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Christian Watchman.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., DEC. 11, 1861.

Acadia College.

The friends of education in the Lower Provinces will all be deeply gratified to learn of the continued success of Acadia College. For that Institution we can safely claim a support beyond the bounds of any one denomination. The extent of its course, the liberality of its system, and the number and character of its Professors, entitle it to a yet greater increase of students.

The choice of Dr. Pryor for the Alumni Professorship will not fail to increase the reputation of the College. The important chair of metaphysics and Belles Letters will be filled by one who is every way competent to discharge the duties of that office, and the well known character and ability of that gentleman will be a guarantee of greater efficiency.

The prospects of the Institution are very encouraging. The standard of admission will be raised and the entire curriculum of study advanced to an equality with that of the New England Colleges.

Acadia College has not yet received from this province that share of support which its people are both able and willing to bestow. This does not arise perhaps from any lack of generosity, or intelligence, but from the fact that its claims have not yet been fully and earlestly placed before them. We should like to see a strong and united effort made in its favor; agents should be sent around to all the churches, and vigorous and well sustained exertions put forth both by the pulpit and the press. Were this done the result would more than repay the labor. We have already done our utmost in these columns to further the interests of that College which we believe to be one of the most efficient in these Lower Provinces, and no lack of zeal in this respect shall ever be seen in the Watchman, yet we feel that our humble efforts would be far more successful if they were seconded in the manner above mentioned.

We learn that a catalogue will soon be issued containing complete information on all subjects connected with the College. This should be put forth without delay and circulated everywhere, for, since we have a worthy object of support, we should feel bound to advance its claims in every possible way.

Provincial Education.

This subject is one which must ere long force itself upon the attention of our legislature. It seems to us that the education now furnished, if it does not cost more than it is worth, costs far more than would suffice to provide a better article. We want a system which will do justice to all, and bring education within the reach of all. The following article from the *Albion* indicates the evil of the present system, and points out the course which must be pursued.

"The question of Education in the Province of New Brunswick is one which must be thoroughly discussed. At present the schools are in a very unsatisfactory state. Practically poorer districts are deprived of means of education, and denominational grants are not meted out with any fairness. The quality of the instruction in many of the seminaries is not satisfactory; and there are matters connected with the training-school which would need reform. We believe that the whole subject of Education requires revision. In any satisfactory adjustment the poor should have means of Education, sectarian grants should be abolished, a general system adopted, and proper training schools for teachers established. It will never do to have the funds of the province wasted in raising denominational schools, sometimes on mere opposition shops of learning, where Education in a peculiar faith may cost the province enormous sums annually. We would go for a clear sweep of all the grants now made to denominational institutions, leaving such as want to teach their youth their peculiar theological nonsense to pay for their whistle." This might be a difficult matter to accomplish. It should be done however. If it cannot be done, then at least let a sum be set apart for each large denomination in proportion to their numbers, with a distinct understanding that there shall be no increase in future. Vested rights perhaps will require to be respected, and if there be any denominations which have not a fair proportion of funds they should be placed on an equal footing with those denominations which already have through their persevering applications put themselves in receipt of pecuniary aid. But there must be a stop put to the rivalry of religious bodies in each one trying to secure the largest possible haul of the public money for Educational purposes. We do not see why sectarian schools should be established at all, except for the education of the clergy in the studies of divinity.—Why should not the children of Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians and Roman Catholics all receive the same secular education from the same master within the same walls? What has arithmetic and writing to do with creeds? Cannot the same master teach geography and mathematics to the Protestant and Papist? We do hope that the people of this province will so far lay aside their quarrels as to permit such an adjustment of the Education question as will combine rather than separate the various classes of religionists in the province.

Measures should be also taken to furnish the poorer, and thereby peopled districts with means of Education. It may be that the principle of endeavouring to reach all might be carried too far. There are certain limits of population below which it would be waste of money to establish a school, at the same time the number should not be too high.

It should also be compulsory that each one should contribute to the Education funds, and that all children of certain age should be at School. Education like religion is a thing which while very useful and necessary to the safety of the state, is not felt to be very important by many parents. It requires sacrifice of money, and the time of the children which many parents are unwilling to make. We do not see anything for it therefore but that those parents who will not do their duty to their children should be compelled. They owe to the state to educate their children, and if they wish to shirk this obligation, we see nothing for it but that the state shall compel them to fulfil their duty."

