them early and late.

Fleming, in his *Fulfillment of Scripture*, mentions one John Welch "often in the coldest winter nights rising for prayer, found weeping on the ground, and wrestling with the Lord on account of his people, and saying to his wife, when she pressed him for an explanation of his distress, 'I have the souls of three thousand to answer for, while I know not how it is with many of them.'"

Brainerd could say of himself, on more than one occasion, "I cared not where or how I lived, or what hardships I went through, so that I could but gain souls to Christ. While I was asleep, I dreamed of these things; and when I waked, the first thing I thought of was this great work. All my desire was for the conversion of the heathen, and all my hope was in God."

Rev. JOHN EDWARDS, D. D.—I long to win souls. I had rather be poor, despised, reviled, and persecuted, and made very useful, than to have all else to my will, without evident and increasing usefulness. This, this is what I aim at:—"I seek not you, but you." Such should be our spirit and our language. It is to be feared that there is comparatively but a small portion of this decided earnestness in modern days, compared to what there was in more successful and happier times.

Rev. HENRY VENN.—Look upon your people as prisoners under condemnation, for whose pardon and recovery you ought to feel as a tender mother does for the child at her breast. Lament an unfeeling heart in *yourself* as well as in them. Beg earnestly that you may long after their salvation, in the bowels of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Such, we conceive, is the spirit in which the Gospel of mercy ought to be dispensed by parents, heads of families, Christian Instruction Visitors, Sunday School Teachers, Pastors, and Missionaries; and so dispensed, it will not fail, in the end, to prove the power of God to salvation.

Educate the Voice.

What a charm there is in a well trained human voice. If employed in singing it touches the deepest sensibilities of the human soul, and when used in preaching or in public addresses of any kind it is scarcely less effective. How important, therefore, that preachers of the gospel should pay special attention to the proper cultivation of the voice. It frequently happens that thoughts in themselves most sublime and impressive fail to produce any corresponding effect upon the hearers in consequence of being communicated by a defective voice—a voice naturally, it may be, not good, but made very much worse by improper culture. It has long appeared to us that seminaries and colleges are usually at fault in this matter. You send a young man, whose life work is to be the ministry of the word, to school, not only to learn to think and arrange his thoughts consecutively, but to express these thoughts in a style most impressive and effective. Unfortunately, however, in the many instances the mode and style of address are left to take care of themselves. The consequence is that many of the very best thinkers fail to make the slightest impression upon a mixed assembly. An article on this subject in a late issue of the *National Baptist* is so much to the point that we transcribe it in full. "The value of a good voice to a public speaker is always admitted. Skill in its use is recognized as of very great importance. Do they receive sufficient attention from those who have in charge the education of ministers? In these days when books are so abundant, when the best sermons of the ablest Christian scholars are published in books and even newspapers, the voice has still greater importance than when books were rare. If the preacher is to magnify his office and maintain its power, he must make it something different from the printing press, else men will prefer to read at home rather than listen to sermons of less value with no advantage from the voice of the living preacher."

But there is a charm and power in the human voice when well cultivated and well used, which will captivate and influence men as the printed page cannot. Therefore men will leave the book and newspaper to hear the preacher who speaks well. It is folly to complain of the people because they do not receive preachers whose sermons are sound and well written, but who have little or no power of elocution. It is really demanding that they shall overlook the indolence or neglect of the preacher in preparing himself for his work, or the faults of the instructors to whom his education was committed, and be willing to forego the great advantage of public speaking over private

reading. The preacher cannot demand the former nor the people consent to the latter.

There is no need however of so great deficiency as exists among preachers in this respect. It is the consequence, except in a few cases, of entire neglect or greatly inadequate effort. The men who have good voices and know how to use them will tell you that they are indebted to training for their power in this direction. That training may have been the result of circumstances, and so in a sense accidental. But either accidental or intended training has developed and cultivated the voice, and taught the man such use of it as he has. The difficulty is not that men cannot be made good speakers. It is that nobody tries to make them such. Not only is little regard paid to elocution even by professors of Rhetoric, but there often exists a contempt for the man who does give attention to it, as if he were laboring for popular applause, instead of seeking for sound learning and a well furnished mind. So we see men of the greatest moral worth and the best minds—men who at the theological school rank as the ablest scholars and best men—passing into fields of comparatively limited usefulness, while others who were accounted far below them while at their studies, men of less piety and good sense as well as less learning, are sought after, for the most important stations. Said a friend not long ago, "When at the seminary my class-mates laughed at me because I spent much time training my voice; but since we left the seminary I have had a success denied to them, although their sermons are able than mine, because they could not utter with power what they had written."

