

THE ANNIVERSARIES

of the American Baptists commenced in Boston, on Thursday last. We had made arrangements to have a report of the proceedings by the Tuesday's Boat; but by some means the letter has been delayed. Fortunately, however, we are able to supply a condensed sketch of the meetings from the Boston Post, of Monday last:—

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The twenty-ninth anniversary of this Society was held on Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Somerset street, the President, Rev. Dr. B. F. Welch, of New York, in the chair. After the appointment of Committees of Arrangements, Obituaries, Enrollment and Nominations, the Society was addressed by the President, at the conclusion of which he declined the nomination of President for the ensuing year on account of increasing infirmity.

The Treasurer's report shows the following figures: balance beginning of the year, \$1564; receipts, \$40,896; disbursements, \$36,930; stocks, books, etc., on hand, \$12,498; debt, \$5400; total amount to the credit of the Society, \$49,872.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President—B. F. Welch, D. D., of New York, and thirty-six Vice-Presidents from the various States; Corresponding Secretary—Uzal D. Ward, Esq.; Recording Secretary—Rev. Robert Lowry; Treasurer—George Gault, Esq.

There was but little change in the Board of Managers, those of last year being generally re-elected. The meeting was continued in the afternoon, and addresses were made by Rev. Dr. Kincaid of Burnham, Rev. D. Armitage of New York, Rev. H. W. Reed of Missouri, and others. Dr. Armitage made the principal address.

The annual sermon was preached last evening in the Harvard street Church, by Rev. Dr. Dowling, of New York, before a large and interested congregation. His text was 2d Peter, i. 19, "The light that shineth in a dark place." The speaker argued that no system of philosophy which the world had ever devised was sufficient to give guidance and salvation to man, and that the true light came only from above. He closed with a history of the Society and the great work it had done.

AMERICAN BIBLE UNION.

The American Bible Union held a special meeting Saturday forenoon, at the Shawmut Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. Armitage, of New York, presiding. Dr. Pendleton, of New York, was chosen Secretary, pro tem. After devotional exercises, the semi-annual report was read by Rev. W. H. Wyckoff, the Corresponding Secretary. The report contained an explanation of some of the changes made in the revised version of the New Testament, from that of King James, and stated that the revision of the Old Testament was progressing favourably. At the commencement of the late war the receipts were reduced to \$14,000 per annum. In 1863 they rose to \$17,000; in 1864, to \$30,000; in 1865, to \$30,000. This year, according to present prospects, they will considerably exceed \$40,000.

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UNION MEETING.

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BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The thirteenth anniversary meeting of the Baptist Historical Society was held in the Bowdoin square church, Saturday evening. The meeting was called to order and prayer offered by Howard Malcom, the President. The annual report was then read, which shows that the number of volumes received since the last meeting was 620; pamphlets and association minutes, 1,226; manuscripts, 18; autograph letters, 48; likenesses of eminent Baptists, 25; and views of 160. Of the 620 volumes received, 180 were imported by the Society from London, 26 were brought to this country, and 112 were bound pamphlets. The whole number of volumes at present in the library is 2,810. The amount of cash received since the beginning was less than \$1000. The report was accepted, and a resolution adopted authorizing the President of the Society to prepare the alteration of the charter prepared at the last meeting. An address was then delivered by Rev. Charles Howard Malcom. The old board of officers, with few exceptions, were re-elected for the ensuing year.

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

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to earn their living were sometimes made drunk by liquors given them by members. Mr. Congdon remarked that there can be no greater disgrace in the sight of God and man, than for legislators sent here to pass laws for a civilized people to appear here drunk in their seats. Mr. McDougal of California, was opposed to the resolution and in favor of wine and whisky; he expressed his regret that liquor was not brought into the ante-rooms of the Senate Chamber as of old, and declared the legislation proposed by Mr. Wilson to be degrading to the dignity of the Senate. The resolution was adopted with only two dissenting votes, Messrs Davis and McDougal; Mr. Sausbury, notorious for drinking, being absent. The resolution has been amended in the House so as to include all the public buildings, but has not received final action.

Here is a good movement in the right direction; too much of our legislation is inspired by alcohol. It ought to be banished from committee rooms, and from the Capitol, and from all the public buildings, not excluding the White House. We need sober men to enact our laws and direct the affairs of government. It is what the voice and the votes of the people should imperiously demand.

Obituary.

