

Mr. Bannerman, late M. P. for Aberdeen, has been appointed, it is said, Lieut. Governor of Prince Edward Island.

The Montreal Building Society is in a flourishing condition. At their last Meeting, several shares were disposed of at a bonus of Twenty-two and a half per cent.

The Southern States. It is supposed, will unite to tax all products and goods of non-slaveholding States, which is considered as a virtual secession. Trouble we hear is brewing for our neighbours. At all events a most inimical spirit between the North and South is fast springing up; the effects of which may in the end prove more serious than some may be inclined at present to imagine.

Latest accounts from Navana state that the cholera had entirely disappeared from the city, but had re-appeared in several other parts of the Island.

The Mexican Government has settled the conditions on which the Seminoles, Camanches, and other barbarous tribes can be admitted into the Republic.

The *Siglo* says it learns by a letter from Acapulco that that city is enjoying unexampled prosperity. A short time ago Acapulco was almost deserted; but since then the population has quadrupled.

Rev. J. W. Hannington, a coloured Clergyman of New York, lately received the title of Doctor of Divinity, from the University of Heidelberg, of Germany.

(From the Royal Gazette, Dec. 18, 1850.)

Proclamation.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JOHN HARVEY,

Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, L. S. Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Province of Nova-Scotia, and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

J. HARVEY.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to Thursday the Nineteenth day of December, instant.

I have thought fit further to prorogue the said General Assembly until Thursday, the Twenty-third day of January next, then to meet for the Despatch of Business; of which all persons concerned are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Halifax, this 11th day of December, in the fourteenth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
WM. H. KEATING,
Deputy Secretary.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

A Scene on board of a British Man-of-War.

The following scene was presented on board one of Her Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean, on occasion of a number of Bibles being distributed among them. It is thus described in a letter to a friend:—

"As the Admiral has just signalled an opportunity for letters to Malta, I thought I could not suffer such a moment to escape without letting you know how the disposal of the Bibles succeeded on board. As I told you, we had resolved to make the Sabbath day for their distribution. I communicated the fact of having the Bibles for sale at reduced cost, and that I should send some forward to those who wished to buy. The moment the books were brought out, there was such a scene, such and all struggling and striving to obtain a copy. 'My name was down first, master-at-arms,' says one; and another, 'My name!'—then, again, others, 'Do give me one!' 'Pray do give me one!' A regular struggle ensued, all anxious. I question if a scene like this was ever witnessed on board of a man-of-war before. I could really do nothing but retire to my cabin, and lift up my hands and my heart, with gratitude to God, declaring that it was all His doing. And what is the result? Why, here and there, you see the Bibles read. A prisoner under the half-deck, and two or three of the stewards, may be seen at night with their Bibles, reading and talking together about their Bibles. I do not know how many applications I had for a Bible from boys. May the Lord pour out His blessing upon us! Yea, and He will do it. I know He will. Ah, my dear friend, this is what we want!"—*B. & F. Bible Society Report, 1850.*

Communications.

The following sensible remarks are taken from the *Zion's Herald*, to which reference may be occasionally made with profit:—

It is a generally unbroken law of the press that articles in the hands of the editor are not to be returned—correspondents should always keep copies if they deem it important to preserve them. From one-third to one-half of our communications are rejected; the task of preserving and returning them would be a serious one. No paper in the land does so in most cases it would be impracticable. We hope our correspondent will bear this in mind. One word more: the disposition we make of communications must not be misapprehended, but borne with good temper.

We are compelled often to reject really meritorious articles; we are in a position to judge of their effect, and can see circumstances which may not be discernible to our readers. We reject a great deal of poetry, portions of which are oftentimes very fine, while other but inseparable parts are too defective for publication. In such cases we summarily put it under the table, for we are not poet enough to rectify the defect. Poets are usually sensitive, but we are happy to find our own quite good natured in such cases, and disposed to "try again" when we think they "miss fire."

Impolitic Move.