Letter from A. R. R. Crawley.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE BRUSSELS' STREET JUVENILE BAPTIST MISS. SOCIETY.

HENTHADA, British Burmah, Aug. 6th, '61.

MY DEAR BROTHER,—My letter to you of December last has come back in the columns of the "Baptist and Visitor" and I feel condemned when I see the wide interval between that date and my present. But you must kindly let the manifold ordinary—and since the great fire—extraordinary demands upon my time plead my excuse.

In my previous letter I gave you some account of Moung Yan Ein, your native preacher, his location, etc. He spent two months at the village of Yuay doung whither I sent him as before mentioned upon the application for a preacher made by the people of the village. During the two months he preached daily from house to house, and held a regular Sabbath service which was punctually attended by the few who professed to be inquirers. It soon became evident however that in coming to ask for an assistant to live at their village, the people had a vague idea that I would help them in their frequently recurring difficulties, on account of the relations of many of them being mixed up with those who lived by robbery and who are fugitives from justice. And finding that they had nothing to expect from me they soon ceased to show any interest in the preacher and his teachings. Leaving therefore a number of tracts and books with the one man who really does seem to be truly desirous of becoming a Christian, Moung Yan Ein removed to his former station, Taing-daw, where he continues to labor, daily winning more and more the respect of the heathen by his faithful, humble, affectionate efforts to awaken their slumbering souls and lead them to believe in Him who is able to save. I recently spent a fortnight with him on a missionary tour, and was delighted to perceive how much he had improved in ability to preach Christ to his countrymen. His quickness to comprehend the truth, and his earnestness, patience and humility in presenting it to others make him peculiarly fitted for the work. Let your prayers not be wanting that his labours may be richly blessed in the salvation of many of the poor heathen.

Death has come once more among us and taken this time one of the choice spirits of our little church, Na-king, a young woman, the influence of whose character as a Christian wife and mother, was only good and that continually, upon all the other female members of the church.

My work continues much as usual, Zayat preaching while at home here in the town, with frequent itineratings among the hundreds of villages scattered all over this district. A fine substantial Zayat, or as it would be called in New Brunswick, meeting house has just been completed Being situated near the one great Bazaar which is the "Change" of Henthada—there is no lack of listeners all day long. The zayat is constantly occupied by myself, or one of the native preachers, and as we frequently meet traders whom business has brought there from different parts of the country—some even from near the borders of China, and as they always take away tracts and books, you will see that the influence of zayat preaching is not confined to the place in which the zayat may happen to be situated. Indeed it often happens that we hear of good being effected in places most remote from the centre, while we are mourning over the apparently unpromising state of things immediately about us. In my former letter I mentioned that the fire deprived us of our Globe and Planetarium. These are so indispensable towards enabling the assistants to gain a correct idea of the form of the Earth, and of the Solar System generally, that we are exceedingly anxious to have them replaced. It would seem to imply ingratitude for what you have already so kindly done, to ask you if you could obtain these for us, But I make the intimation so that in case there should be any one among you willing to help us in this way, he may know what our wants are. Hoping to hear from you soon again, I remain,

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR R. R. CRAWLEY.

For the Christian Watchman.

MR. EDITOR,—In June, 1854, seven lads met with a friend at his place of business, they there organized a Juvenile Missionary Society, appointed a committee to frame constituion and bye-laws, which were duly submitted and adopted. They call the organization Brussell's Street Baptist Juvenile Missionary Society. The society were to meet for business on the first Tuesday of each month, to collect funds for missionary purposes, also Sabbath school papers and tracts, and distribute them throughout the destitute parts of the Province. The society soon felt able to support a missionary, and did so for a few months in Westmorland. But finding many destitute around their own homes, and ample opportunity to labour for their good, they decided to establish a City Mission. Father Ring was employed a room in the neighbourhood of the Marsh Bridge leased, a Sabbath school started, and meetings commenced. Through their efforts land was secured and a house of worship erected by the friends generally. Soon after Rev. E. B. De Mill was employed and sustained by them until after a church was organized, which at the close of his engagement took him as there pastor, which closed the mission, and left them without a missionary. The Society then turned its attention far away to the benighted Heathen, and has for about three years been supporting a native preacher under Brother Crawley in the Henthada Mission. They keep up a Sabbath school in the back part of the city, distribute large numbers of tracts and supply many destitute Sabbath schools with children's papers. All this has been done by a few children organized into a Society, separated from and independent of any other organization. Whatever has been done has been devised by themselves and accomplished by their own exertion. Here then is an element for good in every community within the circle of every church—unless when through extreme selfishness a church has narrowed down its circle until it embrace none but their own exalted selves. All it requires is to be put in operation like a piece of machinery capable of performing a vast amount of work, but without the motive power useless, all that is wanted is to apply the match to generate the steam.

