

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN EGYPT.

We have already mentioned the attempt which has been made to establish the English Episcopal Church in the land of the Pharaohs—in the city of Alexandria, where the first attempt at an Episcopal Church was made in the year 1818. It was then that the Rev. Mr. Perring, who was then Bishop of Exeter, was appointed to the office of Bishop of Alexandria, and he was the first to attempt to establish the Episcopal Church in Egypt. It was then that the Rev. Mr. Perring, who was then Bishop of Exeter, was appointed to the office of Bishop of Alexandria, and he was the first to attempt to establish the Episcopal Church in Egypt.

The Episcopal Church in Alexandria.—The Protestant Church now being erected in Alexandria under the superintendence of our countryman, Mr. J. W. Wild, is dedicated to St. Mark, the founder of the primitive church in Egypt, and is a noble monument to the Christian faith in that country. It is situated in the city of Alexandria, and is a noble monument to the Christian faith in that country.

It seems that in 1838, the British community at Alexandria, desirous to provide means for the regular performance of public worship, held a meeting and determined to raise a subscription for the erection of a chapel. In the following year, Colonel Campbell, then Consul General, mentioned to Mr. Perring, the Vicar of Exeter, the intention of the residents, and his Highness, the Khedive, who deserves commendation, presented to the community a valuable plot of ground on the south side of the Great Square, in the Frank quarter, one of the most prominent positions in the city, situated in part by handsome modern buildings.

The Pasha at the same time expressed a wish that the structure should harmonize with the neighbouring buildings, and be worthy of the English capital. This took the committee by surprise, as they had contemplated erecting a very simple structure, and for some time the project remained in abeyance. It will thus be seen that the building was not otherwise appropriated. The necessity, however, for a suitable building became every month more urgent; the full development of the overland communication, and the increase of direct steam intercourse with Great Britain, France, Austria, &c., led to a great influx of travellers, and it was seen that the building was required to be of the character indicated by the Pasha. The object had attained a new importance, the ground was secured, and fresh efforts made to effect the purpose.

In the first instance, plans were obtained from the Cambridge Camden Society, but these were not considered suitable to the climate or locality, and could not have been executed satisfactorily by Egyptian operatives. Mr. Wild was then employed to make a design, and a meeting was held to consider the opinion of the Alexandrian residents, to meet the comprehension of the native artificers, provided what is now being executed, and which will be a noble monument to the Christian faith in that country.

The size of the building is considerable. A reference to the plan shows a nave of 70 feet long, and 30 feet wide, and a chancel of 22 feet long, by 16 feet wide, and a vestry on the other side of the same size. The whole height of the church will be about 40 feet. The nave is supported by four pillars 100 feet high. The tower, however, is not considered by the architect a strictly necessary part in the design, and will not be carried up until the rest of the building is entirely completed.

The foundations have been mainly laid for the whole structure, including the tower and the enclosure walls, and the main building has advanced to the springing of the roof.

The cost of the church is estimated at £4000, of which only half has yet been raised, so that assistance is indispensably necessary. Looking at the value of a church as an object of great importance—desired, perhaps, to effect eventual changes—we do earnestly hope that assistance will be rendered in England.

The Act of Parliament 6 Geo. IV., cap. 8, provides that where British subjects abroad shall raise one half of an amount sufficient for the support of a church, the Government, at its discretion, may contribute a like amount to the sum.

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TERRIFIC EXPLOSION OF FIRE-BALLS AT LIVERPOOL.—Ninth Person Killed.—At an early hour on Tuesday morning another of those mining explosions which have of late been of such frequent occurrence and attended with such fatal results, took place at Rooks Green, New Colliery, situated at Newberry-lane, near Oldbury. The facts connected with this awful calamity may be briefly stated. It appears that at between five and six o'clock on the morning in question, some of the men at work in the mine descended into the pit. They were accompanied by the manager and the "doggy," followed by others—in all 35 men and boys. It was the business of the person employed under the manager to ascertain the state of the atmosphere; but whether he did so or not on this occasion does not appear. A short time after the descent of the men, the manager (Mr. Holland) discovered that some part of the mine were filled with sulphur, and he cautioned his son not to proceed further in the direction in which the mine rose. The young man, at that moment, turned back, and he was seen to be in the direction of the mine, which, according to his own words, he perceived to be in a state of combustion, and he was left in total darkness. So powerful, too, was the effect of the vapour that he with difficulty preserved himself from suffocation. After a short time he succeeded in groping his way to the shaft of the pit. Assistance was then rendered from the surface as speedily as possible, and on examining the mine the scene which presented itself was appalling. The bodies of the men who had been in the mine were scattered in all directions, and some were expected to survive. The instant information which had reached the great mine, the neighbourhood it is needless to describe. Some idea of the extent of the calamity may be formed from the fact that, by the death of the married men, are included not only two orphans will be thrown on the parish, the widows being generally in very poor circumstances.

