fess pure Judaism, and all know Hebrew; and, as a Rechabite cavalier informed the celebrated traveller, Dr. Wolff, they keep the commands of Jonadab their father, and drink no wine nor live in houses unto this day. Surely none will here dissever the prediction from its fulfilment, or refuse to see the inspiration of Scripture reflected in the miraculous preservation of this people in the midst of hostile creeds and nations for so many centuries.

I have now adduced a few out of the many testimonies the advancing light of knowledge has produced, but the limits of a whole series of lectures would hardly suffice for the full consideration of them all.

We have seen that through every portion of the universe, however dissimilar in form or attributes, there is a harmony which can only be due to the controlling power of the one universal Lord of revelation; that Scripture and science alike proclaim, as with the voice of a trampet, the infinite nature of the Creator, whether we regard the boundless depths of space or the incalculable terms of geologic epochs;—we have unlocked the records of Egypt, and seen the taskmasters exacting the tale of bricks from the captive Israelites, just as God's word had registered the events;—we have awakened the long-slumbering echoes from the walls of Esurhaddon and Sennacherib, and heard how minutely faithful they testify God's Word to be;—we have endeavoured to catch some confirmation of the truth from the rocks of Sinai; and we have heard of the faithful fulfilment of God's promise to obedience from one who was himself a living monument of His unchanging truth and power.

These are but a few of the voices which proclaim the unerring truth of God's Word. Obscurity still hangs over some portions of the field of nature into which the full light has not yet penetrated; but I believe the day is not now far distant, when from every portion of the universe, and from every field of knowledge, shall resound one swelling chorus of adoration of the Divine *Λογος*, the Incarnate Word.

Obituary Notices.

MRS. MARY HOBBS.

Consort of the late Capt. Samuel Hobbs, of Argyle, N. S.

The subjects of this memoir were the descendants of the Puritan Fathers who were driven from their homes by the persecutor's wrath for the sake of their religion, but could not be driven from their God.

Capt. Hobbs, with his parents, in early life, removed to Nova Scotia, from the old Empire State, in consequence of their principles of loyalty, and in the order of Divine Providence, was lead to hear that celebrated New Light preacher, the Rev. Henry Allen. Under a sermon preached by him at Liverpool, N. S., (which is now in print,) for the express benefit of a number of young men, he was brought from darkness to God's marvellous light, and will have cause for thankfulness through eternity, for saving grace there received;—and although naturally reserved, and unassuming, he felt closely identified with the interests of Zion—his doors being always open to Christian ministers of all denominations, without partiality, and contributing liberally to the support of the gospel of Christ. Honesty and integrity of character were fully exemplified in his deportment thro' life, and it may truthfully be said of him. He was a Puritanic Christian. He finished his earthly pilgrimage the 9th of April, in the 72nd year of his age, 1828, and was gathered to the Fathers. Of his family of ten children, the youngest is the Rev. William Hobbs, of Fugwash.

Mrs. Hobbs was also converted under the preaching of the Rev. H. Allen, and about ten years ago was baptised by the Rev. Harris Harding, of Yarmouth, uniting with the Baptist Church in Argle, of which she continued a worthy member until her death,—her last illness was of short duration—but one week's continuance—a part of which time, her mind was somewhat beclouded, but as she drew near the termination of her journey, her prospects grew brighter, like the path of the just, brighter and brighter till the perfect day. She breathed out her soul sweetly in the arms of Jesus, on Saturday the 30th April last, being 84 years of age, and entered upon that rest that remains to the Lord's People.

The last solemn rite was performed by the Revd. P. F. Murray, in committing her remains to the last resting place, by the side of her companion, in the old Baptist Cemetery. The occasion was improved in an appropriate sermon, by Brother Murray, from the 17th Psalm, last verse. "As for me, I shall behold thy face in righteousness, I shall be satisfied when I awake in thy likeness." In conclusion, let us ask ourselves the soul stirring question, with death judgment and eternity before us. "What manner of persons ought we to be." Let the answer be a practical one. Let us live whilst we live, that our exit from this world may prove as peaceful and happy as theirs, and that Heaven may be the home of our Spirits, and we unite with the whole family of the Redeemed, when they shall all have crossed the flood, as our everlasting companions.

There the saints of all ages, in harmony meet,
Their Saviour and Brethren, transported to greet,
Whilst the anthems of rapture unceasingly roll,
And the smile of the Lord is the feast of the Soul.

—*Communicated.*

MRS. MACK.

Died, at Mills Village, on the 2d inst., in the 34th year of her age, THERESA, wife of Mr. Jno. Dean Mack, and daughter of the late Wm. Drew, Esq., of Petite Riviere.

Mrs. M., became a member of the Wesleyan Church, while Petite Riviere, as a part of the Lunenburgh Circuit, was under the suprintendance of the beloved and lamented Mr. Webb. A very extensive revival of religion was experienced at Petite Riviere, in connection with a series of public services held by Mr. Webb, in which he was assisted by the Rev. H. Pope, senr. The head of the Church rendered the labors of his servants successful in the sound and lasting conversion of many; among the number was Mrs. Mack, who in all her subsequent life furnished demonstrative evidence of the reality of the change, she then professed to have experienced.