The last meeting of this Society held on the 3d inst., was very interesting; letters were read from some of those supplied with papers during the month, containing encouraging remarks, shewing how highly those half worn papers are valued; in some instances young children have walked three miles bare footed to receive them. A letter from Brother Crawley was also read, which gives an account of their missionary laborers—this letter I understand will be sent you for publication, I therefore took no minute of it. To add to the interest of those meetings a short lecture is delivered before the society. On this occasion, James Hart Esq., occupied the platform; he announced as his subject the Orissa Mission. He commenced by showing the religion of Jesus to be essentially missionary, that the missionary enterprise was of God, and may be called christianity in action, accomplishing the purpose of the great head of the church, and adapted to the wants of all classes. His purpose being to speak of missions among the heathen he would confine himself to that subject. As we have never witnessed the fearful condition of idolaters, it is necessary to present their claims more frequently that we may be excited to more exertion for the salvation of those sitting in the region and shadow of death. For ages the sympathies of pious persons have been excited for the salvation of heathen, but in India and China missionary operations are of recent date, within the memory of some now living. Orissa in Hindostan is the seat of the most degraded idolatry, the seat of Juggernaut worship, has a population of 3,000,000, composed of Hindoos, Mohammedans, Santals and Bhumigahs. The religion professed by 600,000,000 of our fellow creatures in Asia, two gigantic systems, embraces Buddhism, and Brahminism. The first prevails in Ceylon, Thibet, Burmah, Siam, Cochin China, and China proper, the second throughout the whole peninsula of Hindostan; its adherants number 150,000,000. The most popular idol in Orissa is Vishnoo under the appellation of Juggernaut. The Car festival occurs in June or uly. Their worship is one of obscenity and blood, their mode of elevating the idols to their position on the car is degrading—they being dragged and tumbled through the mud with cords round their necks, while others are pushing behind. Immense crowds, about 250,000, flock from all parts of India by various modes of conveyance, and of all classes. Thousands die on the journey, the needy, suffering pilgrims receive no sympathy, there is no benevolence or mercy in the Hindoo character. Their books are records of obscenity, their priests patterns of wickedness. Their worship and education tend to degrade their moral powers. Their treatment of children, females and aged persons cruel in the extreme. Two thirds of the children are destroyed by parents. No hospitals or alms house for sick and infirm, but they are abandoned to die alone. Females degraded and made to perform the most menial service. The greatest difficulty missionaries have to contend with is caste. There are four grades, they can neither rise nor fall from one to the other, are not allowed to leave caste to become a christian. To leave caste in any way is to become an outcast.

Dark and degraded as the land is it is open for missionary operations, it is under the British Government—which is becoming more liberal every year. Orissa is occupied chiefly by the General Baptist Missionary Society of England, and to some extent by the Freewill Baptist Society of the United States. There are Protestant Missionaries throughout Hindostan, under the auspices of at least seventeen organizations. Bamton and Peggs commenced a mission at the Capital of Orissa in 1822. In about four years they had gathered schools embracing 380 Boys, and 148 Girls. They were taught to read the Gospel in their own tongue. Villages were laid out and occupied by the native Christions to escape persecution. Native preachers were soon raised from among them. One of those preachers in a discourse on the spread of the Gospel gave the following illustration:—"Suppose we were all in darkness, but in yonder Bazaar there is fire; one would run and light his lamp from that fire, others would light theirs from his and so continue until all would have light. They were all in darkness, there was light in the Missionary house, he had lighted his lamp, they could light theirs from his, and so on until the light should become universal."