Leonora G., youngest daughter of Capt. G. F. Masters, of St. Martins, departed this life on Friday, the 15th inst, aged 16 years. The deceased had made no public profession of her faith in the Redeemer, consequently much anxiety was felt by her friends, in reference to the true state of her mind in the prospect of an exchange of time for eternity; but she was very reserved in her disposition, and carefully refrained from any expression of her religious feelings until a short time before her death. Feeling that the hour of her departure had arrived, she threw off all restraint, and declared to weeping friends around her the preciousness of Christ Jesus to her soul, and her readiness to depart and be with Him. The prayers and instructions of a sainted mother, now in heaven, had been as seed sown upon good ground. The result was a happy preparation on the part of the daughter to join the glorified mother in the better land. Nature had fashioned her in one of its most beautiful moulds; had given her an intellect quite in advance of her years; and had, so far, fitted her for a prominent position in social life; but grace had created her anew in Christ Jesus, and had adorned her with those exquisite beauties of the christian faith, in which she, doubtless, now shines, in association with the church of the first born in heaven.

Her remains were interred in the old cemetery, adjoining the Baptist Church at St. Martins. During the interment, the choir sang that beautiful hymn, beginning—

"Sister, thou wast mild and lovely,
Gentle as the summer breeze."

An appropriate sermon was preached on the occasion to a very large and deeply solemn congregation, by Rev. I. E. Bill, from 1 Cor. xv. 57, "Thanks be unto God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

We tender to the stricken father and to the two surviving sisters our heartfelt sympathy, and pray God to sanctify this bereavement to their present and eternal good.

Rev. Edwin Burnham is now in the city, holding special services with the Church in Brussels St. His preaching attracts large congregations, and he heartily join in the prayer that the word spoken by him may be the word of power to save many precious souls. It is generally known that this brother, at one time, entertained opinions with respect to the sleeping of the dead and the burning up of the wicked, that were exceedingly offensive to all orthodox minds. As a natural consequence, the most of our ministers and churches were disposed to keep him at a distance; but, after years of reflection and investigation, he came to the conclusion that the Baptist faith is sustained by the teachings of God's word, and therefore decided to offer himself to the denomination. A highly respectable council thoroughly examined his case, and recommended his reception. He is now here as a regular minister of our denomination, and seems really in earnest in striving to do what he can to help forward our ministers and churches in the great work of saving souls. He intends spending a few weeks in the city, and will then be ready to extend his evangelistic labors to any section of the Province where they may be required. Trusting that he will bring a message from God, to deliver to immortal souls, in the Master's name we bid him God speed.

The Great Revival.

is still progressing gloriously in many of the cities and towns of the American Union. Our exchanges are filled with reports of the most encouraging character with respect to the extension of this wonderful work of grace. Not only ministers, but churches are deeply aroused, and the lay talent of the church is used with distinguished success in guiding souls to Jesus.

Sudden Death of a Minister.

We learn from the Fredericton Reporter that the Rev. Wm. Smithson, a devoted Wesleyan minister, died in Fredericton on Tuesday morning the 16th inst. He preached his last sermon in the Wesleyan Church on Sunday morning, and conducted the yesty services on the following evening, which were scarcely concluded when he was attacked by paralysis, which carried him off in a few hours. Thus, if we might employ the expression, he died as he wished to die, "in the harness."

Mr. Smithson had long labored faithfully and successfully in his Master's service, and was doubtless ready for the summons which hurried him to his reward. How pressing the admonition, "Be ye also ready."

The N. B. B. H. Missionary Board met in German Street Committee Room on the 7th inst. There were present Messrs. Robinson, Cady, Bill, Spencer, and Bro. Everett, Burnham, Barnhart, Harding, Clarke, Stevens, Francis.

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New Books.

The following books, issued by the "Baptist Publication Society," have been placed upon our table by their Missionary Agent, Rev. Narcisse Cyr:—

THE DEVOTIONAL HYMN AND TUNE BOOK. This is a choice selection of hymns and tunes admirably adapted to prayer and Conference meetings, to Sabbath schools and to the necessities of public worship generally. The hymns are thoroughly experimental and practical, and address themselves with touching effect to the devotional element and to the inward experience of every true believer.

JENNY BOARDMAN is a book of 365 pages, sparkling with gems of thought for the young.

REPRESENTATIVE MEN is a work by George C. Baldwin, D. D. The author has succeeded in giving admirable life pictures of several of the most noted characters of the New Testament, such as John the Baptist, Herod, Peter, Judas, Paul and others. The most prominent points in the characters of these men are brought out with minute distinctness, and in a style that furnishes the author a rich theme for important practical suggestions suited to a great variety of cases.

THE ODD GENTLEMAN, is just the kind of book that pleases young people.

