PRAY FOR ENGLAND.

LAST WEEK'S FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE was altogether exciting. We had scarcely gone to press when news came of the Pope's death. The man has gone to appear before his Maker -the Head of the Catholic Church to give an account to Him "who is head over all things to His Church." No earthly distinctions could preserve him from the general accountability of mankind. The new Pope-whose name is vet among the uncertainties-will be elected after the burial of the deceased Pius IX. The body is to lie in state for some weeks.

There were rumours of great import also as to the European war. The Russians were said to be marching in -to Constantinople—the Turkish capi-At once British indignation took Gladstone and Bright were accused of holding out inducements to Russia; and Russia was accused of fooling the nations of Europe. Nothing so stirs the blood of John Bull as the suspicion that he has been deceived and overreached by some cunning adversary. The mob-not a very reflective mob, probably-proceeded to break Gladstone's windows. The House of Commons was greatly excited. News came for some days of a rather confusing sort; but it remains yet to be seen whether England is to be borne into the current of European war.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13th .- Yesterday the telegrams announced that Enghand had determined to send her fleet, or part of it, to Constantinople, for the protection of British interests: that the Turkish authorities had refused to allow England's fleet to nass the Dardanelles; that England had purchased two iron-clads now in London, built for Turkey; that the dockyard hands at Chatham, and other places of English war-shops, were working by over time; that regiments were under orders to leave for Aldershot; and that English newspapers, in the confidence of the Government, were assuming a very belligerent tone. All this cause, on both sides of the ocean, no little excitement.

It will be seen that England may be involved in war any day now; that she goes, as far as now can be seen, without any ally; that her position, in every way, is most critical. Much supplication should be made at the Throne of Grace, that the rulers of our mother laud may be properly directed. Let it be remembered that the hearts of kings and peoples are under God's control.

THE STORY OF A LETTER .- A friend has laid on our table a letter stamped at Toronto August 10th, 1848, at Quebec August 22d, and Halifax Sept. 1st, 1848. Thus, thirty years ago, it required twelve days for a letter to travel from Toronto to Quebec, and twenty days from Toronto to Halifax.

The writer of that letter was, at that date, owing to "the unprecedented depression of trade in every department" -(comu.erce has its repetitions, you see,) prevented from venturing upon any business for himself. From our slight knowledge of the facts, we can safely assume that to day his mercantile transactions reach to the vicinity of half a million dollars per annum. He is, moreover, in the first positions of both Church and State. So much for the commercial story of this letter.

It has also an ecclesiastical story. "Rev. Mr. Rice" was an honoured and popular minister in Toronto, and they were "looking for a good state of things under his salutary ministrations," Dr. Richey had "taken up his residence" in the same city, and great pleasure was anticipated in looking for an occasional sermon from the Doc-

that "though a traveller may not find the same rosy cheeks he is daily accustomed to see in such plenty by the seaboard, indicative of the salubrious influences of the climate, yet there are good, honest, warm hearts in abundance." A writer among us lately

nine beauty disappeared after leaving Montreal, going West. But it would seem this is an old story.

The postage charged on this letterthere was no prepayment those dayswas two-and-ninepence ha'penny-66 cents! Postage from St. Jonn to Halifax was then 28 cents on a single halfounce letter.

Some changes in those thirty years.

A LITTLE cheap reputation for boldness and originality can always be made by any one disposed to criticise the pulpit or the press. We are sorry to see the Sunday Schoool Times talling into this weakness. With a few other papers we wot of, it obtains a trifle of applause occasionally by pointing out what it regards as errors and weaknesses among public speakers and writers. Its latest attempt of this sort has been in the direction of editors. They must, says our contemporary, learn to distinguish between themselves and the papers they edit. An editor. for instance, says, "We are glad to be at our desk again, after a brief absence," &c., whereas, the paper was not absent, only the editor. Is this a fair criticitm. we ask? When a minister says, We are glad to be with you once more," does he mean himself and the pulpit? The fact is, the use of the plural both in the pulpit and press, so long observed as a custom, originated with a very natural, if not a very proper, modesty, which preserves the speaker or writer from the appearance of egotism. We should be glad to see some way by which the individual speaker or writer could maintain his identity without the frequent use of this pronoun; but we are quite sure if editors were to adopt the first person, singular, those same critics would pounce upon their egotism. Yet, they are bound to supply a remedy, while denouncing what they consider a defect. We can all take our turn at pulling down; how few assist in build.

A FEW Canadian papers have quoted paragraph from a letter which appeared some weeks ago in the "Nashville Advocate," from a correspondent of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada. Here is an extract :-

I think our next General Conference of 1878, will see the necessity of taking in its folds, and sending men to British Columbia, and also to the Maritime Provinces, as there is ample room for our church to extend its work over the whole of Canada, as, in Bible language, 'the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few.' Our bishop said we had need of five hundred more ministers to go to all parts of Canada, and raise the standard of the cross where as yet we, as a church, have no ministers.'