In her death her family have sustained a loss that can never be repaired. The Church mourns the unexpected removal of one of her most exemplary members, and all classes of her acquaintance lament the death of one who was universally and deservedly esteemed. A large assembly gathered at the funeral, who were addressed in a very edifying and appropriate discourse by the Rev. S. Avery, founded on Ecclesiastes viii. 13th, middle clause of the verse. "Yet surely I know it shall be well with them that fear God."

R. M.

Liverpool, Dec., 1854.

MRS. BIGELOW.

MRS. NANCY BIGELOW, wife of Mr. Ebenezer Bigelow, senr., of Cornwallis, departed this life on Sunday, Dec. 10th, 1854, in the 84th year of her age. Having spent all her days in Cornwallis, she was generally known, and highly respected, throughout the neighbourhood, having fulfilled the duties of a wife, a mother, and a most agreeable neighbor for many years. She had been a most consistent and exemplary member of the Congregational Church for about sixty years; and, having entertained the Ministers of the gospel, and contributed largely to the support of Christianity, the people of this country regarded her as "a mother in Israel." Her earthly career ended in a calm reliance on the atonement, and, having finished her course, she quietly went to her eternal rest. On Tuesday, the 12th, the Rev. Joseph Pearl, preached her funeral sermon to a deeply affected congregation from Rev. 14. 13. "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord, from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.—*Communicated.*

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1855.

This Paper is filed, and may be seen free of charge at HOLLOWAY'S PILL AND OINTMENT ESTABLISHMENT, 244, Strand, London, where Advertisements and Subscriptions will be received for this Periodical.

No communication will be inserted without the writer furnish us with his name *in confidence*

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions or statements of correspondents unless editorially endorsed.

Correspondents are respectfully requested to condense their communications—and write the names of *persons* and *places* very legibly.

The *Provincial Wesleyan* is the largest, and, for its size, the cheapest of the Religious papers of the Lower Provinces. Subscribers will confer a favour by recommending it to their neighbours.

Though in this the first number of our paper for the year which has just opened upon us, we do not propose to enter upon any elaborate review of the thrilling events which have stamped with undying interest the year whose close we have, in the good providence of God, been spared to see, we cannot refrain from briefly adverting to some of the more prominent topics, suggested to the mind by even an imperfect retrospect of a period so replete with transactions that stir the souls of men, and so crowded with occurrences that strike their hearts with sadness.

The memories of many of our readers will be burdened with the painful realities of that dire pestilence which, raging round the world, mingled in one common doom the inhabitants of every clime. The people of this Province were indeed exempted from that scourge; but New Brunswick felt its sore infliction—and hundreds of families there, who at the commencement of the bygone year hailed its advent with an unbroken circle, now rent by the Destroyer, present but scattered remnants of the then living, active whole. Let us, whom a gracious Providence has been pleased to preserve, recognize and adore the Father of Mercies! Let those on whom the chastening hand has fallen, "hear the rod, and Him who hath appointed it."

Those who go down to the sea in ships, and do business in great waters; they whom pleasure or profit invites to brave the perils of the deep, have, through the year just ended, in appalling numbers, proved that in the midst of life we are in death.

And the battle field has been strewn with slain. Great indeed, and in one sense glorious, have been the triumphs won in war by those whom be believe to be truly designated defenders of the right. Alma, Balaclava, Inkermann, are names that justly excite our minds to exultation; but what mournful reflections at their mention mingle with our joy, when we try to estimate the destruction of human life, the loss forever hereafter to the world of energies physical and powers intellectual which might have been employed in the pursuits of peace to roll forward the car of civilization, and the waste of treasure which, devoted to the dissemination of the Gospel of Christ, might have dissipated the gross darkness of those habitations of cruelty, which yet overspread the Earth.

But, blessed be God, we have not solely to contemplate events the recollection of which induces mourning lamentation and feelings of woe. In the midst of all the tribulations which have marked the course of the departed year, there have been cheering tokens of a spirit of progress and perseverance in movements which connect themselves with the life that now is, and in those which have relation to that which is to come. Commerce has opened up new scenes to the vision of its votaries and beckoned them on to enterprises, whose consequences will we trust be found in the not very far distant future conducive to the wider and speedier spread of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus.

Before we pass from reference to the signs of material progress, it behooves us to point to the exhilirating indications of its presence among ourselves, which 1854 presented to our view in the Exhibition of the products of native industry, creditable to all who had connexion with that most gratifying display, and in the commencement of a railway which tho' long deemed a desideratum, it had never before been seriously attempted to construct.