The Explosion, Light-house.—The Edystone Light-house exhibited a flag of distress during the late hurricane, and the agent in vain attempted to hold communication with the light-keepers. On Sunday a more successful effort was made, and the Edystone was reached. The vessel, however, was in a very precarious position, and the wind was blowing strong from the westward. After approaching the light-house as near as the boisterous state of the sea would permit, the light-keepers were signalled to throw out a letter in a scull boat. From this it was ascertained that the distress flag had been kept hoisted in consequence of the damaged state of the lower part of the door of the lantern entrance caused by the great weight of the water, which had forced itself into the light-house.

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UNITED STATES.

Message from the President.—Congress having by vote asked the President for copies of the orders given to Gen. Kearney and Capt. Stockton, to assemble the militia of California, and the peace of the United States, and adding them permanently to the United States, His Excellency transmitted copies of those orders together with the following message, which will be seen that all these acts have not been approved by the Executive.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.  
To the House of Representatives of the United States.  
In compliance with the request contained in the resolution of the 15th inst., I communicate herewith reports of the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy with the documents which accompany them. These documents contain all the orders and instructions to any Military, Naval, or other officer of the Government in relation to the establishment or organization of civil government in any portion of the territory of Mexico which has or which might be taken possession of by the army and navy of the United States.

These orders and instructions were given to regulate the exercise of the rights of the belligerents in the territory of Mexico which has or which might be taken possession of by the army and navy of the United States. They were given to regulate the exercise of the rights of the belligerents in the territory of Mexico which has or which might be taken possession of by the army and navy of the United States. They were given to regulate the exercise of the rights of the belligerents in the territory of Mexico which has or which might be taken possession of by the army and navy of the United States.

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THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1847.  
The steamer Hibernia, with the January mail, left New Brunswick in the morning of the 2nd inst.—it will therefore be at least a fortnight more before any further European intelligence can be received by this route. Our first English news will probably be received by the way of N. York.

Last night and this morning we had a severe gale from N. E. to S. W. with a heavy sea, and several vessels were driven on shore. The rain was so heavy that it was difficult to walk in our streets very wet and muddy. The storm abated about one o'clock, and the wind having changed to the westward, and light.

EMIGRANTS.—The total number of emigrants last year in New Brunswick in 1846, was 9765—all from Ireland except 62. Of the number 3224 were males, and 2411 females. Number of vessels with passengers from Ireland, 22; ditto from Great Britain, 17. Number of vessels on the voyage, or in quarantine, 33. Number of deaths, 15. The most of the emigrants proceeded to the United States immediately after landing here.

Gas.—The Methodist Chapel in Germain-street was lighted with Gas, for the first time, on Sunday evening, the 27th inst. The light was first shown in the vestry, and then in the church. This is the first Church in the City that has been lighted with Gas. There were 38 lumens, to which we learn 4 more are to be added.

Mechanics' Institute.—Last evening, Mr. M'Carthy delivered his second lecture on the "Instinct and Mental Manifestations of Animals," to a large and attentive audience. The lecturer appeared to be much interested in the subject. On Friday next, Mr. Professor Jack will deliver his first lecture on the "Mechanical Properties of Fluids, and especially of Atmospheric Air."

Meetings of the Colonial Legislatures.—The Legislature of this Province meets for the dispatch of business, on Thursday, the 26th inst.—the Legislature of Prince Edward Island on Tuesday the 26th, and the Legislature of Nova Scotia on Thursday the 26th inst.

The annual collection in the Rev. Mr. Irvine's Church, on last Lord's day, amounted to £14 0 4. Collected in the Baptist Chapel, on New Year's night, £20 0 0.

Several serious street quarrels occurred at Halifax last week, in one of which a man named Palfrey was shot in the ear of another man, with a sword, and dangerously wounded a boy. Power was arrested and committed to jail.

RELIEF FOR IRELAND.—A meeting was held at Tammany Hall, New York, on Saturday evening, the 20th Dec., for the purpose of raising and sending relief to the famine-stricken people of Ireland, which was unanimously adopted. It was agreed to send a committee to collect subscriptions throughout the city. Meetings have also been held in Boston, Washington, &c., for the same purpose.

The steam ship Unicorn is advertised at Halifax, for this port, Sunday.

Loss of the Bowyer Smith.—The Barque Bowyer Smith, Capt. Olive, from Liverpool for the port of St. John, on the 26th inst., was driven ashore on the North-West side of Grand Manan, about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 26th Dec., during a thick snow storm, and became a total wreck. The crew, consisting of 40 days, were rescued, and the cargo, consisting of 2000 barrels of flour, and 1000 barrels of sugar, was saved.

