

THE PROTESTANT AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

And whereas, it is desirable that the proprietors and the Temperance Society should distinctly understand how the Grand Order will be conducted...

Protestant & Evangelical Witness. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1861.

Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is a most obvious duty. It is due from the creature to the Creator, from the preserved to the Preserver. The intelligent recipient of benefits from the bountiful hand of an overruling and beneficent Providence...

What nature teaches, and reason confirms so fully, is also abundantly established by revelation. We need scarcely appeal to its authority on such a subject as the present. In great variety of expression, and by impressive rites and ceremonies, does the sacred page teach man the duty of thanksgiving and praise.

Attention to the duty is in itself so proper, and so frequently taught, it is pleasing to know that the inhabitants of this Island are enjoined and intrusted by the powers that be to observe a day of public thanksgiving.

At Windsor Castle, on the 1st, Her Majesty inaugurated the new Knightly Order founded in honor of her Empire in the East, by investing the Prince Consort, Prince of Wales, Lord George, Lord Clyde, and other distinguished personages, with the Order of the Star of India.

Other benefits besides a plentiful harvest also call loudly for thankful recognition. We shall not occupy space in dwelling extensively on these, but would remind our readers, at this time when war rages in the neighboring Republic, that the blessing of peace should not be overlooked, nor its peculiar advantages forgotten.

are extended and continued in good measure amongst our increasing population. Here is another cause for gratitude; another ground of invitation to thankfulness. Evils doubtless do exist in our midst, difficulties may beset the path of many; yet our advantages are numerous and the obstacles in the way of natural comfort and outward prosperity, are by no means insurmountable.

We are obliged to our Presbyterian brother of the Witness for what we suppose was intended as a kind advice, though expressed in the form of a surprise. We may sometimes devote space to things surprising without our being satisfied in regard to their truthfulness; but he should remember that every journalist is so situated, as he is, in what may be called the ecclesiastical capital of the Lower Provinces, where a sufficient number of religious events are occurring, to afford full employment for his pen.

We trust our readers will remember that Thursday next, the 28th inst., is recommended by the Government to be observed as a day of General Thanksgiving to our Almighty God, for the inestimable blessing of a plentiful harvest.

The EROMANGA MARRIAGE.—A letter in the British Standard from Sydney, New South Wales, states that intelligence has come to hand of another white man being murdered on Eromanga, and a report also that the survivors intended waiting a moon (month) to see if any ship would come to see about the late murder, and if not, then to murder all the remaining whites on the island.

THE MEXICAN EXPEDITION.—A Paris correspondent of the United States has just published a circular addressed by the Minister of Justice to the Archbishop and clergy, in which the Minister deprecates the grave acts of insubordination of the clergy, and the national Government, and says:—"The Government wishes to respect the liberties of the churches, but will take severe measures if the clergy continue to attack the laws and institutions of the country, and endeavor to disturb public order."

RUSSIA.—A St. Petersburg letter, of the 25th Oct., describes the proceedings of the refractory students. About fifty were arrested in the halls of the University; 200 others were arrested in the streets, and the remainder of the students were dispersed.

INDIA.—Lord Canning will not leave India till March. Cholera is disappearing in the Punjab. The country has been flooded from Bombay to Agwa. The greater part of Bangalore Basah, lower down the Ganges, has been washed away. The invalids and pensioners of Osnar have been driven out of their houses by the inundation.

Secular Department.

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The Steamship Niagara arrived at Halifax on Thursday morning, from Liverpool via Queenstown. The Mail by her did not arrive here until Saturday evening last. Dates are to the 21st inst. The news is not important.

BRITAIN.

The preparations for the expedition against Mexico continue, and the treaty has been signed, or on the point of being signed, in London, by the plenipotentiaries of the three Powers—England, France, and Spain. There has been some delay in signing the instrument, but it has not retarded the preparations, inasmuch as the French contingent is not yet quite ready.

At Windsor Castle, on the 1st, Her Majesty inaugurated the new Knightly Order founded in honor of her Empire in the East, by investing the Prince Consort, Prince of Wales, Lord George, Lord Clyde, and other distinguished personages, with the Order of the Star of India. Gold has been discovered in Ireland. Three specimens of auriferous quartz have been found on the shore of Lough Swilly. It is considered to be exactly similar to that of the gold-producing countries. The specimens in question were taken from government land, which has long been known to exist in the mountains of Wicklow, but not in sufficient quantity to pay for working.

set high, and large enough to embrace both of these new islands, and to connect them with the continent. The Board of Trade returns for the month and also months ending 30th September have been issued. The exports for the month, as compared with the corresponding period last year, show a falling off of no less than £2,420,240; but compared with 1859 the deficiency is only £411,220.

The apprehended distress in Lancashire, consequent upon the stoppage of the American trade, is beginning to be realized. At Stockport the increase of pauperism is characterized as alarming. There it appears that out of 16,000 mill hands, only 4000 are working full time, 2000 five days a week, 7000 three and four days, while close upon 3000 are wandering about idle.

MILITARY AND NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.—Major General Sir John Ingles, whose defence of Lucknow is still fresh in our recollections, has been appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to succeed Sir Edward Blyden in the command of the troops in the Ionian Islands. Sir John and his youthful family will embark for Corfu in January next.

The Royal warrant regarding the discharge of soldiers was published on Wednesday at Chatham. It states that in order to carry out the intention of the warrant the scale of rates for soldiers purchasing their discharge, according to the War Office regulations, shall stand as follows:—Above five and under seven years' actual service, with one distinguishing mark:—Europeans, cavalry £25; infantry £18; blacks £11.

FRANCE.—The political atmosphere is thickening in Europe, and the same impression of ill-defined fear is beginning to be felt in Paris as that which preceded the New Year's day of 1859, when Napoleon the Third addressed the Austrian Ambassador in words which, three months had passed, caused armies to move in Italy, and ended in Magenta and Solferino. France is uneasy; and when France is uneasy all Europe feels the impact. There is much in the internal condition of our neighbors to give rise to the most serious apprehensions for their property, and we know how it has been the rule to assume attention of her people by external operations calculated to produce glory to her arms. The want of money so generally felt seems to threaten the speedy arrival of a commercial crisis, and the straits which the country is reduced by an inefficient harvest only tends to increase the alarm.

PARIS, Nov. 1.—The steam frigate La Guerriere has received final instructions, and sails on the 4th or 5th inst. for the Mediterranean, on a cruise. The brothers of the King of Portugal have arrived in Paris, and will visit the Emperor at Compiegne. The Temp of this evening states that the King of Prussia said to Marshal M'Mahon before his departure from Berlin:—"I hope to see you again next spring, when the Emperor will come and see me at the Chateau de Brühl."

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While the Great International Exhibition in London is proceeding with all the speed that man, money, and taste can impart to it, a great French Exhibition is announced to open three years later, namely, in 1855. The last French Exhibition, it will be remembered, took place in the midst of the war which England and France waged against Russia in 1855. It now appears that the next doomsday exhibition in France is to surpass in beauty and magnificence all that has hitherto been attempted in any other nation, and to give becoming credit to the event, the Emperor has designated the great building in Hyde-park, in 1855, to prepare plans for the new exposition. It is to be a crystal edifice, with a dome 500 feet high, and large enough to embrace both of these new islands, and to connect them with the continent.

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