A Correspondent of the New York *Christian Advocate & Journal*, in speaking of the recent appointment of the hierarchy of bishops in England by the Pope, says:—

"This is a bold step, but, I think, a very impolitic one. They now place themselves in a position before the high-church party, such as they have not previously assumed, and it is not a little probable that many who, by their indifference or their countenance, served to advance the cause of Popery, may now take offence, and become opponents and alarmists; while, of course all the staunch friends of Protestantism will be more alive than ever. The sympathies of purely political men have been much on the side of the Popish party in England; but, when they assume higher ground in that country, and take, at the same time, ground in Ireland which outrages all the prejudices of the thorough-going liberals, they will find that, even in political power, which is always their real support, whatever of religion may seem to be in their objects, they are rapidly failing."

A Good Resolve.

We clip the following from our cotemporary, the *Sun*, as containing a resolution good in itself and worthy of imitation:—

We must respectfully, but firmly decline admission to our columns of articles, whether in poetry or prose, the tone and purport of which can only tend to wound the feelings of individuals, without offering, as an equivalent, even the contingent result of remote public good.

The Papal Aggression.

Extracts from the Archbishop of Canterbury's Reply to the Archdeacon and Clergy of the Diocese of Canterbury, on the Romish Aggression.

"I am much gratified by receiving the address of the archdeacons and clergy of my diocese of Canterbury, protesting against the act of aggression upon our church recently committed by the Papal See."

"We have just reason to declare our indignation at the present invasion of our rights, and the assumption on which it is really avowedly grounded, that our Protestant communion is unsound and even heretical. But, whilst we are indignant, we need not be surprised. . . . It is the known characteristic of the Roman Catholic religion to be not merely aggressive, but encroaching, and to rest satisfied with nothing short of absolute domination. We shall, therefore, act wisely if we look around us and inquire whether any peculiar circumstances amongst ourselves may have caused the present time to appear to the court of Rome a favourable opportunity for the movement of which we complain."

"Ten years have elapsed, since I thought it necessary to warn the clergy of another diocese against the danger of adopting principles which, when carried out, tend naturally to those Romish errors against which our forefathers protested, and which were renounced by the Anglican Church."

"The result has proved that this judgment was not harsh or the warning premature; on the contrary, certain of our clergy, professing to follow our principles, have proceeded onward from one Romish tenet and one Romish practice to another, till in some congregations all that is distinctive in Protestant doctrine or Protestant worship has disappeared. Other circumstances might be mentioned, such, for instance, as the title and precedence allowed to the Roman Catholic dignitaries in Ireland and our colonies, which have afforded some colour to the belief that a change had come over the spirit of our land, and that an act of Romish aggression might be ventured without risk of serious notice or national opposition."

"Happily the event has proved that the errors were on the surface, and confined to few; the heart of the nation adheres to the Word of God, and rejects the traditions of men."

"Our first duty, then, now, in the present crisis, is to retrace our steps, wherever they have tended towards Romish doctrine or Romish superstition; and, whilst we appeal to the Legislature to put our church free from foreign invasion, to be especially careful that we are not betrayed by our leaders within."

"But another duty is incumbent on us of still greater urgency. The corruptions of the Romish Church are very repulsive to the human mind, and especially to the uneducated, unwarmed mind. Amongst the population of our

crowded towns and our remote villages too many, unhappily, are little able to test the truth of any religion which is proposed to them by its only true standard, the Bible. These may easily become a prey to teachers so subtle, so skilful, so insinuating as Romish emissaries are known to be. There is likewise a constant immigration from Ireland, of men who have imbibed superstition from their cradle; and, by companionship, or alliances among their fellow-workmen, are too likely to aid the exertions of priests and Jesuits, of nuns and sisters of charity. It becomes doubly necessary for the clergy to guard their people against this danger by every means through which scriptural knowledge may be diffused amongst them. Acquaintance with the Scriptures is the sure defence against Rome; the laity must lend their aid and supply the means of adding to the number of clergy, together with a provision for household visitors and Scripture readers, without which it is impossible to make head against the ignorance and apathy of an untaught multitude. If the recent assault upon our church should thus become the means of extending scriptural instruction, the measure which was designed for our injury may, under a gracious Providence, result in an eventual good. The enemy has shown that he considers we have a weak point. It is our business to strengthen that point, and guard it from attack; and not to allow the ignorance of any part of our population to betray them into the hands of Rome."

