

WESLEYAN.

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All Wesleyan Ministers are Agents.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1876.

TURKEY.

A FEW NOTES UPON THE NATION, ITS CAPITAL &c., &c.

As around this subject much thought must just now be concentrated, in view of the possible contingencies of war, we give a brief outline of the nation's past and present condition.

Turkey in Europe is divided into seven principalities which, with the Turkish Islands, have a population of 15,500,000.

Some light may be thrown upon the recent sudden and violent interruptions of Turkish rule, resulting in the death of its monarchs, by the fact that as far back as 1480, Mohammed II, who had conquered Constantinople, began his public life as a fraticide.

Among the causes of Turkish weakness are

- 1. Its religious divisions. The Mohammedans are in almost deadly feud among themselves. Their main dispute is as to the true successors of the Prophet. The Greek Church, numbering 13,000,000 of the population, has great influence, and its welfare is the principal plea of Russia when seeking war with Turkey.

Sufficient has been said to justify the expression that Turkey is "The sick man of Europe."

Constantinople has a population of 846,000, consisting of natives and foreigners, the latter comprising nearly one half the number, from a great variety of countries.

Montenegro, a scanty territory on the north of Albania, and now in war with Turkey, has professed independence of the Porte for four centuries, under native rulers.

Servia, also engaged in the war, is like Montenegro, Slavonian, and perfectly independent in internal affairs. Its external affairs are under control of the Sultan, to whom it pays a small tribute.

The aggression of Russia upon Turkey began as far back as in the reign of Peter the Great. This monarch entered Turkish territory but was obliged to retire with great loss.

England stands by Turkey for two reasons:-

There is a vast amount of British money invested in the rotten nationality; and though there may be little prospect of returns, it would be galling to see Russia stepping in to inherit this wealth without deserving anything good at British hands.

Then Turkey is directly in the highway to the East. If England is to possess India it must save Turkey from dismemberment.

By holding Constantinople England would gain two advantages:-

The most powerful fleet in the world could be brought into play against the enemy who would attempt the siege of the Capital, and in acting on the defensive all the skill of modern engineering science could be employed to prolong the struggle.

METHODIST MEETINGS.—The Rev. John M. Reid, D. D., Secretary of the M. E. Church of the U. S., will be in St. John the first week in Dec., to take part in the Missionary services of the Methodist Churches, to be held during that week.

That is wisely done. Missionary enterprise is a common religious enterprise—like the work of Americans and British, Methodist and Methodist Episcopal. Dr. Reid is a noble man and a grand orator.

Rev. R. Brecken, A.M., will be present to represent the Nova Scotia Conference at the St. John Missionary Meetings to be held as above indicated, on the 3rd proximo.

THE Halifax Chronicle enquires why the WESLEYAN does not call attention to a case recently before the courts, as affording grounds for reflection on the morals of public men.

serious blame to some one; if the acts have been committed, they are sufficient to drive any public man into infamous retirement.

The Chronicle seems to be afflicted with a very unpleasant kind of hallucination. It imagines itself a guardian or dictator, or something of that sort, over the other city papers.

It is announced that the Hon. Geo. E. King, of St. John, intends shortly to retire from political life. We have no faith in any political creed for either New Brunswick or Nova Scotia—though in that particular we are not very distinct from even politicians themselves.

REV. T. WATSON SMITH has returned from New York, Philadelphia, and other American cities, having met with much courtesy, and gained considerable addition to his stock of historic information.

WE welcome back from his European trip, Geo. Johnson, Esq., Editor of the Reporter. Mr. Johnson wields a strong cultured sceptre in the domain of daily literature, and we hope his visit has done much to qualify him for even more effective editorial work.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—Last week we expressed a doubt as to the agitation regarding the uncertainty of the election passing off without trouble.

United States troops are being concentrated at and near Washington; also the naval force, as a precautionary measure against demonstrations by Southern sympathizers in case Hayes is declared elected.

STANDARD LIBRARY.—A New Brunswick minister writes highly approving of the selection of books advertised by us for some time under the above title.

NEW BRUNSWICK METHODIST MATTERS.

A series of lectures, literary entertainments, &c., is in course at Carleton, St. John. Much talent is being employed both musical and literary.

The Mission Church, Carmarthen St., in St. John, keeps up, in a most spirited way, the course of lectures and literary exercises, which have for some time made its enterprise so prominent.

Much expectation is awakened in St. John city by the contemplated visit of Dr. Reid from the United States.

