

CIRCUIT INTELLIGENCE

During the past week the work of excavating under the Methodist Church has been going on, for the purpose of erecting a room in the basement, to be used for holding Sabbath School Service, Prayer Meetings, &c.

LECTURE.—Rev. I. E. Thurlow delivered a Lecture "To Young Men" in the Methodist Church, Kentville, on Monday evening. Quite a large number of persons were present, considering the limited publicity given.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

On Monday evening there was a most interesting meeting in Providence Church of this town. The gathering was strangely small; but the devotional services and addresses were more than ordinarily impressive.

VERSES

SUGGESTED BY THE GALLANT FEAT OF WILHELM FRANCIS, THE HERO BOY OF WINDSOR, N. S. Tales of the sea, the treacherous sea! Are borne upon the listening ear;

METHODIST TABLE-TALK.

Already there is a long list of arrangements made between ministers and circuits referring to next year's appointments. The Rev. Mark Guy Pearce's name appears on it for the Lunenburg Circuit.

Last Sunday was well observed as the special prayer day for Sunday-schools. The reports of interesting services are quite numerous, and we may expect to hear of the best results in a few months, when it will be possible to tabulate some of them with reference to Church membership.

The missionary meeting on Monday night, in Exeter Hall, was in several respects quite successful. Mr. Fowler fully maintained his reputation as an able and fluent speaker, and the children did their work well.

The Editor of one of the Boston, Mass., religious papers, who is also a minister, has edified his readers by printing in parallel columns his own sermon on a given text, and that preached by one of the Queen's Chaplains at a parish church near a royal residence, on the death of Bishop Wilberforce.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of America has again to mourn over one of its bishops. Bishop Edmund Stores Jones died at New York, on Monday, September 18th. He was born April 27, 1807, in Sheffield, Mass.

It is said that a large and influential committee is busily at work preparing a new Sunday-school Hymn-book, and that it is likely to produce a very superior collection of hymns in a few more months.

We may expect to hear soon the date at which the Lay Representation Committee will meet to consider recommendations from district meetings, details of scheme, order of business, &c. &c.

A Wesleyan minister, Mr. Stephen Cox, has sent to the Press a copy of correspondence that has passed between himself and the Bishop of Carlisle. It appears, in some charge or another, the bishop had said many Wesleyan ministers were discontented with their position, and looked longingly towards "the Church," or something to that effect.

As in previous discussions, so in future ones on the subject of Lay Representation, we shall have striking illustrations of character—of excellencies and defects. We shall see both talent and tact—tact and lack of tact, probably. Well, talent is power, tact is skill. Talent makes a man respectable, tact makes him respected. Talent convinces, tact converts. Talent commands, tact obeys. Talent is something, tact is everything. What a proof of this we had at the last Conference!

Great expectations have been raised about the all-day conventions and revival missions which will follow in London. It may be that the vast crowds of outsiders will scarcely be reached, but if the thousands of unconverted hearers in the ordinary congregations are brought to Christ and so forth.

A MONTREAL LADY AMONG THE MORMONS.

(From the Montreal Witness.) My chief object in writing is to describe briefly the tabernacle, temple and the women of Utah. I was shown about the tabernacle by "Brother Thomas" on Saturday. He introduced me to the brother of one of Brigham Young's wives. We discussed theology for more than an hour. It was simply marvellous how much Scripture they could bring to prove (?) their doctrine. "Brother Thomas" and his friend thought they would make a good Mormon of me!

A cyclone of remarkable severity passed over the Central American states during October. The town of Managua, in Nicaragua, was inundated; four hundred houses were blown down, and damaged to the amount of \$2,000,000.

EXIT BATHYBIUS.

A few years ago, when the deep-sea soundings detected a certain mucous-like matter at the bottom of the sea, Mr. Huxley at once jumped at the conclusion that it was a living organism. In his conception this living mucous lay over the bottom of the ocean, a mass of what might be called undifferentiated life.