We noticed the letter when it appeared, but as we had quoted and remarked upon a similar sentiment from a like source four years ago, it was thought as well to let this pass unno-ticed. We only allude to it now to show how ignorant are those Western writers whose propagandist notions take in the Maritime Provinces. There is probably no country in the world that has a larger number of gospel agencies, according to population, than these Provinces by the sea. We have certainly as many Methodist ministers as we can support, and have no longing for the discord which a rival Metho dism would be sure to bring with it. The carrying out of the above writer's hint would be regarded by us, not as a purpose of serving the gospel, but a pure declaration of war.

In the trial for murder at Moncton, the Osbernes have been committed to trial before the Supreme Court. They are now in gaol in Amherst. Circumstantial evidence is of great importance in such trials, and, without having much of any other proof for Annie Parker's testimony, there were circumstances revealed at the trial which seem to confirm her story. The whole examination will be entered into again shortly. By the time the Court meets, other light may come from what is now As to climate. The letter declares but a region of much darkness and mystery. The river where the body is said to have been placed, has been examined in part, without any results.

Anonymous communications seldom receive attention from Editors. excepting when accompanied by names gave some offence by hinting that femilin confidence. One letter reached us for the site of their New Church. P.

last week, with an assumed signature, asking for information as to the propriety of ministers absenting themselves from services proceeding in their own churches, for the purpose of patronizing public, questionable, entertainments. The writer must have intended his queries as a kind of sar-

THE PROFESSIONS .- Our military article is completed this week. We sincerely thank the writer for his information. His concluding remarks bring forcibly to the mind a suggestion of those grand elements which have kept the British army brave, noble and respected, in all ranks and conditions. Nobility of manhood is always demanded there; and in no position in life do the best qualities of character command a higher premium than in

Other articles on the professions will follow shortly.

HUMOURS OF THE PRESS .- Peculiarities in newspaper management seem to run in veins. Montreal just now is wonderfully "free-thinking." It has one paper which animadverts upon the defects of denominational creeds; and another which seems to exist for the purpose of opposing religion altogether. by making Christian writers and speakers contradict themselves and one another. St. John, again, has been for some years in the humourous and sarcastic vein. It usually has two or three little jocose sheets, which are always racy, sometimes almost rivals of Punch. Halifax never perpetrates anything of this sort. The atmosphere is fatal to Who can explain these diversi-

## NEWS FROM THE CIRCUITS.

SOMERSET, BERMUDA. -Our chapel is now finished and furnished, and it is as comfortable and church-like a building as we have in the Island. The work is quietly progressing. Several have, of late, become serious under the regular preaching of the Word and joined the church. am organizing new classes, to meet the wants of our senior scholars, some of whom are on the eve of religious decision. W. Purvis.

KET .- A neat Methodist church was opened in Tusket on Sabbath last. It was erected at a cost of some eleven hundred dollars, including the land. The dedication service of the Methodist Church of Canada was conducted by the Rev. James Taylor of Shelburne, assisted by the Rev. Bobert Tweedie of Arcadia. Messrs. T. M. Lewis and R. W. Woodworth taking part in the same. Mr. Taylor preached in the morning, and the Rev. John Read, of Yarmouth North, at three o'clock. In the evening a social; service was held in which Messrs. Taylor, Tweedie, Woodworth, Burrell and Lewis took part. The day was fine, the congregations were good, and subscriptions and collections in aid of the building fund were received amounting to about \$60.-Yarmouth Herald.

ST. JOHN, Feb. 8. Rev. John Prince, President of the N. Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, accompanied by the Rev. W. Allen will leave for Philadelphia and the West to mrorow morning. The main object of their mission is to get assist. ance for the burned churches in St. John -Telegraph, 8th inst.

OBITUARY.-Mr. M. P. Theakston, who had been for some years a resident of this city, where he carried on the business of paper bag manufacturer, died yesterday at his residence on Starr street. Deceased was a native of London, G. B., whence he came to this country about fourteen years ago, with his family, several members of which are now among our best known citizens .- Herald 8th.

Mr. Theakston was father of the Printing Foreman in the WESLEYAN office-Mr. William Theakston. He was much respected by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

The Trustees of Charles Street Methodist Church, Halifax, thankfully acknowledge a donation of Twenty Five Dollars from T. S. Reid, Esq., of Pembroke Hall, Hamilton, Bermuda, towards liquidating the debt on the church,

MILL VILLAGE.—We are just closing series of Special Services in Mill Village which have been greatly blessed to members of the church in quickening and reviving power. Some ten or twelve have professed to receive a sense of God's pardoning love; others are under deep awakenings but have not come forward. JOHN S. ADDY.