We all understand the fact well enough, but it is a serious question whether at the seminaries the subject receives proper attention. No occasional remarks from the rhetorical professor that the young gentleman should speak louder, or even emphatic exhortations to them to cultivate their voices are enough. The teacher must understand the art of cultivating the voice. He should inspect every young man that enters the seminary, and discerning his wants as distinct from the wants of every other student, should commence a course of elocutinary training for him, based on scientific principles, having careful reference to his peculiarities, and including daily and severe practice through the entire course of study. This is the true plan, and this will make preachers. At least, we can say that men who cannot preach when, in addition to piety and a well trained mind, they have received three years of such faithful elocutinary training, may better seek a field of usefulness elsewhere than in the pulpit.

For the Christian Visitor.

Stray Leaves in my Journal.

Being troubled in mind and disquieted in spirit through various annoying and trying occurrences during the day, I threw myself upon a lounge to bring back my scattered thoughts and muse on the troubles and cares of life. While musing thus, I seemed to be insensibly led by some mysterious power to a miserable, wretched, broken down hotel, penetrated by no light save that which issued in through the roof and the chinks in the wall. While looking around this strange, damp place, and wondering why I was led hither, my eyes rested on an old man covered with a tattered quilt, resting on a rude pallet of straw, and who bore the marks of pain, suffering, want and disease, too true to be mistaken. Here, thought I, is a man, who after all his youthful aspirations, his vigorous manhood and plans for usefulness, is deserted by all and must die uncared for and alone. No doubt, thought I, your mind reverts to all the sunny scenes of childhood, or to the labors of manhood and all the bright spots in your checkered pilgrimage with a hungry feeling of delight, to stifle the cold, hard thought that will arise when gazing on your poverty stricken domain, and painful situation.

While thus thinking, curiosity led me to step forward and learn something relative to his past history, and why it was, he was so reduced, and in such extremity, but a motion from the pallet bade me remain. The old man's eyes opened and glancing upwards to heaven, with his attenuated hands folded on his bosom, said—"Nevertheless, not my will, but Thine be done." I thought the Saviour's sufferings in Gethsemane were vividly passing before his view, and contrasting his own suffering with that of his Saviour's, he repeated those words of calm resignation. Ere the last faint echo of his voice ceased, the room was filled with a flood of golden light, and in the midst of the living beams a form of loveliness appeared. She was of noble proportions; from her high temples, her amber ringlets floated on the still air, her eyes like stars in the blue azure, glistened with radiant mildness. Her countenance was suffused with tints of glory from the western hills of sunset, and from her lips, like the sound of many waters, issued the words "This is one of those who have come up out of great tribulation, who have endured to the end. Well done thou good and faithful servant, come, enter thou into the everlasting rest prepared for the people of God;" then turning to me she said, "Why dost thou murmur," "Cast all thy cares on Him, for He careth for you." A moment more they were gone—the freed spirit of the saintly sufferer and the bright spirit of heaven. A streak of gold marked their course; I gazed after them in the infinite realms of Deity, and saw as when a flash of lightning bursts and opens, the illimitable regions in the eternal far-away, or like the rose light of the descending sun, flashing up the deep vault of azure; but my eyes ached, strained by the sight, tears trembled on my eyelids and coursed down my cheeks, but the vision seemed so real that I could not conceive those beings to be shadowy existences, and yet they were the nearest approachable likeness to the soul, eternal, immortal, comprehending the boundaries of space; but the lesson conveyed, I will never forget. It came to me in visions of the day, "Cast all your care on Him for He careth for you," etc. Oh! yes, why should I be sad and fearful. He careth for you, for me; away I dismissed troops of melancholy thought, eyes of faith pierce the immensity of created worlds and see the mansions prepared for those who love Him; child of God, sorrow may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning; at eventide there shall be light, faint gleams though they may be, yet they will glow on our pathway like the first streaks of sunshine at the peep of day." Yes, we will learn to labour and to wait, "Casting our cares upon Him." We will wait. "The mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." When in our inner man dwells the presence of the Deity, "We shall see glories beaming from her brow, or trace his footsteps by the rising flowers."