The evidence was then and always has been against the position that there was life in this matter. But he was so certain that here was a body of protoplasmic matter and life that he named the substance *Bathybius* and it has passed under that designation in scientific literature.

It proves to be no organism at all, but simply *amorphous sulphate of lime*, that is, gypsum or plaster of Paris. So our undifferentiated father and mother, *Bathybius*, vanishes. When Mr. Huxley proves himself a cautious and safe guide in science he will have shown a quality which will entitle him to respect in matters outside science.

FALL OF A METEORITE IN KANSAS CITY.

Mr. J. D. Parker, in a letter to the *American Journal of Science*, says: "On June 25, 1876, between the hours of nine and ten in the morning, a small meteorite fell upon the tin roof of Mr. Isaac Whitaker's business house, No. 557 Main street, Kansas City, Mo. The meteorite came down with sufficient force to cut a hole in the tin roof on the front part of the house near an open window; but not passing entirely through the tin, it rebounded back a few feet and lay on the roof. Mrs. Baker, who occupies rooms in the front part of the house in the second story, and Mrs. Whitaker were standing near the window when the meteorite fell, and heard the sharp concussion when it struck the roof. Mrs. Baker immediately picked up the meteorite as it lay near her on the roof, but dropped it again, finding it too hot to retain in her hand.

SCIENTIFIC AND OTHER NOTES.

COAST LIGHTS INJURED BY BIRDS.

It is a curious fact that, during the months of April and October, keepers of lighthouses along the coasts are obliged to exercise the greatest vigilance in order to prevent injury to their lights through the breaking of the lantern glasses by birds flying against them at night. Ducks often dash against the panes with such force as to shatter heavy plate glass, and even wire netting, now used, is sometimes found in inadequate protection. The keeper of the new light near St. Augustine, Fla., states

last month he picked up from twenty to fifty dead birds, which had committed involuntary suicide in the above manner. It is estimated that at each of the large lighthouses on the coast some 2,000 birds are thus yearly slaughtered, or in all about 100,000 annually. The circumstances also serve to indicate that the flight of the birds, which migrate during the months named, is accomplished in the night.

THE COST OF BIG GUNS.

The trials of the 81-ton gun which recently took place in England are reported as being conveniently satisfactory to the artillerymen; but it may be doubted whether those who are footing the bills, the tax-payers, will share in the officially expressed gratification. At every discharge of this monster weapon, over 300 lbs. of powder are exploded at a cost of from \$125 to \$150. To this must be added the expense of shell and fuses. Then the gun itself, originally estimated to cost \$40,000, has actually necessitated an expenditure of some \$125,000, besides the construction of a railway at Woolwich, a barge for its transportation, and several huge cranes. More over the firing of the gun at Shoeburyness has had the effect of blowing down or at least seriously shattering the huts or cottages of that military settlement, so that it will nearly all have to be rebuilt at government expense. Meanwhile, on this side of the Atlantic, we complacently view these rather costly proceedings, profit by the results of the experiments, and congratulate ourselves that we are not paying for them.

A SEVERE HURRICANE.

A cyclone of remarkable severity passed over the Central American states during October. The town of Managua, in Nicaragua, was inundated; four hundred houses were blown down, and damaged to the amount of \$2,000,000. In Blewfield, on the Mosquito coast, three hundred houses were destroyed, and the coffee crops over an immense district were utterly ruined. Twenty lives were lost, and several vessels on Lake Nicaragua were sunk by the disaster. The total damage is estimated, at an amount of over five million dollars.

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The evidence was then and always has been against the position that there was life in this matter. But he was so certain that here was a body of protoplasmic matter and life that he named the substance *Bathybius* and it has passed under that designation in scientific literature. Whoever will read the article in the present October number of the "American Journal of Science" on "Sea-bottom Deposits," by J. Murray, Naturalist of the Challenger Expedition, will see Mr. Huxley's *Bathybius* quietly disposed of.