THE GERMAIN STREET CONGREGA-TION have been worshipping witt the Exmouth St. Congregation since the fire but have now hired a fine and spacious Hall in Germain Street, where they intend holding their services in future until they can get into the School room of their new church. They have purchased a lot on the north west corner of Queen's Square

HILLSBORO' LECTURE COURSE opens next Monday evening, 11th inst., by Rev. Robert Wilson. Subject-"The Eastern Question." Many able lectures are to follow, and whose lectures will be exceedingly interesting judging from the well known reputation of the men and their topics forwarded. C. W. D.

CORNWALL, P. E. I.-We are holding special services at Cornwall, and have had some success. Nine or ten have professed conversion, and we are prayerfully expecting still larger results.

Rev. H. McKeown has been holding special services at Newcastle for some time and good is being done-souls have been converted and many are seeking.

SUMMERSIDE, P.E.I.—God is reviving his work here, seven or eight have professed to find Christ-and many more are seeking.

J. F. BETTS.

The Mount Allison Students 'Mission. ary Society beld its annual meeting in the Methodist church on Sanday evening The President, W. A. Black, occupied the chair. Devotional exercises were led by the chaplain of the society. After an introductory address by the President, the Secretary, Mr. Lawson, gave his report. The amount collected by the society the past year was over \$130—a larger amount than in any previous year. The following gentlemen spoke in support of appropriate resolutions : Messrs. Outerbridge. Doane, Freeman and Bowell. The music under the leadership of Prof. Sterne and Miss Stewart was excellent. The meeting on the whole passed off well except that in our opinion the number of addresses, &c., was too great, this rendering the exercises rather tedious.—Sackville

A DONATION was made to Rev. R. Wilson, at Hopewell, on the 28th ult. He was the recepient of a very handsome address and \$80 presented by James Atkin. son, on behalf of his congregation.-Ibid.

A very interesting evening's entertainment was given in the school house at Lower Caverbill on Monday evening, Feb. 4th, presided over by the Rev. Thomas Marshall. The entertainment consisted of choice readings and a lecture by the | polis" in your last issue. So judges Rev. G. W. Fisher, of Gibson. The subject of the lecture was "Ambition," and was treated in an instructive manner giving much satisfaction to the assembled audience, clearly expressed by the close attention given throughout the lecture and by the hearty vote of thanks accorded at its close. The singing class under the leadership of Dr. Dow, gave excellent singing at intervals during the entertainment. Altogether it was a very profitable and pleasantly spent evening Several similar entertainments may be expected during the winter months .-Fredericton Rep.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

DONATION AT SUSSEX.

On the evening of the 4th Feb., many of the friends of Bro. Prince came from various parts of the Circuit and met in the parsonage, where, after friendly greetings and pleasant conversation, an excellent tea was provided. The dining room was crowded to excess three or four times, where ample justice was done to the various good things which were brought in. After more conversation, music and singing, Mr. Harrison called the people to come together, and then with a "roll of notes in hand," in the name of the friends addressed Mr. Prince by a few plain, warm hearted words testified to his godly example, his efficient labours, and of the love of the people towards him, of which those "notes in hand" were only a small

The Rev. Mr. North (Reformed Epis copal) in a short, warm and eloquent speech, testified to Bro. Prince as being abundant in labors, and spoke of his personal high admiration of him as a felow labourer in ministry.

After a few words from one or two others prayer was offered by Mr. North and the company broke up at a seasonable hour.

There was a deep regret manifested by all in having to be temporarily separated from their beloved pastor while on his laborious mission to the States in behalf of the St. John Churches.

P.S.—All letters, &c., sent to Sassex for the President will be forwarded.

## NOTES FROM OXFORD

We have just concluded a series of special services at Oxford. During the four weeks of their continuance, about thirty-five persons presented themselves at the altar as seekers of salvation. Last evening I had the privilege of baptizing five persons, receiving six others on probation, and one to full membership. account of the storm, a number of candidates for baptism and church membership were not present. We hope to receive them at an early date. A few will connect themselves with another branch of the church. During these services we have had many discouragements, so that our rejoicing has been mingled with ministerial heart-ache," and yet, whilst we mourn over so many who have quenched the Spirit's striyings, if "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth," surely we should rejoice over many coming to

On Sabbath, February 3d, I had the privilege of receiving ten persons on probation at East Leicester, in addition to the number reported in my last letter. 1 also rejoiced to receive four persons at hart, Tuttle, Gaetz and Smith. I would West Leicester, on January 20th. On be the last man in Nova Scotia to dis-Jan. 12th the ladies of the village held a parage the labors of those honored breth-social tea, in the new Masonic Hall, which ren, as I consider myself a child in com-

resulted in the receipt of thirty-three dolresulted in the receipt of thirty-three dol-lars for parsonage purposes.