With respect to those movements which are intimately associated with the diffusion of vital Christianity, it is our pleasing duty to record that no diminution of zeal or effort has been apparent in the various Missionary organizations that bless our world. We fervently pray that they may be equal to the improvement of those opportunities for increased usefulness, which, if the signs of the times do not deceive us, will speedily, and in various parts of the earth, be afforded them. They have hitherto been signally owned in their labours, but we trust that their achievements in the time coming will be to their operations in the past, as the noonday power of the sun to the influence of his early beams.

A Happy New Year!

We greet our readers with the compliments of the season, and cordially wish them, one and all, a Happy New Year. Aware how materially the weekly visits of a well-filled newspaper tend to enhance the enjoyment of life, it shall be our especial business and delight to cater faithfully for the columns of the *Provincial Wesleyan*, and to aim at rendering it such a means of pleasure and profit as will not readily be dispensed with in the home of any Wesleyan in these Provinces. In the present state of the World, the newspaper is indispensible to those who would live up to the age in which their lot has been cast. Whatever else one may do without, he cannot possibly, with justice to himself or his domestic circle, be minus a good family newspaper. If the pressure of circumstances should dictate a rigid economy, we are sure this is the very last item on which a discreet man would think of diminishing his expenditure. The events that are now transpiring throughout the world, are of such a nature as to excite interest in every mind. The sad realities of war, which the present generation is now for the first time called to witness in their appalling form—the onward course of science as it sweeps along in its career of discovery—the dissemination of religious knowledge through the earth by the various agencies which the present century has called into being, and the ever-varying phases of society and speculation which mark the times now passing over us, can be regarded with indifference by none. The most available, and to many the only accessible source of information on these topics, is the newspaper. We trust therefore that while we are striving to prove our sincerity in the wish we have expressed, by doing all in our power to secure its fulfilment, we shall ourselves be cheered by the consciousness that our efforts are successful resulting from the desiderated increase of our subscription list.

Watch-Night.

Our usual Watch-night services were held in the old Argyle St. Chapel, where a very large assemblage had convened to unite in these solemn acts of worship, which the speedy termination of the past, and close proximity of another year naturally called forth in every thoughtful bosom.—Some time before the appointed hour had arrived very few seats in the body of the chapel were left unoccupied, while the galleries were becoming literally crowded. The Rev. Mr. Brownell commenced the services by giving out an appropriate hymn, after which being sung, and having engaged in prayer, we were privileged in listening to one of the most solemn expositions of the word of God, that we ever heard delivered. Taking for his text the 7th verse of the 4th Chapter of the 2nd Epistle of Peter, "the end of all things is at hand, be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer," he stated that while this prayer doubtless had reference, as well to the termination of the nationality of the Jewish people—as to that awful moment when the last trump having sounded, and the dead awakened, the world and all things appertaining thereto should be eternally destroyed, it might also be legitimately considered as a warning and admonition immediately concerning each one present.

No one could assert at what moment the strongest thread of life would be severed, and the spirit ushered into the presence of the Majesty on high. The most vigorous—those who bid the fairest to mingle in the joys of earth for many years to come—were often hurried the most suddenly over "the dark valley and the shadow of death." And even viewing the utmost period of man's earthly existence, how deeply do the three or four score years allotted to him sink into insignificance, when contrasted with that boundless space beyond the shores of time. Even in this point of view, how true it is that "the end of all things is at hand." How appropriate then is it at this period, like the traveller, who, after enduring much fatigue and many difficulties, has reached a high eminence, turns round to view the precipitous path up which he has just come, and then looks forward, nerving himself to encounter the dangers which are yet to be surmounted, to take a retrospect of the past, and rendering heartfelt gratitude to the bountiful donor of all blessings, vow unto God, that whether life continue till the lines of age are mantling the brow, and sight and memory fail,—or whether suddenly, while youth and fond anticipation conceal impending danger, we are summoned to participate in the scenes of an eternal world,—under all circumstances we will be his, and his devotedly. He pictured in the most thrilling language the awful position of the sinner who stands unconsciously tottering on the brink of the gulf of deathless woe, and most faithfully and affectionately besought all to be sober, and watch unto prayer.

The Rev. Mr. Steward followed, and was listened to most attentively while he warned all that there was no ground for the hope of receiving pardon in the future—"now was the accepted time, now was the day of salvation";—after whom, the Rev. Father in the Ministry, Mr. Bennet, having delivered a short exhortation, the congregation prostrated itself before the great Supreme, and each one poured forth, in silent prayer, the feelings of his heart. Never do we remember being present at a similar service when such a large assemblage appeared, individually, so impressed with the awful solemnity of the occasion.—*Communicated.*

Wesleyan Sabbath Schools.

