

Obituary Notices.

Mr. EDDY.—How wonderfully mysterious are the ways of Providence. At the very moment when many of the youth of our country are anticipating long life and great enjoyment, they are, unexpectedly and at a short notice, removed to another world.

The next is JAMES BATH, only son of Robert Bath, Esq., in the 16th year of his age. James was a promising youth, and had made very respectable progress in his studies.

The next is MISS ANNE PARKER, an adopted daughter of Robert Parker, Esq., Granville, who has been removed from the scenes of time, in the twenty-fourth year of her age.

Letter from Newfoundland.

DEAR SIR,—Feeling sure that the readers of the much prized "Provincial Wesleyan" through our own and other affiliated Conferences, are deeply interested in the prosperity of God's cause in Newfoundland, your correspondent forwards this communication in reference to the recent meeting of the Ministers at their Annual District Committee.

The Approaching Conference.

- ORDER OF MEETING OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEES IN THE SCHOOL ROOM OF GERMAIN STREET, QUEBEC, ST. JOHN'S, N.B.
ORDER OF CONFERENCE FOR 1861.—The Committees preparatory to the next Conference are appointed to meet in St. John's as follows:
1. Stationing Committee.—Thursday, June 20th, at 9 o'clock, A. M.
2. Book Committee.—Friday, June 21st, at 9 A. M.
3. Theological Institution Committee.—Saturday, June 22nd, at 9 A. M.
4. Auxiliary Missionary Society Committee.—Saturday, June 22nd, at 3 P. M.
5. Board of Trustees of the Mount Allison Academy.—Monday, June 24th, at 9 A. M.
6. Contingent Fund.—Tuesday, June 25th, at 9 A. M.
7. Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund.—Tuesday, June 25th, at 3 P. M.
N. B.—The Secretaries of the several Funds are directed to meet in St. John on Thursday, June 20th, for the purpose of preparing for their several Committees the accounts of their several departments.
2. The Assistant Secretaries are requested to attend at the same time, for the purpose of consulting with the District Minutes various lists, &c., which will facilitate the business of the committees and of the subsequent Conference.
3. Special Notice to Chairmen of Districts.—They are particularly requested to bring, in time for the meeting of the Secretaries of the several Funds, on Thursday, June 20th, the necessary copies of the District Minutes, the Circuit accounts of each Circuit in their respective Districts, and the Minutes of the Financial District Meetings.

The Conference in St. John.

The Wesleyan Methodist of Great Britain have two Connexional festivals in the course of the year—the Anniversary of the Missionary Society in May, and the Conference, which is held about the beginning of August. Many of the friends from the country, besides those who are specially concerned in these annual assemblies, are wont to attend, and by their converse with one another, their attendance on the religious services, and their fuller acquaintance with Methodism and its Ministers, are enabled to return to their homes with a more intelligent and pure piety. We would hope that the meeting of our own Conference, which embosoms for us two of both these occasions, may be as

increasingly a point of attraction, and the means of a blessing to our members in the country.—The approaching Conference, it may be expected, will be peculiarly interesting. The city of St. John, with its three Circuits, its six churches, and its membership of over a thousand persons, must always prove a pleasant place for sojourn or for visit to the followers of John Wesley.—But now, when it may be presumed that, in addition to the REV. MR. BOYCE, our esteemed President from England, we shall be favoured with representatives from the Canada Conference, and from every part of our own growing Connexion, the interest of the occasion will probably not be surpassed by any Conference which has yet been held in Eastern British America.

It is an exceedingly gratifying fact that the Wesleyan Churches in St. John have recently been receiving showers of blessing. We had heard of this work from various sources for some time past, and all accounts concurred in representing it as more than ordinarily deep, solemn, and subduing. The communication from the REV. J. MCMURRAY, which we recently inserted, speaks of it in the same terms, and intimates that the sacred impulse has as yet suffered no abatement. If we do not greatly mistake, some of the Ministers from a distance will have good news to tell respecting the revival of religion on their Circuits; and if they bring assurance to the flame already kindled, the influence upon the religious services of the Conference, and then upon our work generally, may be of the most hallowed and beneficial character.