This is but an imperfect sketch of the lecture. It was well prepared, conveyed a large amount of information in few words, occupied about half an hour in its delivery, and was listened to with with marked attention. The President then called upon Rev. S. Robinson who praised the lecture in the highest terms. Hon. W. B. Kinnear was requested to make a few remarks. He expressed his satisfaction with the lecture and the sadness he felt to know that 600,000,000 of our race are yet in Heathenish darkness—spake in feeling terms of the dignity and softening influence of the Female character in contrast with the treatment she receives in those benighted lands.

SMITH.

For the Christian Watchman.

PRINCE WILLIAM, Dec. 5th, 1861.

MR. EDITOR,—As the doings of the Baptist Ministerial Quarterly Meeting held at Kingsclear, Oct. 21st and forwarded by order of the meeting to the *Visitor* for publication, but from some cause have not appeared in that paper, and as several resolutions there passed are thought to be of great importance to the churches I herewith send them to the WATCHMAN in hope that you will give them publicity. They were in substance as follows:

1. *Resolved*, that each church be requested to send to the Quarterly Meeting at least one delegate in addition to their pastor, and also to furnish a written statement of the progress of religion.

2. *Resolved*, That the ministers of this Conference should decline all calls of settlement with those churches which have not settled with, and paid up justly their former pastor.

3. *Resolved*, That we consider the churches morally obligated to make up any deficiency in subscription which may have been raised for the support of the gospel among them.

4. *Resolved*, That no minister shall be justified in making any encroachment upon the field of any of our settled pastors, without their entire approval and consent.

5. *Resolved*, That the Missionary Board be requested to assist the New Zealand Church in the sum of five pounds, to employ Bro. Tupper for one fourth part of the time, also, that they be requested to appropriate five pounds in aid of the Cardigan Church for the support of Bro. W. Harris for the coming year.

Resolved, That the next Quarterly Meeting be held with the church at Middle Simonds, commencing the first Friday after Christmas, at six o'clock, P. M. BENJAMIN JEWETT, *Secretary*.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The Lecture on Monday evening was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Hurd. The Subject:—"The relation of industry to the honour and happiness of mankind."

The Lecturer showed that Labour was the law for all, that the bodily and mental faculties could only be developed by vigorous exercise. After a severe denunciation of ideas in general he proceeded to notice the various forms of labor—intellectual and physical. The labor of the Head was more honourable and important than the labour of the Hand, yet manual labour is honourable and essential to the well being of society. The Lecturer referred to the many—in ancient and modern times—who had arisen to eminence from the ranks of the industrious poor. This class of society had been the first to encourage the reforms of modern times, In conclusion he urged all to labour at some useful calling.

The Lecture contained many passages of genuine eloquence, and was listened to by a large audience with marked attention and approbation.

The Ladies connected with the Carleton Baptist Church, intend to have a "Farmer's Supper," on Thursday, the 19th December, in aid of the funds of the Church. The object is praiseworthy. The supper will be a treat as well as a novelty, and we hope that the benovelent aims of our fair friends will be realized.

The Executive Government has issued two proclamations, warning Her Majesty's subjects, and all other persons in this Province, against violating the neutrality laws of the Imperial Parliament, by recruting for, or entering the service of, a Foreign Power, and pointing out the penalties incurred by so doing:—*Church Witness*.

The subject of erecting a Hall in this City, in which all the municipal offices may be concentrated, has again been brought forward. The site selected is the North side of King Square—taking in the present Hay and Wood Market. We hope the members of the Common Council who have taken the matter up will have sufficient firmness to press it forward ty completion.—*Church Witness*.

The Kingston Whig says, that one of the results of Lieut. Gen. Williams' visit to Kingston has been the despatch of 600 barrels of gunpowder to Toronto, to be followed in a day or two by the sending forward to the West of a large number of heavy metal guns to be placed in position at Toronto and elsewhere.

☞ The Halifax Express says, we learn that the contractor for land conveyance in this city, has received orders to have a large number of horses in readiness to convey war munitions to Canada.—[New Brunswicker.