The following gratifying report of the Committee of the Halifax Wesleyan Sabbath School Society, read at the Meeting on Friday evening the 22nd inst., has been sent to us for insertion. It will be observed that there is a debt still due the Treasurer, and that funds are required for the purchase of new books for the Libraries of the Schools. There will be no difficulty, we apprehend, in raising the amount desired to relieve the Society from debt, and to enable the Committee to replenish suitably the libraries. It has been usual in previous years to hold a public anniversary meeting of the Sabbath School Society.—This was dispensed with the present season; but sermons were preached on behalf of the Institution in the Grafton Street and Brunswick Street Churches. In the former, the Rev. J. B. Brownell delivered an urgent appeal to an overflowing congregation on the evening of Sunday the 10th ult. In the latter, the Rev. Professor King, as already noticed, occupied the pulpit and ably advocated the claims of youth.

REPORT.

The Committee of the Halifax Wesleyan Sabbath School Society, at their sixth Anniversary of the Society, beg to lay before you a statement of their proceedings for the past year.

In consequence of the large sum due the Treasurer at the close of last year, the Committee deemed it their duty to cause a more than usual effort to be made to raise funds, they therefore requested the Collectors to lay the matter before the subscribers in making the collections, and solicit an increase of last or previous years subscription, and they are now happy in being able to say (as the Treasurer's account will show) that the effort was not in vain.

The amount received by the Treasurer from all sources has been £41 1s. 11d, the expenditure has been £24 11s. 11d., leaving a balance still due the Treasurer of £7 8s. 1d. An amount due the Wesleyan Book Room of £6 18s. has been paid since the Treasurer's account was handed in; and the Committee are not now aware of any further demands against the Schools unsettled.

The Library's of both Schools, which for some time past have not been replenished, are now much in need of new Books; and the sum of £20 at least should be appropriated for that purpose, which sum, in addition to what may be required for ordinary purposes, such as rewards, (judging from the liberality heretofore exhibited by subscribers,) the Committee have no doubt will be collected without much difficulty.

The following is the return of the number of Scholars, Teachers, &c., attached to each School at present under the charge of this Society:—

Grafton Street School—1 Superintendent, 1 Secretary, 2 Librarians, 27 Teachers, 196 Scholars, (average attendance 120), also a Library of 600 vols.

Brunswick Street School—1 Superintendent, 1 Secretary, 4 Librarians, 34 Teachers, 295 Scholars, (average attendance 200), also a Library of 800 vols.

This statement does not show any increase in the number of Teachers and Scholars as compared with last years report, but the Committee are pleased in having it in their power to report that the Schools are prospering, and that the Teachers generally are religiously qualified for, and faithfully discharging their duties, having for their object the scriptural profit of the souls committed to their charge, and feeling the responsibility of their position as religious instructors of the young.

It is also gratifying to the Committee to be able to state that during the past year evidences have not been wanting of God's special favour and blessing. Many of the children, particularly among the Female Bible Classes of both Schools, have experienced religion, and are now members of Society.

The following resolutions were then passed:—

Moved by Mr. Samuel Black, seconded by Mr. George Ritchie, Senr.:

That the report now read be adopted and published, and that this meeting gratefully records its obligations to the giver of all good for the measure of his favour and blessing manifested toward the Wesleyan Sabbath Schools in this city during the past year.

Moved by Sergeant Thompson, seconded by Mr. Robinson:

That the thanks of this meeting are hereby given to the Sabbath School Committee, the Officers and Teachers of the Schools, and to the friends and supporters of the Society, for their services during the past year, and that the following gentlemen be appointed as members of the Committee for the year ensuing—

Messrs. M. G. Black, Senr., George Ritchie, Senr., Edward Billing, Wm. Full, James Hills, Edward Jost, Joseph Bell, S. F. Bares, S. L. Shannon, Jas. B. Morrow, M. G. Black, Jr., H. D. Frost, Adam Hemmeon, T. A. Anderson, Wm. B. Hamilton.

J. H. ANDERSON, *Treasurer.*
GEO. H. STARR, *Secretary.*

House of Refuge.

In May, 1853, a Circular was published with the signature of Twelve Protestant Clergymen, proposing that Funds should be raised for the procuring and putting under proper regulation in this City, "a *House of Refuge*," for penitent Females, and *of safety* for those whose homeless condition exposes them to the dangers of a vicious life. Good grounds were assigned for making the attempt.

At a meeting held in consequence of this Appeal, in Dalhousie College, in July, it was unanimously "Resolved that a strenuous effort should be made to reclaim erring and outcast Females," and a committee appointed to prepare a Constitution. At a Public Meeting held in the same place in August, a Constitution and rules were adopted, and a committee of Management appointed.

COMMITTEE.

WILLIAM LAWSON, ESQ.
T. A. S. DEWOLFE, ESQ.
HON. M. B. ALMON,
J. W. RITCHIE, ESQ.
HON. J. W. JOHNSTON,
CHARLES ROBSON, ESQ.

Treasurer—A. M. UNIACKE, ESQ.
Secretary—REV. P. G. MCGREGOR.

The House was opened in Jan'y 1854, under the care of MRS. WILSON, whose judicious and and affectionate management of those under her care, has secured the full confidence of the committee; and after the lapse of nearly a year the results have been much more favourable than those acquainted with the difficulties to be overcome had ventured to anticipate.