Position of Cardinal Wiseman.

Cardinal Wiseman is not only a peer, but a prince of a foreign kingdom. His allegiance, his interests, his prospects, his sympathies all are bound up with a foreign crown. To that crown his ties are so close that he is its possible heir. He is one of its perpetual councillors, and may to-morrow be named general of its forces, or minister of any department of its government. Such a man is not only an alien, but an alien under circumstances which render it impossible that his allegiance, his attachments, his hopes should in any way turn towards the British throne. As a British citizen he does not exist. He is only a Roman Prince. He has preferred that dignity to the other. He cannot embrace both. A Roman he is, Briton he is not. He is a Prince of the Papal kingdom, not a subject of the British kingdom. Whatever his position is, it is not that of a fellow citizen, it is that of a foreign prince. . . .

Foreign peers or princes may reside among us as ambassadors, and watch over the interests of their nation, or their fellow countrymen; but they hold their position according to the provisions of our constitution, and depart at once from our shores, if so commanded by our government. Here, however, is a prince and privy councillor of a sovereign whose government is, in its spirit and usages, diametrically opposite to ours; who, moreover, claims to meddle with the closest interests of our monarchy; and who stands much in need of support from the population which our equitable government has elevated, to hold in continued subjection that other part of the population which the blind government he has inherited and upheld, has so long crushed to the earth. As a British citizen he has no standing amongst us. Is it consistent with the laws of nations that a prince of one kingdom should enter another without the sanction of its legitimate government and therein begin to exercise functions? This is simply a political question. If a Roman prince is to set up a government in the interest of his king, why not a Russian one also in the interest of the Czar; why not the French Republic authorize a Prefect to organize and head English republicans; why not any foreign government send upon our territory any kind of dignitary invested with any kind of powers? Were the mission of the Cardinal a purely political one, no hesitation could exist. But though it has political aspects more serious than could be assumed by any purely political mission, it is so wrapped round with religious appearances, that it is difficult for our government to check the political aggressions, without seeming to forbid religious freedom. . . .

The Pope presents himself with a crozier and a sceptre so bound together, that he thinks we cannot break the sceptre without breaking the crozier, and then he would cry out persecution. The sceptre must not be lifted over Britons: it must be broken; and if he will not disengage the crozier from it, that is his concern. — *Watchman.*

Summary of News.

FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

The Lord Mayor of London has announced his intention of giving, in addition to the usual civic banquets for which the Mansion House enjoys world wide reputation, a series of evening lectures to the distinguished individuals who may be expected to visit London on the occasion of the Exhibition, both from Continental Europe and America, the arrangements for which laid out the promise of a much less exclusive and more general hospitality than has yet characterized any civic regime in the metropolis.

Mr. Raphael, the Roman Catholic Member of Parliament for St. Albans, died on Saturday week, at his seat, Surbiton Place, Surrey. He

is said to have given 100,000 within the last few years for building Roman Catholic places of worship. He was of Armenian extraction.

Mount Athos.—Sir Stratford Canning has returned from his excursion to Mount Athos. Lady Canning has caused the monks of the Holy Mountain to break their vows. The brotherhood allow no female, nor any creature of that sex to enter their boundary. Cows, hens, geese, &c., are all banished. Sir Stratford, however, was accompanied to the Mount by his lady and daughters. The monks dared not send them back, neither did they make any remark when the whole family entered the first monastery. They received the ladies with great courtesy, offering them refreshments. So it was in the second, but in the third, the friars remarked that females were not admitted. However, on learning that the two other monasteries had intruded the rule, they consented to receive Lady Canning and her daughters. — *Brussels Herald.*

Remarkable Deliverance.—The *Lanehead*, which has just arrived in the Clyde, in lat. 40, lon. 13 30 west, on the 3rd inst. spoke the barque *Emerald*, for London from Cadiz. The latter ship had on board the master of a Portuguese vessel, who had been picked up when floating on a bundle of corkwood, about twenty miles from land. He had been on this precarious raft for three days and nights, and during the whole of that period was destitute of food or fresh water.