Fire.—The building at the Ship Yard of the late Mr. G. Thomson, in Portland, known as the "Old Ship House," was destroyed by fire at an early hour on Thursday morning. It was occupied by several families, and the loss of property was very great. The fire was caused by a defective chimney, and the flames were extinguished by the fire engines.

The Baptist Seminary, at Fredericton, under the charge of Mr. S. P. Spence, will open its examination on the 17th inst. The faculty consists of the Rev. Messrs. Brooks, Pope, and Elder. The Rev. Messrs. Brooks, Pope, and Elder. The Rev. Messrs. Brooks, Pope, and Elder.

Abundance of Breadstuffs in Ohio.—A letter written in Toledo, Ohio, says—"The warehouses in every direction are absolutely stored with wheat and corn, and the prices of transportation to market are enormous, and the means of transportation insufficient."

REMARKS.—The New York Express of last Tuesday evening says—"The demand for vessels is most extraordinary. The demand for vessels is most extraordinary. The demand for vessels is most extraordinary."

The Marine Insurance Companies are making up their accounts. It is found that, as a general thing, the business has been more disastrous than ever. There seems to have been nothing but a succession of gales, and the stores stacked with vessels.

AMERICAN PUBLICATIONS OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA.

We have from the New York Queen, which the reputation of Mr. Sears' Books, having extended to England, and being considered there equal to many of their own best publications, he received an intimation from an eminent Divine, the Rev. Thomas Clarkson, of London, and others, that a complete set of them would be an appropriate present to her Majesty. The New York Sun says—"Accordingly, Mr. Sears sends out by the steamer of the 1st January, the 'Pictorial History of the World,' the 'Guide to Knowledge,' the 'Pictorial Sunday Book,' the 'Pictorial Description of Great Britain and Ireland,' and 'Information for the People,' being thirteen magnificent volumes in all. They are superbly bound in Morocco, and ornamented with beautiful designs in gold. The following presentation is written inside of each:—Presented to her Most Gracious Majesty

QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, with the utmost respect, by the Compiler and Publisher, ROBERT SEARS, New York, (U. S. A.) January 1, 1847.

This splendid New Year's present will be forwarded from Mr. Sears' Store, 128 Nassau street, this afternoon or to-morrow, to the steamer Cambria, which leaves Boston for Liverpool on Friday next.

FROM MEXICO.—We find a few particulars in the Courier des Etats Unis, which has lately furnished much interesting information and speculation, dated upon private correspondence from Mexico. The Courier of Tuesday last says:—We were yesterday permitted to see several very interesting letters from Mexico, of which two were addressed by General Santa Ana and Almonte to some of their friends now residing in New York. The first of these letters is dated at San Luis de Potosi, on the 24th of November, and the second at Mexico, on the 24th of November. These are the latest dates which have been received by way of Havana.

The letter of Santa Ana is in itself a contradiction of the rumor that the Mexican Commander-in-chief had fled to San Luis de Potosi, and was on the road to Victoria. A movement like this does not appear to have entered into his plans, which are it is said made with great prudence and depth of foresight. General Santa Ana himself seems to have great confidence in their success, for he says—"In the frankness of intimacy—I firmly believe that now the greatest chances are in our favor." His whole letter bears the stamp of a lively sentiment of dignity and nationality, and he expresses the firm determination to render the war interminable and to die rather than to accept a peace which should not be an honorable one. We believe, however, that the Mexican leader has too much reason and patriotism not to desire the conclusion of a peace in which the honor and interest of both contracting parties shall be in fact equally respected. Now we think that such a treaty is not yet an impossible thing, if a little good will should be put into the matter on both sides.

We have already alluded to the idea—which has been advanced by the administration of General Santa Ana, as a concession to the people of Mexico, to open new negotiations, and instructed to receive the offer constantly. Such a concession would have a good effect on the minds of the people, and it could not but tend to the Mexican government to some concession. We regret that this rumor has received no official sanction in the columns of the Union.

Other letters which have been shown to us, and which are from very well informed persons, all concur in the opinion that the Administration, and especially the Rev. Mr. W. A. White, of San Luis de Potosi, amounts actually to twenty or thirty thousand men, of whom ten thousand are excellent cavalry. The greater harmony reigning among the influential men of the country. A reconciliation had taken place between Santa Ana and Region, who had been compelled, as it was said, to resign the Presidency, in order to resign his portfolio. The majority of Congress belonged to the Federalist party, and Santa Ana persisted in declaring that he renounces the Presidency. General Almonte is the candidate who has his sympathy with the Federalists, and the English Minister withdrew the offer of mediation which he had lately made in the name of his government. The probable cause of this retroversion, was the little success which the proposal had met with at Washington, for some months.