Numerically these results may be stated very briefly for the past 11 months.

10 have been received at different dates.

5 left and 6 remain in the House; one having returned.

The 5 who left are accounted for as follows:

1 rejected for insubordination.

1 Left in consequence of having two children to provide for. She preserves a grateful recollection of the benefit received at the House: and frequently comes to attend the Religious Services.

2 Left without liberty, but not to return to their former life. One went to the Country—the other took refuge in the Poor's Asylum; from which, on her earnest application, she has again been received into the Refuge.

1 After a trial of 11 months, during which she acted with much propriety, has been received as a servant into a respectable family, where she enjoys the privileges of domestic worship. She now attends a Bible Class, and faithfully discharges the duties of her situation.

6 Are now in the House. They are all well behaved, obedient, and industrious, engaged in hat making, sewing, and similar employment. A short time each day is devoted to Education in Reading, Writing, &c.

Rev. Mr. Dunn conducts Social Worship on the Lord's day, as regularly as possible. Messrs. G. N. Gordon, and Francis Johnson, hold religious services twice every week, generally on Tuesdays and Fridays. On all other days Mrs. Wilson conducts domestic worship, morning and evening at specified hours.

To the gentlemen mentioned above, the Committee feel under great obligations as well as the Ladies' Committee, who keep up a regular visitation, aid the Superintendant, and give council to the inmates, invoking the blessing of God's Holy Spirit to render all their efforts effectual.

The expenditure for the year has nearly exhausted the funds at the disposal of the Committee, although the strictest economy has been observed, and an appeal is now made to those who have not yet contributed to furnish the means of prosecuting the enterprise for another year, when, if still successful, a Society may be organized to provide permanent support.

The Committee know, that by the blessing of God on their humble efforts, some poor degraded outcasts have been restored to a respectable way of living, while they are not without hope that from some earnest hearts within their House of Refuge, the cry has ascended to the Throne of Grace, "God be merciful to me a sinner," and that by such, the Resolution has been formed to return to the Lord, who will have mercy, and to our God, who will abundantly pardon.

Christian friends, who are blessed with religious privileges and happy homes, pass not by on the other side! Come and help us to provide a home for the outcast, and to save the fallen, by furnishing the means of sustaining this Benevolent Effort.

By order of the Committee.
P. G. MCGREGOR, Secretary.

Religious Prospects in France.

Paris, November 10, 1854.

GENTLEMEN,—I avail myself of your columns to communicate a few items of information upon the state and prospects of our Church in this city, and of the cause of God in general. From other parts of the empire you receive from time to time, grievous tidings touching a persecution which is weekly assuming more threatening aspects. It is to be feared that the present is only its incipient stage, and that it is destined to attain dimensions which at this hour the most suspecting cannot anticipate. At present the various Protestant bodies assailed take a patient, suffering attitude; but should the efforts of the Jesuits to annoy and crush those whom they call heretics go on unchecked, I dare predict that a day of religious struggle, must come upon France. The timely interference of the Emperor may avert it, but at present there is small hope of this. Popery is in the ascendent. She flaunts her gorgeous but polluted robes in high places, and some look on and are dazzled and deluded. Under the influence of marked success she waxes bold and arrogant, by the very extravagance of her pretensions seeking to defy and confound every opponent. Her claims are not to be measured by human standards; to reason with her is in vain. As a celebrated orator said recently in the Madeleine, with a triumphant flourish of the arm, after giving certain instances of divine interference on the part of the Virgin Mother:—"Talk of argument and logic," "these things don't admit of argument, *they are facts*."

But whatever Jesuitism may recommend to those in power, may we not hope that France is too far advanced ever to admit of another dark series of wide spread systematic cruelties to enthrall the conscience, and judgment, and feeling of the people? Will intelligence, and thought, and conviction never be respected? Shall the most sacred rights of man ever be exposed to oppression and outrage? From the state of things in France it would seem that we make small advance toward religious liberty and justice. We must go deep into the dark past to find a parallel to events now transpiring. Pastors ruthlessly tore from their flocks, and sent to take their places with felons; places of worsip suddenly closed upon those whose highest crime is a desire to sing a hymn or to hear a chapter expounded; with all the lesser forms of indignity and wrong which it is thought virtuous to offer to all who dissent from Rome. Is it to be credited that, in our own day, these things are transpiring in France? Let no one doubt them. An instance of the first order is only a few days old. Two Ministers and two Schoolmasters have just been cast into prison, full particulars of which you will doubtless have from you vigilant Correspondent Z. Talk of the improvement in the spirit of Popery! that she no longer sanctions force in spreading her creed! What a shallow pretence in the light of living facts!

I am happy to state that whilst persecution wastes various parts of the provinces, no one points an offensive finger against evangelical efforts in the capital. There is too much Protestant influence from England and America. Our prefet too hapens to belong to the Reformed Church. Our own Wesleyan cause is peaceful and prosperous. On Monday, the 9th of Octr., our Quarterly Meeting was held at St. Denis, which revealed a state of things truly encouraging, in the increase of members, hearers, and a large augmentation in our finances. Our limits are two strait, and some efforts must be made to secure a more commodious place of worship.