INFANT BAPTISM AN INVENTION OF MAN. This is an able review of Dr. Bushnell's arguments in favor of this "human invention." The Doctor's theory of infant baptism, infant church-membership and infant communion, in the hands of this Baptist critic, expands into thin air and is left as baseless as a vision of the night.

MORNING GLEAN OR THE PASTOR'S DAUGHTER is a good story told in a fascinating style.

MANUAL OF BAPTISM, by G. S. Bailey. This is a plain scriptural exposition of New Testament baptism, regarding its subjects and mode. It ought to have a wide circulation among our churches.

THE PASTOR'S MANUAL is a selection of scripture passages, adapted to public and private occasions, with ecclesiastical formularies, by Edward Hiscox, D. D. This little work should be in the hands of every christian minister.

WILLIE IN SEARCH OF HIS GRANDFATHER is a lively book for the boys.

THE GOLDEN RINGLET contains passages more precious to the children than the most fine gold.

MISSING LINKS IN JEWISH HISTORY, contains historical facts with which all should be familiar.

THE TWIN SISTERS is a sweet story, well told.

CHILDREN AND JESUS. This little work, by the revivalist Hammond, is full of charming stories of the children.

CHRISTIAN UNION sets forth in distinct utterances the basis and obligations of christian fellowship, and scriptural means to be used for its attainment.

GOSELYN TRACTS AND HAMMOND'S PICTURES, are got up in an attractive style, and contain valuable reading for all classes.

We hope to see the works of this valuable Society generally circulated throughout the Province. The seed is good, let it be scattered broadcast all over the land, and it will not fail to produce rich fruit. For sale at the "Colonial Bookstore."

THE WESTERN PULPIT, No. 5, has come to hand. Its contents are more than usually varied and instructive.

Temperance Meeting at Keswick.

Pursuant to previous announcement the Lecture Committee of York Division, No. 2, Sons of Temperance, held a public temperance meeting in the Baptist meeting-house, Upper Keswick, on Saturday evening 19th inst. The original intention of the meeting was for the purpose of instituting a Division of the Order in that locality. A member of the committee having previously obtained the names of twenty-two applicants for a charter—including some of the most respectable inhabitants—but in consequence of the absence of the G. W. P. in Charlotte, the necessary documents were not obtainable in season. Mr. James E. Smith presided as Chairman, and in point of attendance, orderly conduct, and attention on the part of the audience, as well as the character of the speeches delivered, the meeting was a decided success.

The advantages as well as the objections advanced against the order, and the physiological, legal, and moral aspect of intemperance were dwelt on, and faithfully, fearlessly, and truthfully depicted. The necessity of the institution as a protective measure was ably demonstrated by Bro. B. F. Ratray, who had kindly consented to act with the committee. All I think realized the truth of the sentiment embodied in the following beautiful lines:

"Thou sparkling bowl, thou sparkling bowl—
And lips of beauty o'er thy brim may press,
Though eyes of beauty o'er thee roll,
And song and dance thy power confess—
I will not touch thee for these things,
A sorption to thy side which stings."

At the close two more names were obtained, making in all twenty-four, and this Division will be instituted on the 9th June. Yours fraternally to L. P. F. FIDELITAS.

New York Correspondence.

Notwithstanding the rapid progress lately made in this country towards general freedom, we find still a great deal of prejudice and antipathy in the North, as well as in the South, with regard to the colored population. In many instances the negro is looked upon not only with contempt, but also with animosity. He is at best, little thought of and treated accordingly.

The proclamation of the late President, while giving the death-blow to slavery, has hitherto proved powerless in eradicating the false ideas and wrong feelings so deeply rooted in the minds and hearts of the white people. A notion still prevalent among all classes of the community, is that the African is unable to attain any high degree of mental or moral improvement, and doomed by nature and by God himself to a perpetual bondage, or, at least, civil incapacity.

This is the argument used in favor of slavery by the ex-oligarchy of the South, and by which they have so long tried in vain to reconcile conscience and reason with their avarice and sensuality. And although they have been silenced by stronger argument, they continue to cherish their favorite notions, after having too well succeeded in infusing it into the minds of Northern men, in spite of the light of civilization and the progress of the age.

In fact, a considerable portion of the American people would endeavor to lower the negro to public estimation and exclude him from national rights, undeniable privileges. In the North as well as in the South, the poor blacks are considered by their white brothers as the refuse of modern civilization, and especially the outcasts of American society. Although they are bodily free, their souls are still groaning under the oppressive yoke of general custom and public opinion; they have to battle against a new sort of tyranny, and to fight their way to their religious and civil liberties.