June 26th, 1865.

TREDE YRHE.

Report.

I visited the Churches on the Grand Lake according to appointment, and received subscriptions as follows, about half of which was paid down, and the remainder was promised by the time of the Association:—From Jones, \$12.00; Mill Cove, \$18.00; Cumberland Bay, \$2.00; Range Church, \$20.64. My appointment at Cumberland Bay was at 3 P. M. The attendance was small. As I went on to the head of Cumberland Bay that evening, I was unable to see the brethren of that church. I trust I have left this whole matter in all these churches in the hands of interested pastors, and faithful female collectors, who will greatly swell the above mentioned sums before the meeting of the Association. Money is very scarce in the country; still, there are some

willing hearts and working hands—and where there is a will there is a way. Nearly all who want to give will be able to do something before the close of this financial year. Your volunteer agent,

E. C. CADY.

Address and Reply.

ADDRESS.

To the Officers and Members of "Eastern Star" Division, No. 173, located in St. Martins.

DEAR BROTHERS—The officers and members of St. Martins Division, No. 164, do hereby present their kind fraternal congratulations to the officers and members of Eastern Star Division, and desire to hail them as a bright and promising star in the constellation of the great campaign against the common enemy. As the star in the east directed the ancient "Magi" to Him who was the light of the world, so may your "Eastern Star" direct many a poor wanderer to the glorious light of total abstinence from the curse of all intoxicants. Our ardent desire and fervent prayer dear Brothers, to the great Patriarch above—is that your twinkling little orb may increase in dimensions until it shall illuminate the whole world, and that the perfectly dark and shining with refulgent brilliancy throughout the whole community. Such, dear Brothers, is the kindly feelings of your Brothers of St. Martins Division: all of which is respectfully submitted in the bonds of L. P. and F.

On behalf of the brethren of St. Martins, No. 164. WILLIAM SULLIVAN, W. P. HAMILTON BROWN, R. S.

REPLY.

To the Officers and Members of Saint Martin's Division, No. 164.

DEAR BROTHERS—The officers and members of the Eastern Star Division desire to thank sincerely the neighboring Division, who have so cordially extended to them the warmest of sympathies, and who like themselves, have banded together with the high resolve to stem, if possible, the rapid tide of drunkenness which is yearly and hourly bearing away hundreds of our fellow men to the ocean of eternal ruin and despair.

We thank you, dear Brothers, for your kind recognition of us as a body, and also, for your earnest wishes for our prosperity in this most noble cause; and if our growth and influence be not so extensive as you have so generously directed, we say, we hope that we may be instrumental in saving many from the drunkard's grave.

And also that the star which has so lately arisen in our firmament, may continue to increase in brightness and usefulness, even long centuries after we have laid down the armor of life, and have ceased to battle with this as well as other evils.

Therefore in the triple bond of our fraternity, we extend to you our warmest sympathies, sincerely hoping that through our constant and united efforts we may strengthen each other and continue to increase and spread around us a far extending circle of usefulness.

On behalf of the Eastern Star Division, No. 179. JOHN M. BRADSHAW, W. P. SIMON E. BROWN, R. S.

Mr. Charles Dickens on the Newspaper Press.