TANGIER: CAVE.—A cave capable of 'dining twelve men' has been discovered in Strawberry Hill, far underground, in the Truro Company's Tunnel. A new Company from Pugwash has commenced operations within a week or two.—The diggers number about 150.—*Halifax Witness*.

PRAISEWORTHY CONDUCT.—The Bark Mary Leonard, of Yarmouth, N. S., arrived here last week from Dublin, after a very boisterous passage. Captain Kirk, after being a few days out was seriously injured, and was obliged to return to Port; whereupon the mate, Mr. William Robertson, son of the owner, and only twenty years of age, took charge of the vessel and brought her safely to this Port; which certainly reflects a high degree of credit on so young a sailor.—[New Brunswicker.

ARRIVAL OF GOLD.—If doubts exists on the minds of any of our readers heretofore, about the productiveness of the gold-fields of Wine Harbor and Sherbrooke, we presume they will be removed, when we inform them that three gentlemen arrived in this city from these mines yestesday, the first, Mr. Cumminger had about £70 worth of gold,—the second, Mr. Hewett, had five pounds weight,—and the third, Mr. Hattie, had about nine and a half pounds weight of the precious metal. We presume the whole lot will be on exhibition,—the first lot was shown us immediately after its arrival, and from the intelligence received, we believe the discoveries in those districts will prove the richest yet discovered in the Province.—*Halifax Sun*.

From Bermuda.

Another Insult to the British Flag.

The Halifax Express of last Friday Evening has the following:—

The Steamer Delta arrived here yesterday morning from St. Thomas and Bermuda.

H. M. S. Nile arrived at Bermuda on the 26th ult., after a passage of four days.

We are indebted to a gentleman in this city for the subjoined extract from a private letter, received by the above Steamer from Bermuda;—

"The Mexican Difficulty is settled. They have submitted to the terms of the allies; but the preparations still go on. Six hundred marines are coming out in the Sanspareil, It is difficult to know if the Mexicans are sincere in their submission. The preparations here are not, however, delayed.

"The gunboat Landrill, brought the news to the Admiral—on her way here she was stopped by an American corvette, who fired a shot across her bows, (the usual course to bring a vessel to.) It is said that the Naval authorities here are very indignant that the Landrail should have stopped or submitted to such an indignity. I fear this act will lead to war. We are too passive, and it only incites the Americans to commit new outrages. The Nile, Mersey, and Diadem, suffered severely from a gale on their way here."

In commenting upon the above the Express says:—

We have seen no referenre to this outrage in the Bermuda papers, and as they are published weekly, accounts for this, as the letter is dated after the latest paper received here by the Merlin. But we fear the facts are too true. The Landrail carries 5 guns—is a screw steam gun vessel, of 80 horse power, and commanded by Thos. H. Martin.

The Expendition to Mexico and the Blockade.

HOW THE EXPEDITION MAY AFFECT OUR BLOCKADE.

[*From the London Shipping Gazette, Nov. 19.*]