In addition to the morning and evening preaching, which generally occurs daily, and of which doubtless the Plan of Appointments will in due time give us particulars, there will be other services of more than usual importance. Such, for instance, as the CONFERENCE PRAYER MEETING, which takes place on the first day of its session, and the MISSIONARY MEETING, which, by our constitution, is fixed for the evening of the same day. On the following Sabbath the LOVE FEAST is generally held, and the SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER is administered at the conclusion of the evening sermon. The ORDINATION SERVICE generally follows an evening or two afterwards, when the accepted Candidates are accustomed to relate their Christian experience and call to the Ministry, and to receive not only imposition of hands, but a Charge, with reference to their new position and duties.

While anticipating these various exercises with delight, we cannot but look forward to them also with a tinge of melancholy feeling, by reflecting on the changes which have transpired in our youthful Conference since its sittings were last held in St. John. We remember how active the now sainted DR. KNIGHT was to this occasion; and we think of Messrs. DESBRIAY and CRESLEY who met with their brethren there for the last time, and went forth, the one to end his days of suffering in tranquil resignation, and the other to die at his post, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Nor would we forget, that of the four young men then received into full connexion, the one who appeared most full of vigor, and the likeliest to spend a long life in the service of his blessed Lord. We cannot conceive what changes may occur ere, on a similar occasion, the Conference may meet in St. John, but, anxious rather about our work and its effects, than about its instruments and circumstances, we will ourselves seek and call upon our friends to pray for a richer effusion of the Holy Spirit upon our churches and congregations "that the word of the Lord may run and be glorified."

It is cheering to intimate that our beloved Chairman has the entire confidence and affection of every Minister of the District. His business fact—his entire and anxious attention to the duties of his high office, and to the wants of his brethren, together with his Christian kindness and urbanity, have secured for him the respect and love of all who had the honour to be associated with him in the transaction of the business of the District Meeting.
Our Financial Secretary the Rev. J. S. Pesch, still lives in the affection of all his brethren, who more than ever value his toilsome labours, and admire his qualifications for the position he occupies in our District.
The District Meeting closes with large hopes for the future and with earnest prayer that God may plentifully shed down his Spirit's influence upon every Circuit of this District and of the Conference.
St. John's, Newfield, May 30, 1861.

not equal to those of a few years past;—yet, what our people contribute is not altogether to be judged from their subscriptions toward the support of the ministry—"The Wesleyan Missionary Society"—and the different Connexional Funds, for they are doing much in the erection of Churches, Parsonages, and School Houses.
Our "Connexional organ," the "Provincial Wesleyan," is taken by some of the friends of our people and is highly appreciated. Our Wesleyan Literature and Periodicals are largely circulated. On Thursday, the 23rd inst., at noon, the Ministers attended the "special prayer meeting," which has been regularly held once a week during the past winter in connection with our Society at St. John's. Earnest prayer ascended to God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon this Colony, the Universal Church, and the whole world.

On Friday evening, the 24th inst., a love-feast was held in the "basement" of our spacious Church, which was numerously attended and pervaded with divine influence. Many testified with grateful hearts to the saving and comforting power of the grace of God.
On Saturday morning, the whole of the District waited upon His Excellency, Sir Alexander Bannerman, at Government House, where Sir Alexander and his pious lady received the Ministers with pleasing cordiality and kindness.—His Excellency expressed his thankfulness and gratification at meeting us—testified to the good which had resulted from the labours of the Wesleyan Ministers in the Colony—also his veneration for the founder of Methodism, "John Wesley." Lady Bannerman was pleased to designate our beloved Father, Nightingale, who has been bearing the burden and heat of the day for forty years past in Newfoundland, as "Mr. Patriarch."

On Sabbath day, May 26th, the District had the great pleasure of listening to two excellent sermons; that in the morning from the Rev. C. Comben; subject, "Job's living Redeemer." Job, xiv. 23. In the evening the Rev. E. Brettie preached; subject, "Ministerial solicitude for the Church."—2nd Cor. vi. 1. At the close of the public service, "the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper," was administered to the brethren of the District, and the St. John's Society.
The visit of our esteemed President, the Rev. W. B. Boyce to this city, was highly appreciated, and will be long remembered. The brethren upon arriving at the Capital to attend the District Committee, some of them from isolated and lonely Circuits, were disappointed at not having the pleasure of greeting the President; but cherish the hope that, if it is the will of God, his first visit will prove his last visit to this important Colony.