A subject of high importance was brought before the meeting, and discussed with interest. I allude to the providing of additional accommodation for English hearers of the Gospel during the Exhibition of 1855. At the suggestion of one of our Ministers it was resolved to seek a suitable place for religious services, and by means of an advertisement in the religious journals of England, Scotland, and America, to request those Ministers who may resolve to visit Paris during the Exhibition, and who may be willing to officiate while here, to state by letter the probable period at which they may intend to make the visit. By taking advantage of their presence and services, the Gospel may be preached to thousands, and Christian ordinances enjoyed by many devout souls who would otherwise be deprived of these high privileges. A committee has been named and a secretary will be appointed to carry out these intentions.

We have just closed our Anniversary services on behalf of Missions. On Sunday, the 22nd ultimo, two sermons were preached in English by Rev Jos. Hine Rylance to crowded congregations. Collections considerably in advance of former years. In the afternoon, the Rev. J. Hocart preached the annual sermon in French to an attentive congregation. On Wednesday evening, the 25th, the public meeting was held, Dr. Parmly, of New York, in the chair. Addresses were delivered by the chairman, the Rev. Mr. Vanduren, the Rev. J. Hocart, the Rev. J. P. Cook, and the Rev. J. H. Rylance.

On Friday evening, the 29th, an interesting meeting was held in French, when the cause of Christian Missions was advocated by Monsieurs les Pasteurs Bost, Valette, Hocart, and Cook.—Altogether the service has been highly satisfactory.

Our services has been marked by an unusual large number of visitors this season. The fashionable parts of the city—the Boulevards, Champs Elysees, &c.—have been literally thronged with English and Americans. In the neighbourhood of the large Hotels you might almost fancy yourself in Regent-street, or Piccadilly. The growth of English influence is very striking. "English spoken" meets the eye at every turn; some of the cabmen accost you "A coach, sir?" a coach, sir?" The other evening, walking in the garden of the Tuileries, I was gratified by hearing the Royal band strike up "Rule Britannia" For a moment I forgot that I was in a foreign land. Would that our influence had a higher moral and religious effect upon the people with whom we are so firmly and intimately allied. I fear the intercourse is working anything but a favorable change in our national feelings and principles. We have brought them our horse-races, regattas, &c., and in return our countymen carry back the looseness of French morals. A comparatively small proportion of English Protestants seem to regard the Sabbath, or any religious ordinance, while in Paris. This is sad; but is there not danger in the highest walks of life? Are we to believe the statement of a London journal that a special train carried the *Guide* Band to Windsor Castle on the Sabbath? Then why complain of a journey over to Versailles on the same sacred day to see the *Grandes Eaux*? If this be the fruit of our alliance, if our country is to be brought, under the example of the highest power of the realm, openly to set at nought the laws of Heaven, it may be justly questioned if the crippling of Russia will afford any adequate compensation. One day we fast and offer prayers; another we defy the power we professed to supplicate. There is no apology for such instances of irreligion; their influence must be disastrous upon the nation at large. For the soldiers of the Emperor Napoleon to do homage to our Queen may prove the cordiality subsisting between the two powers: but surely, in courting or accepting the favour of man, our rulers are not prepared openly to violate the precepts of God.—*Corr. of Watchman.*

Newly Discovered Work of Charles Wesley.

The literary and Wesleyan world have been surprised by the appearance of a poetical version of nearly the whole of the Psalms of David, or as the *Watchman* thinks, the work would more correctly be designated Hymns founded upon, together with Paraphrases of, a number of the Psalms of David, by Charles Wesley. Our contemporary notices the publication of this Poetical work with the following remarks:—

It is strange that such a treasure should have been hidden so long, and the first question that would arise is, may we indeed rely upon it, that it is sterling metal, and from the right mint? We think that he who carefully peruses, will acknowledge at once that it bears the stamp of Charles Wesley. Having made some inquiry, we find that those whose judgment is of most authority on such a question, are of opinion that we have here a genuine work of the poet of our sanctuaries, and that a very considerable part of it is perfectly new. We will allow Mr. Fish himself to give the history of this publication. He says that the volume of metrical Psalms now presented to the public—

"Is taken, chiefly, from a manuscript in the handwriting of the immortal poet of Methodism, whose stanzas will continue to be sung with pleasure and delight through all succeeding generations, till 'there shall be time no longer.' The manuscript to which we refer was undoubtedly at one period the property of Lady Huntingdon. It contains her book-plate, with this inscription: 'Selina, Countess Dowager of Huntingdon;' and the inference is, that it was presented to her ladyship by its highly-gifted author some time while she was on terms of close intimacy with him and his brother John. To those who ask, as some have done, 'Where has this manuscript be en sleeping so long, and what was its pillow?' we answer, The shelves of a college; but what college, shall be nameless; although the binding of the manuscript clearly indicates from whence it came. From the archives of that college, along with duplicates of books, this manuscript found its way into the London market; and it is believed that neither the vendors nor the buyer knew what it was. It was under these circumstances that the editor met with it; and he at once recognised the handwriting, and was happy to gain possession of so valuable a treasure. He has always viewed this event as providential, as it might have fallen into other hands, ignorant of the fact that it was the work of Charles Wesley; and thus it might have been lost to the church and to the world to all generations."

