

tered, in all of which his labours were abundant, and, in many instances, greatly blessed of God.

About four years and a-half ago, Mr. Durrant was visited with a stroke of paralysis, which completely laid him aside, and rendered him entirely helpless, and to a large extent unconscious of what was passing around him. All that thoughtful care and loving attention could do to alleviate the distress of such a condition, was cheerfully and ceaselessly done by his children, and his aged and feeble partner. His sufferings, although so protracted, were borne with wonderful patience, and an abiding and all-conquering trust in God. Though apparently dead to all the world around, he always remembered a blessing before taking food, and always with *uplifted* hand, and "for Christ's sake." One day, in spring, when everything was beautiful, and green, and sun-shiny, his daughter, Mrs. Kirk, drew his attention to the loveliness of the morning, and desired him to look out. "Yes," he said, and repeated the verse:—

"Could I but climb where Moses stood," etc.

To a dear friend who often called in to ask how he was, his uniform answer was, "waiting!" So true and faithful is the promise of God:—"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee." Gradually his physical strength failed, till at last, on the morning of the day above named, the weary pilgrim, without a groan or a word, was lifted from the terrestrial to the celestial, by the tender hand of his heavenly Father.

On the 2nd of March, the Rev. H. Hughes preached an impressive and appropriate funeral discourse, in the Congregational church, from the words of Rev. xiv. 13, "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." Thus, one by one, the "fathers" are passing away. May we be "followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises!" W.

## News of the Churches.

MR. HAYNES, student of Bangor, is supplying at Garafraxa and Douglas.

THE Rev. James Davies of Acton has received and accepted a unanimous call to the church at Ayr.

MR. W. EWING, student C.C.B.N.A., has declined the call of the churches in Garafraxa and Douglas.

LAST Lord's Day, Rev. Edward Ebbs, of Napierville, Ill., intimated his desire to close his labours as "stated supply," at Napierville, on the completion of the half year, *i.e.*, April 27th.

WE see by the Hamilton "Times" that Mr. Griffith's sermon on "Amusements" was listened to by a crowded house. The "Times" speaks in the highest terms of the sermon and prints it in full in its Monday morning issue.

THE Rev. George Anderson, formerly of Cavalry church, Montreal, is now labouring with much success at Gaines, Orleans Co., New York. During the early part of the year, his people remembered him by a donation of \$135 worth of their "carnal things."

THE pastor of Forest reports that Bro. McKay visited his field for evangelistic labours on 8th inst. Also "that the meetings are very good indeed. A large number of persons remains to the anxious meeting every night, some of whom are enabled to rejoice in new found hopes.

A TEA SOCIAL was got up by the members of Mr. Peter Martin's Bible Class at Garafraxa, last week, for the purpose of enlarging the Sabbath School library. It was a very successful gathering. Rev. J. B. Mullan, of Fergus, J. Laird, of Douglas, and C. Duff, M.A., of Speedside, gave addresses. \$28 was realized for the library.

THE Vespra church gave a "welcome" to its new pastor, Mr. Hindley, on the 25th ult. It was a success. The Edgar people made a "wood-bee" and warmed their pastor's heart by a shed full of wood. The congregations are good. The Bible-class and prayer-meetings well attended, people and pastor working lovingly together. These are prophecies of good things to come.

MISSIONARY sermons were preached in the Western church, of this city, on Sunday, the 16th inst., in the morning, by the Rev. T. W. Handford, and in the evening, by the pastor. On the following Monday evening, a public meeting was held in behalf of our Home Missionary Society. Introductory services were conducted by the Rev. M. Lowry. Earnest, instructive, and stimulating addresses, on the mission work of the church, were given by Revs. H. D. Hunter, Joseph Griffith and T. W. Handford. The meetings were greatly enjoyed by the people, and the contributions were liberal.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The Rev. Thos. Hall, after eleven years of happy and successful labour in St. John's, has signified his intention to resign when a suitable successor is found. His reason for resignation is that the climate is not favourable to the health of the family. Here is a good opening for a good man. There is a parsonage connected with the church.—A new church has been opened at Twillingate. Dedication services held on the first Lord's Day in January.—A school and teacher's residence has been built in Smith Sound, Trinity Bay. The church building has undergone thorough repairs.—The Fortune Bay Mission is blessed with a revival.

ZION CHURCH, TORONTO.—A lecture on John Bunyan, "the famous tinker of Bedford," was delivered in Zion church, on Monday evening, 17th inst., by Rev. H. D. Powis, under the auspices of the Zion Literary Association. The lecture was listened to by quite a large number of people, who seemed to be deeply interested in it. Mr. George Pim, President of the Association, occupied the chair. The lecturer gave a graphic sketch of the times in which Bunyan lived, setting forth the persecutions which he had to endure and the difficulties which he had to encounter in connection with his religion. The life of the illustrious dreamer was depicted in eloquent terms, and frequent allusions were made to the sublime character of the works which he left behind him. The "Pilgrim's Progress," in particular, was described as a book which had been of spiritual benefit to more people, than any other in the English language, except the Bible itself. On the whole, the rich material which Bunyan's life and works afford to a lecturer were well made use of, and the lecture was listened throughout with deep attention. At its close, the thanks of the meeting were tendered to the lecturer.