Mr. Charles Dickens presided on Saturday evening at the second annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund. Upwards of three hundred gentlemen, including some of the foremost in literary circles, were present. The chairman made one of his happiest speeches in proposing the toast of the evening. In the course of it he said: "What the Newspaper Press does for the world is a work of such magnitude, and which members in want or distress, and the widows, orphans, parents, or other near relatives of deceased members. Its members comprise the whole paid class of literary contributors to the press of the United Kingdom, and every class of reporters. The number of its members at this time last year was something like 100. At the present time it is something like 170. In regard to its claim upon the public, I think I may say that it is probably not one single individual in this great country who has failed to see a newspaper, or has failed to day to hear something derived from a newspaper which was quite unknown to him or to her yesterday. Of all those restless crowds that have this day thronged the streets of this enormous city, the same may be said as the general giant rule. It may be said almost equally of the brightest and the dullest, the largest and the least provincial town in the empire; and this, observe, not only as to the active, the industrious, the healthy among the population, but also as to the bed-ridden, the idle, the very blind, and the deaf and dumb. Now, if the men who provide this all-pervading presence, this wonderful ubiquitous newspaper, with every description of intelligence on every subject of human interest, collected with immense pains and immense patience, often by the exercise of a laboriously-acquired faculty, united to a rich store of knowledge, and much of the work done in the night at the sacrifice of rest and sleep, and quite apart from the mental strain by the constant overtasking of the two most delicate of the senses—sight and hearing—I say that if the men who, through the newspapers, from day to day, or from night to night, or from week to week, furnish the public with so much to remember, have not a right to claim to be remembered by the public in return, then I declare, before God, that I know of none who possess such a claim. (Loud cheers.) It would be absurd—it would be actually impertinent—in such an assembly as this if I were to attempt to expatiate upon the extraordinary combination of remarkable qualities involved in the production of any newspaper. But, assuming the majority of this assembled body to be composed of reporters, because reporters of one kind or other compose the majority of the literary staff of almost every newspaper that is not a compilation, I would venture to remind you, if I delicately may in the august presence of Members of Parliament, how much we, the public, owe to the reporters, if it were only for their skill in the two sciences of condensation and rejection. (Laughter and cheering.) Conceive what our sufferings under an Imperial Parliament, however popularly constituted, under however glorious a constitution, would be, if the reporters could not skip it! (Much laughter.) Dr. Johnson, in one of his violent asserions, declared that 'the man who was afraid of anything must be a scoundrel, sir.' Though admitting that the man who is afraid of a newspaper will generally be found to be rather something like it, I still must freely own that I should approach any Parliamentary debates with infinite fear and trembling if they were unskilfully served up for my breakfast. (Laughter.) [After defending the Fund against the recent attack of the *Times*, Mr. Dickens proceeded.] I am not here advocating the case of a mere ordinary client of a newspaper. I have little or no knowledge. I hold a brief to-night for my brothers. (Loud and long-continued cheering.) I went into the gallery of the House of Commons, as a Parliamentary reporter, when I was a boy not eighteen, and I left it—I can hardly believe the inexorable truth—high upon thirty years ago. I have pursued the calling of a reporter under circumstances of which many of my brethren at home in England here—many of my brethren's successors—can form no adequate conception.

I have often transcribed for the printer, from my short-hand notes, important public speeches, in which the strictest accuracy was required, and a mistake in which would have been to a young man severely compromising, written on the palm of my hand, by the light of a dark lantern, in post-chaise and four, galloping through a wild country at the dead of the night, at the very last time I was in Leicester, I rode to the Castle-yard there, to identify, for the amusement of a friend, the spot on which I once took, as we used to call it, an election speech of my noble friend Earl Russell, in the midst of a lively fight, maintained by all the tag-rabbits in that division of the county, and under such pelted rain, that I remember two good-natured colleagues, who chanced to be at leisure, held a pocket-handkerchief over my head, after the manner of a state canopy, over an ecclesiastical procession. (Laughter.) I have warmed my knees by writing upon them on the old gallery of the House of Commons; and I have warmed my feet by standing to write in a preposterous pen in the House of Lords, where we used to be huddled together like so many sheep, kept in the wicket of the wicket might want restful. Returning home from a political meeting in the country to the waiting press in London, I can only believe that I have been upset in almost every description of vehicle known to this country. I have been in my time benighted on miry bye-roads towards the small hours, forty or fifty miles from London, in a rickety carriage, with exhausted horses, and drunken postboys, and got back in time before publication to be received with never-to-be forgotten confidence, expressed by late Mr. Black in the broadest of Scotch, and coming from the broadest of hearts I ever knew. (Laughter and cheers.) I mention these trivial things as an assurance to you that I never have forgotten the foundation of that old par-

suit. (Cheers.) I verily believe, I am sure, that if I had never quitted my old calling I should have been foremost and zealous in the interest of this institution, believing it to be a sound, wholesome, and a good one.

RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR MISCELLANY.

Rev. Dr. Fyfe, Principal of the Baptist Institute, Canada, was recently injured very seriously by a collision on the railroad over which he was passing. Concussion of the brain was the result, and he is enjoined by his physician to refrain from all mental excitement for the present.

The *National Baptist*, Philadelphia, thus speaks of the extravagance of our American cousins:—

The gradual but rapid increase of luxury in these United States, is most apparent and alarming. It mounts higher and higher every year, and is seen in everything,—houses, churches, halls, equipages, furniture, dress, and food.

The families of mechanics, shop-keepers, and clerks, are now accustomed to elegancies which the monarchs of Europe, a century or two ago, never enjoyed. Taste has become fastidious, exaggerated, exorbitant. The demands of a family are such as to keep all classes, except the wealthiest, oppressed in their finances. Servants spend all their wages on dress, and save nothing against inevitable age, and probable sickness.

A new "fashion" is reported from Paris. It is a novel kind of trimming composed of rows of sequins, sewed all along the seams, which make an incessant tinkling. It appears to have been devised by the artists of the demi-monde.

A GENEEROUS (?) DEACON.—A novel way of paying up a pastor's salary recently came under our notice. The deacon, who seemed to be chief pillar, kept a strict account of each meal, and night's lodging for the minister, and each feed and night's stabling for his horse, during three years, and balanced accounts by presenting his bill. Such pillars are rare in our churches.—*Canadian Baptist*.

NEEDLESS FEAR OF DEATH.—Often a horse on a journey has been so frightened at a heap of hay on the wayside, as to be difficult to proceed; but, on being brought up to it, finds it, instead of an object of terror, delicious and nourishing food. It is precisely so with fearful believers in respect of death.

A bit of glue dissolved in skim milk and water will restore old traps.

An ink-stain was turned over a white table-cloth; a servant threw over it a crust of salt and pepper plentifully, and all trace of it disappeared.

Since 1800, Catholics have expended over £5,000, 800 in Ireland in building their churches.

A PROLIFIC PIG STORY.—The first of April, 1864, a female swine under the barn of Edward Earl, in Worcester, had a litter of thirteen pigs, eleven of which were six weeks old sold for \$14. In August following the same animal had thirteen more, and raised nine of them, which sold for \$45. This 24th of February, 1865, to cap the climax, she brings forth seventeen more fine healthy pigs, (although she has only twelve sows for them), making in all three litters, within thirteen months, of forty-three pigs.

REV. T. L. CUTLER, addressing one who has moved into a new house, but has not set up a family altar, says:—"Sir, it is not a safe house to live in. Your insurance policy covers the risk of fire only, but you want an altar of prayer to insure it from more perilous flames than incendiaries kindle."

The "Tribunes" Richmond Correspondence say the Military authorities under command of General Halleck, Patrick and Ord, in connection with the rebel Mayor Mayo, have inaugurated a system of oppression and outrage upon the colored people of Richmond, which has created intense excitement. Since the above was written, the officers named have been superseded by Gen. Terry and others, who have removed the Mayor and Police.

Gold was first discovered in the province of Otago, New Zealand, in 1861. Since that time Otago has exported 1,705,774 ozs. of the precious ore. (Taking the ounce at the local value of £3 17s. 6d., this ton represents wealth of an astounding character. Nor does the productiveness of the Otago fields appear to diminish. This is but the first quarter of the year, and since 1st Jan'y, it appears by authentic Government returns that 55,718 ozs. dwts. of gold have been brought down under escort from the different mining grounds. The export of wool also is steadily increasing; so that notwithstanding temporary causes of depression, the wave of progress is still advancing. The recoil of the wave is no indication that the tide is not still rising.

Colonial steamers have been strangely unfortunate the present season—the Greyhound ashore and damaged, the New England and Heather Bell burned, the Kingston sunk in the St. Lawrence, the Montreal ashore with loss of considerable freight, the Highlander with shaft broken, and some other disasters of more trifling character.

LARGE BEQUEST.—John G. James, who died recently at Doylestown, Pa., has left all his property, valued at \$50,000, to the Sunday School Union, with the exception of a small house bequeathed to a woman who nursed him while sick.