The expeditionary force which will shortly be assembled in Mexican waters, under the flags of England, France and Spain, has naturally attracted great attention, especially in the Northern States, and has furnished the occasion for suspicions and surmise which have found expression in language by no means complimentary to the Powers engaged. The British contingent amounts already to 850 guns and 10,000 seamen and marines. The Spanish Admiral, Rubaleaba, commands twelve steamers, mounting 300 guns, and the French Admiral, Jurien de Graviere, probably a squadron of ten sail and 310 guns. The assemblage of this force in the Gulf of Mexico, while the Federal squadron is labour to effect a blockade, the inefficiency of which has been demonstrated in numberless instances, and the recognition of which is solely due to the courtesy of the maritime States of Europe, is not an agreeable subject of contemplation for the Cabinet of Washington, or their supporters in the press. It has been designated as a movement uncalled for, "and justly open to suspicion." "We are free," says the NEW YORK HERALD, "to conjecture that these superfluous, heavily armed squadrons of Spain, England and France have other objects in view than the settlement of their outstanding accounts with Mexico, and the protection of their commerce against our rebel privateers, and against the accidents of our Southern blockade." It was not to be supposed that this Mexican expedition could have been organized and set on foot without exciting the suspicions of the North, and yet there is no prospect whatever that the triple alliance just concluded will be directed towards an interference between the American belligerents. If France or England, or both Powers combined, have dotermined on raising the Southern blockade, they need only have united their forces on the West India stations, and ordered them upon the service. It was surely not necessary to take the roundabout course of concluding a convention with Spain, and enlisting the aid of that country in an undertaking in which she could have no direct concern. The closing of the Southern ports is of no great consequence to Spain. Her commerce is but slightly affected by the blockade, and the Cabinet of Madrid would most assuredly never incur the cost and trouble of equipping an expedition to give a coloring to the designs of France and England. The Mexican expedition is obviously not directed against the Southern blockade, though we can understand why the Northern press should assert that it is. If the blockade was really efficent, if the federal government had at their command a force sufficient to interdict commerce, in conformity with the received maxims of international law, we should hear nothing of the Mexican expedition as a movement justly open to suspicion. It is because the federal government well know that they are maintaining a blockade on sufferance and embarrassing commerce through the forbearance of the neutral Powers, that they fear the presence in the Gulf of Mexico of a combined fleet belonging to those Powers. The federal government may rest satisfied on this point. Whatever the want of this country, or of France, of the raw material, which is stored in abundance at the presentmoment in the southern States, there is no intention of resorting to force to open the Southern ports, or even to coerce the federal government into a respect for the obligations imposed by the laws of maritime warfare. It is quite possible for the Cabinet of Washington so commit the Northern States to a collision with this country. The decisions of the Northern Prize Courts, the imprisonment of British subjects on frivolous and groundless proetnces, but above all, the constant threat of an invasion of Canada, may induce the British government to take a very prompt and resolute course for the prootection of British interests inthe Northern continent. But without some such provocation we are quite satisfied no action will be taken by our government in reference to the existing struggle, nor would any such action be sanctioned by the British public. The NEW YORK HERALD, and the other journals who think it necessary to stimulate the Northern feeling against this country, may spare the threats of the extinction of "England and her Confederates," of which they are so lavish. If England or France, separate or united, find it necessary to take steps to uphold their interests in the West, they will do so notwithstanding the warning, that when "the Southern rebelion is suppressed, an end will be put in a brief campaign to British deminion in the North, or to Spanish intervention in the South," This however, is prefectly consistent with the inocuous presence of the combined fleets in the Gulf of Mexico, and with the solution of the question to which the expedinonary force is subordinate. That question has nothing whatever to do with the existing troubles in the States; and the Powers engaged, especially England and France, are superior to making it the pretence for the assembling of a force with another and a very different object.

UNITED STATES.

The Secretary at War in his report has recommended the dismemberment of Eastern Virginia, and the parcelling out of its territory among the States of Western Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. He says:—

The geographical position of the metropolis of the nation, menaced by the rebels, and required to be defended by thousands of our troops, induces me to suggest for consideration the propriety and expediency of a reconstruction of the boundaries of the States of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Wisdom and true statesmanship would dictate that the seat of the national government, for all time to come, should be placed beyond reasonable danger of seizure by enemies within, as well as from capture by foes from without. By agreement between the States named such as was effected, for similar purposes, by Michigan and Ohio, and by Missouri and Iowa, their boundaries could be so changed as to render the capital more remote than at present from the influence of State governments which have arrayed themselves in rebellion against the federal authority. To this end, the limits of Virginia might be so altered as to make her boundaries consist of the Blue Ridge on the east and Pennsylvania on the north, leaving those on the south and west as at present. By this arrangement two counties of Maryland (Alleghany and Washington) would be transferred to the jurisdiction of Virginia. All that portion of Virginia which lies between the Blue Ridge and Chesapeake Bay could then be added to Maryland, while that portion of the peninsula between the waters of the Chesapeake and the Atlantic, now jointly held by Maryland and Virginia, could be incorporated into the State of Delaware. A reference to the map will show that these are great natural boundaries, which, for all time to come, would serve to mark the limits of these States. To make the protection of the capital complete, in consideration of the large accession of territory which Maryland would receive under the arrangement proposed, it would be necessary that that state should consent so to modify her constitution as to limit the basis of her representation to her white population.

THE BANQUET TO CAPTAIN WILKES.

A banquet was given to Captain Wilkes and the officers of the San Jacinto 26 ı Nov., at the Revere House, which was attended by about one hundred and fifty guests.