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ready admitted the Christian obligation of contributing to charitable purposes, and that it endeavoured to give form and distinctness to what was an admitted duty. The argument upon which the Society rested was quite irresistible. The duty of devoting a portion of one's income to works of charity and benevolence being admitted, how ought the Christian to set about the fulfilment of that duty? Clearly in the same manner as a wise man would proceed with regard to the other expenditure of the year. A prudent person could generally estimate with a near approach to accuracy what the receipts of the year would be, and to what purposes they would be devoted; and unless the claims of charity were included in that estimate they were very likely to be either neglected or only imperfectly met. The probability would be that those claims would be dealt with as those for which no actual fund had been provided, and which must therefore, be left to the impulse of the moment. The Society in specifying one-tenth as the proportion to be devoted to God, must not be understood as fixing the maximum amount. It was thought necessary to fix a minimum proportion, and he thought the Society, in naming the tenth part, had proceeded upon very safe, just, and Scriptural ground. Any person who examined the Scriptures with sincerity and candour could not fail to arrive at the conclusion, that wholly independent of, and anterior to, that which was called the Mosaic law and the Jewish economy, just as Christians were called upon to devote a seventh part of their time, so where they required, upon Scriptural precedent, to devote a tenth part of their means to the glory of God. There was another circumstance in connection with the Society which ought not to be forgotten. In the present day there were a great number of charitable institutions of all kinds urging their claims upon the public, and there was to a certain extent rivalry of one another. There was always a danger when the claims of one institution were warmly advocated in any neighbourhood, that other charitable societies should suffer in consequence. A striking example of this was shown during the late severe winter. He had been told that in consequence of the very warm and liberal response to the urgent appeals made to relieve temporal distress, some of the well known and established Societies had suffered to a considerable extent. But one thing could be said of this Society, which could be affirmed of none other in the land, namely, that it was the rival of none, but the auxiliary of all. They did not seek to turn aside any part of the great stream of charity, but on the contrary to enlarge that stream and to open up others, from which every institution in the kingdom would derive benefit. On this consideration he claimed for that Society the support and goodwill of those who were interested in every good work.

The Rev. R. G. Cadler, L. L. D., the Secretary, then read a statement of the origin, history and objects of the Society, together with what had been the means of accomplishing up to the present time.
The Rev. S. Minton, M. A., of Ferry Chapel, said that the question most generally put to the promoters of the Society was, "What need is there for a Society to insist upon the moral duty of giving more than upon any other moral and Christian duty?" His reply was, that other moral and Christian duties were taught by Christ's Ministers in the land, but upon the subject of giving in a stated proportion to income, Ministers themselves needed conversion. The Church at large was asleep upon the subject, and he believed nothing but organisation would awaken her to a sense of her duty and responsibility. He did not think any one man could do this, nor that isolated efforts would succeed in producing the desired result. He confessed that he had at first shrunk from the idea of the Weekly Offering, as savouring of High Churchism, but after giving to the plan the most earnest consideration, and after seeing it in operation both in Liverpool and London, he had become greatly impressed in its favour. Though the plan of the Weekly Offering was new to him, he had always felt a duty of giving in direct proportion to income. But in this respect he had been undeceived, for at the conference held last Saturday two gentlemen—one a leading Minister and the other a barrister of eminence—had said that until the Society had brought the subject before their minds, that idea had not presented itself to them. He believed also that it had never occurred to tens of thousands of Christian men, and on these grounds he warmly supported the Society.

The Rev. W. Arthur said he could not agree that Christians were generally awake to the duty of giving according to a stated proportion of their income. To many, he had no doubt, that idea had never occurred, but they had not carried it into practice. Most persons adopted what good men taught, though they often took it in a more vague and unsatisfactory sense. They were told that under the Christian dispensation the law was love. That was perfectly true. No man was bound to give away what was required for the support of his family or the payment of his debts. The general and vague idea was that, after satisfying all these demands, a man must give away what he could afford, but that was not the scriptural rule. The scriptural principle was that which was so beautifully laid down in the Levitical dispensation,—"The land is mine," said the Lord. We ought to regard our property as the Lord's with the privilege of charging that property with the support of ourselves and our families. A free property which came into his hands was to be conserved in his own good, the principle of acknowledging God by consecrating the first fruits of it to Him. The difference of doing this at random and at rule no man could fail to perceive. The benevolence which was worthy of appreciation was that which was regulated by a due sense of the value of money; but men were very apt, unless they were benevolent upon system, to think they were giving away a great deal when it was but little. Giving by rule was one of the shortest ways of making a man happy as well as of giving him self-concomitant in one of the great matters of life. The fact that Christians were to be guided by the law of love surely should not be urged as an excuse for their giving less than they would have been called to under the Levitical law.