The *Morning Chronicle* announces the complete discovery of a mode whereby flax may be prepared so as to be capable of being spun and woven by ordinary cotton machinery. The steeping process is dispensed with, and thus the fibre of the flax is preserved uninjured; the new agent or process operates by giving flexibility and softness. If the discovery be really at last made, and be available at a paying cost, it will commence one of the most important eras in the history of our textile manufactures.

A singular instance of resuscitation occurred lately at the British Museum, which, however strange it may seem, actually occurred. A certain snail, a native of Egypt, which has been glued down to a card during the last four years, and confined in a close glass case, actually came to life the other day, and was found by the astonished "custos" promenading about in his narrow domain.

Mr. Macaulay has not yet formally pronounced his decision regarding the rival claims of Lord Palmerston and Mr. Alison to the Rectorship of the Glasgow University; but it is very generally understood that his casting vote will be given in favour of Mr. Alison.

Effects of Fear.—On Friday week, a wanton and mischievous lad, about fourteen or fifteen years of age, suddenly placed himself, with a mask on his face, before a poor woman, named Porter, residing in Hill-field, Coventry, when the fright made such an impression on her that she immediately lost her senses. Being far advanced in pregnancy, she has since been delirious, but continues in a state of madness.

Deplorable Accident.—The *Cardiff Guardian* states that, as the eldest son of Major Ashmore, of Her Majesty's 10th Regiment, was running down stairs at an hotel at Bonn, he fell over the bannister upon his head, and was killed upon the spot. His poor mother, (a niece of the celebrated Archdeacon Paley) happened to see the body without previous knowledge of any accident having taken place, and was so shocked that she fell down by her child's body and instantly died.

Adverse received by the West India mail acquaint us with the fact that, on the 24th of August, 1850, in lat. 28 S., 126 23 W., William Muir, gunner's mate of Her Majesty's ship *Swift*, being reprimanded for neglect of duty, went to the galley fire, lit a slow match, and was discovered by the Corporal of Marines in the act of entering the magazine, with the intention of blowing up the ship! Muir was kept in irons till his arrival at Valparaiso, when he contrived to make his escape—how is not stated.

The City of Dublin Grand Jury has adopted a resolution earnestly deprecating the contemplated abolition of the Viceroyalty, as a measure most pernicious to Ireland. An address to the Queen on the subject is to be prepared by a committee. Meetings are likewise to be held in the several wards of the city, for the purpose of pledging the candidates for the new Corporation against the abolition of the Viceroyalty.

Accounts from Bangkok, to the 25th September, state the mission of Sir James Brooke to Siam as a complete failure.

The Jesuit estates in the gold regions are about to be claimed by the Pope.

The monument erected in the cemetery of Pere la Chaise, over the grave of that renowned British Admiral, Sir Sydney Smith, G. C. B., is tottering to its fall.

A manufacturer at Glasgow has produced a spun silk handkerchief, which contains portraits of the leading men in the Evangelical Alliance.

A weaver in Bradford has been for some time engaged in weaving in a piece of cloth the whole of the New Testament. He has already completed the four Gospels, and has made some advance in the Acts of the Apostles.

A Paris correspondent of the *Patriot* writes, "If your government would but send a bishop to Rome—Dr. Achilli for instance—with a train of missionaries, to open churches and preach reform, Rome would very soon retrace her steps."

The Goldsmiths' Company have decided to award the sum of £1,000 for prizes to be given to those artists of the craft, of the United Kingdom, who can produce works of the highest design of merit, in gold and silver plate, for the Exhibition of 1851.