The volume contains also a few metrical translations or paraphrases by other members of the Wesley Family. Besides the Introduction, the Editor has supplied lists of entire or partial versions of the Psalms. We are too much obliged to Mr. Fish for this present to the Church to feel inclined to discuss with him some questions which are raised in his introductory pages. We believe that no version yet produced is literal enough to be accepted as a full transfusion of the spirit of the Psalms, and at the same time musical enough to satisfy the ear. Thankful as we are for that portion of the present publication which is new, we almost wish that it had not been called "a poetical *version*," for such a title does not suggest its real character and value. As an instance of what we mean, let us observe the rendering of the prophetic verses quoted by St. Peter on the Day of Pentecost from Psalm xvi.—

"Wherefore my heart doth now rejoice;
I wait to hear thy quickening voice;
My flesh exults in hope;
Thou wilt not leave me in the grave;
Sure confidence in thee I have.
That thou wilt raise me up.

"As sure as God brought back our Head,
Our great good Shepherd, from the dead,
I shall right early rise;
My soul shall see corruption see;
My soul, O Lord, shall rise with thee,
And mount above the skies."

The prophecy is here in great part obscured, and though the whole metrical rendering forms a beautiful hymn, it is not "a poetic version," of the Psalm.

The Eightieth Psalm is "adapted to the Church of England," and will be read by many of her sons with pleasure, not the less perhaps, in some cases, because it contains a sarcasm on Presbyterian Scotland. The poet says of the Anglican church:—

"Her boughs she stretched from sea to sea,
And reach'd to frozen Scotia's shore.
(They once revered the hierarchy,
And bless'd the mitre's sacred power.)"

We doubt whether the "sacred power" of the "mitre" has often been blessed in Scotland since the days of John Knox. This verse is very like what Charles Wesley might have been expected to have written, but Mr. Fish will own that is no proper rendering, or even accommodation, of Asaph. We beg again to thank the Editor for his acceptable contribution to the hymnology of the Church, which will receive a large and valuable accession in the volume thus happily found and published.

The Battle of Inkermann.

In our last issue some extracts from the correspondence of the *Times* relating to the engagement of the 25th Oct., were erroneously headed as if referring to the Battle of the 5th Nov.—Below we give a portion of the correspondent's letter on the events of this memorable day. He says:—

We have been prone to believe that no foe could ever withstand the British soldier wielding his favorite weapon, and that at Maida alone did the enemy ever cross bayonets with him; but, at the battle of Inkermann, not only did we charge in vain—not only were desperate encounters between masses of men maintained with the bayonet alone—but we were obliged to resist bayonet to bayonet the Russian infantry, again and again as they charged us with incredible fury and determination.

It was six o'clock when all the head-quarter camp was roused by roll after roll of musketry on the right, and by sharp reports of field guns. Lord Raglan was informed that the enemy were advancing in force, and soon after seven o'clock he rode toward the scene of action, followed by his staff, and accompanied by Sir John Burgoyne, Brigadier General Strangways, R.A., and several aides-de-camp.

As they approached the volume of sound, the steady unceasing thunder of gun and rifle, and musket, told that the engagement was at its height. The shell of the Russians, thrown with great precision, burst so thickly among the troops that the noise resembled the continuous discharge of cannon, and the massive fragments inflicted death on every side. One of the first things the Russians did, when a break in the fog enabled them to see the camp of the second division, was to open fire on the tents with round shot and large shell, and tent after tent was blown down, torn to pieces, or sent into the air, while the men engaged in camp duties, and the unhappy horses tethered up in the lines were killed or mutilated.

Gambier was at once ordered to get up two heavy guns, 18 pounders, on the rising ground, and to reply to a fire which our light guns were utterly inadequate to meet. As he was engaged in this duty, and was exerting himself with Capt. Daguilar, to urge them forward, Col. Gambier was severely, but not dangerously wounded, and was obliged to retire. His place was taken by Lieut. Col. Dickson, and the conduct of that officer in directing the fire of those two pieces, which had the most marked effect in deciding the fate of the day, was such as to elicit the admiration of the army, and as to deserve the thanks of every man engaged in the bloody fray. But long ere these guns had been brought up, there had been a great slaughter of the enemy, and a heavy loss of our own men. Our generals could not see where to go. They could not tell where the enemy were—from what side they were coming, and where going to.