The Rev. Dr. Candlish said that the great difficulty Ministers had to contend with in preaching for money was that they appeared to be asked to do what they would have been called to do under the Levitical law.
The Chairman said he had given a cheerful assent to the request which had been made to him to preside at the inauguration breakfast of the Systematic Benevolence Society, for two reasons,—the first a personal, the second a local one. The personal reason was, that he always entertained a strong conviction that the principles enunciated by that Society were sound and true, and that it was on these principles alone, that they could look hopefully for the sustained and vigorous maintenance of the charitable institutions of the land. The local reason was that it was in the neighbourhood of the town which he had the honour to represent in Parliament, that the proceedings which led to the institution of that Society had been originated. About ten years ago, a number of gentlemen in the north of Ireland who were of opinion that steps should be taken to bring before the Christian public the duty of contributing to charitable objects in proportion to their means, joined together and offered certain prizes for the best essays upon that subject. Fifty essays were sent in for competition, to five of which prizes were awarded. It was also in the town of Belfast that, at a public meeting, presided over by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, a lecture had been delivered by the Rev. William Arthur upon the same subject—a lecture of which he might say that, for sustained argument, felicity of expression, and the insight which it gave into the subject had never been surpassed. In explaining the objects of the Society he might say, in the first place, that it addressed those who

that Christian churches and Ministers were under deep obligations to the originators of this movement.
The Rev. Dr. Hamilton thought that the objection to any systematic plan in giving would equally apply to the setting apart of stated periods for devotion. It was felt, however, by all Christians, that private devotion would be very likely to become neglected were it not for the system of sitting aside regular periods to its exercise. Organisation was not necessarily antagonistic to vitality, but the reverse. The Evangelical Alliance had not diminished the love of brethren one towards another, and neither, in his opinion, would this Society tend to the promotion of mere formalism in benevolence. Great respect would be rendered by placing the matter fairly before the Christian public, for he believed there was wealth enough in the Church for all the work which God had for the Church to do.
The Rev. J. Graham expressed his warm approval of the Society, and his adhesion to the principle which it sought to establish. He did not think, however, it would be well to insist too strongly upon a tenth part of the income as the proportion which ought to be given away. It must be remembered that the tenth part the Jews set aside for Levitical purposes was the only tenth which they paid, and that there was a tithe of poor rate levied in those days. The tithe was paid as an acknowledgment to God as the Theocratic Governor and Landlord of the soil. The economy, just as Christians were called upon to devote a seventh part of their time, so where they required, upon Scriptural precedent, to devote a tenth part of their means to the glory of God. There was another circumstance in connection with the Society which ought not to be forgotten. In the present day there were a great number of charitable institutions of all kinds urging their claims upon the public, and there was to a certain extent rivalry of one another. There was always a danger when the claims of one institution were warmly advocated in any neighbourhood, that other charitable societies should suffer in consequence. A striking example of this was shown during the late severe winter. He had been told that in consequence of the very warm and liberal response to the urgent appeals made to relieve temporal distress, some of the well known and established Societies had suffered to a considerable extent. But one thing could be said of this Society, which could be affirmed of none other in the land, namely, that it was the rival of none, but the auxiliary of all. They did not seek to turn aside any part of the great stream of charity, but on the contrary to enlarge that stream and to open up others, from which every institution in the kingdom would derive benefit. On this consideration he claimed for that Society the support and goodwill of those who were interested in every good work.

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British Systematic Benevolence Society.

