

representatives of Russia, France, Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Sardinia and Turkey assembled at Paris, took into consideration the subject of maritime rights, and put forth a declaration containing the two principles which this Government had submitted, nearly two years before, to the consideration of maritime powers, and adding thereto the following propositions: "Privateering is, and remains abolished," and "Blockade, in order to be binding, must be effective—that is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy;" and to the declaration thus composed of four points, two of which had already been proposed by the United States, this Government has been invited to accede by all the Powers represented at Paris, except Great Britain and Turkey.

"To the last of the two additional propositions—that in relation to blockades—there can certainly be no objection. It is merely the definition of what shall constitute the effectual investment of a blockaded place, a definition for which this Government has always contended, claiming indemnity for losses where a practical violation of the rule thus defined has been injurious to our commerce. As to the remaining article of the declaration of the conference of Paris, "That privateering is, and remains abolished," I certainly cannot ascribe to the Powers represented in the conference of Paris any but liberal and philanthropic views in the attempt to change the unquestionable rule of maritime law in regard to privateering.

"Their proposition was doubtless intended to imply approval of the principle that private property upon the ocean, although it might belong to the citizens of a belligerent State, should be so exempted from capture; and had that proposition been so framed as to give full effect to the principle, it would have received my ready assent on behalf of the United States. But the measure proposed is inadequate to that purpose. It is true that if adopted, private property upon the ocean would be withdrawn from one mode of plunder, but left exposed meanwhile, to another mode, which could be used with increased effectiveness. The aggressive capacity of great naval powers would be thereby augmented, while the defensive ability of others would be reduced.

"Though the surrender of the means of prosecuting hostilities by employing privateers, as proposed by the conference of Paris, is mutual in terms, yet, in practical effect, it would be the relinquishment of a right of little value to one class of States, but of essential importance to another and far larger class. It ought not to have been anticipated that a measure so inadequate to the accomplishment of the proposed object, and so unequal in its operation, would receive the assent of all maritime powers. Private property would be still left to the depredations of the public armed cruisers.

"I have expressed a readiness on the part of this Government to accede to all the principles contained in the declaration of the conference at Paris, provided that relating to the abandonment of privateering can be so amended as to effect the object for which, as is presumed, it was intended, the immunity of private property on the ocean from hostile capture.

"To effect this object, it is proposed to add to the declaration that "privateering is and remains abolished," the following amendment: "And that the private property of subjects and citizens of a belligerent on the high seas, shall be exempt from seizure by the public armed vessels of the other belligerent, except it be contraband" This amendment has been presented not only to the Powers which have asked our assent to the declaration to abolish privateering, but to all other maritime States. Thus far it has not been rejected by any, and is favorably entertained by all which have made any communication in reply.

“Several of the governments, regarding with favor the proposition of the United States, have delayed definitive action upon it, only for the purpose of consulting with others, parties to the conference of Paris. I have the satisfaction of stating, however, that the Emperor of Russia has entirely and explicitly approved of that modification, and will co operate in endeavoring to obtain the assent of the other powers, and that assurances of a similar purport have been received in relation to the disposition of the Emperor of the French.

“ The present aspect of this important subject allows us to cherish the hope that a principle so humane in its character, so just and equal in its operation, so essential to the prosperity of commercial nations, and so consonant to the sentiments of this enlightened period of the world, will command the approbation of all maritime Powers, and thus be incorporated into the code of international law.”

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1856.

CHRISTIAN.

BEFORE another issue of our Paper, we shall have passed that anniversary which the Christian Church commemorates as the day of the birth of the Saviour. The time is full of interesting associations, connected with the event itself, or which have grown out of it during a period of nearly nineteen centuries. Its approach in modern days gladdens the heart—it is a season of festivity to all who are not bowed by care or suffering, and even the wearied mind under its influence regains for the moment its pristine elasticity and vigor. Separated members of families look to it as a time of reunion—friend rejoices with friend—and the human heart warmed into sympathy with its kind, by a contrast of comforts and deprivations, strives to alleviate the common lot, and to make it bearable, at least for a day. And certainly a moment's reflection upon the stupendous event of the Incarnation—of the love of God to fallen man, who gave His only begotten Son to be a propitiation for the sins of the world—of the blessings which have been procured to the human race under the Gospel dispensation, with all its enlightening and civilizing influences—of the sure and certain hope of immortal life which it conveys,—ought to lend us to the conclusion, that if He so loved the world, we ought to love one another. Let it then be our endeavour at this Christian celebration, to cultivate the graces and amenities which properly belong to the Christian character—to use and not abuse the blessings which a gracious God has bestowed upon us—to temper our rejoicing with moderation—our mirth with discretion—our superior comfort with thankfulness of heart.

