

the people passing through a sea of mud and dirt; Oberlin, therefore, advising that every one who attended should carry a stone, and lay them in heaps, for the purpose of collecting materials to make a better path; and he might be seen himself carrying a stone as he went to preach to them of a path of still more importance, even the way of righteousness.

After his success in thus improving the roads, in draining, in planting, so that the country began to assume a flourishing aspect; his solicitude extended to the villages themselves, and to the dwellings. Having already persuaded the peasants to carry the manure out of their houses, and preserve it in particular places for the use of the land, the inside of their dwellings had necessarily become free from this nuisance; he now by degrees succeeded in converting these wretched dirty hovels into comfortable, clean, stone houses, with cellars for the preservation of their winter stock of potatoes.

We have now to notice a measure which, perhaps above every other, contributed to the prosperity of the inhabitants of Steinthal. They had hitherto been dependent upon the neighbouring towns for the supply of every necessary article, either for their houses or their farms, from no trade or handicraft being carried on in the whole valley, which entailed either a great expense, or an unavoidable deprivation of what, in many cases, was of infinite importance to their welfare. To remedy this evil, Oberlin chose some of the most active and suitable young men among his people, and sent them to Strasburg to learn different trades, as carpenters, masons, glaziers, blacksmiths, and wheelwrights. He also provided them with a medical assistant, by giving a young man of abilities the opportunity of studying this most important profession; he had on first taking up his residence among them, and indeed in particular circumstances, at a later period, employed the knowledge he had acquired at Dr. Ziegen's, for the benefit of these poor creatures, for whom every faculty of his mind was brought into exercise. Several suitable women were also sent to Strasburg, to become initiated in midwifery, and by these and other means, a considerable sum of money was circulated in the valley, which had hitherto been unavoidably paid to the neighbouring towns.

It will be asked how a minister whose stipend was never more than 1100 francs, and some years only 400, and who in others received no remuneration at all for his labours, could expend so much upon his parishioners; added to which it is known that he often paid the salaries of their school-masters and mistresses; gave them a fire-engine, subscribed to the missionary and Bible societies, and was the constant benefactor of the poor. To attain these objects he received pupils into his house, the children of respectable families, who were eager to place them under his care, and when a vacancy occurred, there were always several candidates ready to fill up his number. And this money, which he earned with great exertion and toil, was not devoted to the wants alone of himself and his nine children; but was equally with every pinch of snuff that he took, the property of his parishioners.

After the Revolution, that dreadful scourge which for a considerable time disturbed every religious institution, and completely stopped his scanty income, when the churches were again reopened, Oberlin communicated to his people his resolution, so long as God gave him strength, to preach to them; he should do so without collecting his subscriptions, as he had hitherto done; that each of his parishioners knew his dwelling, and might after the example of the first churches, voluntarily and according as God had prospered him, contribute to his support, that it was not his wish to oppress the poor, who had often neither salt nor bread, and who formed so great a part of his flock, to whom he would rather yield relief than be the means of depressing still more. In reference to the salaries for the school-masters and charitable institutions, he advised they should also do the same, and bring according to their means and the voice of conscience. From this time Oberlin would accept none of the customary fees, and used to say: "In Steinthal every one is baptised, married and buried without any expense, as far as their pastor is concerned."

(To be continued.)

LATEST NEWS.

The events of the past month have been of a chequered, yet of an interesting character. The prospects of improvement in trade

although not brilliant, are nevertheless cheering. In the manufacturing districts activity prevails, and it is confidently expected that the opening of the Chinese ports will, before long, afford the manufacturers full employment.

The country has been agitated in various districts by the repealers of the Corn Law. The demonstration which they have effected, is, in despite of the sneering indifference with which it has been treated, more formidable than their antagonists are willing to allow. It is certain that a further alteration in the Corn Laws is projected. The only dispute now maintained is not whether their will be a change at all, but what the nature of that change will be.

A dreadful fire, with loss of life, had taken place in the minories, London. Another great fire had occurred in Liverpool.

An epidemic has been prevalent in Dundee for some months past, but has not proved very fatal.

An awful catastrophe occurred in a Catholic chapel at Galway on Christmas-day. At early prayers, in the parish chapel, there was an immense concourse of people—the gallery, as is usual on Christmas mornings, being crowded to excess. By the pressure of the crowd one of the rails of the staircase was broken, and some person, hearing the crackling noise, cried out that the gallery was giving way. A rush was made to escape, and many of the victims in their eagerness to get out, fell down, and were trampled to death. 4000 or 5000 people were present, no less than thirty-three people have been killed.

One Gaudin in Paris, has invented a light which he says is as bright as that of the sun. The Drummond light is 1500 times stronger than the gas light. The Gaudin light is said to be 30,000 times stronger. It is proposed to build a light house in the centre of Paris which is to illuminate the whole city.

MISSION TO CHINA.—The Society for the Propagating of the Gospel in Foreign Parts intend establishing a mission at Hong Kong, and will raise a special fund for that purpose.

Lord Hill, the late commander-in-chief, died on the 10th, in the 71st year of his age, at his seat, Hardwicke Grange, Shropshire.

The Duke of Wellington has been nearly choked by the bones of a Partridge.

There are symptoms of disaffection in France, and some indications of an outbreak.

Captain McKenzie, of the *Somers*, and his officers are to be tried by court-martial—as the only means of saving them from vexatious prosecutions.

An American Commodore has, on the supposition that the United States would declare war against Mexico, taken a town named Monterey, in California. This conquest he speedily evacuated making the best excuses he could which are rather lame.

We are informed by the New York papers that the cars were run over the Tonawanda Railroad on Tuesday last for the first time—thus completing the last link in the chain of railroad from Boston to Buffalo.

Extract from the Governor of New York's Annual Message.

On the first day of July last there were in this State 10,785 school districts; and the number of children taught the past year was 598,901.

The number of volumes in the district libraries on the first Jan. 1842, was 841,461; at this time it probably exceeds 1,000,000.

The amount of disbursements for common schools during the last year is as follows:

To teachers from the public money . . .	\$588,466 54
" contributions by individuals	
on rate bills	468,727 27
Payment for libraries	98,226 09

\$1,155,419 90

The Religious Anniversaries at Montreal have been well attended this year.

The Committee of the Montreal Society have deputed their Agent, Mr. R. D. WADSWORTH, to Canada West, to lay their wants before the friends of the cause, and receive whatsoever they may be pleased to give. His business will be to collect arrears for the *Advocate*, and other debts due the Society; to receive any subscriptions that may have been raised either by societies, by the ladies or others, as well as donations from