In our last, we reported the first Anniversary of this Society which was held in St. James's Hall on the evening before our publication. On the previous Monday morning a Breakfast meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern. Sir Hugh Cairns, Bart., presided, and was surrounded by the Revs. Dr. McCreik, T. Nolan, W. Bunting, J. R. Reynolds, Dr. Hamilton, W. Arthur, Dr. Morgan, J. Graham, A. M. Henderson, —Boulton, G. Cullen, —Whiting, W. Cardwell, J. Davis, S. Minton, W. Hamilton, Messrs. R. A. McFie, of Liverpool; J. Henderson, of Glasgow; W. Williams, of Huddersfield; Garland, of Redruth; Hawkins, of London; and Dr. Junot, of Switzerland. For the following report we are indebted to the "Patriot":—
The Chairman said he had given a cheerful assent to the request which had been made to him to preside at the inauguration breakfast of the Systematic Benevolence Society, for two reasons,—the first a personal, the second a local one. The personal reason was, that he always entertained a strong conviction that the principles enunciated by that Society were sound and true, and that it was on these principles alone, that they could look hopefully for the sustained and vigorous maintenance of the charitable institutions of the land. The local reason was that it was in the neighbourhood of the town which he had the honour to represent in Parliament, that the proceedings which led to the institution of that Society had been originated. About ten years ago, a number of gentlemen in the north of Ireland who were of opinion that steps should be taken to bring before the Christian public the duty of contributing to charitable objects in proportion to their means, joined together and offered certain prizes for the best essays upon that subject. Fifty essays were sent in for competition, to five of which prizes were awarded. It was also in the town of Belfast that, at a public meeting, presided over by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, a lecture had been delivered by the Rev. William Arthur upon the same subject—a lecture of which he might say that, for sustained argument, felicity of expression, and the insight which it gave into the subject had never been surpassed. In explaining the objects of the Society he might say, in the first place, that it addressed those who

Gambia.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Robert Dow, dated Bathurst, March 19th, 1861.
When last I wrote, we were called to witness the active preparations that the Government were making for the war at Badiboo; but now, thank God, it is all over. Before the departure of the expedition, it was one continued scene of excitement and bustle in the colony, and the war was the grand topic of conversation.
The Government sent up, I believe, about eighteen hundred men, accompanied by three Her Majesty's ships of war, viz.—the "Argonaut," "Falcon," and the "Torch" gun-boat. There was also a numerous body of native volunteers. The whole force went by water. Several transports were taken up by the Government as transports. I suppose there never was such an exciting scene witnessed in the Gambia before.
After their arrival upon the scene of action, our troops soon effected a landing. Report says that the enemy fought very bravely, but were unable to stand before our troops. A large body of men, both seamen and marines, were landed from the man-of-war, and these, with the 1st and 2nd West India regiments, carried the day.
I believe that our army destroyed by fire every village and town they came near. After they had taken some of the principal places, and the two sons of the King, together with the Commander-in-chief of his army, had fallen, the enemy sued for peace. The conditions were then drawn up and agreed upon, the war ceased, and the shedding of blood was mercifully stayed.—Missionary Notice.
A new and greatly improved edition of Dr. Kitchin's "Cyclopaedia of Biblical Literature" is in preparation by Messrs. Adam & Charles Black, of Edinburgh. It will be edited by Dr. Williams Lindsay Alexander, with the assistance of able scholars and divines, and will contain the latest results of investigation—philological, topographical, exegetical, etc.—in Biblical subjects.

General Intelligence.

A NOVA SCOTIAN IN THE AMERICAN ARMY.—(From the Pictou Colonial Standard.)—The Nova Scotian Abroad has become quite a famous character. In the subjoined paragraph which we copy from an American paper, we find another instance of the fact that Nova Scotians will distinguish themselves when an opportunity offers. Mr. Tremain, whose knowledge of telegraphing proved of such signal service to the American Government in the time of our war, is a son of J. L. Tremain, Esq., of Port Hood, C. B., and holds the rank of Color Sergeant in Co. G, of the Massachusetts 5th Regiment.

The dwelling house of Mr. John B. Campbell, Spring Garden Road, was broken into on Saturday morning last. It appears that the burglar broke open the hall door, and having directed himself to his boots, was proceeding to ransack the house, no doubt, when he was met by Mr. Campbell in the entry, who had been aroused by the noise. The intruder quickly vanquished, forgetting to carry his boots, which he had left at the front door when he entered.—Colonist.
The Eighth—Saturday was pretty generally observed as a holiday, and the display of bunting from the houses and the blowing of whistles quite a gay appearance. The day was celebrated by the Volunteer Artillery firing a salute of 112 guns at sunrise. About ten o'clock the Volunteer companies, headed by their band, paraded through the streets, and were followed for the prize cup of the Yacht Club started, and after a spirited contest, the first class cup was won by the new sloop Waver. After the race the owners of the Waver entertained the members of the Club at a repast on board the yacht. The excursion trips by rail, and the run up the Bath in the Neptune, were both well patronised. The anniversary passed off very pleasantly.—Colonist.