In darkness, gloom and rain they had to lead our lines through thick scrubby bushes and thorny brakes, which broke our ranks and irritated the men, while every pace was marked by a corpse or man wounded from an enemy, whose position was only indicated by the rattle of musketry and the rush of ball and shell.

Sir George Cathcart, seeing his men disordered by the fire of a large column of Russian infantry, which was outflanking them, while portions of the various regiments comprising his division were maintaining an unequal struggle with an overwhelming force, rode down into the ravine in which they were engaged, to rally them. He perceived at the same time that the Russians had actually gained possession of a portion of the hill in rear of one flank of his division, but still his stout heart never failed him for a moment. He rode at their head encouraging them, and when a cry arose that the ammunition was failing, he said coolly, "Have you not got your bayonets?"

As he led on his men it was observed that another body of men had gained the top of the hill behind them on the right, but it was impossible to tell whether they were friends or foes. A deadly volley was poured on our scattered regiments. Sir George cheered them and led them back up the hill, but a flight of bullets passed where he rode, and he fell from his horse close to the Russian columns. The men had to fight their way through a host of enemies, and lost fearfully. They were surrounded and bayoneted on both sides, and won their desperate way up the hill, with diminished ranks, and the loss of near 500 men. Sir George Cathcart's body was afterwards recovered, with a bullet wound in the head, and three bayonet wounds in the body.

In this struggle, where the Russians fought with the greatest ferocity, and bayoneted the wounded as they fell, Colonel Swyny, of the 63rd, a most gallant officer, Lieutenant Dowling, 20th, Major Wynne, 68th, and other officers, whose names will be found in the Gazette, met their death, and Brigadier Goldie of the 57th regiment, received the wounds, of which he has since died. The conflict on the right was equally uncertain, and equally bloody. In the light division, the 88th got so far into the front that they were surrounded and put into utter confusion, when four companies of the 77th, under Major Straton, charged the Russians, broke them, and relieved their comrades.

The fight had not long commenced, ere it was evident that the Russians had received orders to fire at all mounted officers. Sir G. Brown was struck by a shot which went through his arm and struck his side. I saw with regret his pale and sternly composed face, as his body was borne by me on a litter early in the day, his white hair flickering in the breeze, for I knew that we had lost the services of a good soldier that day. Further to the right a contest, the like of which, perhaps, never took place before, was going on between the Guards and dense columns of Russian infantry of five times their number. The Guards had charged them and driven them back, when they perceived that the Russians had outflanked them.

They were out of ammunition too. They were uncertain whether there were friends or foes in the rear. They had no support, no reserve, and they were fighting with the bayonet against an enemy who stoutly contested every inch of ground, when the corps of another Russian column appeared on their right, far in the rear. Then a fearful *mitraille* was poured into them, and volleys of rifle and musketry. The guards were broken; they had lost twelve officers, who fell in the field; they had left one-half their number on the ground, and they retired along the lower road of the valley. They were soon reinforced, however, and speedily avenged their loss. The French advanced about ten o'clock, and turned the flank of the enemy.

The second division in the centre of the line were hardly pressed. The 41st Regiment, in particular, were exposed to a terrible fire, and the 95th were in the middle of such disorganising volleys that they only mustered 64 men when paraded at 2 o'clock. In fact, the whole of the division only mustered 300 men when assembled by Major Eman in rear of their camp, when the fight was over. The regiments did not take their colors into the battle, but the officers, nevertheless, were picked off wherever they went, and it did not require the color staff to indicate their presence. Our ambulances were soon filled, and ere 9 o'clock they were busily engaged in carrying loads of men all covered with blood and groaning to the rear of the line.

At half-past 9 o'clock, Lord Raglan and his staff assembled on a knoll, in the vain hope of getting a glimpse of the battle which was raging below them. Here General Strangway was mortally wounded, and I am told met his death in the following way:—A shell came right in among the staff—it exploded in Captain Somerset's horse, ripping him open; portion of the shell tore off the leather overalls of Captain Somerset's trousers, it then struck down Captain Gordon's horse and killed him at once, and then blew away General Strangway's leg, so that it hung by a shred of flesh and a bit of cloth from the skin.

The poor old gentleman never moved a muscle of his face. He said merely, in a gentle voice, "Will any one be kind enough to lift me off my horse?" He was then taken down and laid on the ground, while his life blood ebbed fast, and at last he was carried to the rear. But the gallant old man had not sufficient strength to undergo an operation, and in two hours he sunk to rest, leaving behind him a memory which will ever be held dear by every officer and man of the army.

The fight about the battery to which I have alluded in a former part of my letter was most sanguinary. It was found that there was no banquette to stand upon, and that the men inside could not fire upon the enemy. The Russians advanced mass after mass of infantry. As fast as one column was broken and repulsed, another took its place. For three long hours, 8500 British infantry contended against at least four times their number. No wonder that at times they were compelled to retire. But they came to the charge again.

At one time the Russians succeeded in getting up close to the guns of Captain Wodehouse's and of Captain Turner's batteries, in the gloom of the morning.