

AMERICAN ITEMS.

such principles and life as his, he became exceedingly angry, ordered the paper sent away, and forbidding another to be brought to his door, left the room. After some hours he returned,—the paper still lay upon the table. The wife merely suggested that it he would calmly read over the offensive article she believed he would see that he had done himself, the writer, and his family, great wrong. In a rather sudden manner he did so,—he was silent—he read it again, and then said, “perhaps I was wrong—you may continue to read the paper.” The result was, that he became a diligent reader of the Messenger, and after a short time went to the clergyman, related the whole matter, soon after became an altered man in life and conversation, and up to the time of our last information of him, he was a devout and consistent communicant, always ascribing his conversion to the influence of the divine Spirit upon his perusal of the once despised paper.

“Another instance: an intelligent and pious lady, who contributed to some of our early volumes, but who has been dead several years, informed us in a letter, that when the Messenger first came to her house, and it was from its commencement, her father who was an inmate of the family, and a strongly attached member of another communion, would not read the paper on any account, nor was he for several years, willing to hear it read. At length he was induced to listen while his daughter read an article in two which interested his feelings, “There must,” said he, “be some good in that paper after all: what you have read is of a spirit and temper which becomes a Christian.” From that time he became a constant reader. His prejudices were removed, and for many years he became an admirer of the Prayer-book, and delighted to join in the worship of the Church.”

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.—The following article copied from the “Church” printed at Cobourg, U. C.

It is with pleasure we announce that on Saturday the 26th ultimo, the Reverend John McCaul, LL.D. of Trinity College, Dublin, the newly appointed principal of Upper Canada College, arrived at the City of Toronto, and on the Monday following, was installed in his office, amidst the rejoicings of the boys, who were gratified with a holiday on the occasion.

We understand that the gentleman selected for this arduous and responsible situation is well worthy to be the successor of Dr. Harris. He has for several years been a tutor at Trinity College, Dublin, and is therefore intimately conversant with the higher branches of tuition. His academical attainments are stated to be of the highest order, while the source from which his appointment proceeds,—at the special recommendation, we understand, of the venerable and excellent Archbishop of Canterbury, is a guarantee for the excellence of his private and general character. His brother the Rev. A. McCaul, well known in the theological world as an erudite Hebrew scholar; and, as the author of Sermons, preached at the Episcopal Jews’ Chapel, has acquired the title of an orthodox and able Divine. Does the new Principal, in his own right and that of his near relative, enter upon the situation with a name, to which, we are well assured, his connection with Upper Canada College will only serve to give greater celebrity.—The Rev. Charles Matthews, who has been the Acting Principal for the last ten months, had the satisfaction, notwithstanding the distracted state of the times, of resigning his temporary trust into the hands of Dr. McCaul, with the names of nearly 160 boys on the College roll,—a greater number than has ever yet been down on the books of the institution since its first establishment.

The numerous friends and old pupils of Dr. Harris will be gratified to learn that when last heard of, he was in the enjoyment of good health, and paying a visit to his brother at Cambridge,—the University, where he imbibed the learning that has enabled him so materially to benefit this Province.

The editor of the *Christian Guardian** seems to have availed himself very industriously of certain of

*Rev. Egerton Ryerson.

the low and Radical prints of the mother country, in culling all that could be extracted from them hostile and offensive to that church to which, in the judgment of a high authority, he would be more honourably and consistently employed in tendering his “cordial support.” We have not, of course, the means of knowing exactly what is the general taste of the readers of the *Guardian*; but it is a taste most sincerely to be deplored, if it relish and approve of the columns of vituperation which that journal offers every week against the Church of England,—a Church from which the founder of their cherished Wesleyanism sprang, which he clung to and loved to his dying hour, to whose doctrines they themselves profess to subscribe, and of whose honour they ought to be jealous. While to the needy soul, craving knowledge of a Saviour’s love and of a Christian’s privileges, and “grudging if it be not satisfied,” there is but a poor scant morsel of appropriate food weekly offered in that unfaithful and degenerate *Guardian*, two-thirds at least of it are filled each week with matter, which, if it have any influence at all, cannot but awaken and keep in constant motion the worst passions of the depraved human heart. *Ibid.*

SUMMARY.