Moncton proceeds with its new church. It is designed to erect an edifice in every way corresponding to the necessities of this rising town.

Rev. Robert Wilson, of Gibson, has been lecturing at Carleton and other places on "Characteristics of the Irish." The lecture is highly spoken of by New Brunswick and Maine papers.

The lecture course in the Fairville Church has been brilliantly opened by Mr. Fletcher of Charlottetown, with a supplement to his address there last year on "The World's Theatre."

Rev. John Lathern of Charlottetown has been paying a flying visit to his old parishioners in Halifax. He seems strong and healthful, and speaks very hopefully of his present immense charge.

NOVA SCOTIA METHODIST MATTERS.

Grafton St. Halifax heads the lists for the Maritime Provinces in the General Missionary Report for last year. There is but one church in the Dominion which leads in missionary benevolence—St. James street, Montreal, the king circuit.

Dartmouth, under the energy of a new pastor, has undertaken to enlarge its church. The congregations are steadily increasing. Halifax has helped well financially in bringing Dartmouth up to the necessities of the times.

Brunswick St. has improved its vestry or basement to a wonderful degree. By removing the old wooden supports, and substituting small iron pillars; by enlarging the windows, adding to the size of the room, painting and generally dressing up affairs, the place has been made to appear new and modern.

Kay St. and Charles St. are beginning to feel their strength, and striking out for independence. The former has a fine congregation and a neat, substantial church. The latter has recently been enlarged, and has one of the largest and most successful Sabbath schools in the city.

Truro is enjoying its school-room, fitted up from the improvements made upon a building recently purchased. This interest will have great facilities now which were denied to it while only the new church was available for all public meetings and services.

Amherst has been convinced it made a mistake in building its church without faith as to the demands of the population. It is not often trustees, as in this instance, find themselves, three months after church opening, with ten or twenty applications for pews on their hands which they cannot supply.

Rev. J. B. Hemmeon returned a few days ago from an interesting visit to the Centennial. He was bewildered first, as was common with all visitors, then interested, and finally amazed.

Letter from the United States.

SMITH'S DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE, issued by Messrs. H. O. Houghton & Co., embraces the English edition, with certain important and valuable editions by eminent American scholars.

THE BUSINESS PROSPECTS, are more cheering. After so long a time of business depression it is truly encouraging to see any signs of activity in the business world.

HARVESTS have been abundant, never more so, while business is somewhat depressed, food of all kinds is abundant, and can be obtained at moderate prices.

FINANCIAL DEPRESSION, the churches have suffered largely for want of funds to carry on their work. The benevolent collections have been reduced largely in their amounts, and thus the reduction in the collections, will fall very heavily on the missionary work.

THE GREAT REVIVAL INTEREST of the country, though we have passed a most exciting political election, still continuing unabated, and we are expecting the winter season such a work of grace as we have never experienced.

OUR PUBLISHERS AND AUTHORS are active in preparing for the holidays and winter trade. It is remarkable that through the entire season of our great business depression, the publishing interests has gone on without interruption.

NORMAN MACLEOD, D. D. A memoir of this distinguished minister of Christ, written by his brother, Rev. Donald Macleod, B. A., is from the press of R. Worthington, and is a work of great interest.

MESSRS. LIPPINCOTT & CO. have issued "Memoirs of John Q. Adams," comprising portions of his diary from 1795 to 1848, and is edited by Hon. Chas. Francis Adams.

THE HISTORY AND CONQUESTS OF THE SARACENS.

is the title of a volume, embracing six lectures before the Edinburgh Philosophical Institute, by Edward a Freeman, and issued by MacMillan & Co.

SMITH'S DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE, issued by Messrs. H. O. Houghton & Co., embraces the English edition, with certain important and valuable editions by eminent American scholars.

PREACHERS AND PREACHING is the title of a most valuable book, embracing several lectures by the celebrated Dr. John A. Broadus—a volume that might be read with great profit by ministers and people, and deserves a place in every family library.

MESSRS. DODD & MEAD, have published L. S. T. Spear's "Religion and the State," "Jehovah Jesus: the oneness of God," "The True Trinity," by Robert D. Weeks; "The French at Home," by Albert Rhodes, a work showing the real French life, and they have in press an important work, by the Rev. E. P. Roe, an author of considerable note and influence.

AMONG OUR ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINES Scribner's holds the highest place for literary and moral excellence. It is conducted by Dr. J. G. Holland, one of our leading poets and writers.

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