Among the invited guests were the Governor, Chief Justice Bigelow, the Commodore of this station, Mayor Wightman and a number of distinguished citizens and strangers.

Hon. T. Wiley Edmunds presided. After the cloth was removed he made a welcome speech to the distinguished guest, which was loudly applauded.

Captain Wilkes, on risiug to respond, was received with tremendous applause, the company rising and giving him three times three cheers, which were thrice repeated.

Captain Wilkes thanked the company for the kind reception they had accorded him, and for their endorsement of his acts. He spoke but a few minutes, giving a rapid and compendious account of the cruise of the San Jacinto in pursuit of the privateer Sumter after her arrival at the West Indies, which was ended by the capture of the rebel emissaries, Slidell and Mason. Captain Wilkes remarked that he would have suffered the rebel commissioners to pursue their way if they could have shown a pass from the general government.

He also said. I should have felt justified in seizing the Trent itself, but I concluded to allow the vessel to proceed, though I thus deprived my men of a prize worth $150,000; and I take pride and pleasure in saying that there was not a man on board the San Jacinto who said I did not do right.

Governor Andrew, on being introduced, said he rejoiced to be present on an occasion like this for the purpose of paying the utmost honor to the illustrious commander who was the guest of the evening. Enough had been done during the past two weeks to make the name of Wilkes history. He had performed the most illustrious service that has been rendered since the war began. It had happened to him (Governor Andrew) to be present on official business at the War Department when the telegraphic despatch announcing the captcre of the two rebel officers was received. He thought it but courteous that the Secretary of War should lead in the cheers which followed; but he begged to assure the company he was not behind the second man to raise his voice in loud acclaim; and he had the satisfaction of knowing at a very early hour that the territery of Massachusetts would have the opportunity of furnishing a prison to these unnatural and audacious traitors. When he thought of the contumely and scorn our glorious New England had received from these men, once Senators, now captives, he felt more than repaid in contemplating their present condition. The Governor concluded by proposing the health of Lieut. Fairfax and the officers and crew of the San Jacinto. It was received with great applause.

Lieutenant Fairfax, in rising to respond, was received with hardly less consideration than his commander. The Lieutenant spoke at some length, giving some of the incidents attending the cruise, and the part he took in the capture of the rebel ambassadors. Although he was a Southern man he knew of but one flag for America, and that was the glorious Stars and Stripes.—[N. Y. Herald.

The Savannah Republican says that the privateer Sumter was not captured, but wrecked off Trinidad coast. The battering ram or Turtle of Commander Hollins passed through Memphis on the 4th inst., for Columbus, Ky.

RICHMOND, Nov. 26.—Congress has unanimously ratified the convention entered into between Hon. R. M. Hunter and the Commissioners from the State of Missouri.

MILLEDGVILLE, Ga., 5th.—A resolution has been introduced into the State Senate that the banks suspend specie payment and issue Confederate notes.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., 4th.—The Avalanche of to day says that the Federal force between Bowling Green and Louisville is 50,000 and that Gens. Johnston and Buckner are fully prepared for them.

BOSTON, Dec. 5th.

Report of Secretary of War gives number of Federal troops now in the field at six hundred and sixty-one thousand.

The most important proposition before Congress, is relative to confiscation of slaves of rebel owners, and if a necessity of war then being armed as the last alternative.

Next a proposition to alter geographical lines of Virginia, Maryland and Delaware; to strengthen Washington, as the Capitol; also a military railroad connecting loyal portions of North Carolina with Tennessee and Kentucky. Rebel reports say Planters are burning stores of Cotton and Rice in South Carolina to prevent their falling into hands of Federals.

WASHINGTON, 6th.—General Banks reported to Headquarters yesterday, that one of his regiments had shelled and dispersed a band of Rebels passing westward.

Documents from State Department disclose the important fact that our Government now occupies the same position it held in reference to Foreign Governments as at the beginning of the rebellion.

Says of England that she entertains, or at least expresses no sympathy for United States, but rather the reverse.

France is not cordial, but less offensive than England.

Russia friendly, but anxious that the War should end.

Holland disposed to follow the lead of England at a respectful distance. The Pope as good a Christian on the side of law and order.