FROM MEXICO.—Loss of the U. S. Brig "Sons of Liberty."—The Sons of Liberty, a schooner connected with the blockading fleet at Vera Cruz, in a gale on the 8th of December, while in chase of a vessel, she got on Pajaro Reef, and after being several hours in the water, she was wrecked. The fire communicated to part of the Shields connected with the yard, which is now occupied by Mr. John Owens, and in which a large ship has been under construction. The vessel was destroyed, and the crew, consisting of 40 men, were rescued. The loss of the vessel was a great one, and the crew were very fortunate to be saved.

As soon as the accident was discovered, the boats of all these vessels were simultaneously sent away. The crew of the Edynham to the number of two hundred men, and the crew of the Sons of Liberty to the number of 40 men, were rescued. The loss of the vessel was a great one, and the crew were very fortunate to be saved.

The Mexicans saw the accident from the mole, and cheered and exulted for a long time. The number lost was 37—saved, 33.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. SCOTT.—Gen. Scott and staff arrived in town yesterday morning, and is staying at the St. Charles Hotel. He is accompanied by his family, and will be in the city for some days.

NOVEL STRATAGEM.—We noticed yesterday the arrival of two barbers direct from Galena, their cargo consisting of 8000 pigs of lead, consigned to two merchants of our city. These barbers, from Lake St. Clair, over 800 miles above St. Louis, took their loads at Galena, and made the trip down in seventy-three days. This is the first shipment of lead, we believe, ever made in this part.—New Orleans Delta, Dec. 20.

OFFICIAL.—The army in Mexico consists of 874 regulars and 16,500 volunteers. Gen. Taylor has 18,232. Wood 2400, Kearney 3882. A strong addition of 8000 is on its march.

THE CASE OF THE U. S. Sloop, Arrived at St. John.—The U. S. Sloop, arrived at St. John on the 25th inst. It is found that, as a general thing, the business has been more disastrous than ever. There seems to have been nothing but a succession of gales, and the stores stacked with vessels.

THE TELEGRAPH.—We understand that the wires of the telegraph are now completed between this town and Toronto, and are being rapidly pushed on to the westward. The telegraph will be in operation in a few days.—Hudson Gazette.

WELLNESS.—Probably this period have never known more persons afflicted with Indigestion and Colic, than at present. To persons of robust constitution, however, though supposed to be bound of the baggage of the New York Courier, one of a severe cold, in fact an epidemic.—New York Sun.

CHURCH AFFAIRS.

The following communications to His Lordship the Bishop, with his reply thereto, have been handed us for insertion. St. John, New Brunswick, Dec. 17 1846. In forwarding the accompanying Memorial, I understand you are desirous to determine on your Lordship that, among the 215 names subscribed, are those of the 74 or of the City and County of St. John, 158 names of families comprising 800 souls, on Church Wardens and six Members of the Vestry of Trinity Church, and, though it is known, the majority of the Vestry of Trinity Church add the necessity for the measure now brought before your Lordship, they have, nevertheless, retained silence and abstained from witness, for some years past, of the gradual yet visible desertion of our National Church by some of the chief members, who have finally forsaken its mode of worship.

Your Memorialists, therefore, feel themselves constrained to constitute the body of Petitioners to exercise an undoubted privilege of addressing their Bishop direct, as the Head of that Church in this Province, on matters so deeply involving its spiritual welfare; trusting that the measure recommended for your Lordship's consideration may be speedily adopted, and that your Lordship will be graciously pleased to sign the same, as appointed by your Lordship, as the means best calculated, in the opinion of the Memorialists, to avert the threatened ruin of the National Church, and to secure the faithful members of the same from the effects of their fathers' unwise wanderings from the fold.

We beg leave to add, that representing the Memorialists, we are still from time to time, in communication with your Lordship, and to afford any information which our local knowledge and long residence in this Province may be able to give; and we do not exert ourselves in supporting your Lordship's endeavours for the accomplishment of this object of Christian love, in which we all take a warm and lively interest.

We have the honor to be, Sir, your Lordship's most obedient servants, (Signed) JAMES H. GILBERT, ALEX. BOYLE, JOHN W. GIBSON, CHARLES WARD, STEPHEN KENT FOSTER, Committee.

The Right Rev. Father in God, John, Lord Bishop of Fredericton. To the Right Rev. Father in God, John, Lord Bishop of Fredericton. The Memorial of the undersigned Parishioners of St. John's most reverend and increasing population on the Eastern side of the Harbour, imperatively requiring additional Church accommodation, especially for the poor, and for the want of room—a subject which it is known, has deeply engaged the serious attention of your Lordship. That the erection of Saint John Church in the year 1824, the population of this Parish has been more than doubled, and that the churches have since that time been erected within it.

That a state of spiritual destitution has therefore been felt to the very heart of the congregation of the Province; and in the opinion