After tea, a very pleasant evening was spent, the company being entertained with music and select readings. Our friends at West Leicester expect to have friends at West Leicester. their annual donation gathering to more D. W. J.

February 11, 1878.

DARTMOUTH METHODIST

MR. EDITOR,—I promised the teachers MR. EDITOR, product to give you a short notice of the Concert given by the children, on Friday evening, 25th ul. I am sorry to say that business and politics combined with a treacherous memory, made me forget mappromise for some

The Concert was a success. Financial ly it realized as much as the Teacher's Committee expected, and would have realized more but for the fact of a Temperance Reform Club meeting the same even-ing. The basement of the Church was well filled, and everybody appeared to be pleased with the programme and with the mode in which it was carried out. A recitation "The night before the marty, dom," by a young gentleman, member of the Bible class, was well received. A class of young ladies, aged from twelve to sixteen, I should judge. recited an alphabet of texts, well selected, in a correct and pleasing manner. Some eight or aim boys and girls recited texts, and as many more recited passages from leading Eng-lish poets, illustrating the passage "gir-ing all diligence, add to your faith virtue," etc. Several boys recited in unison a stirring poem in praise of labor, and did it remarkably well. Perhaps. however, the most interesting feature of the enter tainment was a recitation in unison, by a number of little folks, belonging to the infant class, followed by a short tion by the youngest member of the class, a chubby little fellow barely four years

The singing by the school was very good, and reflected great credit upon the organist, and upon Mr. Short, who has devoted a great deal of time and patient labor to the musical instruction of the children.

MR. EDITOR.—Facts are wanted to justify such a glowing description of Granville Ferry Circuit, as that painted by the incumbent of " Poor and destitute Anna-AN OBSERVER

CIRCUIT GRANTS; MR. ROGERS REPLIES TO MR. SMITH.

MR. EDITOR-On my arrival from Ritcey's Cove this morning, att few weeks absence. I found the welcom Weslevan containing Bro. Smith's letter; as I must leave home again to morrow morning, to be absent nearly another week, I can only pen a hurried reply, making use of such material as I have at of his letter, rightly understands me to mean the Annapolis circuit, as he writes 'naming several other circuits along the valley." To his enquiry in the second paragraph, whether I mean by Annapolis the County Town, or Circuit, is slightly irrelevant. If Annapolis is one of the smallest circuits in the Conference, then the "minutes" of Conference must be a very incorrect, misleading and repreachful book.

The reference to the division of old Annapolis circuit is hardly to the point. In 1867 when the writer was sent to Granville Ferry as a "young man," under the superintendence of Rev. Joseph Hart, Hillsburgh was a separate circuit; the corner lot, "beautiful for situation was secured to the Conference sometime previously; the present Methodist church occupied a part of it, and the entire dicuit, including Annapolis and Granville Ferry, paid two men without any deficiency, and without a dollar of circuit grant. I suppose Granville Ferry was separated from Annapolis about 1870, so the old Annapolis circuit must be at least seven years of age.

Bro. Smith makes the following state ment in his letter, "But for the last two years at least the Annapolis circuit has not received a cent of Lunenburg's \$400, towards making up the minister's salary of \$750. This statement needs explans tion. Does Bro. Smith intend to say that Annapolis circuit has received no help from the Missionary Society during the past two years? If this be the case then the larger Missionary Report is a very

misleading book. I will, from printed returns, give the grants to Annapolis circuit for the last four years. For the year ending 1875, \$363; for 1876, \$212.20; for 1877, including removal expenses, \$188; and for the year ending 1878 the grant asked for by the Financial District meeting was \$353 grant actually given \$114.50. According to these figures the Missionary Committee pays towards carrying on the work on the Annapolis circuit during the two years ending May 1870, \$302.50.

It was not to stir up strife among brethren, or exalt the Lunenburg circuit that I was led to refer to some of the Annapolis circuits in my note of Feb. 2nd; but if possible to stir up a spirit of independence among circuits now receiving missionary aid.

I will make no reference in the note to Digby, as that circuit is occupied by the President of the Conference, who, in zeal and financial ability, is doubtless abreast of the foremost men amongst us. I have personal acquaintance with the superintendents of Berwick, Aylesford, Wilmot, and Annapolis circuits, and without any disrepect to my other brethreu, I must say that I consider it would be very difficult to find four men in our Conference better able to advance circuits financially and spiritually than the brethren LockLune

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