An excursion round the world is being organized at Antwerp. The voyage will last two years, and the principal ports in both hemispheres will be successively visited. It is chiefly intended as a means of educational travel for young men.

A Canadian paper estimates, that 43,000 Canadians have enlisted in the Federal army, since the commencement of the civil war. Of these, it is calculated that 14,000 have died on the field of battle.

The total debt of Great Britain after the Crimean War had been paid for—in 1859—was \$235,934,000. On the 31st March, 1865, it amounted to \$208,288,000, showing a reduction of over 217,000,000, or at the rate of about £3,000,000, per annum.

Some land has lately been sold in London at \$1,000,000, per acre.

It is proposed to celebrate the long peace between England and France—1815 to 1865.

The property left by President Lincoln is said not to exceed \$25,000, of which only \$10,000 has been accumulated since his entering upon office.

A great fire has occurred in Constantinople. Besides destroying property of considerable value the calamity was attended with the loss of more than one hundred human lives.

The German papers announce the death of Professor H. G. Ollendorff, whose name is widely known by a variety of grammars on modern languages, all based on the system which bears his name—a system which was adapted with much success to the classical languages by the late Rev. T. K. Arnold.

The *Cologne Gazette* asserts that an attempt against the life of the Emperor Napoleon was contemplated by some sixty conspirators at Lyons. The conspiracy was, however, discovered in time, and a large number arrested before the Emperor visited the city.

The small town of Frankenu, in Hesse-Cassel, has just been almost destroyed by fire. The church, town hall, and 180 houses, with their contents, fell prey to the flames. No mention is made of any lives having been lost.

There are in the Sandwich Islands about 100 meeting-houses, which have been erected by the islanders at a cost of 100,000 dollars. The one at Honolulu is built of coral rock and may stand for centuries.—*San Francisco Paper*.

THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TELEGRAPHS.—The preparations are nearly made for commencing the ground work of girdling the globe with the telegraphic wire. The Atlantic Telegraph Company intend to make the fourth attempt to lay their great ocean cable in July, from the steamer Great Eastern. The new and improved cable consists of a copper strand of seven wires, for a conductor, weighing 300 pounds the nautical mile, or double that used in 1858; and of four layers of gutta percha, for insulation, weighing 400 pounds the mile, or 140 pounds more than the other; making the diameter nearly one-half more than that of the original cable. It is earnestly hoped that this renewed attempt of its enterprising projectors may be crowned with complete success. In the meantime operations have commenced for establishing the telegraph line which is to connect the East and new worlds by way of Behring's straits. The United States steamer Shubrick sailed from San Francisco for Sitka, Russian America, March 7, with Col. Bulkley and the Collins Overland Russian Telegraph Company, who are to build the line along the Pacific coast through the British and Russian possessions. There will be not less than 8,000 miles to be explored, much of it through a wild and cold region, hitherto untraversed except by the aborigines. After crossing the straits, a distance of 88 miles, it will

suit. (Cheers.) I verily believe, I am sure, that if I had never quitted my old calling I should have been foremost and zealous in the interest of this institution, believing it to be a sound, wholesome, and a good one.

connect with the line built by the Russian government from St. Petersburg to the mouth of the Ananor River. The whole enterprise is expected to be finished in three years. The telegraph to India is completed, and messages pass regularly between London and Calcutta.

The Waldensian Mission is doing a great work in Italy. Their preaching stations are in nearly all the most important cities. Much is accomplished by the establishing of christian schools. Congregations also are gathered, churches built, and evangelists proclaim the Word of Life to constantly increasing assemblies. In one town, there is a Catholic priest to every thirty-three inhabitants, and a population of 30,000, the church, which has existed for only a year, has a little congregation so eager for the Word as to be a beautiful example of the effects of the faithful preaching of the gospel. A missionary writes—"There are so many places where the people ask for evangelists and teachers, that it makes the heart ache to be obliged, for want of funds, to turn a deaf ear to their calls."

Secular Department.

COLONIAL.

WESTERN EXTENSION SURE.—IMPORTANT NEWS.—We are authorized to announce that the New Brunswick and Maine European and North American Railway Companies have made contracts which involve the following