heart. The Christian religion is not a service of asceticism or gloom. But its festivals were not instituted as a means of gross indulgence, or unbridled excess, after the manner of the heathen observances which they have superseded. They are on the contrary to be kept with a due remembrance of the events which they commemorate—with a sober estimate of the blessings they convey—with a rejoicing of soul rather than a glorifying of the body. Christmas is a time that calls upon us more especially to manifest our gratitude to the Supreme Being for all His goodness to the children of men. Let us keep in remembrance all such instances of His favour to the world, of protection and care for ourselves as individuals, and we shall be all the more likely to estimate aright our christian privileges, and to make a good use of them. And let those whom God has prospered during the past year remember, that their souls are not a whit more precious in His sight than those of their brethren in adversity—and that unto them is committed the trust of riches for the relief of the destitute and afflicted—and that the talents will be required at their hands. The poor we have always with us, and it is this class which is sure to feel the inclemency of winter. How little do the least able of us do to relieve their distress; and how much more happiness might the rich diffuse, if they were to bestow a little more of that which they cannot take with them when they leave this world, in deeds of charity and benevolence. We trust that this Christmas season will more than heretofore dispose them to alleviate the misery of their fellow creatures, inasmuch as it seems to be more prevalent among us. The practice of benevolence gladdens the heart—and the glad heart from such a cause will make "A Merry Christmas" of the true sort, and such we heartily wish to all our readers.

KING'S COLLEGE, WINDSOR,

Christmas, 1856.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

1. The *B. A. Examination* has resulted in granting the Certificate *examen subiisso* to Mr. P. Wiswell Smith.

2. The *Responsions* have been passed by the following Students :

MITCHELL,
STERN,
RUGGLES,
UNIACKE,
COWIE, {
MORRIS, }

3. The Revd. T. J. M. W. Blackman, B. A. of this University, having performed the required exercises to the satisfaction of the appointed examiner in Civil Law, and having obtained a special license from the Governors, was duly admitted in Convocation D. O. L. by accumulation.

4. *The Hebrew Excommunication* has been postponed until the last week in Lent Term, when the

Subjects for the Christmas Examination following
will be announced as heretofore.

COLLEGE EXAMINATIONS.—NICHOLAS TERN—1856.					
<i>In Literis.</i> <i>Humanioribus.</i>	<i>In Disciplinis.</i> <i>Mathematicis</i> <i>et Physicis.</i>	<i>Scholarum</i> <i>Examinata.</i>	<i>In Theologia.</i> <i>Sacra.</i>	<i>In Scientiis</i> <i>Naturalibus</i> <i>Experimentis.</i>	<i>In Lingua</i> <i>Reverendissima</i> <i>Tern.</i>
Bliss, J. J. Hill, Grindon,	Bliss, Grindon, J. J. Hill,	Gray, Almon,	Cowie,	Grindon, J. J. Hill, Bliss, Tays, & Green,	Stern, Grindon, W. H. Hill, J. J. Hill,
Stern, Mitchell, Unacke, Ruggles, Moren,	Mitchell, Cowie, Stern, W. H. Hill, Unacke, Tays, Moren, Ruggles,	J. J. Hill, Grindon, Stern, Unacke, Green, Ruggles.	Mitchell, Moren, Fraser, W. H. Hill, H. Ruggles, Van Buskirk, H. M. Gray.	Cowie, Cowie, Moren, W. H. Hill, Stern, Mitchell, Ruggles, Van Buskirk, Fraser,	Bliss, Ruggles, Unacke <i>1857.</i> W. H. Hill, Bliss, Unacke, Stern, Fraser, Moren, Ruggles, H. Ruggles, Cowie, Mitchell, Van Buskirk, H. M. Gray.
Tays, Green,	Fraser, Van Buskirk, H. M. Gray, H. Ruggles.				

THEOLOGY.

1. The instruction has extended to the analytical reading of the few first and the latter chapters of Genesis in Hebrew. The Acts of the Apostles, the Epistle to the Hebrews, and the Pastoral Epistles have been critically read in Greek, and references have been made to the Septuagint in all the quotations. The Old Testament history has been studied with care. Pearson and Burnet have been continued, and attention has been drawn to the Liturgy in its history, its substance, and the proper mode of reading it, as well as to the composition and delivery of sermons both doctrinal and practical.

CLASSICS.

2. The usual Greek and Latin classical authors assigned to each year have been read, with attention to grammatical precision, and constant reference to critical and philological sources of information. Essays and other exercises have been written during the term.

MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

3. In the exact sciences, the best text books in use in the University of Cambridge continue to be employed. In addition to the solution of problems in the lecture room, the practical use of instruments in the field has engaged much attention.

NATURAL SCIENCE.

4. In the Natural Sciences the Professor has proceeded in his comprehensive course to consider Anatomy and Physiology, and has referred to the text of Lambert in illustration of his lectures. In Organic Chemistry he has continued his references to Draper. The subjects of these lectures have embraced a great variety of useful and interesting matter, the details of which would exceed the limits of this summary. The Governors have continued to enrich this department by valuable additions of books, instruments, and apparatus.

MODERN LANGUAGES.

5. The text books lately imported and introduced into this department have been proved to be excellently adapted to their object, and have led to satisfactory results. The elements of the languages, their grammatical forms, and conversational and proverbial idioms have been minutely studied; and some of the best authors, including portions of Schiller's poetry and prose for the Seniors, and of Grimm's works for the Juniors, have been translated and critically analyzed.

PROFICIENCY.

G. The Professors are of opinion, on a review of the whole work of the term, that the proficiency of the Students has been in general very commendable. The same diligence and attention concentrated on fewer subjects would no doubt have led to greater individual progress in each. This point has already been considered, and will be especially attended to in arranging the next Horarium.

DISCIPLINE.

7. The President's opinion has been corroborated by that of all the Professors in their reports of the