THE Ladies' Sewing Society of the Hamilton church gave a social and literary entertainment on Wednesday evening, March 19. At seven o'clock tea was served in the school-room of the church; after which there was an adjournment to the lecture-room. The pastor, Rev. Joseph Griffith, having taken the chair, the following programme was proceeded with: Piano duet, Messrs. A. H. and A. Alexander; reading, Mr. Griffith; song, Mr. Joseph Huxley; recitation, "Absalom," Mr. Thomas Bale; quartette, "Here in Cool Grot," Misses E. Edgar and E. Chilman, and Messrs. W. B. Palmer and G. W. Alexander; reading, M. Findlay; song, "Consider the lilies," Miss E. Edgar; reading, "The Witch's Daughter," and recitation, "What the Bell said," Miss McKeand; piano solo, Miss Kent; organ solo, Mr. B. Sanders; reading, Mr. Briggs; song, "My Country Calls," Mr. W. B. Palmer; reading, "The Lady of Provence," Miss Daville; song, "The King's Highway," Mr. G. W. Alexander; reading, Mr. W. Bale; quartette, "The German Fatherland," Messrs. Palmer, Huxley, A. H. and G. W. Alexander. The proceeds were for the new furnace placed in the church.

## Religious News.

OF the first number of "The Catholic Presbyterian" ten thousand copies were printed, and the last report is that the edition is almost exhausted.

MRS. RANYARD, who originated the work of Bible Women in London, giving it the expressive title of the Missing Link, died at that city Feb. 12.

IT is stated as a fact, that among 10,000 Fijians there is not a house without family worship. The *United Presbyterian* pertinently says this is more than can be said of any 10,000 Christians of America.

THE Boston "Pilot" wisely suggests that the Catholic Bishops direct the incoming Irish immigrants not to crowd into cities, but to seek homes and work where they can support themselves.

PROF. W. H. THOMPSON has only been absent three times in nine years from his large Sabbath afternoon Bible-class in the Y. M. C. A. building of New York. It has an average attendance of 550.

MARASH, in Central Turkey, has a Y. M. C. A. of 114 members, with a library of 137 Turkish, American and English books, and with Committees who are earnest and vigilant in personal religious work.

M. EUGENE REVELLAUD, the distinguished French journalist, whose remarkable conversion from Romanism has excited so much interest, expresses the opinion that France will become Protestant within forty years.

A TENNESSEE Presbyterian minister has been honoured by a resolution of censure passed by the state legislature for daring to reprove, in a sermon he preached before them, the attempts for repudiating the state debt. The resolution was afterwards reconsidered.

Elihu Burritt, "the learned blacksmith," died at New Britain, Conn., on the 6th inst. Mr. Burritt mastered one or more of the foreign languages while working at his trade, that of a blacksmith. He was a man of considerable learning, of noble character, and had lived a useful life.

REV. W. FLEMING STEVENSON, who has recently made a missionary tour around the globe, says that while Bombay had not a complete Marathi Bible till 1847, it had ten anti-Christian papers in 1843, and that the commonest book offered in the Calcutta bazaar is a cheap edition of Tom Paine.

THE Liverpool (Eng.) Evangelization Society supply about twenty meetings weekly with preachers. For three winters they have held Sabbath evening services at the Royal Amphitheatre, attended by from 800 to 1,000, and for the last three months at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, with about the same attendance.

THE Peabody Donation Fund in London, by the 14th annual report of the trustees, amounts to £699,131 of which \$540,948 has been expended. By it 6,170 rooms have been provided for the artisan and labouring poor of that city, comprising 2,348 separate dwellings, occupied by 9,860 persons. The average weekly rent of each dwelling is 4s. 4d.

DURING the three months Mr. Moody has been in Baltimore, he has held meetings in two churches daily, and sometimes has had five services on the Sabbath. His meetings have been crowded; many of the churches now have meetings every evening, and there is a more general religious interest in the city than ever before.

A LONDON exchange says: "Methodism is not likely to stand alone in its itinerancy in Ireland, if we may judge by the frequent clerical changes made in Ireland of late. Since disestablishment the changes of the Episcopal clergy have been very numerous, and in some dioceses quite exceed, on the average, the 'moves' of the Methodist ministers.

IN the wall of the chapel at Aneityum, one of the New Hebrides, has been placed a tablet to the memory of Dr. John Geddie, formerly of Prince Edward Island, who was a successful missionary there from 1848 to 1872. On it is inscribed this noble testimonial, "When he came here there were no Christians; when he went away there were no heathen."

THE help given by Christians for the relief of the famine-struck Chinese is bringing its results. Rev. A. H. Smith, of the American Board, reports 40 villages in which there are 120 applicants for church-membership. In one village a temple was emptied of its sixty idols which were buried in a pit, and the building and premises voluntarily made over to the church.

MR. WM. E. DONGE, when before the Congressional Labour Committee, stated that his firm which employed about 2,000 persons, made it a rule that those engaged in their seven manufacturing villages in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Canada, should not use intoxicating drinks. As the result they have not suffered from the business depression, and crime is unknown among them.

THE *Italic*, of Rome, has the following:—"The fund known as Peter's Pence continues to produce very little. The congregation of Cardinals, charged by the Pope to find a remedy for that state of things, is occupied in organizing that service on a vast scale. For Peter's Pence will be done what was put in practice for the propagation of the faith. A regular receipt is then expected to be obtained."

THE "Morning Star" states that Bell's telephone battery transmuted was placed on a recent Sabbath in the pulpit of Rev. Mr. Paige's church in Lowell, Mass., and that the entire service, including the sermon was distinctly heard in all parts of the city that was connected with the telephone. The words and tunes that were sung were heard at Foxboro, fifty-five miles distant, and also at Boston, *via* Foxboro, eighty miles distant.

REV. MR. VAN METER writes from Rome that he has 123 men enrolled in his night school in the Vatican Mission, with an average attendance of sixty. Their interest in Bible-reading and singing continues. At his last Sabbath-school 102 children and adults were in the Bible-class. He has recently, for the first time, held a Sabbath service in the daytime in the Leonine City. Many feared that it would be imprudent to urge those interested to attend by daylight within sight of the Pope's palace, but a meeting was appointed, the large room of the Vatican Mission was packed, and impressive religious services were held.