The DOCKYARD.—We learn from the Reporter that repairs are soon to be taken to render our Dockyard more complete in all its arrangements than it has been hitherto. Several very important improvements are to be added, particularly in the different machinery and appliances for the repairing of men-of-war steamships. We also understand that it is contemplated in a short time to build an extensive machine shop in the yard. Chase the Photographer has been entrusted to photograph the most prominent features in the naval yard, for transmission to the Home authorities. It may be reasonably inferred that the visit of the Prince of Wales to our shores has in some measure contributed to this movement, the admiral's visit to our harbor combines for a naval station what have forced itself on the observations of the Duke of Newcastle, and the other members of the Privy Council. We are sure that our worthy Admiral who has such large experience in those matters, must be impressed with the immense advantages presented by this port over that of Bermuda, and are sure that any information he may be called upon to furnish to the Home authorities on this subject, our interests will be fairly represented.—Col.
DIABOLICAL OUTRAGE.—On Saturday evening, between 9 and 10 o'clock, Miss Allan, an aged widow woman, who at that time was on the road near her own dwelling, was assaulted by an Indian, who knocked her down, and who, while in a state of unconsciousness, was guilty no doubt, of the most deacon-like outrage of her life. She was lying on her back, and so badly, indeed, that her life is despaired of. After recovering from the insensibility in which her inhuman assailant had thrown her, she crawled to her own house. An Indian suspect of the brutal atrocity, has been apprehended; but it is not indubitably ascertained that he is the guilty party. Persons in the vicinity saw several dark-skinned Micmacs during the afternoon and evening. There is an enactment in our statute book imposing a fine upon those who sell rum to Indians. Liquor vendors, violating this law, are accountable for crimes committed by Indians in consequence of intoxicating liquors, and should be held responsible for the consequences.—Bridgetown Register, June 6.

The steamer Westmorland has been laid up for repairs at Shediac. She will not resume her trips between Pictou and Charlottetown for some time.—Jour.
New Brunswick.
The elections in New Brunswick will not be all over before the 20th of the month. Messrs. McNeil and Desbriay have been returned for the county of Kent, and Messrs. Perley and Galt for St. John's. The late Mr. Galt and Waters have been elected for the city of St. John; Messrs. Cudlip, Agin, Skinner, and Jordan, for the county; so that the Liberals have the whole of the seats in the city and county, with the exception of one seat in the county of Kent, which is held by Mr. Anglin, the editor of the Freeman, has succeeded in winning. Among the defeated candidates are Messrs Gray and Wilnot, the two leading members of the Opposition in the Assembly. In York county, Messrs. Fisher, Hatheway and Dow (Liberals), and Mr. Allan, (Conservative) have been elected.

THE SEASON.—The weather still continues unseasonable. Cold with high winds. Tuesday last was a wild, stormy day, and a heavy snow-blast gale from the eastward, and the tide rose unusually high, and broke up rafts and booms. The following day a large number of logs were being floated down the river, and the standing strenuous exertions were made to secure them, we are apprehensive many were lost. This will be severely felt by the lumberman, as the past season was a very unfavorable one for their operations, owing to the great depth of snow, the scarcity and high price of provender, and the present depressed state of the wood trade in the British Isles.
As might be supposed, the ship at the lower Ferry, received considerable damage, and judging from the state of the one at the upper Ferry, it also received much injury.—Miramichi Gleaner.
We learn from the Sackville Borderer that the extensive saw mills at River Hebert, owned by Messrs. Boggs and Porter, were burned down on the 1st inst. The origin of it was owing to a fire having been kindled in the vicinity of the mills to burn up edgings and other useless portions, which communicating with the combustible materials around the mills, whilst the men were at dinner, was the cause of the disaster. The loss, including deals destroyed, was estimated at £23,000.
A Steam Whistle has been fitted up at Patridge Island, St. John, N. B., which can be heard eight miles in every direction. It will sound once a minute during fog.

Methodist Sabbath School Anniversary.

The anniversary of the Sunday Schools connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church was held in the Tremont Temple, Boston, on Tuesday afternoon, May 28th.
Hon. Edward F. Porter occupied the chair, and gave the following statistics in connection with his very appropriate opening remarks:—
First—the statistics of forty-nine conferences, which cover the whole country.
Number of schools, 13,387
Officers and Teachers, 148,244
Scholars, 804,972
Volumes in Library, 2,419,545
Bible Classes, 15,730
Conventions, 19,517
Expenses of all the Schools, \$127,789
Amount raised per the Sunday School Union, 1,607
Second—the statistics of the New England States:
Schools, 1,121
Officers and Teachers, 14,122
Scholars, 87,222
Volumes in Library, 306,832
Bible Classes, 2,658
Conventions, 1,908
Expenses of all the Schools, \$12,987
Amount raised per the Sunday School Union, 1,607