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FARMERS REVIEW.

From the American Agriculturist:

The last month of autumn has arrived at least it is so according to the almanac, but in most northern localities winter has practically commenced. The work of the year has closed, so far as the gathering in of its results is concerned, and the farmer who keeps accounts, can easily figure up how he stands with the world. There are people who say, and perhaps think, that farmers are never satisfied, and are forever grumbling. Unfortunately, scarcely a year passes but some farmers have reason to grumble, for what with drought in some places, floods in others, and insect pests everywhere, we farmers do have a hard time of it. But on the whole, leaving out of the inevitable isolate cases of loss and distress, farmers are not grumbling this year, for a beautiful harvest, and fair prices—for the times—have placed them in a better condition than the majority of their fellow-citizens. Everywhere signs of recovery are beginning to dawn upon the country, and hope is already taking the place of gloom in business circles. If the fair prospect continues, "dull November" will be more agreeable than usual, and we can think over our plans for next year with cheerfulness.

HINTS ABOUT WORK.

Corn Husking properly comes first; in fact, it really belongs to the previous month; but there are always laggards, and the corn is not all husked yet. This delay is costly, and no time should be lost in getting the corn into the crib, and the fodder stacked or into the barn.

What to do with the Corn-Stubble.

Fields that have been cleared in time should be plowed in readiness for early sowing of oats in spring. If roots are to follow the corn, the stubble may be plowed at once and sown with rye. Three or four bushels should be sown to the acre. The rye will furnish a heavy crop of green fodder next May, or an excellent early pasture in the spring, or may be plowed under as a green manuring. In either case the expense of the seed, which is the only outlay, will be many times repaid in the increase of the following crop.

Oats after Corn.—There is no question of the desirability of avoiding this rotation if possible, when wheat follows the oats. In most cases it is better to take a root crop after corn, and then oats may follow the roots, and clover be sown down with the oats. With very favorable experience in seeding down with oats, we never hesitate to do it, and wheat may follow the clover. A long rotation is made necessary, and this is advantageous. If this change is made, it necessitates a change in the fall work, and thorough plowing of the corn-stubble. Here is a point well worth close study.

Storms may now be looked for, and everything should be put under cover that needs protection, and the cover be made weather-proof. Stacks should be completed and thatched; sheds be tightened, and windows made good, and barn roofs well nailed down to prevent leaking. Yards should be drained, and all the litter gathered in where it will be kept dry. Every arrangement for economy in the use of material, and for the comfort of live stock of all kinds, should be made now, when it will cost less in time and labor than if done late.

Potatoes that are already dug, should be secured in pits or cellars at once, before sharp frosts occur. If pitted, do not neglect to amply ventilate the pits. A one-inch drain tile, placed chimney-like in the top of the pit for every six feet in length, will be sufficient; instead of the tiles, wiaps of straight wheat straw, four or five inches thick, may be used. Any potatoes still in the ground should be dug, and secured without delay. What are intended for sale are best sold from the field; it rarely ever pays to store potatoes for sale until spring. It is well to remember that potatoes, when boiled, are worth at least 25 cts. a bushel for feed.

Cows.—As soon as Cows are put on dry feed, the milk falls off, but if they are well fed, what is lost in quantity is gained in quality. A cow that is milking should have at least two quarts of mixed cornmeal and bran daily, with as much chaffed hay as she will eat. A cow will usually eat two bushels of the chaff in a day. Some roots in addition would be useful. Dry cows should have one quart daily; it will not hurt a cow to take on a little fat at this season, nor make her milk any less when she comes in.

Calves and Yearlings should be kept growing. A check at this season can not be made up through the winter.

Horses.—Pasture has lost its value now, and the nights are too cold for horses to be kept out of the stable. Cotts should have a pint of oats daily, and be halter broken. Their education should be begun now, and the first thing to be done is to accustom them to handling, brushing, and restraint. Patience and kindness with the colt will go far to form a good disposition in the future horse.