The negro is no longer, it is true, a beast of burden; but he is still scorned by his so-called betters, excluded more or less from society, and openly denied the most rudimentary rights of liberty and humanity.

the negroes, in refusing all suffrage to them, is certainly a piece of injustice, although only one of the numerous manifestations of antipathy and ill-will generally entertained for the blacks.

I do not mean that the freedmen of this country should have more privileges than others, that they should enjoy an unqualified and unlimited right of suffrage; but that they ought to have the same rights with others, as long as they have the same legal qualifications. It seems, at least, nothing but just and reasonable, that those who have fought for the country should have a vote in the affairs of the nation.

General suffrage, within certain limits and under certain conditions, is so essential to the existence of a free government, that it was expected as a natural result of emancipation. The course followed by several States with regard to this subject, is therefore quite inconsistent with the fundamental principles of the Constitution, as well as with all the sacrifices they have made to put down rebellion, and with their professed sympathy and interest for the slaves.

If those slaves, now so ironically called free, were to remain in a perpetual state of tutelage and political incapacity, I would not give a straw for that liberty, and it would not certainly be worth all the bloodshed and misery it has cost the nation.

The manner in which the freedmen have been treated—we might say disposed of—by the legislative authorities of certain States of the Union, is not only a great anomaly in a free country, but also a very bad policy, and which must, if persisted in, prove detrimental to any government, whether despotic or free. For it is always unsafe for any government to withhold from any portion or class of the people rights enjoyed by others having no better title than the first; inasmuch as it gives the party injured a constant cause for complaint and rebellion. J. R. L.

DECEPTION.—We are informed by letter from Johnston, C. C., that notices which appeared in the Christian Visitor in April last, of the death of Mrs. Carry, wife of Andrew Long, Jr., and daughter of Thomas Odell; and also of the marriage of Christopher Hixon to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Thomas Odell, were base fabrications, sent to our office by some malicious person. The copy of these notices, after publication, was, of course, thrown into the waste paper box, so that it is impossible to say whose signature was to them; and therefore all we can do at present is simply to publish this correction. The man who could be guilty of such untruthfulness and villainy ought to be published to the world as a deceiver of the worst kind.

We regret to learn by a letter received from Dr. Cramp, dated May 15, that Rev. A. Hunt was at that time confined to his house, and pretty much to his room. There was no observable improvement in his health. We hope, however, that by this time he is better. May the Lord in mercy restore him, and spare his useful life.

Secular Department.

COLONIAL.

On Thursday evening last Mr. Potts addressed a very large audience in the Mechanics' Institute on the subject of Confederation. It was not known which side of the question the lecturer was going to take, and therefore both parties were fully represented in the meeting. At the last election Mr. Potts was neutral, but he had thoroughly studied the subject, and the result was a masterly exposition and argument in favor of Confederation. The lecture has been highly complimented by the press, is now in print, and is being scattered broadcast over the Province.

THE ELECTIONS.

In the several counties are to come off as below:—

Northumberland, Nov. 21, May 25, May 25.
Carleton, " 22, " 26, " 29.
Albert, " 25, " 29, " 31.
Restigouche, " 26, " 30, " 31.
Sunbury, " 26, " 30, " 31.
Glooschester, " 27, " 31, " 31.
Kent, " 28, " 1, " 4.
Queen's, " 28, " 1, " 4.
St. John County, June 2, " 6, " 9.
New Brunswick, " 2, " 6, " 9.
Charlotte, " 7, " 12, " 16.
King's, " 8, " 12, " 14.
Victoria, " 2, " 6, " 9.
Westmorland, " 1, " 5, " 8.

CONFEDERATE BISHOPS.

Some have supposed that all Roman Catholics are Anti-Confederates. This is a great mistake. Three of the most eminent Bishops of that denomination have written most eloquently and emphatically in favour of Union, viz.: Bishop Connolly, of Halifax; the Bishop of Arichat, Cape Breton; and last, but not least, Bishop Rogers, of Chatham, Miramichi. These gentlemen express themselves as being thoroughly attached to the British Crown and Government, as opposed to all the designs of Fenianism in Ireland and in the United States, and therefore call upon their adherents in all affection and good will to unite together for purposes of defence and expansion.

Edward Williston, Esq., a member of the Government, recently addressed the following letter to Bishop Rogers:

NEWCASTLE, N. B., April 21, 1866.

My Dear Lord Bishop—We are about entering upon a great political struggle on behalf of Confederation. You are aware that the House has been proposed, and a few Government bills have been formed, with the avowed object of bringing about by all fair and legitimate means, that most desirable object. I have received a position in the Government in the person of Solicitor General. * * *