The accounts from the New Brunswick frontier are rather warlike. It is said that 10,000 men had been ordered by the Governor of Maine to support certain officers whom he had despatched to exercise authority in the disputed territory, and who had been captured by individuals of New Brunswick engaged in the lumbering business in that quarter, and by them handed over to the authorities at Fredericton, but were afterwards liberated by order of Sir John Harvey, who had issued a proclamation on the occasion, and appears to have taken the necessary precautions to repel any aggression.—We trust we may be disappointed in the expectation which this and other circumstances seem to warrant, of an early interruption of that peace which now happily subsists between England and America, and which every Christian, as well as every patriotic mind, must desire to continue.—Our Legislature has passed some very spirited Resolutions on the subject of the American aggression, and placed £100,000 at the disposal of his Excellency, with power to put the Militia force in an efficient state.—In Canada, affairs were quiet, and the volunteers in the Lower Province were being disbanded. An act of barbarous atrocity, such as would be so considered in the wildest savages was lately committed on the frontier by a party of 20 ruffians who after burning the barns with the poor animals they contained, set fire to a dwelling, in the upper part of which they had first fastened the women and children, and did every thing but murder the men of the house.—The alarm was providentially given in time to save the building and the lives of those who were in it.

How pitiable the condition of our fellow subjects that are exposed to such inhuman treatment, and how insufferable the consideration that all this is done by the citizens of a state in amity with the country into which they thus carry fire and sword. We understand that our local Parliament is expected to rise about the 20th instant. We are happy to hear that the school-land Bill has been disagreed to by the Council. It looks like making a stand against the mobocracy.—We have not yet heard what has been done with regard to education.—£14,000 have been granted for Roads and Bridges, of which £800 comes to this County.

Complaints have been made to us from Miramichi and Richibucto, that several No’s. of the present Volume of the Colonial Churchman successively, have not reached their destination—for which the Post Office in some quarter must be accountable, as the papers have always been regularly mailed here.

POSTPONEMENT.—The meeting of the Church Society, advertised for the 13th instant, has been postponed to the 10th of April.

The Mormons.—The Western Star of November 30th states that the examining trial of the Mormons closed on the Wednesday previous. About thirty were discharged, and thirty-five retained for indictment and trial—some for treason, some for murder, some as accessories to murder, and some for arson, robbery, &c. The indictments will be preferred in the counties of Ray and Daviess; but it is thought the venue will be changed from those counties, at the instance of the prisoners.

The Mormons have petitioned the Legislature of Missouri for pecuniary aid for their women and children. The Louisville Journal states that many of the houses of the Mormons have been burned down; that about sixty Mormon men, all of them married, have been arrested and imprisoned, forty killed, and one hundred compelled to fly to escape the vengeance of the citizens; and that two hundred women, most of whom have small children, are thus left destitute, with no food to keep them from starvation, and no shelter to protect them from the winter storms.—*Christ. Witness.*

Dr. Butler, one of the emigrating Cherokee physicians, computes that 2,000, out of the 16,000 of the Cherokees, have died since they left their houses, in June, for the West.—*Ibid.*

The Army and Navy of Great Britain, cost annually thirteen and a half millions of pounds sterling;—The Church Establishment three millions and a half, and the money appropriated to the latter is derived moreover from endowments, most of which were made by private individuals.—*Banner of the Cross.*

Infant Baptism.—I witnessed on Sunday afternoon last in St. Peter’s Church in this city, the interesting and affecting spectacle of the baptism of forty children connected with that Parish and its Sunday Schools. Among the many arguments for infant baptism, we may name the following—that the command of Christ to baptise all nations was as much a command to baptise infants as adults, that at the first formation of a visible Church God ordained that infants should be members thereof—that the practice of the Apostles in administering baptism to families affords evidence of their understanding of its obligation, and that the practice of the Christian Church, from the very days of the Apostles down to the time of the Reformation in every country without exception, and among every sect of Christians has been to baptise infants. In our community a special reason seems to exact attention to this rite, I mean, the obstacle which their not having been baptised throws in the way of many persons in entering upon a religious life. The experience of every pastor will I presume attest the wisdom, putting out of view the divine authority, of infant baptism. And possibly some reader of this brief article will, in the secret recesses of the heart, sigh over the parental neglect, or the mistaken prejudice which prevented him from being thus in infancy or childhood, washed in the laver of regeneration.—*Ibid.*

The efforts lately made to decypher and interpret the ancient inscriptions of India have opened the long closed door to the complete explanation of all the ancient characters of Hindoo writing,—establishing the important fact of a connection between the ancient sovereigns of India and those of Greece and Egypt.

A new version of the English Liturgy in Modern Greek, is now ready for publication by the Society for promoting Christian knowledge.

A subscription has been opened at Oxford for the purpose of erecting a monument to the memory of Archbishop Cranmer, and his fellow-martyrs, Bishops Latimer and Ridley.

There are 10,583 organized common school districts in the state of New York. The number of children between the ages of five and sixteen in the districts, is 539,747, of whom 528,913 received instruction in the common schools during the year just elapsed.—*Ibid.*