Gambia.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Robert Dow, dated Bathurst, March 19th, 1861.
When last I wrote, we were called to witness the active preparations that the Government were making for the war at Badiboo; but now, thank God, it is all over. Before the departure of the expedition, it was one continued scene of excitement and bustle in the colony, and the war was the grand topic of conversation.
The Government sent up, I believe, about eighteen hundred men, accompanied by three Her Majesty's ships of war, viz.—the "Argonaut," "Falcon," and the "Torch" gun-boat. There was also a numerous body of native volunteers. The whole force went by water. Several transports were taken up by the Government as transports. I suppose there never was such an exciting scene witnessed in the Gambia before.
After their arrival upon the scene of action, our troops soon effected a landing. Report says that the enemy fought very bravely, but were unable to stand before our troops. A large body of men, both seamen and marines, were landed from the man-of-war, and these, with the 1st and 2nd West India regiments, carried the day.
I believe that our army destroyed by fire every village and town they came near. After they had taken some of the principal places, and the two sons of the King, together with the Commander-in-chief of his army, had fallen, the enemy sued for peace. The conditions were then drawn up and agreed upon, the war ceased, and the shedding of blood was mercifully stayed.—Missionary Notice.
A new and greatly improved edition of Dr. Kitchin's "Cyclopaedia of Biblical Literature" is in preparation by Messrs. Adam & Charles Black, of Edinburgh. It will be edited by Dr. Williams Lindsay Alexander, with the assistance of able scholars and divines, and will contain the latest results of investigation—philological, topographical, exegetical, etc.—in Biblical subjects.

Colonial.

Domestica.
H. M. S. MERRY.—This magnificent frigate—justly the pride of the British Navy—which arrived here last Saturday, left England on the 12th ult. for this station, much to the satisfaction of all the officers, who are highly delighted at the opportunity thus afforded them of "knowing" Halifax.
Compared to the gigantic vessels of war of our American brethren, the Merry is a decided underling. It is a frigate of the old school, and was unable to carry the armament decided by the machinery already constructed to propel her.
It was the genius of Sir Baldwin Walker, aided by the science of the present Naval Commander-in-Chief (Sir A. Milne), which gave to England this magnificent class of vessels—of whose value we may form some opinion by the vain endeavors of the French to imitate them.
The Merry is not only formidable to an enemy on account of her stupendous size—little short of 4000 tons—but also through her heavy armament and great speed. Her main deck battery is armed with 26 10-inch guns, is considered perhaps the finest sight that can be seen on board any vessel of war; while the upper deck is likewise well worthy of a visit, if only to behold the 100 pound Armstrong guns, which carry projectiles the enormous distance of six miles with a charge of 12 pounds of powder.
When approaching the "Banks," we learn that Captain Caldwell, C. B., on falling in with some ice-bergs, thought it would be interesting to experiment on them with these terrific rifled cannon. Accordingly, a French 100 lb. shell was fired at a small ice-berg about 150 feet high from a distance of four miles and a half. Such was the effect, that a block of ice, judged to be of about 100 tons, fell from the top of the berg, removed the centre of gravity, which caused the whole fabric to roll over and rock to and fro. It was considered a most satisfactory test of the range, and destructive power of these missiles. Further trials were made with the other projectiles supplied to the Navy—namely, hollow shot, percussion Shrapnel, and time fuse shell, molten iron shell, &c., all sending to exhibit one feature in modern warfare at sea, viz., the extreme probability of every vessel being in flames soon after she is engaged.
The Merry mounts 40 guns, 68-pounders, 10-inch, and Armstrong 100-pounders. She is manned by 600 men, of which 40 are officers, and 70 marines. She steams 13 knots at full power, and can maintain a speed of 9 knots under half steam. As to length, she is 325 feet in breadth, 60 feet; tonnage, 3760. At present she belongs to the Channel Fleet, where she has been deservingly popular, owing to the "gallantry" of her Captain and officers, who are sure that they know no greater pleasure than the reception of visitors—especially fair ones—to view their wondrous vessel.—Chronicle.
ACCIDENT AT THE ALBION MINES.—At about 11 o'clock on the night of Friday last, an explosion took place in what is known as the "old pit," at the Albion Mines, which, sad to relate, resulted in the melancholy death of three individuals, a man named Daniel McKenzie, employed as a night watchman, and two boys named James Robertson and James Stewart, and also in the destruction of sixteen horses. The cause of the accident has not been clearly ascertained, as it has been impossible to explore the mine, and after an unsuccessful attempt to do so, it has been deemed prudent to close up the shaft for a time. We are much gratified to be able to state that beyond the melancholy loss of life and damage sustained, no one was injured, and will not interfere with the supply of coal, as there is a large quantity on the banks, and work has been actively resumed in the other pits which are not so affected by the explosion.
Since penning the above, we have observed a paragraph in the Halifax Journal, copied from the Colonialist, to the following effect:—
They have had to drown the mines with water, and all the sufferers in them. It will be three months before they can reach the dead bodies. The extent of the damage cannot be ascertained at present.
This is quite incorrect. The apprehensions of the mine being on fire are now past, and not one drop of water was thrown into them. All that was done, (and under the circumstances, all that was necessary) was to close up the workings, to exclude the air, and so far from its being three months before it is again opened, it will probably not be as many weeks.—Eastern Chronicle.
It is reported that a privater from the rebel States has been seen off the coast, and is secretly armed. The report of several American ships arriving at this port is, no doubt, the cause of the visit of this vessel to our shores, for the purpose of intercepting them on their outward bound voyage.—Express.
The schr. Superior, Marine, went ashore on Tuesday night during a thick fog, on Toboy's Island, near the entrance of Port Medway harbor. She struck about 12 o'clock, a heavy sea going, the crew and passengers, among whom were three females, were obliged to hurry into the boat without saving anything. They were seven hours in the boat and at last effected a landing at Petite Riviere, where they were rescued. They could not land at any intermediate place. The vessel has become a total wreck, and as she had a general cargo of dry goods and groceries, the loss is estimated at about sixteen hundred pounds.—Liverpool Standard.
MAGDALEN ISLAND.—One correspondent from that locality writes as follows: The "United States" ashore at bird rock, has gone to pieces. The Herring fishery is a failure, owing entirely to the conduct of the fishermen, who, in defiance of remonstrance, anchor on the fishing ground, heave over ballast and pump out pickle, and drive the shoals out of the bay. In two years more, if this is allowed, the herring fishery here will be broken up. I understand the Government will be asked to forbid sailing, or the fishermen will be made immediately, and the fishery will be brought on themselves the punishment they deserve.
The catch of herring this season is only about half the average catch, although there were herrings enough about the bay to land three times the number of vessels. The fishermen would have allowed them to approach the shores.—Eastern Chronicle.
INCENDIARISM.—It is well for the credit of our town that we are not often called upon to record the perpetration of crimes of this description, but on the night of Friday last, a most diabolical but fortunately unsuccessful attempt was made to set on fire the premises of Mr. Colin McKenzie. A bundle of rags, which must have been well ignited, was laid at night thrown into the porch of Mr. McKenzie's dwelling; and after burning a large hole into the door post and charring the stone, the fire fortunately went out. We regret that no clue yet been found to the miscreant guilty of this heinous offence.—Id.
SUDDEN AND MELANCHOLY DEATH AT PICTOU.—A young man named Hugh Matheson belonging to Miramichi died very suddenly at Pictou on the afternoon of Saturday last. He had been in very delicate health for several months past and having some friends in this county decided upon visiting them in the hope that a change of air might prove beneficial and accordingly arrived here in the Lady Head on Saturday afternoon.
After reaching the wharf in the ferry boat, along with the other passengers, he complained of fatigue and entered a stage for the purpose of resting himself, but was almost immediately attacked by a fainting fit from which he never recovered. A coroner's inquest was held on the body before W. H. Harris Esq., Verdict "died of the visitation of the deities." The deceased was for a long time a stage-driver in the employ of Mr. Kelly, New Brunswick, and was much respected.—Id.
POLICE COURT.—Three midshipmen belonging to H. M. Ship St. George, were brought up this morning before His Worship the Mayor and Ald. Duggan, charged with creating a disturbance and taking down the Eagle in front of the American Consul's office. We understand they also endeavored to take down the sign in front of Mr. Bell's Tavern's store, but were unable to do so on account of its height. They received a severe reprimand from the Mayor, and were fined twenty dollars each, with expenses.
Another case, that of James Malcolm for attempting to take the life of Miss Annie Watson, was also brought before the Court. The prisoner was sentenced to 60 days imprisonment.